



ORMISTON DENES ACADEMY

Dear Parent and Carers,

13th February 2026

It was a pleasure to welcome so many Year 9 parents to the academy yesterday for our Year 9 Options and Parents Evening. There was a fantastic buzz around the academy and lots of proud students and parents. Attendance at the event was almost 90% demonstrating fantastic support from families. Thank you.

We are really proud of how Year 11 have approached their mocks this week. They've already completed their papers for English Language, one round of Science mocks, one Maths exam and some of their options subjects. Mock exams recommence on the first day back after half-term, Tuesday 24th February, where students will have English Literature Paper 1. Students should continue to arrive to school by 8.35am so they can access key messages at line-up, to ensure they are ready for their exams. They can help themselves by revising, completing home learning (Sparx, Tassomai and others set by departments), arriving on time and attending Raising Achievement breakfast which is available for all Year 11 students in the Entrance Hall from 8am on exam days, to further support them getting into the right mindset.

A reminder that Ormiston Denes is now using the **Arbor Parent Portal** and Parent App and has set up an account for you. To finish creating your account you just need to set a password. Your username is the email address we've sent this email to. Go to <https://login.arbor.sc> and click 'Forgot your password?' to finish setting up your account. You will not be able to do this through the app, as the links in our reset password emails only work with a browser. If you need guidance, click on [this link](#) and you will see step by step instructions on what to do. Scroll down and follow the **Logging in for the first time instructions** in the Logging in on the Parent Portal section.

If you have not already, you can then download and log onto the App (after resetting your password via the Parent Portal). The Parent App can be downloaded from either the Playstore on android phones or the Apple Store on iPhones. Once you have finished setting up your account, you can start using the Arbor Parent Portal/App immediately.

World Book Day is fast approaching (**5th March**), and our students have already been taking part in a range of fun challenges over the last couple of weeks to help us build excitement for the big day. As part of the celebrations, we're inviting both staff and students to come dressed as their favourite book characters. We've already received some brilliant ideas and are looking forward to seeing more. If your child would like to dress up, they'll just need to complete the short paper form available from their form tutor. Once their costume idea has been approved, they will be given a costume pass for the day. To help us keep things running smoothly, students without a pass will need to attend in normal school uniform.

The **Form Time Focus** for the week we return "Ready, The Denes Way"

That week, we will be teaching the following PSHE topics. If you have any concerns regarding the content of the PSHE lessons, please refer to our policy for clarification on withdrawals. The policy can be found [here](#).

Year 11 – N/A (mock exams)

Year 10 – How realistic is pornography?

Year 9 – Careers – Uni Frog session.

Year 8 – What are prescription drugs?

Year 7 – What are the emotional changes in puberty?



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Votes for schools - This week students have been voting on “Would you trust emotional advice from AI?” If you would like to continue this discussion with your child, please click [here](#) for further resources.

We are closed next week for half term, in addition to this the school is also closed to students on Monday 23rd February for staff training. We look forward to welcoming all students back to school on **Tuesday 24th February**.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kate Williams".

Kate Williams.
Principal