

The Oakwood Academy

newsletter



Winter 24

2024 has been a fantastic year for The Oakwood Academy and the school community.

We have held a wealth of trips, visits and residential experiences.

Our drive this term has been about developing our internal Oakwood community through our range of events starting in September with our Activate day which saw all students and staff engage in a number of team building activities and culminating in our Christmas Fair to embrace the festive spirit.

The OAKWOOD student characteristics feature heavily in our everyday practice and conversations with students, and it is great to see them demonstrating them day in day out. We will continue to focus on these next year and will continue to use Class Charts to improve home-school communication which will allow you to keep track on your child's performance day in, day out. It is important all parents access this.

We do hope that you have a safe, relaxing and enjoyable Christmas break and we look forward to welcoming students in January, when we will continue to strive for excellence for all of our students.

Thank you

Mr A Gilbert
Headteacher

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Upcoming Dates

- Monday 6th January - all students return to school
- Thursday 16th January - Year 7 Tutor Review, school shuts at 2.10pm
- Tuesday 21st January - Year 11 Parents' Evening
- Friday 24th January - Year 10 Tutor Review, school shuts at 2.10pm
- Thursday 30th January - EPA Theatre Trip

- Wednesday 5th February - Year 11 Food NEA Practical Day
- Thursday 6th February - Year 11 Food NEA Practical Day
- Monday 10th February - Year 7 Visit to Lincoln Castle (History)
- Friday 14th February - Last day of term
- Monday 17th - Friday 21st February - Half Term



www.oakwoodacademy.org.uk

Heads of House - Top Achievers

Animus House - Mr Brooke : 76506 House Points (Second place)

Animus have the highest attendance across all four houses which is a great achievement.. In addition, we are on track to win the House competitions, having won it for the past three years. I want to give a special mention to Keegan Lee who has the highest amount of achievement points in the school currently with well over 1160.

- Y7 Superstar – Phoebe Denovellis - Great start to life at Oakwood
- Y8 Superstar – Florence McCrone – Gets on with school life without a fuss
- Y9 Superstar – Keegan Lee Ward – Always polite and focussed on his learning
- Y10 Superstar – Arron Soper – Much improved this year
- Y11 Superstar – Rachael Osunsanya – Amazing set of mock exam results

A massive congratulations to all Animus students, you are playing your part to make Animus the best House in the school.

Certus House - Mrs Cooke : 72504 House Points (Fourth place)

Certus have had an amazing start to this year, well done! I am so proud of the hard work from all the students in the house. We have achieved over 87,042 achievement points since the start of the year and our efforts in the inter-House competitions have as always been awesome.

Special mentions go to; Eva Trimming, Billy Melbourne-Coates, Paige Attenborough, who are all in the top fifteen highest achieving students in the school. A great achievement. Also, a special mention to Holly Brown, her contribution to Certus has been brilliant. Keep up the hard work!

Robus House - Mr Blundell : 78190 House Points (First place)

At the start of the year, I asked every student in Robus to do the same three things throughout this academic year: be in school as much as possible, try their best in all that they do, and be kind to others. Most of you are amazing model Oakwood students and I commend you for this! By the fact that as a House we have over 100,000 positive points since the start of the year, putting us the top house in the whole school!

We also currently lead the inter house competitions, a massive well done to all students who have entered the competitions, let's continue to try our best in these and end Animus' run of winning the inter House league for the last 3 years! Special mentions go to Alaya Hammerton, top year 7 student. Chino Okpara, top year 8 student. Kehinde Ojo, top Year 9 student. Laura Omesa, top year 10 student. Neave Raven, Top Year 11 student. Also, big congratulations to Riley Hudson for his achievements in BMX racing, Paige Bagshaw in her swimming and Ayanna Oldham for her continued success with her gymnastics. Finally I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Virtus House - Mrs Pettifor : 75906 House Points (Third place)

Well done this term Virtus - I am genuinely proud of you. We have got the second highest number of house points this year so far. We have also got the second lowest number of negatives. I regularly receive emails and messages about Virtus students being polite to staff and kind to peers - this is such a delight to hear. You have also improved your attendance. Have a well deserved break and rest over Christmas and we'll see you in 2025.

Lisa Williamson Workshop 28/11/2024

The Oakwood Academy was delighted to welcome back Lisa Williamson, an author of books for children and young people and the reading ambassador for the Redhill Trust. The Year 7 and 8 students in the Flying High Programme took part in creative writing workshops and were inspired to unlock their writing skills through a number of engaging activities. All students in the programme, from Year 7-10 alongside the Sixth Form students, listened to a brilliant careers assembly where Lisa told us how she went from being a local Redhill student, into her acting career, to now being a published author of many well-known books. There were many inspiring takeaway messages for our students and lots of them enjoyed meeting someone whose books they had grown up reading. The pupils displayed the excellent attributes of an Oakwood Student, and we thank Lisa for her time and look forward to the next time she comes to Oakwood.



Inclusion News

The SEND team would like to give a shout out to: Chloe Watson, Cassidy Brice, Neave Raven, Eve Hart, Leah Dackiw and Kayden Davey for showing resilience, determination and focus during their recent Mock exams.

We would like to thank Henrietta Burton for her amazing pieces of Art work, which have been displayed in our 'Zone Art Gallery'.

Lastly, Elena King for showing courage and perseverance.

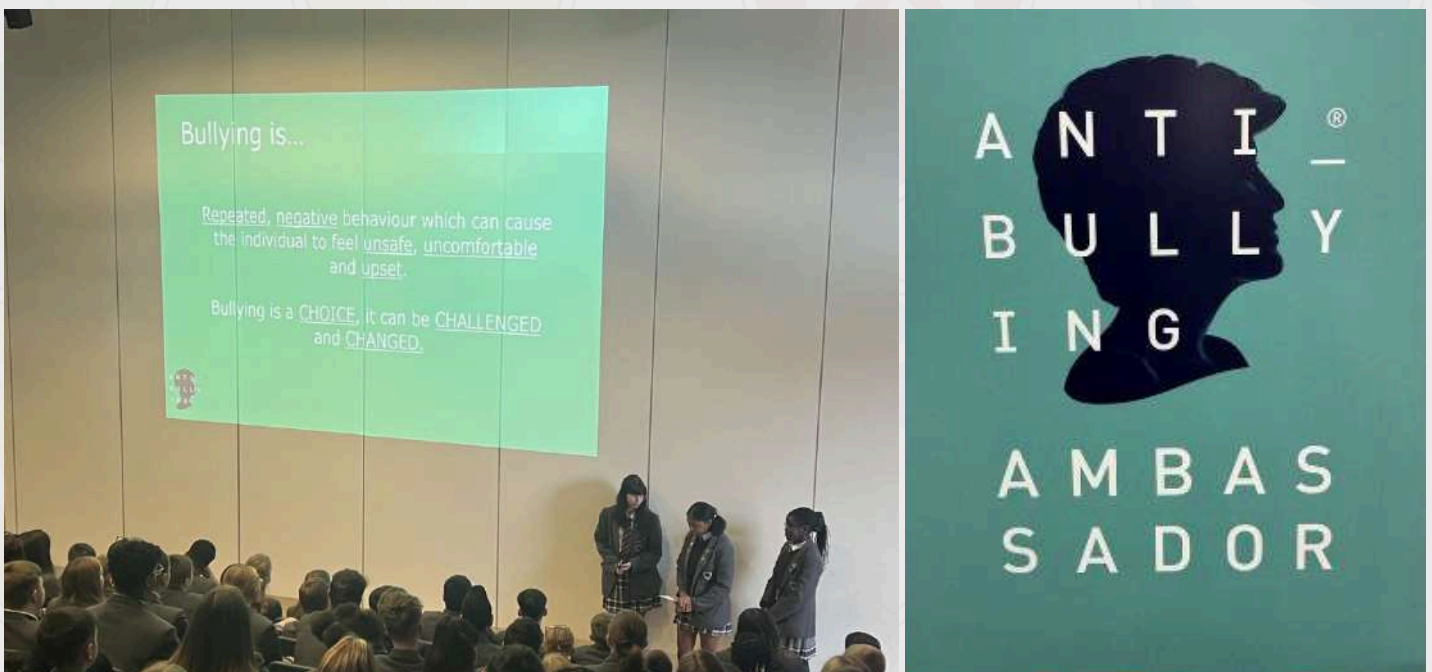
Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

It gives us great pleasure to introduce our new Anti-Bullying Ambassadors at The Oakwood Academy. The following students have been trained by the Diana Award, where they will be working towards their community badge throughout the 2024-2025 school year.



Anti-Bullying Week

We have recently trained new and existing members to our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors student body through completion of the Diana Award (www.diana-award.org.uk). Part of their training and qualification involves students having to present to all students about who they are and what support is in place for the students at The Oakwood Academy. For Anti-Bullying Week 2024, students took assemblies across the week talking to over 600 students about why bullying is wrong, who they approach to talk to, how we are one community and who can support them in school. We are extremely proud of our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors and they did themselves and the school very proud.



Attendance Matters

The Oakwood Academy recently held a special event to honour students for their attendance and positive behaviour. Students were entered into a raffle for Golden Tickets which offered exciting prizes to winners. Additionally, students were recognised for their positive attitude and behaviour through badge data booklets, which also offered fantastic prizes. It was a wonderful way to acknowledge and reward students for their hard work and dedication.



The prizes for next term are:

- Boots Goodies
- Fulham FC signed shirt
- Bus pass for a term
- Musical Keyboard
- Shopping voucher

Attendance Competition - January to April

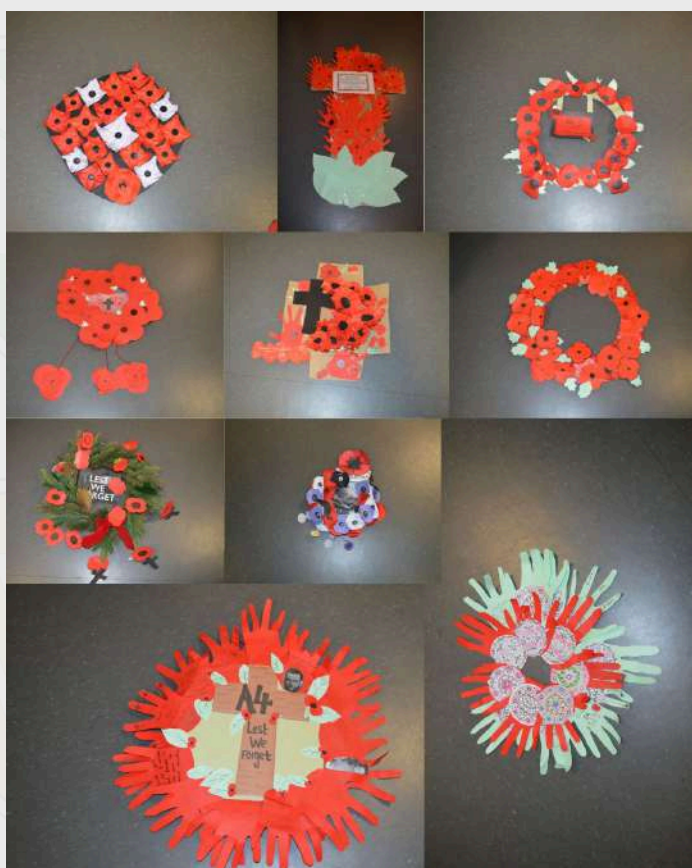
For the next term we will be starting a new inter Year attendance competition with the winner getting a reward of a non-uniform just for their Year group. The highest % attendance by Year group each day will get 5 points down to 1 for last. The winner will be the Year group with the most points by Easter

Attendance by House - September to December

Animus House	Certus House	Robus House	Virtus House
First place 89.3%	Fourth place 87.0%	Second place 88.4%	Third place 88.1%

Remembrance Day

On the 11th November, Remembrance Day, The Oakwood Academy came together as a community to pay our respects to those who fought and died during World War One and conflicts since. We held our own Last Post Ceremony, with the trumpet being played by Mr Blundell and one of our Year 10 army cadets reading the 'Exhortation'. As well as this, every tutor group bought a wreath to the service that had been made by our students. It was a very proud moment to watch the school come together in such a way and one that will continue next year.



Black History Month

This month we have celebrated Black History Month in several ways. We have had assemblies where we talked about history, watched documentaries on famous black athletes, actors, inventors and many more. Students and staff have designed our banners that are proudly put up the path on the way into school as well as a display in the Student Support Centre. Key Stage 3 students have experience cooking different cultural foods to also celebrate Black History Month.



Oakwood Community Day

On Friday 6th September we had our first Oakwood Community day, which was called 'Activate'. The day was designed to initiate and develop positive teacher/student relationships and help improve relationships with peers. It was great to see all our students getting fully involved in the day and seeing our staff in a different environment. One of our core principles this year is to widen student experiences through Personal Development. This day certainly showed students doing that.

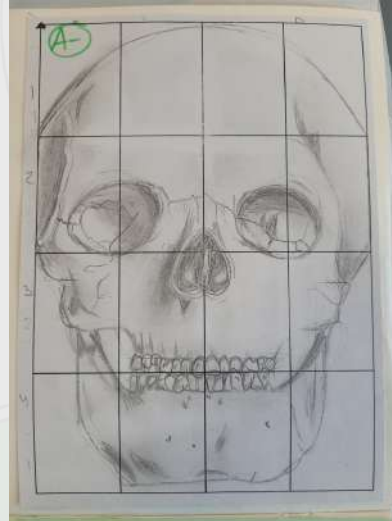


Outstanding Artwork

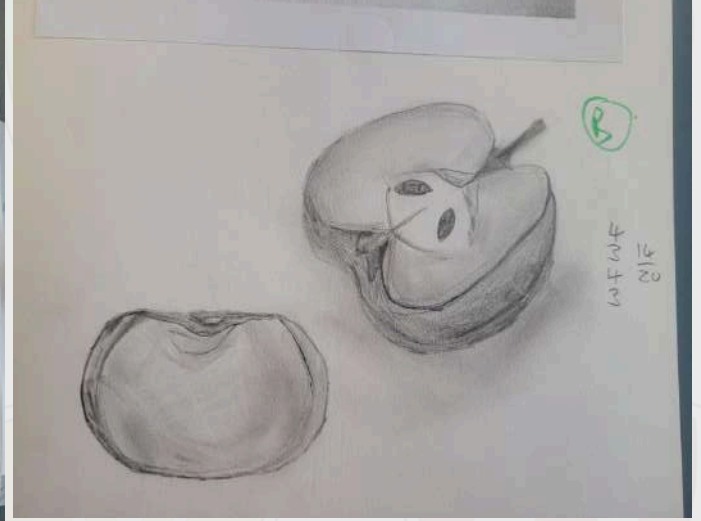
Our talented Art students have truly gone above and beyond this term, showcasing their incredible dedication and creativity! The hard work they've put into their projects is evident in the outstanding quality of their artwork. We are so proud of their achievements and can't wait to share a small sample of their amazing creations with you. Below are the students who have had work photographed.



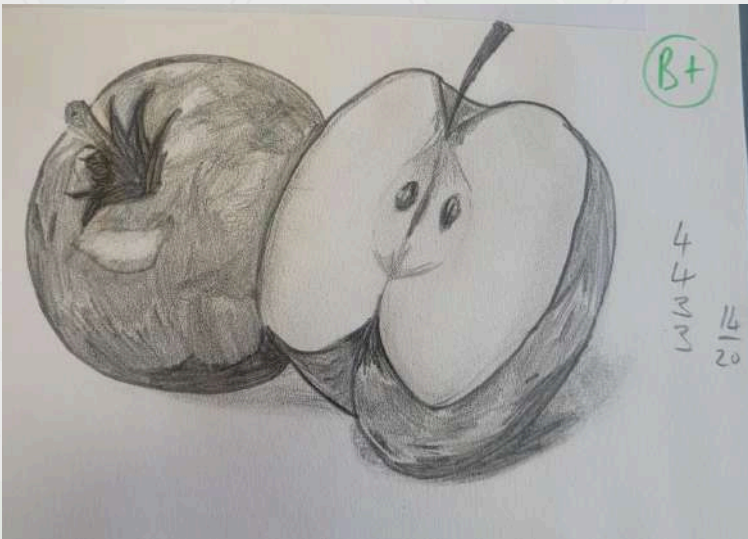
Lilly Dooley, Year 8



Maya Morino, Year 8



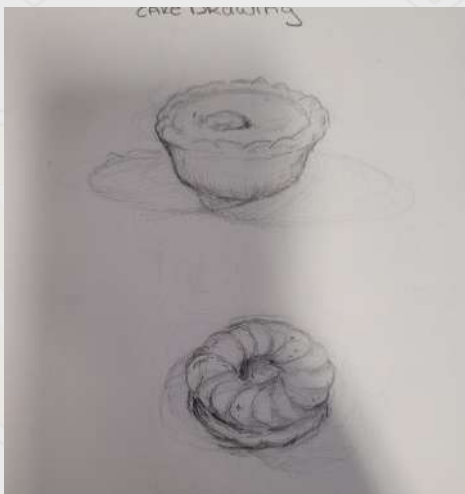
Mia Hodgkinson, Year 9



Kiersten Yankson, Year 7



Chanel Glover, Year 9



Molly Smith, Year 7

Keira Henson, Year 9



Expressive Performing Arts News

On 17th December, around 90 Year 7 students attended a pantomime trip at Nottingham Theatre. The trip got us all into the Christmas spirit as well as celebrating a large number of students who have settled in well to their life at The Oakwood Academy. This is the second year that we have ran the Year 7 trip to the pantomime and is something we will continue to attend.

Our creativity club, hosted by the Arts & Design faculty, has been well attended by an enthusiastic group of students. We have had a range of activities, from scarecrow making, Halloween soundtracks and jewellery crafting. We have really enjoyed working with those who have attended and look forward to next term, more students are always welcome! Every Thursday at 3.10.

We have had a fantastic turn out of students for Oakwood's Got Talent auditions and are extremely excited for the two shows, which will take place on the 20th December. The students in the audience are in for a real treat as the performers take to the stage, ranging from musicians, DJs and comedians! A huge well done to everyone who has auditioned, we can't wait to watch the show!

Coming up next term in Drama, the Year 11 Drama students are attending a trip to see The Lion, Witch and Wardrobe at Curve Theatre, Leicester. This trip is a focused element of their written exam and they will be writing a theatre review about the show.

We also have forty Year 9 students who will be attending a workshop with a professional theatre practitioner, from the company Frantic Assembly. The students have been selected based on their skill, ability and behaviour in their drama lessons. This should be a really fantastic opportunity for all involved.



Christmas Decoration Cookies

Christmas pantomime Trip

Sports News

In PE, we aim to have all students participating in co-curricular activities to help build on skills, techniques and overall confidence in sport. This term we have offered a variety of sports, including netball, football, rowing and more. Students that have shown dedication to these clubs have had the opportunity to take part in Central Venue League tournaments and Trust games. All those involved have not only shown their passion for the sport, but also their resilience, integrity and collaboration. They have all been excellent role models for the school and other students.



Trust-wide Rowing Competition

Over the last two weeks, students have actively participated in individual rowing challenges. These challenges were a Redhill Trust-Wide initiative that promoted events and opportunities to experience rowing. Students have been actively trying to individually get placed on a trust-wide leader board in their respective categories. This has raised awareness and led to students actively participating in an inter-house finale rowing competition, where four students per Tutor group rowed against each other in the Sports Hall. This competition was screened virtually on a large projector and was a fantastic success.



Duke of Edinburgh Awards

The Oakwood Academy celebrated nine of our students who completed their bronze Duke of Edinburgh awards this Term.

They've shown commitment over at least six months, learning new skills, taking part in physical activity and giving their time to make a difference to others as well as completing a tough two day expedition camping and hiking in Derbyshire.

They have been willing to take risks and have worked well as a team, developing trust in their capabilities and showing the skills needed to get through challenges.

They've all done brilliantly and should be really proud of their achievement and positive attitude, as we all are here at The Oakwood Academy.

We're looking forward to continuing the challenge at the next level and starting expedition planning for the Silver Award after Christmas!



Christmas Fair

This year saw the first ever Oakwood Christmas Fair! All students were able to come and enjoy the fair throughout the school day and the school opened to the community in the evening. It was a wonderfully festive day with lots of fun had by all. Lots of prizes won, bracelets made, and selfies taken. Santa even appeared with his elf giving out sweet treats to the children. It was lovely to see the students, staff and community celebrating the end of term in such a special way.



Oakwood's Got Talent 2024

The Oakwood Academy was incredibly proud to have hosted Oakwood's Got Talent showcase on 20/12/2024, an amazing mixture of talent and skills were performed, proving what an incredibly diverse and talented array of we students we have at our school.

The showcase was split into two separate performance slots and judges examined each act and gave their verdicts.

For session one, the winners were:

- First place: Riley
- Second place: Ruby
- Third place: Tiernan

For session two, the winners were:

- First place: Layla
- Second place: Chris
- Third place: Gabriel

We are so proud of all contestants in this performance and wish all of them a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

OAKWOOD'S GOT ★TALENT



The Oakwood Academy Term Dates

Aug-24						
M		5	12	19	26	
T		6	13	20	27	
W		7	14	21	28	
T	1	8	15	22	29	
F	2	9	16	23	30	
S	3	10	17	24	31	
S	4	11	18	25		

Sep-24						
M		2	9	16	23	30
T		3	10	17	24	
W		4	11	18	25	
T		5	12	19	26	
F		6	13	20	27	
S		7	14	21	28	
S	1	8	15	22	29	

Oct-24						
M		7	14	21	28	
T	1	8	15	22	29	
W	2	9	16	23	30	
T	3	10	17	24	31	
F	4	11	18	25		
S	5	12	19	26		
S	6	13	20	27		

Nov-24						
M		4	11	18	25	
T		5	12	19	26	
W		6	13	20	27	
T		7	14	21	28	
F	1	8	15	22	29	
S	2	9	16	23	30	
S	3	10	17	24		

Dec-24						
M		2	9	16	23	30
T		3	10	17	24	31
W		4	11	18	25	
T		5	12	19	26	
F		6	13	20	27	
S		7	14	21	28	
S	1	8	15	22	29	

Jan-25						
M		6	13	20	27	
T		7	14	21	28	
W	1	8	15	22	29	
T	2	9	16	23	30	
F	3	10	17	24	31	
S	4	11	18	25		
S	5	12	19	26		

Feb-25						
M		3	10	17	24	
T		4	11	18	25	
W		5	12	19	26	
T		6	13	20	27	
F		7	14	21	28	
S	1	8	15	22		
S	2	9	16	23		

Mar-25						
M		3	10	17	24	31
T		4	11	18	25	
W		5	12	19	26	
T		6	13	20	27	
F		7	14	21	28	
S	1	8	15	22	29	
S	2	9	16	23	30	

Apr-25						
M		7	14	21	28	
T	1	8	15	22	29	
W	2	9	16	23	30	
T	3	10	17	24		
F	4	11	18	25		
S	5	12	19	26		
S	6	13	20	27		

May-25						
M		5	12	19	26	
T		6	13	20	27	
W		7	14	21	28	
T	1	8	15	22	29	
F	2	9	16	23	30	
S	3	10	17	24	31	
S	4	11	18	25		

Jun-25						
M		2	9	16	23	30
T		3	10	17	24	
W		4	11	18	25	
T		5	12	19	26	
F		6	13	20	27	
S		7	14	21	28	
S	1	8	15	22	29	

Jul-25						
M		7	14	21	28	
T	1	8	15	22	29	
W	2	9	16	23	30	
T	3	10	17	24	31	
F	4	11	18	25		
S	5	12	19	26		
S	6	13	20	27		



Inset Days

2nd December will be disaggregated and split into 3 x 2 hour Twilight sessions across the calendar



Bank Holiday



School Holiday

Half term 1 - 7 weeks 2 days

Half term 2 - 7 weeks

Half term 3 - 6 weeks

Half term 4 - 6 weeks

Half term 5 - 4 weeks 3 days

Half term 6 - 8 weeks



The Oakwood Academy

Uniform Expectations

All students at the Oakwood Academy, from Year 7 to Year 11, wear uniform.

The wearing of a uniform makes an important contribution to the tone and reputation of the academy. We like students to come here looking smart and business-like and ready to work. Students without the correct uniform will be offered substitute items in order for them to remain in lessons.

Blazer: Grey school blazer with school logo and House colour pin badge.

Trousers: Official black school trousers branded with the school logo.

Skirt: Official tartan school skirt.

Shirt: Plain white with a collar and top button appropriate for use with a school tie. Soft collared sports shirts are not acceptable

School Tie: All students in Years 7 to 11 are required to wear a clip-on school tie. School ties need to be in immaculate condition.

Jumper: Only the official school jumper may be worn. The school jumper is an optional uniform item but advisable during the colder months of the year.

Socks/Tights: Plain black.

Shoes: Plain black polishable shoes. The wearing of fashion shoes, particularly those without backs or with high/stiletto heels is not permitted.

School Coat: Students should wear plain water-resistant coats or jackets.

Jewellery: Jewellery can be a safety hazard; it gets lost easily. Students may wear one pair of small studs in the lower earlobe.

Hairstyles: We expect hair styles to be neat and tidy and not extreme in any way.

Headwear: Headwear of any kind is banned inside the school buildings except that which is worn for religious reasons and which must be plain black.

Make-Up/ Nail Varnish: Make-Up, false nails and nail varnish are not allowed.

PE Kit: Academy PE top with Academy logo. Black bottoms should also be worn (leggings must not be see-through and preferably made of sports material). Shorts must be mid-thigh length or longer. All items can be purchased from our uniform suppliers. Plain black sports socks. Footwear should include appropriate trainers for indoor and outdoor activities, football boots are required for some activities.

Equipment: Students should have a suitable bag for school large enough to carry A4 sized documents. Students should have a full range of stationery.



OAKWOOD STUDENTS ARE...



ON TIME

Students are on school site for 8:40am and in classrooms by 8:45am. Oakwood students attend school each day and are always on time for lessons.



ACHIEVING HIGHLY

Students are achieving target grades in assessments and are successful in school events and activities, sports teams, house competitions and earning house points.



KIND

Oakwood students are kind to others both in and out of school. They are respectful to staff at all times and promote a positive behaviour culture around school and in the community.



WORKING HARD

Oakwood students work hard, try their best in all lessons, enthusiastically engage in all support and tutor sessions and support peers in their learning.



ORGANISED

Students always wear the correct school uniform and bring the correct PE kit and relevant equipment to all lessons. They always have their timetable, reading book and uniform card to hand.



OPPORTUNISTIC

Students at our school participate in extra-curricular activities, achieve Pledge awards and engage in all aspects of school life including Leadership, Oakwood Plus and visits.



DRIVE_n

Students should show **D**emocratic communication, are **R**esponsible for their actions, practice **I**ndependence in their learning, express positive **V**alues and demonstrate **E**quality in the way they treat others.

