

Ormiston Forge Academy Local Offer



This document is designed to set out clearly how we meet children and young people's special educational needs at Ormiston Forge Academy. We have an inclusive approach to the students we teach. As an Academy we want all of our students to achieve and be equipped to succeed as independent adults. We aim to support all of the students in realising their dreams.

At Ormiston Forge Academy we go the extra mile for our young people. The academy is committed to ensuring all stakeholders, whether they be students, staff, parents or the community 'Learn today for a better tomorrow'. Ofsted commented that 'The school has invested in the development of the 'Success Centre', which is designed to ensure that vulnerable pupils are given every opportunity to thrive in their time at the school. This offers personalised provision for each individual and is highly effective in supporting their emotional, social and academic needs. Pupils who have used this resource speak enthusiastically about the support they have received. (Ofsted 2016)

Data shows that students with SEND make good progress and that teaching of these students is good, with staff aware of the different learning needs of students. 'Current pupils with special educational needs make good progress and teachers and leaders keep a very close eye on how these pupils perform. A range of useful strategies have been developed to support' (Ofsted, 2016)

Universal Offer

This is what Ormiston Forge Academy provides for all students, including those who may have difficulties in learning or behaviour, or emotional, social and mental health needs, or physical/medical needs.

As a parent/carer or young person you can expect that:

- We welcome you and your child and take the time to discuss your child's needs before they start school.
- We inform you about policies and approaches to learning, including how we work with children who have learning difficulties.
- Our Academy provides a variety of Wave 1 teaching and learning programmes to meet the individual learning needs of each child. This includes a differentiated curriculum, as well as additional support in many areas. (See Provision Map for more details.)
- Staff at the Academy have had professional development and training so they know about how children learn, including those children who have difficulty in learning.
- We accurately assess the level at which your child is learning, in line with the recent national changes to assessment.
- Teachers differentiate (plan tasks for children at different stages of learning in the same class) so that your child is given work to do at a suitable level.
- We use a range of resources and strategies and teaching methods to take account of any barriers to learning.
- We will keep you informed about how your child is progressing at least once a year through a written annual report detailing progress. We will be happy to discuss your child's progress, at other times, if you make an appointment. As a child or young person you should always know how well you are doing and what you need to work on to improve further – teachers use a 'what went well and EBI' marking system.
- We will put in place a range of short term, small group or individual programmes (sometimes called Wave 2 Interventions) that may help your child to 'catch up' if they fall behind in any curriculum area, or if they have difficulty managing their behaviour. We will keep you informed if your child needs one of these interventions and work in partnership with you to give it the best chance of being successful. (See Provision Map for more details.)
- We provide access to our Success Centre for all students who wish to use it.
- We are able to signpost you to support, advice and any extra curricular activities that may be available.

Additional SEN Support Offer

This is what Ormiston Forge Academy provides for students with SEN, but whose needs can be met without an Education, Health and Care Plan. The government provides funding to support students with SEN.

If your child is identified as having special educational needs then you can expect that:

- We will continue to offer all the support and teaching strategies available at the Universal Offer level.
- We will talk to you about your child's difficulties in learning or disability so we can understand their needs.
- We may put in place intervention programmes which will mean your child works 1:1, or in a small group, with a teacher or a member of the support team on the aspects of learning or behaviour with which they are having difficulty. You should be told how long the intervention will last and what progress is expected (See Provision Map for more details.)
- Your child may have some support in class for some lessons, if we think this will help them to make progress. Your child will not always need, or benefit from 1:1 support in class, because they need to learn to work independently. We will discuss with you whether this type of support would be helpful, and in which lessons.
- Students will be assigned a Keyworker from the SEND department who will work with them regularly and carry out suitable support and interventions.
- The Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) and SEND Manager will support and advise teachers so your child can learn in the best way – students on the SEN register will have a One Page Profile providing teaching staff with helpful information.
- We will review your child's progress regularly.
- If your child has not made progress we may work with outside agencies, such as speech and language therapy, advisory teachers, HI/VI teachers or an educational psychologist to assess your child and recommend strategies and programmes to improve progress. As a parent you can request that school seek outside agency advice at any time. Agencies will respond as quickly as possible to requests.
- The SEND department will update you on what interventions are in place to support them.
- If you are not happy with your child's progress you can ask for further meetings with staff in school and outside agencies.

- If you wish to complain about the school's response first raise your issue with the Principal. If you are still unhappy then raise your concerns with our Chair of Governors. If you are still not satisfied then you can register a complaint with the Local Authority at Sandwell Council House. The Parent Partnership Service is also there to help (See Information Report for contact details).

Education, Health and Care Plan Offer

This is what Ormiston Forge Academy provides for students with more severe SEN needs.

- Children who have severe levels of physical, learning, communication or emotional/behavioural difficulty, that are lifelong and complex, may need an Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP). Your child will continue to be supported from the school's SEN resource while the Plan is completed.
- The EHCP will outline the specific sort of support your child will need in order to access the curriculum and make progress. It is likely to be highly individualised. They will also receive the support outlined at the SEN Offer level.
- Staff in our school will access additional professional development to ensure that they have the skills to teach your child.
- Your child will also have access to all the provisions detailed on the school's provision map, in the Universal Offer and SEN Support Offer which are appropriate to their learning needs.
- Many children who need an EHCP will be educated in a mainstream school but your child may benefit from a special school placement or focus provision placement. The options will be discussed with you as the EHCP is developed.
- We will keep you informed about the progress your child is making through assessment and regular reviews and the Annual Review of the EHCP.
- If your child is not making expected progress then we will request additional advice from outside agency staff or special school outreach staff who have additional expertise in the area of your child's difficulty.

Further Information

For more information you can see the following on our website:

Ormiston Forge Academy Special Educational Needs Policy

Ormiston Forge Academy SEN Information Report

Ormiston Forge Academy Inclusion Provision Map

Ormiston Forge Accessibility Plan

Sandwell LA Local Offer - <http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/send>