



# Prospectus





# Welcome



**A united family  
embarking on an  
exciting voyage of  
discovery...**

**...inspiring  
excellence together**

I am exceptionally proud to be Principal of this wonderful school; we stand at the heart of our community and in the words of our students, 'We are a family'.

Over the last four years we have gone from strength to strength, and I am delighted with the progress we continue to make to becoming one of the best schools in the area in terms of progress, attendance, and behaviour

Being a smaller school, we know our students inside-out and always put them at the heart of our decisions. We work exceptionally hard to provide a student-centred, personalised, and innovative learning environment preparing our students with the character and leadership skills to lead happy, healthy, and successful futures. Being a Liverpool City Region Careers Hub, we actively support our students to pursue the career of their dreams; we instil in all of them that their dreams are within reach.

Our curriculum extends well beyond the classroom walls. We actively encourage all our students to develop their cultural learning through opportunities to travel, read, debate, participate in and achieve additional qualifications. We are firmly dedicated to our values of pride, resilience, curiosity and self-belief which emanate through our academy on a daily basis.

Every parent and carer, me included, want to know that the school their child belongs to is a safe place where they can flourish. I pledge that the most important of my endeavours is to make a deep and genuine difference in the lives of our children, now and for their future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Sally Jones'.

Mrs Sally Jones, Principal  
Sandymoor Ormiston Academy  
"Where dreams are within reach."



# Mission and Values

“Making a difference both inside and outside the classroom”

Our mission is simple... *it's to make a difference*, both inside and outside the classroom.

As a united family, together we embark on an exciting voyage of discovery into a somewhat uncharted future. We are proud to be developing the next generation of trailblazers who have a firm belief that, for them, anything is possible - that their dreams are within reach and who are proud to be curious and creative enough to find new ways of achieving their potential with confidence and the self-belief to fly.

We lead by example and live out this desire to “*inspire excellence together*” by facing our own fears to become stronger and wiser through resilience and determination. We look after one another and work to make our community a better place to live, whilst promoting an awareness of wider world issues.

Success to us is not only measured in academic outcomes; we value the wider enrichment experience that educates the whole child, giving our students improved life chances. We endeavour to actively remove barriers from youngsters lives as best we can to help transform their future.

To us education is a pursuit of the mind and to this end, we encourage our school community to read, to learn, to challenge, and to debate in a place where everyone has a voice that is recognised.

We take pride in being the school that every child wants to remain a part of, even after they have graduated. Sandymoor Ormiston Academy has become much more than a school; it has become a family, a place of safety and warmth and which will remain to be in the heart of our community.



# Ethos

“Demonstrating PRIDE at Sandymoor”

## Behaviour

Behaviour for learning at Sandymoor Ormiston Academy is exceptionally positive. We endeavour actively to remove barriers as best we can.

Each year group is led by a Head of Year, supported by a team of Form Tutors.

## Attendance

Excellent attendance and punctuality is extremely important to enable our students to achieve their very best.

In the event you do need to report your child's absence, please do so before 8:30am.

Due to the significant impact that absence has on student achievement and progress, holidays during term-time will not be authorised.

## Reporting an absence



Email  
[attendance@sandymooroa.co.uk](mailto:attendance@sandymooroa.co.uk)



Use one of the school apps:  
IRIS ParentMail  
Safer Schools (code: 7675)



Call  
01928 571217





# Sandymoor Core Values





# School Uniform



Navy Sandymoor blazer

Plain white shirt

Navy and grey Sandymoor tartan skirt or charcoal trousers

Navy or grey socks / tights (no patterns or stripes)

Sandymoor tie

Plain black, smart shoes

A black, navy or grey school bag for equipment

Navy religious coverings  
Navy hair accessories

Plain, navy V neck jumper which shows the knot of the tie (optional)



## PE Kit

Sandymoor logo T-Shirt (compulsory)

Plain navy blue or Sandymoor logo shorts

Plain navy blue PE leggings or tracksuit pants (optional but recommended for outdoor lessons in winter). Plain navy blue base layer may also be worn.

Plain navy blue, full or quarter zip training top (optional but recommended for outdoor lessons in winter). Items with the academy logo are available if you prefer.

Navy sports socks

Trainers (non-marking soles)

Football/rugby boots

We are exceptionally proud of how our students present themselves each and every day. Our branded uniform is exclusively available from the following supplier:

Touchline, Liverpool Road, Warrington, WA5 1AE.  
Tel: 01925 413777

Email: [sandymoorschool@touchline-embroidery.com](mailto:sandymoorschool@touchline-embroidery.com)

Please ensure that all items of clothing and personal property are labelled with names.





# Curriculum

“The best that has been thought and said”

Our curriculum is designed to give our students opportunities which deepen knowledge, embed skills and strengthen character.

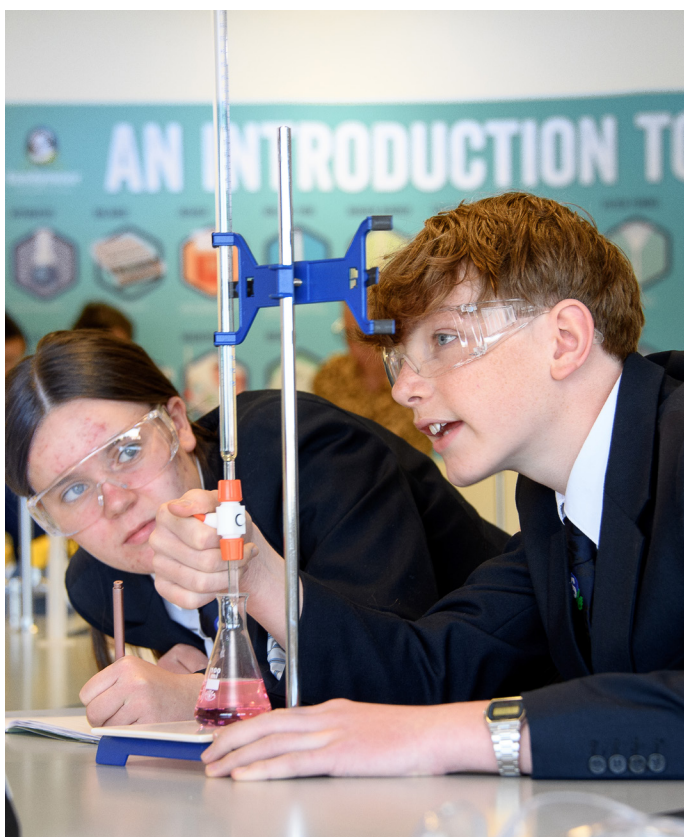
Our Key Stage 3 students are exposed to an ambitious learning journey from Year 7 to Year 9, details of which can be found on our website.

Key Stage 4 opportunities include GCSEs and vocational qualifications.

We place great emphasis on being ready to learn. We ask that parents ensure their child is fully equipped everyday with:

- Pencil and eraser
- Pens - black, blue and green
- Ruler
- 180° protractor
- Compass
- Scientific calculator
- Water bottle (this can be filled at school)

Students are active participants in our classrooms. We strongly encourage students to greet visitors, debate, lead and engage with targeted questioning in order to raise levels of confidence and oracy.



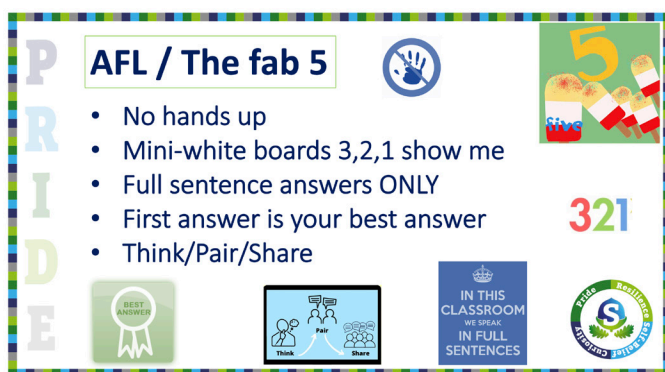
# Assessment

“Perpetual work in progress”

We continually check on students' progress and adapt our approach accordingly. Assessment for Learning is continuous through our 'Fab 5'.

Checkpoint & Endpoint assessments are completed regularly and these are marked with bespoke feedback. Students complete 'Make A Difference' (MAD) tasks which support the next steps of improvement.

Parents will receive two reports over the year outlining their child's progress in addition to one Parents' Evening, which is currently virtual.



# Independent Home Learning

We are committed to ensuring students receive bespoke packages of home learning which respond to their strengths and weaknesses. Our online platform, Seneca, does just that. Students are expected to complete at least 20-30 minutes of independent learning every evening.



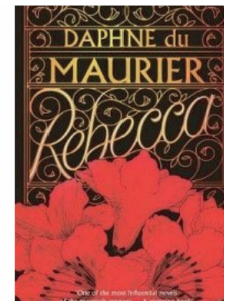
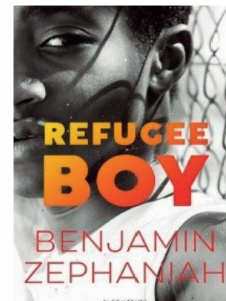
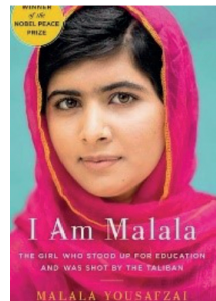
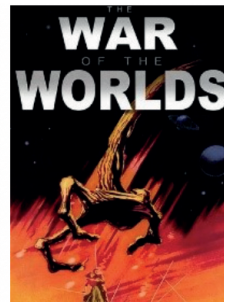
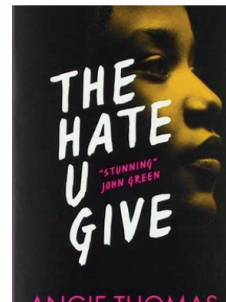
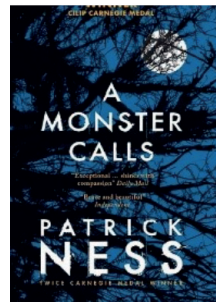


# Reading for Betterment

“Expanding minds”

Reading is an essential life skill that all of our children should be supported with. Our philosophy of ‘reading for betterment’ places reading right at the centre of our curriculum. We aim to nurture and inspire all students to become life-long readers.

We read together twice per week for 20 minutes; enjoying a vast array of novels which expose students to a variety of genres. We actively encourage literacy skills within our classrooms through our 6 Pillars of Literacy.



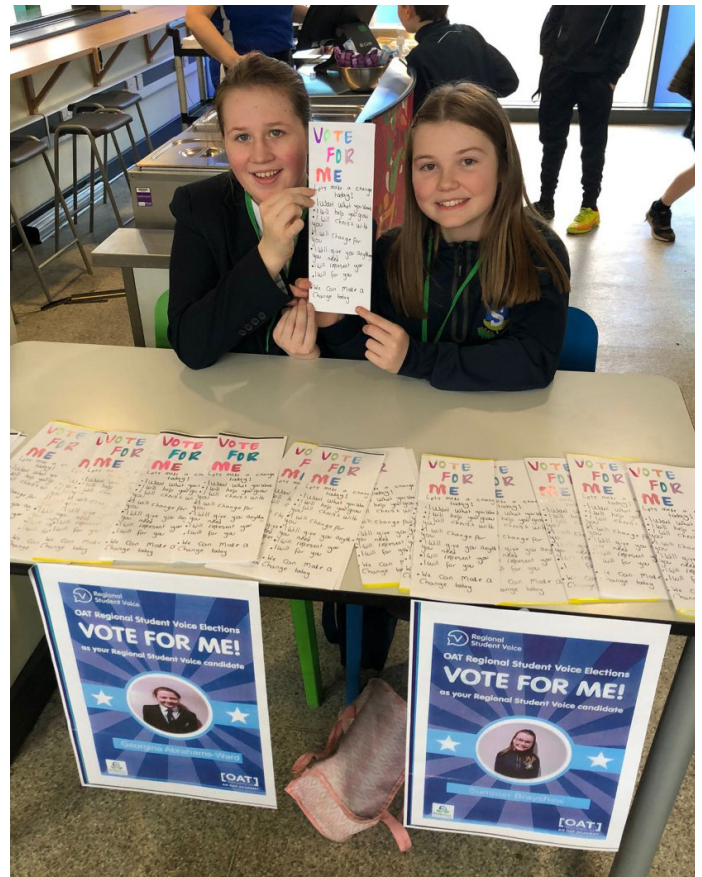


# Oracy

“Our voices are heard”

Our students are empowered to use their voice for success in school and in life. We teach them to become more effective speakers and listeners and in doing so we encourage them to better understand themselves, each other and the world around them.

Our students are encouraged to actively participate in lessons through debate and enquiry. We offer a wide variety of oracy-based opportunities e.g. ‘Make yourself heard’, ‘Debate Mate’ and Student Council. Students from all years participate in annual elections for Halton and Trust-wide representation.



**[OAT]**  
Ormsdon Academies Trust  
ACHIEVING MORE TOGETHER



Key Stage 3 Candidate



**S**  
Sandymoor  
Ormsdon Academy





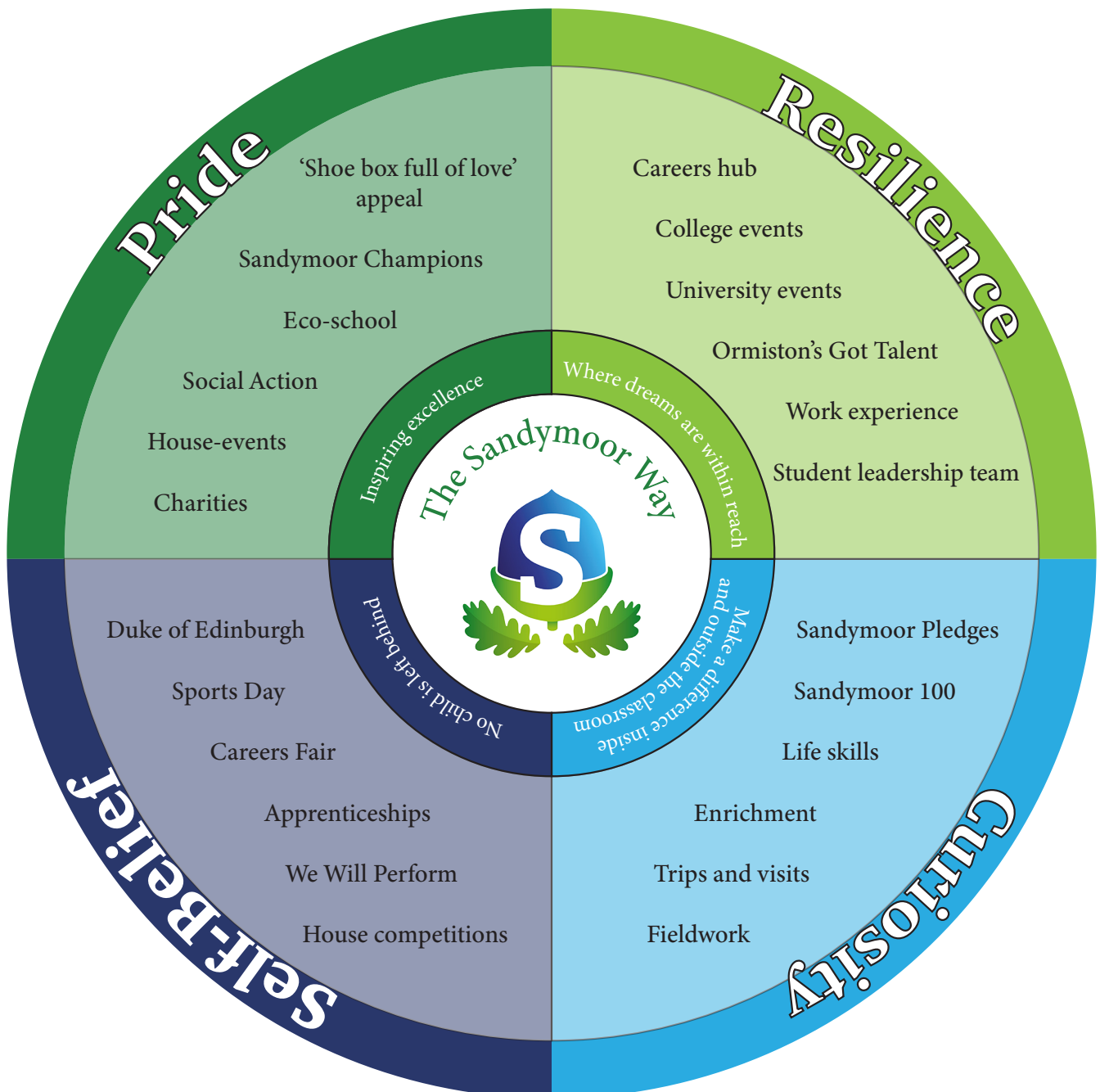
# Personal Development

“Going beyond the expected”

Here at Sandymoor we are committed to encouraging the highest standard of academic learning, alongside the growth of character and personality.

The values we hold dear are equally applicable to students, staff and the work of the Academy itself.

To embrace the Sandymoor ethos means to demonstrate our core values in everything we do.





# School Catering

“Nourish to flourish”

## School meals

An important part of our ethos is around the provision of hot, fresh, nutritious food. Every pupil has a choice of food or the option to bring in a packed lunch. Meals can be designed to meet the needs of children with specific allergies or dietary requirements.

We strongly encourage parents who have financial constraints to apply for free school meals via Halton Borough Council. If you need assistance in applying please contact us.

## Drinks

Students have access to drinking water at all times, however, parents are requested to provide a water bottle. Students are not allowed to bring in fizzy drinks.

## Payments

We only accept electronic payments for school breaks and meals. This process is facilitated by ParentMail which uses the highest internet security available.

You will be provided with a secure online account with a unique ID and password.

Payment for school trips and other incidentals can also be paid via ParentMail.

## Biostore

We operate a pay as you go system using biometric fingerprint recognition for lunch and snack payments. It is your responsibility to top up your child's account. If there are not enough funds your child will be unable to make purchases.





# Empowering Students

“Becoming stronger and wiser”

## Empowering students through rewards

We thrive on positivity and showing our students what being their best leads to. Our reward system includes weekly treats, termly reward shop, events and trips.

## Empowering students through Sandymoor Champions

You will see our Sandymoor Champions around school – we are extremely proud of these students. You will notice the gold stars on their lapel; one for every year they have qualified! We have well over 100 because excellent attendance and attitudes to learning are the norm here.



## Empowering students through social action

Central to the idea of social action is the double benefit; our community benefits, as well as our students. We aim to demonstrate our core values by working with local schools and our community through the trusts ‘We Will Perform’ project and our ‘Shoe Box Full of Love’ appeal.



## Phone-free school

To improve mental health, confidence and social skills we are a phone-free school. We understand a child may feel safer on their journey to and from school with a phone, however, during the school day they must be switched off and not taken out of their bag.

## Empowering students through D of E

Through obtaining their Duke of Edinburgh qualifications your child develops the skills and attitudes they need to become a more rounded, confident adult. These are qualities that colleges, universities and employers are attracted to. By investing in D of E, you’re investing in their future.



# Enrichment

“Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education” - Martin Luther King Jr

We expect our students to be involved in the life of the school by participating in our enrichment activities.

This will help to ensure that your child is not only succeeding from an academic point of view but is also developing themselves personally, socially and culturally.

Whilst we appreciate that achieving a good set of grades is important, it is equally important that your child grows up to become a well-rounded individual who has a wide variety of experiences to draw upon which will help them make important decisions in their lives.

## Pledges

Activities that your child takes part in will naturally fulfil many of the 'Sandymoor Pledges', but where there are gaps we will aim to provide these opportunities.

Take part in a residential experience either locally, nationally or internationally to gain a greater understanding and curiosity of the world around me.



Perform or present to an audience, demonstrating my Oracy skills and showing pride in a topic I believe in.



Visit and engage with a place of cultural significance such as a professional performance, gallery, museum, heritage site, library, place of worship or spiritual significance to broaden my horizons.



Take part in Work-Related Learning to experience what the world of work has to offer and enhance my self-belief.



Join an extra-curricular club after school revision/intervention or represent a school team to help develop my resilience.



Actively contribute to charity work or social action project in order to give back to our community and develop my character and empathy.



Broaden my self-belief to fly by attending all careers opportunities with employers or visits to FE or HE establishments.



Show my curiosity through broadening my reading, this could be trialling new authors or reading "The Sandymoor 100".



Show pride by demonstrating excellent punctuality and attendance, respect for others, individual responsibility and dress to impress in every lesson.



Understand how to live my best life through keeping safe from abuse and exploitation whilst interacting with technology, and trying to live an active, healthy lifestyle.



# Safeguarding

“Safeguarding is everyone’s business”

If you have any concerns, please call us on 01928 571217 or email [safeguarding@sandymooroa.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@sandymooroa.co.uk)

The aim of our Child Protection Policy is to ensure that effective measures are in place to safeguard children from any potential risk of harm.

## Safeguarding Team

All of our Safeguarding team are highly visible by their rainbow lanyard.



## Safer Schools App

Access up-to-date, age-appropriate guidance on staying safe, learn how to block, report and set safety settings across each social media platform.

## Students

Search ‘Safer Schools’ in the app store and select ‘Sandymoor Ormiston Academy’ - click ‘Continue’ and enter the 4 digit code: 1544

## Parents

Search ‘Safer Schools’ in the app store and select ‘Sandymoor Ormiston Academy’ - click ‘Continue’ and enter the 4 digit code: 7675

## Staying Safe Online

The internet can be an interesting and fun place to spend time, it can also be a dangerous place if you are not sensible and/or don’t know how to stay safe online. We actively teach our students about personal security guidelines, which includes:

- Never revealing personal information, about themselves or others, such as home addresses, telephone numbers and personal e-mail addresses etc.
- Never using photographs of themselves on their web pages unless parents/guardians have given permission to do so.
- Never meeting people in person that they have contacted on the internet without a parent/guardian’s permission.
- Notify their teacher whenever they come across information that appears dangerous, inappropriate, or makes them feel uncomfortable.
- Be aware that the author of an e-mail or web page may not be the person they claim to be.

## Digital Safeguarding

We teach our students how to keep safe online through their Life Skills and Computer Science schemes. We ask parents to be vigilant ensuring their child is safe online; we support this via ParentMail and our social media platforms.

## Medicines

If your child is required to take prescribed medication, we ask that these are brought in and handed to reception with a completed form.

If a student is on prescription medication which they must take daily, we ask you keep enough in stock both at home and in school. Your child should not have any medication on their person; it must be stored securely.





# Life After Sandymoor

“Preparing students for success”

We work closely with further education and higher education providers and engage with local businesses who offer activities for our Key Stage 4 students, including work experience provision.

Our students receive independent, personalised and individual careers advice and guidance throughout their time with us.


Our annual Further Education & Careers event introduces students to the progression routes available to them once they leave us. Representatives from local providers are on hand to offer advice on an array of post-16 choices, from further education to high quality apprenticeships.

We encourage our students to become part of our Sandymoor alumni, and help instil a “self-belief to fly”.



Please scan and  
complete the forms to  
join the Sandymoor  
family





“I  
love  
the fact  
that we are a  
small school and  
all of the teachers  
know my name.”

Jack, Year 9



# **Sandymoor Ormiston Academy**

Wharford Lane, Sandymoor, Runcorn WA7 1QU

01928 571217

<https://sandymooroa.co.uk/>

