

Welcome North Oxfordshire Academy



Mrs Ellie Jacobs
Principal

Please can we ask that mobiles and tablets are away



Welcome to the NOA family



North Oxfordshire Academy
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

Confidence ■ Ambition ■ Respect ■ Determination

Congratulations!

- 480 applications for 210 places
- 30 additional places for Sept 2026
- The highest number of appeals in Oxfordshire



Mission

We exist to
provide our
students with
the best life
chances in
Oxfordshire .



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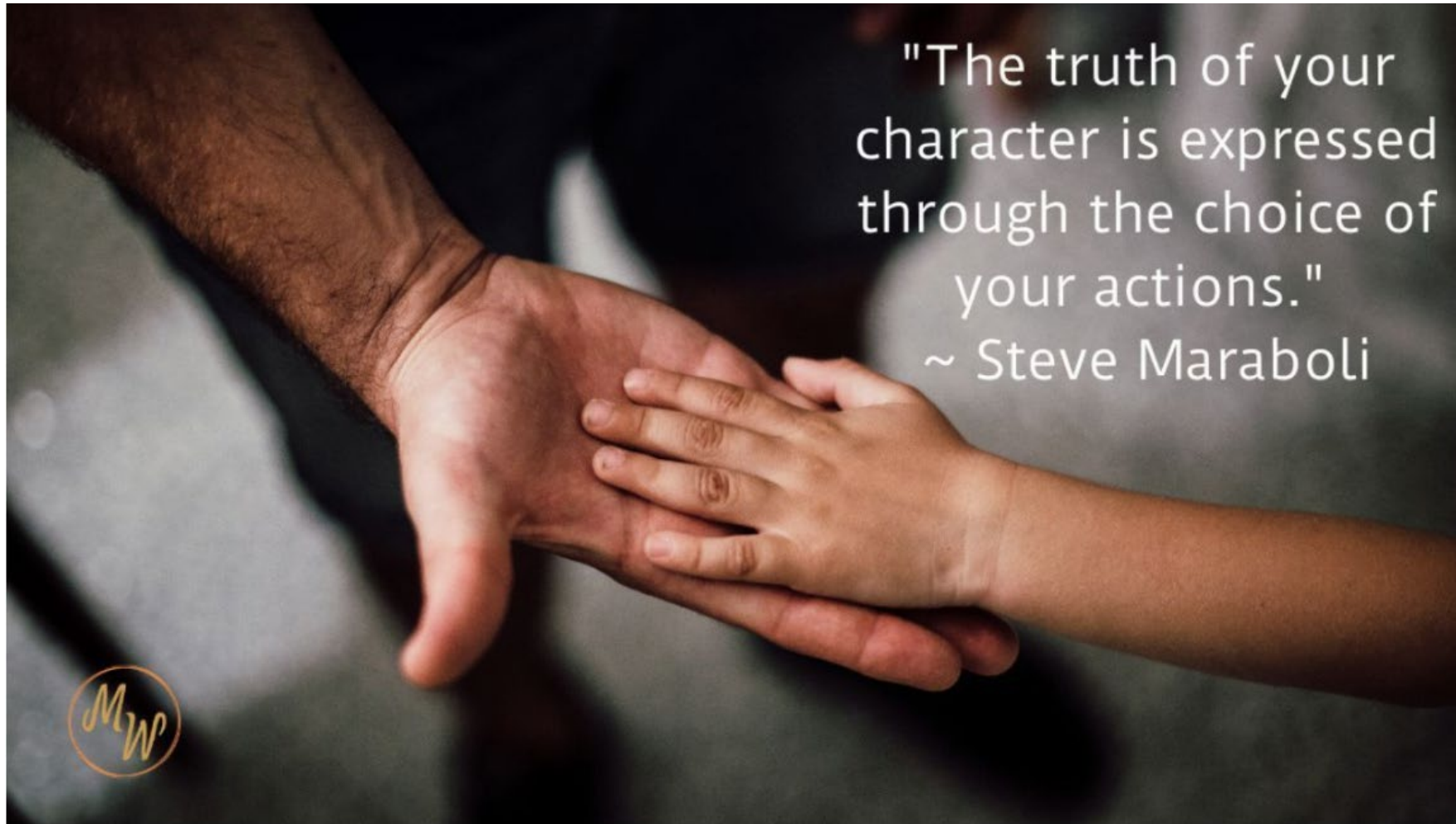
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Vision

To be an academy where students receive a world class education in character and academics leading to happiness and fulfilment in life.



"The truth of your character is expressed by the choice of your actions."



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NOA Values

- Confidence
- Ambition
- Respect
- Determination



Staff who care for our students like they are their own



The Jigsaw



We expect 97%+ attendance from all students

- Being in school means more magic moments
- Call on every day of absence before 8.30 am
- Seek and engage with support if needed
- No holidays in term time

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

We take responsibility for our actions

`Apparently`
`Allegedly`



School Day

First bell: 8.40am

TUTOR: 8.45 - 9.20am

P1: 9.20 - 10.20am

P2: 10.20 - 11.25am

BREAK – 11.25 - 11.45am

P3: 11.45 - 12.45pm

LUNCH: 12.45 - 1.15pm

P4: 1.15 - 2.15pm

P5: 2.15 - 3.15pm

- The school is open from 8:15 am daily
- Students can buy breakfast in the canteen from 8:15 am
- Students expected in school at **8:40 am**
- End of the day is 3:15 pm
- Please avoid driving onto site to pick up

New Uniform for Yr 7 students only (Yr8-11 can opt to wear)

Cross Embroidery are here this evening – take a look!

You must book an appointment in the summer holidays- see the CE website

[Uniform Essential Equipment students 2026 NEW.pdf](#)

NOA items are blazer, skirt, PE top and tie.



Uniform, equipment & expectations

- Black, flat polishable school shoes. No logos. No trainers.
- Uniform expectations all on school website. Gender neutral uniform choices available.
- Uniform exchange open in the school holidays.

Essential Equipment (plus a school bag that can hold an A4 folder)



All equipment can be purchased from the school, if it is easier.

- 1 pen (black/blue)
- 1 green pen
- 1 pencil
- 1 rubber
- 1 ruler
- Knowledge Organiser - provided by school
- 1 Casio FX85 calculator
- A school bag
- Non-permanent whiteboard pen
- A pencil case

Pre-Loved Uniform - 27 July – 19 August

For 3 weeks in August, (27 July to 19 August) NOA hosts a preloved uniform shop called "NOA's New To You".

Parents can call the school to book a 30-minute time slot to browse the rails and secure uniform at a greatly reduced cost.

All items are preloved and have been kindly donated by students that have either finished school or outgrown their uniform.

Please note, all sales are cash only.



Communication

- **Arbor** is used to communicate with parents. You can access to see your child's timetable and attendance. Messages will be sent to you via the system.
- Arbor will be explained in September at Teacher - Student - Parent day
- If you have a question/ concern
- Email your child's tutor as first port of call- addresses are on the website. Each year has a parent handbook on the website.
- We have a **48-hour communication rule**. Due to the busy nature of the school, please book appointments in advance.
- Principal's surgery once a half term or book in to see me.
- We have a Facebook page for celebrations – please like and share!

Facebook Communication

- We have a well used NOA Facebook page
- Please share events and promote
- Facebook can be great but also can be the source of a lot of mistruth
- You are absolutely entitled to an opinion but please be mindful of what you are sayingis it correct? Have the school had the opportunity to rectify?



What will we be learning?

A range of exciting subjects that will help you know more and do more.

- ☐ Maths
- ☐ English
- ☐ Science
- ☐ History
- ☐ Geography
- ☐ RE
- ☐ Computer Science
- ☐ PE
- ☐ Drama as part of English
- ☐ Art
- ☐ Music
- ☐ DT inc food
- ☐ French
- ☐ PSHE

We offer GCSE and
A level computing



PSHCE and RSHE

Personal, Social, Health, Careers Education (PSHCE) education is a subject that supports our students to be healthy, safe and prepared for modern life. It is a subject in which our students will develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to manage their lives, now and in the future.

Relationships, Sex and Health education (RSHE) is taught as part of PSHCE. The aim of RSE is to teach our students to understand human sexuality and to respect themselves and others.

Other aims of RSHE is to cover the following areas of Healthy living:

- Physical, Mental and Social wellbeing
- Mental wellbeing
- Internet safety and harms
- Physical health and fitness
- Healthy eating
- Drugs/Alcohol and tobacco
- Health and prevention
- Basic first aid and changing adolescent body

PSHCE also incorporates aspects of Careers, finance, citizenship, equality and diversity and British values.

The statutory requirements
delivered through fortnightly
timetabled lessons

A world-class education for every KS3 student

KS3 Mixed-Attainment Learning

Our new approach to mixed-attainment learning from September

“To be an academy where students receive a world-class education in character and academics, leading to happiness and fulfilment in life.”

Mixed-attainment teaching means students learn in classes with a broad range of starting points. It is about ensuring every child can access ambitious learning, excellent teaching and high expectations.

**All subjects except
Mathematics**

High expectations

The simple message:

Same ambition. Same access. Right support.



Why we are making this change

KS3 Mixed-Attainment Learning

Three consistent reasons for families and students

1

Access to excellence

Students should not have their curriculum or opportunities limited by an early set placement. Everyone studies rich, ambitious subject content.

2

Belonging and confidence

Mixed-attainment classes reduce labels such as “bottom set” and help students see themselves as capable learners and valued members of the class.

3

Better preparation

Learning with a wide range of peers builds discussion, resilience, independence and the scholarship students need for success at GCSE and beyond.

Families can expect: high expectations for all students, expert teaching, and support that helps students access the same ambitious learning.

How this is supported by research — and what will happen

KS3 Mixed-Attainment Learning

A planned, evidence-informed approach



EEF evidence

The EEF reports that setting and streaming have little overall impact, with a small negative impact for lower prior attainers. It also stresses that high-quality teaching is the strongest lever for improving outcomes.

SEND Code of Practice

National guidance emphasises inclusive practice and removing barriers to learning, so students can participate fully and prepare successfully for adulthood.

Our approach

Students will be taught in mixed-attainment groups across KS3, except Mathematics. Teachers will use adaptive teaching, scaffolding and challenge so all students can succeed.

Why Maths is different

Mathematics is highly sequential: new learning depends heavily on secure prior knowledge. Setting helps teachers match pace and sequencing while keeping high expectations for all.

What families will notice: no reduction in ambition; the same curriculum entitlement; careful support and challenge; progress reviewed through the year.

Home Learning

- Home learning gives students time to consolidate and practise learning.
- A device at home is useful, but students can use computers after school.
- Please support by providing a quiet place to study at home and supporting with a regular routine.
- At the start of year 7 we focus on core subject home learning. Students will get **approximately 30 mins each night**.
- We expect students to be reading at home.



Laptop Scheme - Deadline July 17th

We have a stall in the courtyard with more information

- Every parent/ carer has been sent a letter regarding buying a laptop and spreading the cost over different periods of time.
- If you are eager to do this, you only have until **17th July** to register your interest.
- Students will need a laptop to use at home - phones will not be that useful.
- Please look at your emails and follow the link so you can read all about it. The cost includes laptop and case.
- Laptops will be ready at the end of August ready for September home learning.

****Laptops are not needed for in school ****

Extra curricula

- We offer a HUGE range of clubs after school.
- Club sign ups will happen on the TSP day and the following 2 days.
- Please get involved. We hope every students does at least 2 clubs per week.
- Lots of leadership opportunities.
- In July 2027 we offer a residential camp to all of year 7.
- Year 8 = France
- Year 9 = Iceland
- Year 10 Camps International



Phone Policy September 2026

The Department for Education (DfE) expects schools to implement a policy whereby pupils **do not have access to their mobile phone throughout the school day including during lessons, the time between lessons, breaktimes and lunchtime.**



Why is this happening?

1. Today's teenagers **spend more time on their phones** than on any other activity. The impact is felt both at home and in school, affecting learning, wellbeing, friendships and behaviour.
2. We all want the children in our care to be **happy, successful, and safe**; but growing evidence shows smartphones and social media make those goals harder.
3. We're in the middle of a teenage **mental health crisis**. Teenagers are experiencing far more instances of debilitating anxiety and depression. Research shows that the earlier a child has a smartphone, and the more time they spend on it, the worse the outcomes.
4. Platforms are designed to be **addictive**. Prepubescent children lack the brain development needed to manage this, leaving them especially vulnerable.
5. Excessive screen time and short-form video apps **reduce attention span**, concentration, and sleep quality, reducing focus and impacting learning. Secondary schools that ban phones see grades rise.

From September 2026

North Oxfordshire Academy's phone free policy will be delivered using Yondr pouches

- 86% reported improved safety and student wellness
- 84% saw increased engagement in class
- 44% reduced behavioural referrals



The basics

- Each student has their own pouch free of charge. Lost pouch= pay for a new one
- Students lock their mobile phones in pouches on entry to school
- Locked pouches **go in school bags**
- Pouches unlocked at the end of the day
- Students show high levels of integrity by locking pouches away and keeping in bags.
- If seen or heard in the school day phones will be confiscated and parents called. The length of confiscation is determined by the number of times a student has been caught. A student refuses to hand over their phone = serious sanction.

This means

Phones can be with you during travel to and from school

How Parents Can Help

- Talk regularly about online activity; set clear expectations
- No phones overnight — supports sleep and focus
- Use device controls to limit access during school hours

(8:15am - 4:15pm)

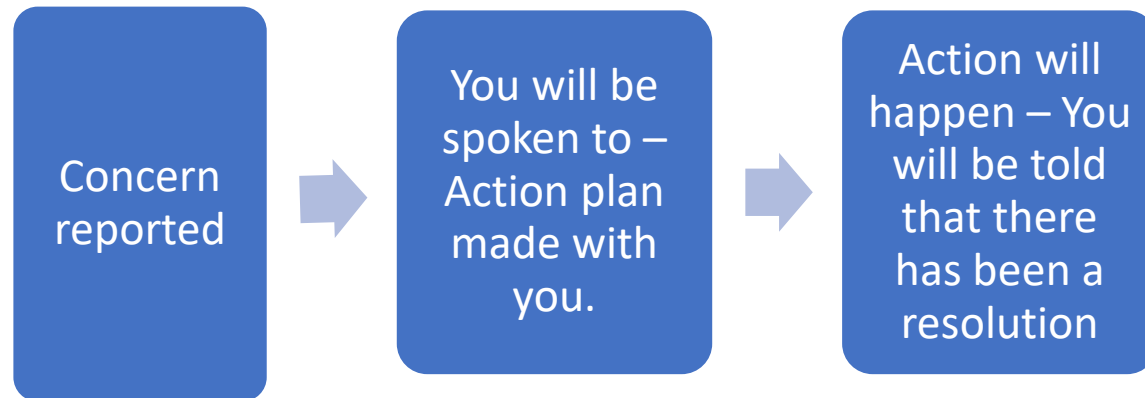
- Promote after-school enrichment over screen time



NOA is a Talking School

NOA is a Safe School

- NOA is a safe school.
- You have the right to feel safe day in day out at NOA.
- Thank you for reporting anything concerning.



Support we offer

- Head of Year & Tutor
- Welfare team
- Student Engagement Team
- Mental Health First Aid Team
- Learning coaches and inclusion team including SENDCo
- Children We Care For key Worker
- Inclusion interventions
- School Health Nurse
- Attendance support team
- CBT therapy (by referral)
- Art therapy (by referral)
- Phonics and reading recovery



Dyslexia screening for all Year 7 students

- Every year 6 to 7 student will be screened for dyslexia
- Letters will be sent home if a child is identified as needing more support
- Please talk to staff if you would like more information

Coffee Morning – Wednesday 14 October 9.00 - 10.00 am

- Relaxed setting for questions about North Oxfordshire Academy
- Meet key staff – teaching and support staff
- Tour NOA and see classrooms in action

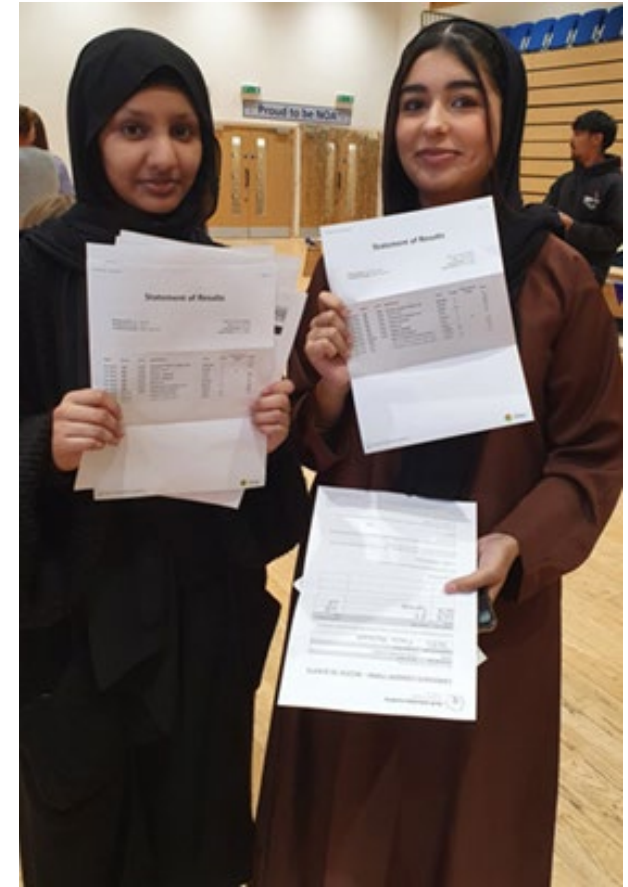


Teacher Student Parent Day - Thursday 3 September

- Meet your child's tutor- mum and dad at school!
- A 15-minute meeting to discuss your child's progress and achievements
- You will get a copy of their timetable and key information
- Fingerprint will be taken for cashless catering
- Opportunity to meet tutors and see a bit more of NOA

Year 7 key dates

- TSP Days: Thursday 3 Sept
- Start of school: Friday 4 Sept
- Parents' Evening in person: Thursday 10 Dec
- English, Maths & Science NGRT & Midyis – September 2026
- Assessments – Jan 2027



Term Dates 2026-27 see website and [here](#)

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September		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						
October				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			
November							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
December		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					

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January					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
February								1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
March	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						
April				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30				
May						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
June		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						
July				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			
August							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

 Inset Day

 School Holiday

 Bank Holiday

 Teacher-Student-Parent Day



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Questions and Contact



Elliot Hurst - Assistant Principal



Isobel Stanford - Pastoral Leader



Kirsty Sims - Inclusion



Hannah Jobbins - Welfare Manager



Amy Peacock - Year Manager
(Head of year)



Louise Penfold-Colledge - Inclusion

Questions and Contact

- Elliot Hurst: Elliot.Hurst@northoxfordshire-academy.org
- Isobel Stanford: Isobel.Stanford@northoxfordshire-academy.org
- Amy Peacock: Amy.Peacock@northoxfordshire-academy.org
- Kirsty Sims: Kirsty.Sims@northoxfordshire-academy.org
- Louise Penfold-Colledge: Louise.Penfold-Colledge@northoxfordshire-academy.org
- Hannah Jobbins: Hannah.Jobbins@northoxfordshire-academy.org
- School Website - Transition Page: [Starting School](#)

What can we do to prepare?

- Read daily !
- Daily challenges – crossword, wordsearch, sudoku keeps the brain exercised
- Physical exercise and hobbies with friends
- Put down phones and get into healthy IT and screen habits – can your child survive for 6 hours without a phone?
- Phone taken at night
- Talk to each other
- Get ready – equipment and **routines**. Sleep habits in the holidays to adapt to early mornings and early nights.
- Can you child organise and dress themselves
- Toilet routines
- Road safety



Proud to be NOA!



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