

## **The Aspirations Academy: creating outstanding enrichment opportunities at OHA for the more able.**

**In September 2015, Ormiston Horizon Academy launched their Aspirations Academy in order to offer support for ambitious more able students.**

The Aspirations Academy supports all students who aspire to university; we have close links with both local and national universities, including Keele and Oxford University, where visits are arranged to give students an authentic academic experience. During 2015-2018 students have been given a range of opportunities to support their high aspirations (a current programme of events attached to this document).

### ***Opportunities so far include:***

#### **Oundle School**

- **A Y11 student from OHA has achieved a scholarship worth £70,000, for a two year residential course at Oundle School**

#### **The Brilliant Club**

Students are given the opportunity to work with PHD tutors on a selected topic (this has included topics such as Barbarians; Civilization; Paternalism) as part of the Scholarship Programme. This programme begins with a visit to a Russell Group university and ends with a graduation ceremony.

#### **IMPACT:**

- **Six students in Y9 completed the course in 2016/17 and**
- **Ten students in Y8 completed the course during 2016/17**
- **Students have visited the universities of Leeds, Sheffield and Manchester**

#### **University Residential Courses**

OHA students have the opportunity to apply for residential experiences at a range of universities.

#### **IMPACT:**

- **Three Y10 students attended the UNIVERSIFY at Somerville College, Oxford University during August 2016**
- **Two Y10 students attended UNIVERSIFY during August 2017**
- **One Y12 student attended a week's residential at Durham University (Sutton Trust Summer School) and has been given a reduced offer of ABB**

- **Five Y12 students attended a three day residential at Keele University in June 2016. As a result two of these are applying to Keele as their first choice**

### **Public Speaking Events**

Students from years 7-9 have the opportunity to work with the organisation Debatemate to develop their debating skills.

#### **IMPACT:**

**During 2015-16 fourteen students from Y7-9 attended the Debatemate final at the Oxford Union, Oxford University.**

- **During 2016-17 twelve students from Y7-9 attended the Debatemate final against other OAT academies at Oxford University.**

For the last three years, students have also participated in the local SASCAL public speaking event.

#### **IMPACT:**

- **The team achieved a place in the final during 2015-16. The key speaker was then invited to present at the SASCAL Heads conference where he shared the stage with the children's poet, Michael Rosen.**

### **Youth Parliament and Local Democracy Week**

Students with a passion for politics have the opportunity to present their manifestoes to the rest of the academy during House and Year assemblies, and to visit the Council Chambers during Local Democracy Week.

#### **IMPACT:**

- **In 2016-17, a Y8 student from Horizon became *the* Youth Parliament representative for Stoke on Trent.**
- **Now in his second year he has presented to audiences across the city, including at the Kings Hall and local primary schools. He will be visiting the House of Commons in November 2017 and will hold the title of Stoke YP MP until 2019.**

### **More Able Writers**

Students from y7-9 have many opportunities to develop their writing skills. During 2015/16 students worked alongside the author of Thirteen Chairs, Dave Shelton Dave Shelton to produce scary stories. Students have also participated in literacy and more able writers workshops at Staffordshire and Keele University.

- **During 2016-17, Y8 students wrote scripts with help from the playwright Debbie McAndrew. These were then published.**
- **Ten Y10 students collaborated with the White Water Writers in the production of a novel, which was published and sold on Amazon. Money raised will go to a charity of their choice.**

### **University Taster Sessions**

Students can attend bespoke events at many of our local universities. These have so far included:

- Keele Medpath – Y10 students visit to Keele University's school of medicine.
- Steps to Medicine – an introduction to studying medicine for Y8 students
- Harry Potter Day- Y9 students (Law, Media, Accountancy)
- Forensics Day- Keele School of Medicine
- Keble College- Y11 students visit to Oxford University
- Chester University-Y12 visit
- Harper Adams University- Y10 visit
- Keele University- Yrs 11-13 Study Skills sessions
- Learn to Earn- Y9 Enterprise Day at Keele University

### **IMPACT:**

- **In 2015-16, three students from OHA6 were accepted on to university courses**
- **In 2016-17, fourteen students were accepted on to university courses**

By embedding the power of growth mindset and the importance of stretch and challenge within the ethos of the **Aspirations Academy**, we aim give every student the chance to achieve their full potential:

***“There is a difference between not knowing and not knowing yet”.***

## **September- July 2017-18 OHA Aspirations Academy programme**

- **September 21-23, 2017**- Two y11 students attended Oundle interviews
- Oundle College- Liana Snape, scholarship for a two year residential.
- **September 7, 2017**- Y12/13 induction to independent learning and study skills at Keele University
- **October 2017**- More Able Writers day(SMG)
- **October 7, 2017**- Brilliant Club graduation at Sheffield University
- **October 10, 2017** – 30 Y9 more able students- Learn to Earn enterprise day at Keele University (JCC)
- **October- July 2017**– Keele English Lit A level tutor to work with PJI to produce resources for Y12/13 students
- **October 13, 2017**- Local Democracy Week- visit to Kings Hall and Council Chambers; Ashley Moran (Stoke's Youth Parliament MP) delivered a speech to Primary and Secondary students,
- **October 20 , 2017** – Made- Rapid Revision strategies for all Y9 students
- **November 6 , 2017** - Made Rapid Revision strategies for all Y 11 and all teaching staff
- **November 9, 2017**- Ashley Moran to visit the House of Commons
- **November 13, 2017** - OHA Curriculum Leaders to share ideas for good good practice at levels 7-9
- **November 16, 2017**- SASCAL public speaking competition (SMG)
- **November 21, 2017**- Performance in Education-at OHA - Steps to Success for all Y10 , 9-10 am in the theatre
- **December 14, 2017** –Y 9 students Keele The Science of Christmas to include Law, Media and Science
- **January 2018** – Oxford University visit for Y11 and Y12 students TBC
- **January 15, 2018** -UCAS deadline!
- **January 2018** – JPP Y 8 Options Assembly
- **March 2018**- Keele University UNIVISION- Presented by Oxford and Derby Unis TBC
- **March 12, 2018** – Keele Science Week- Y 9 and Y 10 TBC
- **March 23-25 ,2018**- Unify Residential ( MC and TN), Oxford University
- **March 29, 2018** – Made Rapid Revision- all Y10 students
- **April 28, 2018** – WW2 History Campus tour – Y9 and Y 10 LCC/TWW TBC
- **April 2018**- Revision sessions for Y11 English and Maths dept. Keele request Weds PM please TBC
- **June 2018**- Harry Potter day Y9 students (subjects TBC)TBC
- **June 2018**- Y 9 and Y10 2Engage University Challenge TBC
- **June 2018**- White Water Writers Y10 students book writing date TBC
- **Jan- April 2018**- Y9 The Brilliant Club (funded by Keele /Higher Horizons)
- **May- July 2018**- Y8 The Brilliant Club

