



Omagh Academy

2025

Inspire ~ Empower ~ Achieve

Inspire

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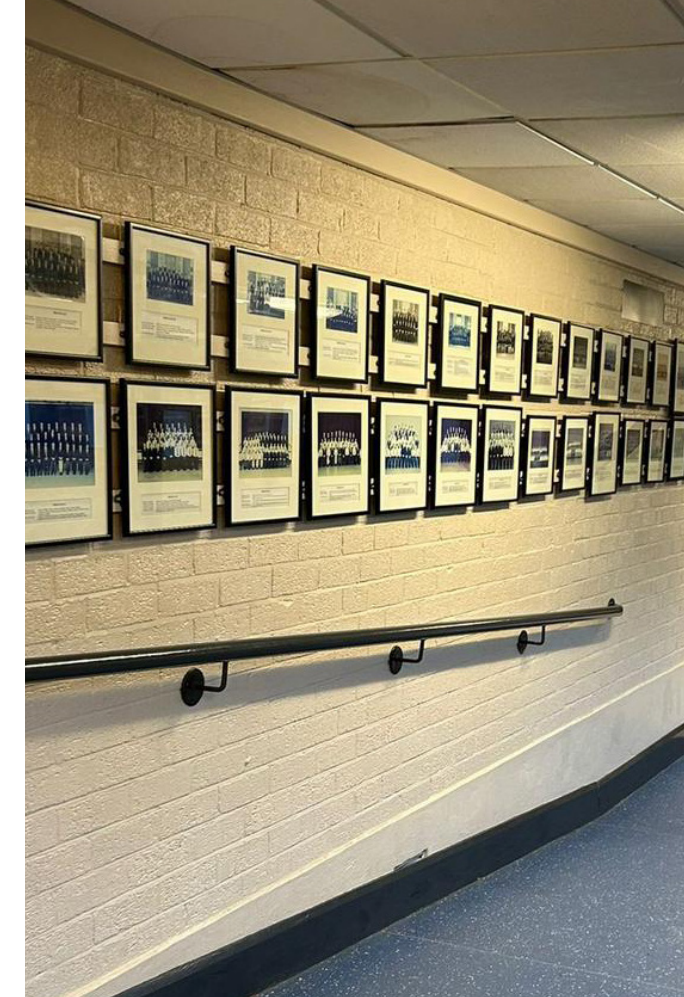
Empower

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Inspire



Welcome to Omagh Academy

Omagh Academy is a vibrant and ambitious school, where pupils are nurtured, encouraged and inspired.

The school community aims for excellence, in a caring and supportive environment combining technological advances and innovative approaches to learning and teaching with the best traditional values and standards of behaviour.

We take pride in the many achievements of present and past pupils. Our pupils are among the highest achievers in public examinations in Northern Ireland and are successful in gaining admission to the top universities. Former pupils of Omagh Academy can be found playing important roles in many countries and settings, and making significant and valuable contributions to their communities.

Pupils flourish when they are happy and well-motivated, and it is important for each boy and girl to have the freedom to develop as an individual. We therefore ensure that pastoral care has a high priority, and our pupils enjoy learning in a friendly, kind and responsive social environment.

We value our relationships with parents and carers and strive to develop a sense of partnership within and beyond the school community. Special emphasis is placed on fostering a sense of responsibility among pupils and on cultivating leadership skills in combination with an attitude of service

to others. We also value the links that we have developed with other schools locally, nationally and internationally.

Our commitment to the development of the young person as an accomplished individual is reflected in the numerous cultural and sporting activities that continue outside the classroom and beyond the normal school day and week.

Omagh Academy provides a modern curriculum and a rich educational experience that extends beyond traditional academic subjects to include a range of more practically based courses and outstanding extracurricular provision. We feel that pupils leave our school with a head start in life.

I hope that you find the snapshot of life at Omagh Academy offered in this prospectus interesting and informative, and I look forward to welcoming you to our school.

Mrs Ruth Maxwell
Principal



Omagh Academy is a co-educational, non-denominational controlled grammar school.

It is open to all and welcomes applications from boys and girls throughout the Omagh area and beyond.

Recently we celebrated our 120th anniversary and we look back and reflect with pride! Our pupils and staff have done amazing work over the years, ensuring that the Omagh Academy community is known across the world. We also look to the future to build on our rich heritage with expectation and enthusiasm.

We hope that you will play a part in our journey.

Our School

Established in 1903, the school building occupies a central location in the town. Our distinctive navy and gold uniforms are easily recognised in Omagh and across Northern Ireland!

Our Crest

Our crest carries the motto – Veritas Vincet – and we believe that its meaning ‘truth prevails’ is still relevant for 21st Century education.



Our Ethos

We continue to promote the values of integrity, resilience, and confidence; encouraging the young people entrusted to our care to develop their gifts and talents, and to achieve the highest academic standards according to their ability.

We believe that the interests of our school community are fostered and developed by a balanced education based on Christian values and mutual respect. We promote excellence in all our endeavours, acknowledging that growth and potential are experienced when we work together.



To find out more about our ethos, scan this code or visit omaghacademy.com/our-ethos



Empower



In the classroom

Omagh Academy is proud of our talented and dedicated staff who deliver a diverse and varied range of subjects.

We want our pupils to aspire to achieve great things and we encourage them to work in partnership with staff and take responsibility for their learning.

The subjects we offer at different stages of school life are:

Key Stage 3 Years 8-10

- Art & Design
- Drama
- English
- French
- Geography
- History
- Home Economics
- ICT
- Learning for Life & Work
- Mathematics
- Music
- Physical Education
- Religious Education
- Science
- Spanish
- Technology & Design

Key Stage 4 Years 11 & 12

- Agriculture & Land Use
- Art & Design
- Business and Communication Systems
- Business Studies
- Digital Technology: Multimedia
- Digital Technology: Programming
- English Language
- English Literature
- Food & Nutrition
- French
- Further Mathematics
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Music
- Performing Arts
- Physical Education
- Religious Studies
- Science (Double Award)
- Spanish
- Triple Award Biology
- Triple Award Chemistry
- Triple Award Physics
- Technology & Design

Sixth Form Years 13 & 14

- Agriculture
- Applied Science
- Art & Design
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Child Development
- Construction
- Digital Technology
- Engineering
- English Literature
- French
- Geography
- Health & Social Care
- History
- Hospitality Management
- Life & Health Science
- Mathematics
- Media Games
- Music
- Nutrition & Food Science
- Physics
- Politics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Spanish
- Sports Studies
- Technology & Design



To find out more about subjects at Omagh Academy, scan this code or visit omaghacademy.com/departments

OMAGH ACADEMY



Careers Guidance

We have a dedicated team of staff who prepare our pupils for the world of work. Many of our pupils continue to third-level education courses and many also follow vocational pathways and choose to complete apprenticeships.

It is very encouraging as we observe our pupils throughout their time at Omagh Academy; we watch with pride as they develop skills and attributes which shape their future careers.



To find out more about the Careers Department at Omagh Academy, scan this code or visit omaghacademy.com/careers-department



To see more of life at Omagh Academy scan this code or visit omaghacademy.com/gallery





Pastoral Care

Nurturing Potential

High standards of Pastoral Care pervade all areas of Omagh Academy life.

We view our pupils' progress holistically. Not merely content with strong academic performance, we ensure that each student feels safe, is cared for and that their emotional needs are supported.

The Pastoral Team, led by Vice Principal Miss Faris, exists to ensure that a warm, caring and safe environment exists within our school.

Each class has a Form Teacher who meets with his/her class every morning. This daily contact allows for detailed knowledge of the academic and wellbeing needs of the pupils and provides guidance and encouragement with opportunities to build good relationships.

The Year Head has overall responsibility for the year group – monitoring attendance, behaviour and academic progress – and is the first point of contact between school and home. The Year Head continues to give pastoral support to their assigned year group throughout their time at Omagh Academy.

Safeguarding

Omagh Academy treats safeguarding seriously. We have a suite of pastoral policies which regulate practice and a Safeguarding Team which promotes and implements safeguarding.

The School Counsellor is present in school every week and is available for any pupil who wishes to make an appointment.

Parents, pupils and Staff are encouraged to download and make use of the Safer Schools App to promote and support safe use of the internet.

Support

We want our pupils to thrive, and we seek to provide support to ensure that they reach their potential.

The school's Learning Support Co-ordinator works in collaboration with pupils, staff, parents and professionals to identify and assess the special needs of pupils. Effective intervention strategies to aid learning are then devised, agreed and shared through the pupil's Personal Learning Plan (PLP). The PLP is regularly reviewed to monitor both the pupil's progress and improve the effectiveness of the support provided.

To promote good learning habits and understanding, we provide Literacy and Numeracy Support. Senior pupils are also involved in a mentoring scheme where they work alongside younger pupils and provide mathematics support. We also ensure that every pupil receives key stage-appropriate training in study skills and approaches to revision

Pupil Leadership

The community of students is led by the Head Girl and Head Boy and a Prefect Leadership Team. We value their support and creative input into the running of the school.

The School Council also provides opportunities for pupil input into the life of the school. The Council meets once a month and is made up of representatives from all twenty-eight form classes across the school. Members play an important role in shaping new policies, plus building relationships with Staff and Governors. The Council also takes the lead in promoting core messages about Anti-Bullying and staying safe on the internet in the wider school community. Representatives from the School Council are also members of the Strule Shared Education Student Council which meets termly in a host school.



To find out more about pastoral care, scan this code or visit omaghacademy.com/pastoral



Senior Pupil Team 2024-25



Sarah Head Girl

Gortin | Strabane Primary School

A-level subjects: Biology, Chemistry and Geography

Best aspect of OA life: The close-knit, supportive community in Omagh Academy between pupils and staff has created a real sense of belonging in my seven years. I believe this has been instrumental in developing an environment where everyone feels valued and thrives.

Future career plans: Medicine

Matthew Head Boy

Omagh | Gibson Primary School

A-level subjects: Biology, Chemistry and Maths

Best aspect of OA life: The caring and enthusiastic staff have nurtured and always supported me, both in and out of the classroom to strive and perform to the very best of my ability.

Future career plans: Veterinary Science

Kathryn Deputy Head Girl

Omagh | Omagh County Primary School

A-level subjects: English Literature, Music and Religious Studies

Best aspect of OA life: The Music Department! The experiences, friendships and camaraderie fostered between pupils and staff during the many events that we have the opportunity to be a part of has been one of the main highlights of my time at OA.

Future career plans: Music

Lewis Deputy Head Boy

Fintona | Denamona Primary School

A-level subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Digital Technology and Maths

Best aspect of OA life: I really like how supportive the teachers are. I have made great relationships not only with fellow students, but teachers who I can talk to about anything, and have a laugh with.

Future career plans: Pharmacy

Daisy Deputy Head Girl

Omagh | Omagh County Primary School

A-level subjects: Biology, French and Geography

Best aspect of OA life: The sporting facilities at Omagh Academy are amazing! I have played hockey for 7 years and have had wonderful opportunities such as a trip to Edinburgh as well as frequent training and matches to constantly enhance and improve my skills.

Future career plans: Marine Biology

Isaac Deputy Head Boy

Lack | Lack Primary school

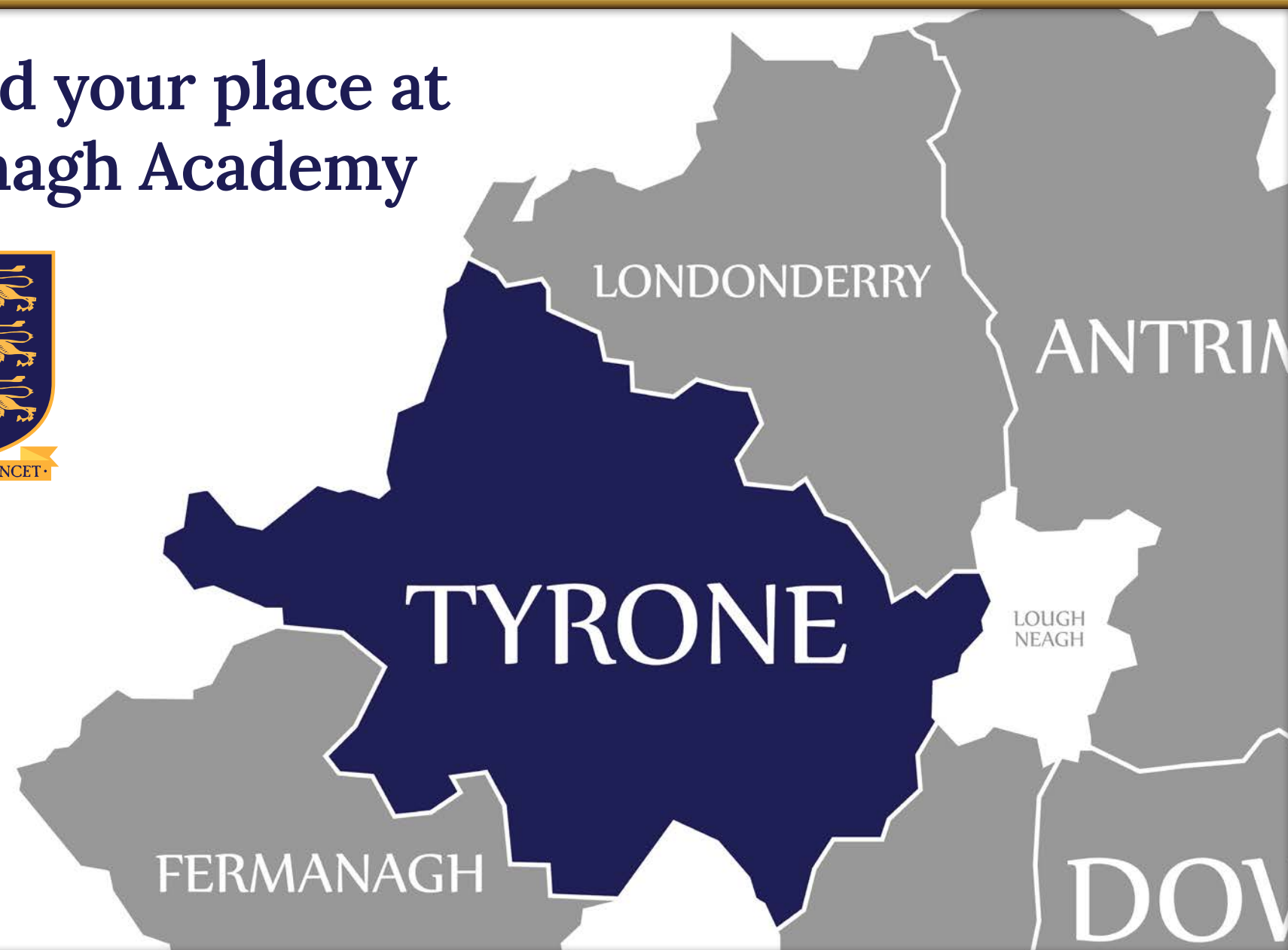
A-Level subjects: History, Music and Physics

Best aspect of OA life: the extra-curricular activities provided are fantastic. I have enjoyed being involved in Rugby, Young Enterprise and Music performances.

Future career plans: Law

Inspire.
Empower.
Achieve.

Find your place at Omagh Academy





As you consider beginning your journey at Omagh Academy look at the achievements of some of our past pupils!

Judith Wilson Class of 2016

A-level subjects: Geography, History & Mathematics

Activities involved in while at OA: Brass Band, Orchestra, Choir, Eco Club, Librarian, School Magazine Committee, Prefect, Deputy Head Girl

Education after OA: BSc in Geography, followed by a PGCE in Geography, and currently completing and Masters degree in Education

Current Role: Teacher of Geography and deputy Head of Year 11 in Wallace High School, Lisburn

Holly Nelson Class of 2015

A-level subjects: French, Psychology & Spanish

Activities involved in whilst at OA: Orchestra, Senior Choir, Omagh Academy Players, Hockey, School Magazine Committee

Education after OA: BSc Psychology, PGDE Education

Current Role: Teacher of Social Sciences

Lauren Davison Class of 2011

A-level subjects: English Literature, Music & Psychology

Activities involved in whilst at OA: String Orchestra, Orchestra, Senior Choir, Psychology Society, Senior SU

Education after OA: Liverpool Hope University - BA (Hons) Music, University of the West of England (Bristol) - MA Music Therapy.

Current Role: Music Therapist at Everyday Harmony and piano, voice, violin tutor at Omagh Music Academy

Jamie Beacom Class of 2010

A-level subjects: Chemistry, Further Maths, Maths, Physic & Religious Studies

School Activities: School Magazine, Student Librarian, Debating Team, Deputy Head Boy

Education after OA: Undergraduate degree in Maths at Hertford College, Oxford, followed by a PhD in Algebraic and Computational Number Theory at Balliol College, Oxford

Current Role: Vice President of Engineering at SourceWhale, a tech company building AI-powered software solutions for the recruitment industry

Richard Clements Class of 2009

A-Level Subjects: English Literature, History, Music & Politics

Activities involved in whilst at OA: Cello lessons, Orchestra, Choir, Debating Society, School Magazine, Omagh Academy Players

Education after OA: LLB, Law with Politics, Queen's University Belfast, LLM in International Law, Leiden University, Ph.D. in Law, Cambridge University

Current Role: Assistant Professor of International Law at Tilburg University, Netherlands; Faculty member, Institute for Global Law & Policy, Harvard Law School

Josh Stead Class of 2007

A-Level Subjects: English Literature, History & Music

Activities involved in whilst at OA: Rugby, Guitar Lessons, Music, Omagh Academy Players

Education after OA: Newcastle University - Classics and English Literature, Leeds Trinity University - Broadcast Journalism MA

Current Role - Programme and Digital Editor, ITV News Tyne Tees



Beyond The classroom

We believe that involvement in activities 'beyond the classroom' is very important, and that it contributes to an enriching and satisfying time at school.

Not only are new skills discovered but new friendships are made! We believe that balancing academic life with extra-curricular involvement is essential for creating good wellbeing habits.

We offer a wide variety of clubs and societies which meet weekly:

- Byte This – ICT Club
- Blast from the Past – History Club
- Brass Band
- Junior Drama
- Junior Choir
- Junior Scripture Union
- Eco Schools
- Games Club
- GrassRoots Agriculture Club
- Mandarin Classes
- Netball
- Equestrian Club
- AILO Club
- Science Club
- Senior Choir
- Senior Scripture Union
- Omagh Academy Players
- Community Care
- Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- Psychology Society
- Young Enterprise
- Badminton
- Volleyball

Trips and excursions are also where memories are made!

Some recent events include:

- Spanish trip to Barcelona
- Fishing trip to Killybegs
- Music trip to Ulster Orchestra concert in Belfast
- Politics trip to Stormont
- Football trip to watch a Manchester United match, Old Trafford
- Drama trip to watch musicals at the Strule Arts Centre
- Agriculture trip to Balmoral Show
- Rugby trip to watch an Ireland international match in Dublin

Where next?

- Ski trip to Italy - planned January 2025
- Music trip to London – planned January 2025
- French trip to Paris – planned February 2025
- Rugby trip to Canada - planned July 2025



To find out more about extra curricular activities at Omagh Academy, scan this code or visit omaghacademy.com/extra-curricular

Music

The Music Department is a busy place and offers so many opportunities to our students.

A team of instrumental tutors visits the school every week, offering expert tuition in a range of instruments. Pupils can avail of lessons - even if they have not begun lessons in primary school. It's never too late to learn an instrument!

Please speak to a member of the Music Department to find out more.



To find out more about musical opportunities, scan this code or visit omaghacademy.com/musi-extra



Pupils are encouraged to develop their gifts and talents in Music by joining one of the many ensembles. A highlight of the school calendar is the annual Spring Concert which takes place in the Strule Arts Centre. In fact, this event is so popular that tickets are sold out weeks in advance!

We enjoy fantastic community support and love to see our pupils involved in a variety of performance opportunities, covering a range of musical styles. There really is something for everyone!

Tuition is available in

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| • Piano | • Bassoon |
| • Singing | • Cornet |
| • Guitar | • Trumpet |
| • Snare Drum | • Tenor Horn |
| • Bagpipes | • French Horn |
| • Violin | • Baritone |
| • Viola | • Euphonium |
| • Cello | • Trombone |
| • Flute | • Tuba |
| • Clarinet | • Drum Kit |
| • Oboe | • Orchestral Percussion |
| • Saxophone | |

Our pupils have been on stage, as members of:

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| • Senior Choir | • Djembe Drumming Circle |
| • Junior Choir | • Ukulele Orchestra |
| • Orchestra | • Pipes & Drums |
| • Brass Band | • Musical Theatre ensemble |
| • Guitar Ensemble | • Rock Band |
| • Woodwind Ensemble | • Percussion Ensemble |
| • String Orchestra | |
| • Samba Band | |



We love to follow the success of our past musicians and see how they have performed on the stages of many prestigious concert halls. The opportunities are endless!

Sport

- Aerobics
- Athletics
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Cross-country
- Fitness training
- Football
- Golf
- Gymnastics
- Hockey
- Netball
- Rounders/softball
- Rugby
- Swimming
- Tag Rugby
- Table Tennis
- Tennis
- Volleyball



To find out more about sporting activities, scan this code or visit omaghacademy.com/sport-extra



Aside from weekly lessons in PE and Games, our students are offered an unrivalled range of sporting opportunities.

The sports pitches at Campsie are busy every day after school and it is fantastic to see junior and senior pupils participating in sport. Our on-site fitness centre offers state-of-the-art training facilities to all our senior pupils and they also enjoy the facilities at Omagh Leisure Centre.

We compete in Rugby and Hockey tournaments – fielding as many as 10 teams each week for fixtures with schools across the province. Our Football teams play in the Schools' Cup competitions, and we also have much success in Athletics in the summer season, with pupils competing and winning medals at Ulster and Ireland events.



We wish to see our pupils involved in sport – whether as a beginner or a proficient athlete – and know that health and wellbeing are enhanced by these opportunities.



Achieve



Celebrating Success

We celebrate success in the everyday events as well as in the extraordinary opportunities which our pupils enjoy.

- Working well in class
- Submitting a great homework
- Achieving a high test score
- Promoting the school
- Taking part in events
- Showing kindness to others

We recognise that these academic and pastoral achievements are important and contribute to making our pupils resilient, empathetic, and forward thinkers.

We share successes in Assemblies, through our social media pages and in the printed press. We reward success too! Certificates, vouchers and special presentations are just some of the ways we acknowledge our pupils.

At GCSE and A-Level stages it seems that the stakes are higher – but good foundations have been created and our pupils are confident and prepared for all possibilities. Our annual Prize Day in September is a special event where we reward achievements.

Omagh Academy is measured against educational benchmarks and we enjoy a strong reputation throughout Northern Ireland – but we measure the success of the individual, celebrating the gifts and talents which makes each pupil unique and highly valued.



To find out more about how we celebrate our pupils and staff, scan this code or visit omaghacademy.com/celebration-of-achievement



We are so proud of the achievements of our pupils and staff, and we celebrate all their endeavours.

We celebrate the everyday successes alongside the extraordinary!



Creating Community

An important aspect of Omagh Academy's success is found in the strong links which exist between school, home and our local community. We create community by valuing the strong foundations and excellence of the past, whilst looking forward with enthusiasm to what our school can achieve in the future.

We value:

- Partnerships with families as we seek to nurture and guide our young people to be the best that they can be.
- Connections made with local businesses, schools, churches and community organisations, throughout Tyrone and beyond.
- Links with former pupils – discovering where their career path has led them and the impact they have made around the world.

Connecting with Home:

We keep in touch with our families in various ways.

- **School Gateway App**
is a quick and easy way of sending messages, emails, reports and updates to parents.
- **Social Media**
daily posts are added to our Facebook and Instagram channels
- **Website**
the hub for all information relating to our school
- **Newsletters & Magazines**
providing a record of school life throughout the term
- **Phone calls & Parents' Meetings**
providing a personal and focused approach, ensuring the potential of each one of our pupils is realised.

Connecting with the Community

Recent examples include:

- Providing Christmas Hampers for foodbanks in Omagh
- Leading Music workshops at feeder Primary Schools
- Young Enterprise company visiting trade fairs
- Teaching Modern Languages to Primary School pupils
- Carol Services at St. Columba's Church
- Participating in workshops within our Shared Education Partnerships
- Spring Concerts at Strule Arts Centre

Connecting with our Alumni

Perhaps you are a past pupil of Omagh Academy or know a past pupil? We want to reconnect with you! Click on our website to find out more!

Connecting with Charities

Omagh Academy firmly believes in the importance of supporting the work of local charities. We wish to instil in our pupils the necessity of reaching out to others and gaining awareness of support which is offered to all. Fun Days, non-uniform days, weekly collections, quizzes, sporting events and musical performances are some of the ways in which we've recently raised money for a variety of worthy causes.

- Air Ambulance NI
- Care for Cancer
- NI Cancer Fund for Children
- NSPCC
- Tearfund



Looking to the Future

Joining Omagh Academy as a Year 8 pupil

It is always an exciting time when we meet the new cohort of pupils who are beginning their post-primary education at Omagh Academy!

We know that the move to 'big school' is exciting but can also be a little daunting. We aim to provide a smooth transition from primary school, and we are committed to supporting pupils and their families through this process.

Omagh Academy has a dedicated pastoral team which focuses on Year 8. Led by the Year Head, Mr Bingham, and a team of form teachers, we are grateful for the work and impact of the Year 8 Prefects who provide peer support to our new students.

We organise several events throughout the year which help to familiarise new pupils

with the school setting. We believe that these events are key to developing strong and supportive relationships which will last throughout their Omagh Academy journey.

- Feeder Primary school visits
- Open Evening (January/February)
- Year 8 Induction Evening (June)
- Year 8 Games Night (August)
- Year 8 Trip (September)
- Parent/Teacher meetings (first term)
- Tracking Reports (three times a year)
- Study Skills Event

We can't wait to meet you and look forward to you joining us and making your mark in the history of our school.

Joining Omagh Academy after Year 8

If you wish to join our school community at a later stage of your school career – then why not contact our Principal, Mrs Maxwell, to consider your options and find out more. We can arrange a tour of the school and opportunities to speak to staff who can provide curriculum and pastoral guidance to ensure your queries are answered..

Contact Us



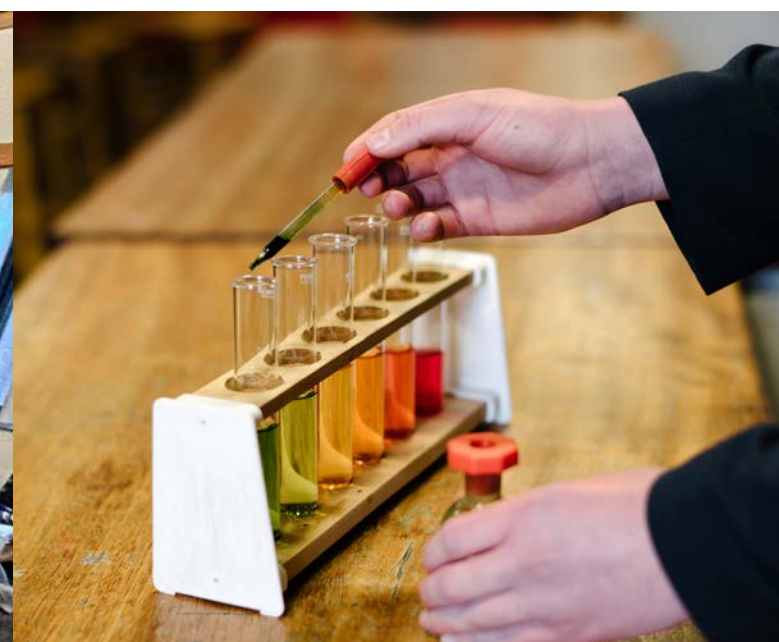
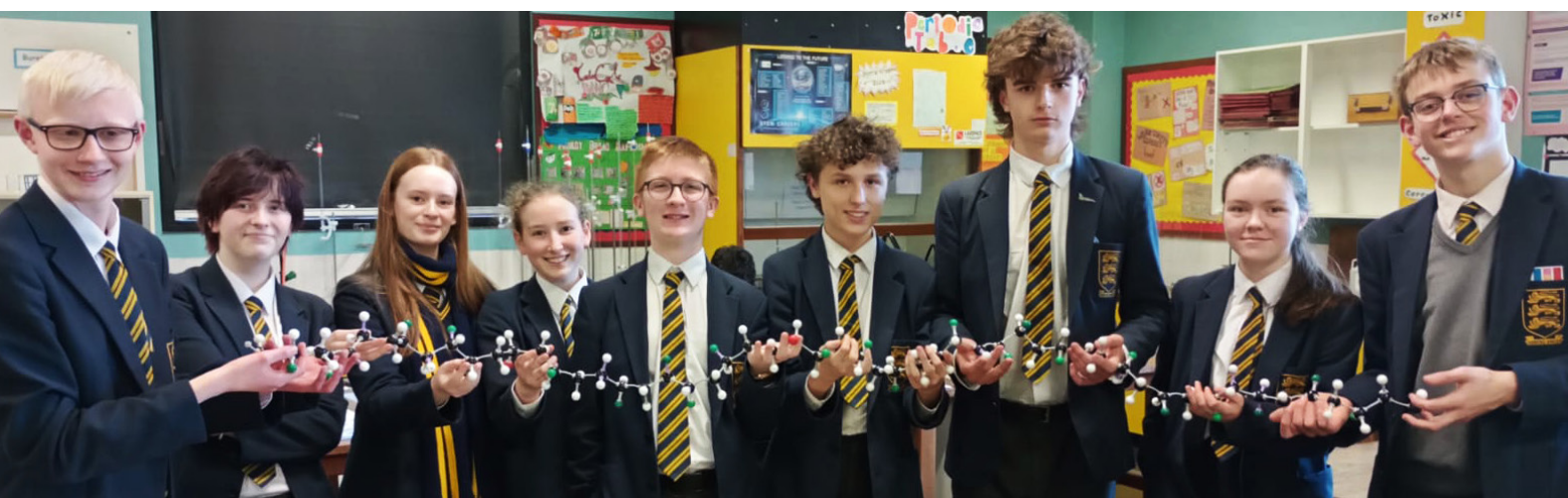
If you are interested in becoming a pupil at Omagh Academy, then please do get in touch.

- Come along to our Open Evening for Year 6&7 pupils – **Thursday 30th January 2025 at 6.30pm**
- Consider your options for Sixth Form and come to our Post-16 Subjects Evening – **Monday 17th February 2025 at 5.30pm**

The traditions established in past are important to us, but we are excited for the future as we continue to provide first-class education opportunities for the pupils in our locality.

Will you join us? We look forward to meeting you!

We are proud to be Omagh Academy!





Omagh Academy

Omagh Academy

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Keep
in touch



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