

# Case Study

## Raising aspirations and attainment at Ormiston Victory Academy

### Launching the Sixth Form at the University of Leicester



60 Costessey High School students attended a Sixth Form Induction organised by FF at the University of Leicester.

### A long term partnership

Future Foundations (FF) has worked in partnership with Ormiston Victory Academy (formerly Costessey High School) to develop the wellbeing, soft skills, study skills and aspirations of their students since 2006 on the following programmes:

- Year 9 Higher Education Experience (2009)
- Year 10 Step Up Programme (2009)
- Year 10 Leadership and Mentor Programme (2009)
- Year 11 Revision Weekend (2008 and 2009)
- Sixth Form Induction (2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010)



Please note, the quotes and pictures were taken prior to Costessey High School becoming Ormiston Victory Academy (September 2010).

*“Our Year 9s have returned fired up. I want to thank you for all your effort, work, inspiration, flexibility and commitment.*

*The impact you have is NOT just on the students. I arrived back on Wednesday inspired to do better, and spent the day rewriting a whole school Achievement Plan.”*

**Alan Fletcher**

National Challenge Coordinator,

Costessey High School

## Higher Education Experience

**Students:** 60      **Year group:** 9

**Location:** Lincolnshire residential retreat centre and a visit to the University of Loughborough

**Aim:** To raise the aspirations of Year 9 students by exposing them to the benefits of going to University and what they will need to do to get there.

**Programme:** They participated in a variety of personal development workshops to help the students consider their aspirations and what they would need to do to prepare themselves for applying to university.

## Step Up

**Students:** 80      **Year group:** 10

**Location:** Norfolk Retreat Centre

**Aim:** To re-engage the students with their GCSEs and encourage them to make Year 10 count.

**Programme:** A one day GCSE booster programme delivered twice to two groups of students to keep group sizes small. FF involved Year 12 and 13 students (who had taken part in the sixth form induction) in a variety of workshops and group sessions including GCSE Goalsetting, Time of Your Life (time management), What's Your Story? (moving beyond excuses) and the Power of Positive Thinking.

## Leadership and Mentor Programme

**Students:** 30      **Year group:** 10

**Location:** Lincolnshire Residential Retreat Centre

**Aim:** To identify future leaders of the school and prepare the students for taking on the role of being student mentors.

**Programme:** The students took part in various FF personal development workshops over two days on Self-Leadership, Taking Responsibility, Listening and Respect and Personal Power. On Day 1 they took part in experiential learning activities. On Day 2, they mentored the Year 9 students through these activities.

## Revision and Enterprise Weekend

**Students:** 60      **Year group:** 11

**Location:** Derbyshire Residential Youth Centre

**Aim:** To inspire, motivate and excite the students about their futures and help the students make the connection between achieving their potential in their GCSEs and their aspirations.

**Programme:** A combination of one-on-one coaching sessions, FF personal development workshops (Digging Deeper, GCSE Goal Setting), talent show and allocated time to work on coursework.

## Sixth Form Induction

**Students:** 50      **Year group:** 12 and 13

**Location:** University of Leicester

**Aim:** To help the students consider how to make sixth form count and start to think about what they need to do to prepare for life after school.

**Programme:** A combination of sixth form related workshops, including Sixth Form Secrets and Are You Experienced? Year 13 students attended university preparation sessions including UCAS Forms and Personal Statements.

## Year 12 Student Profile: Courtney Cox



"I was giving up. I was letting life affect me too much and I just didn't care about work anymore. I wasn't focused on my work, because it just didn't matter to me. The FF programme motivated me to finish my coursework and revise for my upcoming exams. I managed to pull myself together just in time to achieve 3 B's, 4 C's, 2 D's and 2 E's. All of which are much higher than I would've achieved without FF."

*Courtney has attended the FF Revision Weekend and Sixth Form Induction. She was so enthused by our work that she asked acted as a student mentor on the Step Up programme and our National Youth Leadership Summer Residential. Her role was to help other young people through the programme and support programme operations.*



## Year 11 Student Profile: Chloe Cousins

"I'd like to thank you for teaching me the importance of working hard to achieve my dreams...since the revision weekend I have pulled myself up from a double F to a double A!! I managed to achieve two A\* in my coursework and a B in my exam making my overall grade a double A!! I genuinely have you to thank for that!"

*"We had a jump of over 16% in our exam results...a significant proportion of that is down to the work that was done with Future Foundations"*

## Alan Fletcher

National Challenge Coordinator,

Costessey High School