

Introduction

Welcome to our first Life and Personal Development newsletter. We felt it was important to share with you some of the highlights your child has experienced this term and some of exciting plans for the summer term! Our inclusive curriculum celebrates diversity and promotes tolerance and mutual respect of others. Our academy carefully maps how our curriculum provision supports our students' personal growth and promotes fundamental British Values; social, moral, spiritual and cultural awareness; personal, social and health education and relationship and sex education.

Personal Development Highlights

Before Easter, Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 were able to experience our first Personal Development Week. External agencies were able to deliver key sessions to our students ranging from SY Fire Service to problem solving activities from the DWP. The week included 'Heat of the Moment' delivered by SY Fire Service discussing peer pressure, choices and impacts of making the wrong choice to Y7 and 8. The Spectrum team were able to lead workshops for Y7 on puberty whilst some Y8 students were able to develop their communication and teamwork skills in an employability workshop. Due to the Y9 bubble closing, this year group will be able to have the Your Life, Your Choice presentation rescheduled. This focuses on Organised Crime Gangs and Child Criminal Exploitation delivered by South Yorkshire Police.

Y7-9 students are currently completing an ACE half term. During this time students will be given the opportunity to experience a range of sessions covering our Academy Conduct and Expectations to accompany those delivered in Life lessons throughout the year.



Life Curriculum Overview (Term 6)

Y7- Christianity

Topic Question: How does belief in the life of Jesus influence the beliefs of Christians?

Y8- Philosophy and Ethics

Topic Question: What is religion, faith and belief?

Y9- UK Democracy

Topic Question: How can I bring about political change in the future?

Y10- Relationships and Family Life

Topic Question: What is the concept of marriage, family and healthy relationships?

Summer Term

This term we are looking forward to :

Y7 - Healthy relationships week

Y8 - Money Matters sessions, knife crime awareness and healthy relationships week

Y9 - Relationship, sex and health education, SY Police assembly & knife crime awareness assembly

Y10- Money Matters sessions and healthy relationships week



Personal Development Highlights

Year 10 students were able to experience three guest speakers during Personal Development Week. 'Stand Against Violence' worked with students on making the right choices during a whole school assembly. Later on in the week students experienced a highways session from SY Fire Service becoming more informed as they are out and about in the community. It was a pleasure to again welcome the Department for Work and Pensions team who allowed students to experience the 'Your Life, Your Choices' workshop.

Y11 have had some personal development sessions during form time. We have welcomed Spectrum Community Health CIC who provided a drop in session during a extended form time earlier on in the year. Students have been given the opportunity to discuss key issues that matter to them in form time.

What has been happening in careers?

We have had a really exciting half term for our students accessing the careers programme within school. There has been some changes to the form programme and students have had access to Labour Market Information, Careers events and Careers of the week from a wide range of sectors.

Staff have been working extremely hard on planning some really exciting careers in the curriculum lessons across all subjects. Year 7 to 9 lessons have included links to careers in the police force in English, Journalism in History and Environmental Scientists in Geography. We feel that this gives our students food for thought when thinking about their choices for their futures.

We are really lucky to be a school who are supported by the HeppSY programme which is a government funded support who help to support higher education within school. Year 7 and 8 have had some fantastic workshops delivered this half term looking at what higher and further education is, which has been supported by Sheffield Hallam University. We believe it is vital that our students have goals and aspirations to work towards and we feel that these workshops have had a really positive impact on our students.

Year 8 and 9 scholars have had the opportunity to visit Oxford University this half term where they have had a day at the University looking at the campus, speaking to students and getting a flavour of what lectures at university could be like for them in the future. This has been a fantastic opportunity for these students and have really got our students thinking about their future pathways.

Finally, I would like to say a massive well done to our year 9 students who have graduated from The Brilliant Club this half term. A group of year 9 students have been working in partnership with Sheffield Hallam University on a project and have written university level assignments and have had the privilege to 'graduate' from The Brilliant Club at the university. Thank you and well done for all of your hard work.



What's next for careers?

As we head into our final half term of this academic year, we have some really exciting and fulfilling opportunities for our students:

Year 7

- Careers in the curriculum lessons

Year 8

- The World Of Work Event on Wednesday 6th July
- Hepp Assemblies
- Amey Challenge Cup

Year 9

- World Of Work Event on Wednesday 6th July
- Northern Racing College Visit
- Hepp Assemblies
- Amey Work Experience Day
- Sheffield University Visit

Year 10

- Careers Festival on Tuesday 28th June
- One to One Careers Advice and guidance sessions to begin
- Hepp Assemblies
- Pontefract New College Open Event



Student Voice

All students are able to join a Student Voice group including Student Voice Leadership Teams, Teaching and Learning Ambassadors, Charity Committee, Y7 Ambassadors, Positivity Ambassadors, Cabinet Members (Form Reps) and Eco Warriors. We also have the amazing inclusion of the Brilliant Club and Aspire Lounge! Form tutors will be able to direct students to the correct member of staff if they would like more information.

Highlights include our Eggcellent praise event, contributing to the Queens Green Platinum Jubilee Canopy and continued student leadership opportunities.

Careers Ambassadors

We have been absolutely honoured to launch our first cohort of student Careers Ambassadors. Our role model students from across all year groups have met with Miss Kaye, our careers lead for the first time this half term and will be working on upcoming planning and experiences for our students to have at Outwood Academy Shafton. We are really excited about this additional role within our student voice team.

Praise at OAS

Learning Stars are received by gaining 5 praise points or more every week. During the week our SV Prime Minister and his leadership team deliver certificates every day during the week to celebrate our Learning Stars.

During Fantastic Friday form time our top Learning Stars and form groups in each year are celebrated with an overall prize for the OAS Star of the Week!



It was a pleasure to support our students in organising their first praise event before Easter!



Your health is just as important as your school work. Make sure you're looking after both every day.



Support/ Useful Links for Parents/ Carers

Spectrum Community Health CIC have a specialist Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Team who deliver classes and events to secondary schools, colleges and youth groups with structured learning and education. <https://spectrumhealth.org.uk/services/sexual-health/rse/>

Barnsley Metropolitan Council link:

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/health-and-wellbeing/healthy-living>

Young Minds - Children's Mental Health service: www.youngminds.org.uk

Careers Outwood Shafton: progress-education.org.uk