

IN TOUCH

newsletter



IN THIS ISSUE

- Forthcoming events
- Guided Pathways update
- Inclusion Quality Mark
- ACE programme
- Honours
- Internal Alternative Provision
- Intervention



KEY DATES FOR THE DIARY

Progress evenings

We are pleased to welcome you into our academy on the following dates to meet with our teaching staff.

- Y11 Revision Festival (6th Feb)
- Y8-11 Progress Evening (22nd Feb)
- Y7-10 Progress Evening (6th Jun)

Praising Stars

Information regarding your child's progress and effort will be issued on the following dates.

- 8th February 2023
- 22nd March 2023
- 24th May 2023
- 19th July 2023





**Alison
McQueen**

.....
Principal

Welcome to the first edition of our In Touch newsletter for this Academic year. A window into community life at Outwood Academy Shafton and our commitment to the Personal development of each and every person in our academy family.

Whilst we are proud of student academic achievements, we are also passionate about our shared values in being safe, respectful and responsible, as well as inspiring students to be the best person they can be now, and for the future. We love celebrating students' achievements and recognising their efforts in our inclusive community.

We continually strive to provide them with opportunities and experiences that enriches their lives and promotes their personal growth. This half term has included welcoming the community in for our senior citizens lunch, taking part in the mission Christmas appeal and supporting our community with food hampers. Kindness is a key theme amongst our students, their families and staff. We continue to be very proud of this and we thank you for your support.

The fun has continued in school, and this half term saw students enjoying the Christmas dinner cooked by our wonderful catering team. End of term celebrations have also commenced and we have held a year group shopping trip reward to Meadowhall. I hugely enjoyed seeing certificates linked to our praising stars celebrations and love to see our students discussing their potential outcomes and future aspirations.

We hope you enjoy this insight into their personal development and school life over the past-term and as an opportunity for us to share up and coming events and key contacts for you in our academy. I would also like to thank you for the many lovely comments received verbally on the phone, by email and social media thanking us for our work with our young people, this means a lot to our staff family. As always, we appreciate your family support, feedback and encouragement as we strive to always put students first and transform lives.

Finally, I hope that you have a wonderful holiday, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Alison McQueen

Principal

How to contact a member of the Senior Leadership Team

Please direct all communication to our enquiries email address, this will then be directed to the most appropriate member of SLT for a quicker response.

enquiries@shafton.outwood.com



MEET THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM



**Tom
Peel**

Vice
Principal



**Julia
Pinder**

Vice
Principal



**Ian
Simpson**

Vice
Principal



**Esther
Littlewood**

Assistant
Principal



**Phil
Jeffries**

Assistant
Principal



**Sarah
Riley**

Assistant
Principal



**Laura
Kaye**

Assistant
Principal



**Kate
Wragg**

Associate
Assistant Principal



**Joe
Turner**

Associate
Assistant Principal



**Ben
Schofield**

Associate
Assistant Principal



**Josh
Bray**

Associate
Assistant Principal



**George
Taylor**

Associate
Assistant Principal



**Brad
Holmes**

Associate
Assistant Principal



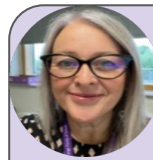
**Jane
Goldthorpe**

Business
Manager



**Leanne
Burgin**

SENDCO



**Sarah
Phillips**

PA to the
Principal
(Social media and enquiries email)



STUDENT VOICE

You said...

'We would like a quiet
area in the dining
room'

We made sure

That we listened to you
and one is being
tried in the atrium
every lunchtime

How to contact a member of the Senior Leadership Team

Please direct all communication to our enquiries email address, this will then be directed to the most appropriate member of SLT for a quicker response.

enquiries@shafton.outwood.com

THE IN TOUCH NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Again, thank you for your feedback regarding the second edition of our In Touch newsletter, it certainly seems we are moving in the right direction. However we still want to improve so please keep your suggestions for improvements coming.

Our final newsletter of the year is very much about celebration. Hence why there are so many articles about what has happened in the final term, celebration events that have taken place and how the Academy and the community continue to come together. We hope you enjoy reading about the great things that our students have been involved in.

Along with news of celebrations the newsletter continues to be a source of information about how to contact members of staff in school. Therefore we continue to include staff email addresses and information about the best ways to share updates with us. You'll notice that at the end of this Newsletter there is still a section with information on the key members of staff who will be able to help you with your enquiries.

CHRISTMAS SHOW



On Wednesday 13th December we held our 'Christmas Spectacular Performance Evening' Students across Y7 - Y11 shared some fantastic Drama and Music performances for their friends and families. We had soloists, brass band and many more. The resilience and confidence shown by our students continues to amaze us!

Please email these members of staff with any questions or concerns you may have. The first port of call for general issues should be the Learning Manager for your child. They will be able to help and support with most of your queries. However we would also advise that you copy in the 'enquiries' email address into all correspondence, that way your email can also be forwarded to other relevant members of staff if needed. The enquiries email address is enquiries@shafton.outwood.com

If you are wanting to inform the Academy of a student absence please dial the Academy telephone number and choose option 2 to speak with the attendance team. However if this line is also busy you can send an email directly to the attendance team using the address attendance@shafton.outwood.com

Kind regards

Mr Simpson
Associate Vice Principal





GUIDED PATHWAYS UPDATE

We are fast approaching a very important milestone in the education of our current Year 9 students. The Guided Pathways process takes place throughout January. For those of you, who like myself are a little older, Guided Pathways are Options in 'old money'. The opportunity for students to tailor their provision is one of the most important decisions in their school life.

Year 9 will choose three options this year. They will choose their Humanities and two further option subjects. Students will have support in making these decisions. They will receive an assembly explaining the process and the importance of these choices. They will have further support from their Learning Manager, form tutor and subject teachers. To ensure that parents are informed and involved in this process a parent information event will be held. Firstly live, for those able to come into school, followed by an online information evening for those not able to attend. Finally a link to the recording of the presentation will be sent to all parents.

We want our students to access a curriculum that is broad and balanced and which increases their life chances in the future. That's why we encourage as many students as possible to take the EBACC route. This entails having qualifications in English, Maths, Science, Humanities and a Modern Foreign Language. This year, students will have two big choices to make. Firstly, which Humanities subject to study; Geography or History. Both furnish students with a greater understanding of the world around them. The other choice is to study a further subject of their choice. There will be 14 to choose from. We actively encourage as many students as possible to study a language.

The impact that speaking an additional language has on the development of cognitive functions, plus the difference it makes to employability in a global job market, makes it so important for students to be able to speak more than one language. That said, we acknowledge that this isn't the best route for all students. Therefore the opportunity to study others will be there and students will be guided with these choices. More information will be provided to parents of year 9 students via text.

Mr Jeffries

INCLUSION QUALITY MARK



National Inclusion Champions! We were delighted to be awarded such a prestigious award in the summer term of the last academic year. Since then we had a lovely visit from the CEO of IQM, Joe McCann and have since had a marvellous installation built to mark this achievement. We have completed our Flagship status review and look forward to the report being issued to continue working towards more inclusivity within the academy.

Mrs Burgin



ACE PROGRAMME

We have relaunched ACE for Year 7 this year alongside the honours programme. Students have completed their 12 hour ACE curriculum sessions and this has supported us in addressing our key messages and driving our expectations. 170 Students have completed their Bronze ACE passports and received their certificates and badges. A massive well done to those students.

IAP

Miss Kaye

Through internal AP, we have built into the curriculum the Prince's Trust Qualifications to support life chances and personal development. They have been successful because students have been able to work on their own goals and work together as a team to embed the skills they need to support their personal development and academic successes. Year 11 are currently working towards the BTEC equivalent qualifications as this will add to their portfolio ready for their Post 16 interviews.



We have also held a parental engagement session in our IAP this term and this will continue each half term. This has been really successful as students have been able to share their successes in their books and through images taken in various sessions. But it has also helped to build positive relationships with parents/carers and been much better for staff to liaise with parents as they have seen positivity within the provision.



HONOURS

We have launched our Honours Programme during this term. This was rolled out across Year 7 and 8 and to parents/carers too. This was supported by a motivational speaker who spoke about pushing out of your comfort zones and challenging yourself to strive for more.

We have already had 20+ honours badges awarded so far. There is going to be an ultimate drive forward with this through enrichment, praise events and form time. We are looking forward to driving this through the curriculum and through the form programme again next term and celebrating students' successes.



INTERVENTIONS

We are really proud that we are able to support students with mental health and wellbeing. This academic year, we have supported students with the support of our external agencies; Ispace, Compass and Think For The Future. Students have also had the opportunity to take part in Boxing, Active Futures and Hairdressing wellbeing sessions. This goes hand in hand with our life and personal development curriculum which students are supported with.



**Pastoral
SUPPORT**

Year 7 Learning Manager
Miss Mann
s.mann@shafton.outwood.com

Year 8 Learning Manager
Mr Earle
p.earle@shafton.outwood.com

Year 9 Learning Manager
Miss Holmes
b.holmes@shafton.outwood.com

Year 10 Learning Manager
Mr Turner
j.turner2@shafton.outwood.com

Year 11 Learning Manager
Miss Wrend
c.wrend@shafton.outwood.com

Lead Learning Manager
Mr Bray
j.bray@shafton.outwood.com

**Inclusion
SUPPORT**

Inclusion Coordinator
Miss McCue
k.mccue@shafton.outwood.com

SENDCO
Mrs Burgin
l.burgin@shafton.outwood.com

Inclusion Administrator
Miss Considine
s.considine@shafton.outwood.com

Guidance Ed Manager
Mr Sellars
l.sellars@shafton.outwood.com

Focus Ed Manager
Mrs Bromley
y.bromley@shafton.outwood.com

**Outwood Academy Shafton is an
Anti Bullying Community**

Bullying, unkind behaviours or hurtful comments will not be tolerated in our academy. We recognise that at times our students will need people to speak to and reach out to. It is important that students know how to do this. In short - any member of staff in the academy can support. This could include Form Tutors, Teachers, Learning Managers, SLT or the Safeguarding Team. It is however most likely that students will report such concerns to their Learning Manager first thing in the morning, during break-time or lunchtime. If students do not feel comfortable doing this then they can report any issues via the Learning Manager Referral Boxes located in the main reception area.



Assemblies last ½ half

House Assemblies

Mrs Littlewood

Organ Donation week

Mrs Riley

Invisible Disabilities

Mrs Burgin

Unconscious Unkindness

Mr Jeffries

World mental health day

Mr Turner

British Values

Mr Turfrey

Assemblies this ½ half

Bike Fest

Mr Rooke

Anti Bullying week

Mrs Riley

Mission Christmas

Mrs McQueen

Online safety

Mr Simpson

Mission Christmas 2

Mrs McQueen

House Assemblies

Mrs Riley

Uniform Expectations

We are proud of students and how they represent their community. We pride them on being smart and ready to learn each day, skills that they will take into the world of work. We really value your support in ensuring their uniform meets academy expectations and that they are prepared everyday with their tools for learning; schoolbag, planner and basic equipment. Please contact the academy and encourage your child to speak to adults if they require support in meeting these expectations.

Additional items can be purchased via your personal iPay account or by contacting the school office or a Learning Manager.

Uniform Policy Update

In reviewing the policy, we have taken the decision to remove the requirement for students to wear logoed trousers and skirts. This change will be effective from 1 January 2023. Students will still be required to wear appropriate school trousers and skirts, as described in the letter sent home in December 2022. Students wearing items that do not match these descriptions will be asked to change and support will be given to parents/carers to source acceptable garments. There is a guide on our [website](#) that includes images of what is and is not acceptable that students, parents and carers may find useful when purchasing non-logoed school trousers and skirts.

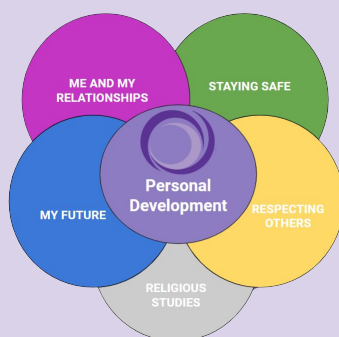
Life Curriculum Overview (Term 3)

Y7 What are healthy habits?
What is religion, faith and belief?

Y8 Why are laws upheld?
What are the main beliefs and practices of Judaism?

Y9 What is the law and how can we reduce risk?
How can we lead a safe and healthy lifestyle online?

Y10 What positive impact does physical activity and good mental health have on me?
What are the beliefs and practices of Buddhism?



Our Academy Curriculum

For more information about our curriculum visit our Academy website at:

<https://www.shafton.outwood.com/curriculum>