



Resilience Pride Respect Ambition Responsibility

ASTON ACADEMY PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

With your commitment, we will make a difference

December 2024

Proud moments this half term...

Compared to the same period last academic year, we have improved in the following areas:

- Overall attendance in all year groups
- Number of student rewards
- Student behaviour/positive achievements
- Less students persistently absent
- Standards in uniform
- Student academic progress grades
- More opportunities for our students - trips, more extra curricular activities
- More parent/carers visiting the academy for information events
- Stronger and more external support for student mental health
- Academy staff attendance
- Less external supply staff used
- £5611.34 raised for the Sheffield Children's Hospital Snowflake Appeal

These and many other gains, small and large, mean that together the academy, student and home are making a positive difference.

THANK YOU.

External visits - this term we have been delighted to work with Willow Tree Academy Trust and Learn Sheffield. Both have visited the academy a number of times to review, feedback and develop our provisions:

- One visit focusing on student behaviour and attitudes
- One visit focusing on the quality of education and lesson delivery
- Two visits that focus on student personal development, curriculum and leadership
- Three visits focusing on SEND, alternative provision and inclusion

These visits will continue during Term 2.

Highlights to look forward to...

- Our consultation evenings for Y11, Y9 and Post 16
- We begin our GCSE options process for current Y9 students
- Supporting our Y11 and Y13 students in preparing for their Summer exams
- We are sad to say goodbye to current chair of governors Luke Hague, but very excited to work with incoming Chair, Dave Lennox. I look forward to Mr Lennox getting to know our academy, students and staff
- Continue to build links in our local community through student work experience, reward opportunities and provision for our student's community
- An amazing half term trip to New York and then skiing at Easter

7	94
8	93
9	91
10	90
11	88
12	93
13	88

Positive & Negative Achievements

↔

% Current Attendance Figures



Christmas can be an incredibly difficult time for some, remembering those we have lost, and you and your family may find it difficult to cope with your grief at Christmas time. Please find some useful links below for support:

Rotherham Families:

[Rotherhive](#)

[Rotherham Family Hub](#)

Sheffield Families:

[Christmas Support](#)

[Sheffield Mental Health Guide](#)



Have a wonderful Christmas and new year. Thank you for your support, from myself and all staff at Aston Academy.

During the Christmas holidays, if you have a concern that is of a serious nature, which may have serious consequences, please email aa-safeguarding@astonacademy.org.

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

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Resilience



Pride



Respect



Ambition



Responsibility

A snapshot of student achievements this term...

Well done to Broden (Y7) who took part in a remembrance parade at the weekend. Looking very smart. Broden!
#lestweforget



Last weekend Holly and Millie (Y7) took part in the Skate London Synchronised Skating competition. Forty three teams were competing from 13 clubs across the UK. Holly and Millie both ice skate for team Ignis, Sheffield GB. The team work extremely hard together in regular training sessions and have all achieved high levels in their own personal ice skating skills over the years. The Skate London competition took place between Friday 15th - Sunday 17th November. Holly and Millie competed together with their team at Lee Valley Ice-Centre, London and brought home the Silver medal for Sheffield. This is a massive achievement for Sheffield Synchronised Skating Academy who are all extremely proud of them. Well done both of you!



On Sunday, Tyler Y7 competed at the WTKA in Chesterfield alongside his team mates, Sheffield Dragons.

Tyler competes in the 8-12 years age categories, but on Sunday he was competing in a number of categories above his age and fought to earn his places:

- Gold - Traditional Weapons - 10-16 years 🏆
- Gold - Creative Open Hand - 8-12 years 🏆
- Gold - Extreme Musical Open Hand - 8-12 years 🏆
- Silver - Traditional Open Hand - 10-16 years 🥈
- Silver - Creative Weapons - 13-16 years 🥈

Well done Tyler - we look forward to following you on your journey! 🥳



"Secondary school is basically the same as primary! Just a bit more walking, but the food is yummy and there are so many clubs. You are going to make so many new friends."



My favourite piece of student voice from a Y7 student