



Ambitious learners at Stanchester Academy

Message from Ellie Forward, Headteacher

I have always enjoyed this aphorism by Maya Angelou: "You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have." There is something so true in its simplicity and I interpret it as advice to us all to take every opportunity to be creative. This term, our students have done just that by reigniting our extra-curricular offer across the school.

As I walk around school, at lunchtime and afterschool, I can see how much fun students are having in our range of activities. A big thank you to both staff and our senior students for giving up their time to make these clubs possible.

I love seeing our students work on something that is not a part of our everyday curriculum. While knowledge of their core subjects is important, I believe that it matters just as much that we give our students opportunities to explore their creative sides with open-ended activities and challenges. I for one, have bought my ticket to Aladdin and await next week's shows with much excitement.

This week, please take a moment to read some important messages from some key teams around the school and, as ever, do get in touch with us via the School Office.

Keeping our Young People Safe

Message from the Safeguarding Team

This week staff held an INSET day, which focused on our statutory safeguarding processes at Stanchester Academy. In June 2021, Ofsted conducted a review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges, which revealed how prevalent sexual harassment and online sexual abuse are for children and young people. The term Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB) refers to the Sexual behaviours expressed by children and young people under the age of 18 years old that are developmentally inappropriate, may be harmful towards self or others, or abusive towards another child, young person or adult. To find out more about the full report visit: [Review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/reports/sexual-abuse-in-schools-and-colleges)

Ofsted found that, for some children nationally, incidents are so commonplace that they see no point in reporting them. It's important that our students don't feel this at Stanchester Academy, so alongside our pastoral support systems, we will be launching an anonymous reporting tool called WHISPER for students and parents, which will be accessible through our website. WHISPER is part of a wider package of online safety training we are investing in called BOOST for more information on this please see the link below: [Online Safety BOOST - Safeguarding Toolkit for Schools | SWGfL](#)

If you want to know more about how we safeguard our students at Stanchester Academy or find out more about Stanchester's Harmful Sexual Behaviour whole school action plan, please contact the school and our Designated Safeguarding Lead Vicki Cornish vicki.cornish@stanchester.co.uk

Join us for a night to remember!

Message from the Performing Arts Team

For months, our students have been working hard to prepare a fantastic production of Aladdin for families in our community. This weekend, 70 students from across all ages at Stanchester Academy have been hard at work rehearsing for the show. This has been a tremendous effort from a team of dedicated staff and students to see this play through to next week's grand opening!



Tickets can now be purchased from the front office (cash only) or bought online through your child's ScoPay account. A full house every night would be just what these young people need to celebrate their hard work and bring our community back into school.

These really are a group of remarkable young people who truly deserve that chance to be heard so polish up your lamps, put on your dancing shoes and lets us take you on a journey to a whole new world.

Get Ahead

Message from the Curriculum Team

A reminder to students from Years 7 to Year 11 that we have a free, online programme with qualified teachers delivering live lessons all week.

If you can't make the live session, use the website or app to watch the recording. Don't forget to bring your notes to school to earn extra reward points!



[The Get Ahead Programme - Home \(mygetahead.org\)](http://mygetahead.org)

Physical Altercations

Message from the Pastoral Team

Unfortunately, you may be aware of physical altercations between students in recent weeks. These have been dealt with swiftly and students have been appropriately sanctioned. We do not tolerate or accept physical violence on the school site and continue to urge parents and carers to tell us about any issues that affect their young people. This means that we can accurately help to resolve issues between peer groups. These incidents cause significant distress to the children in our community and this behaviour is not acceptable.

What might seem like a small incident outside of school has the potential to be magnified when students travel together on buses or meet up on site from separate areas of the local community.

Lastly, please remind students that if they are using their mobile phones in school or using their phone to send peer on peer abuse they will face a phone ban in school.