







## CASTLE HALL ACADEMY MAGAZINE





#### **Vision**

To achieve academic excellence, develop character, and raise aspirations for all at Castle Hall Academy



**Academic Excellence** 



Develop Character



Raising **Aspirations** 

### **Key Drivers**



Heart

Developing a strong moral compass



Mind

Developing our capacity to think



Communication

Communicating with people and cultures outside of ourselves

### **Mission**

To become an academy

'where hearts and minds connect'















#### FEBRUARY 2023





Information Editorial Mrs J Tallis

#### **Contact Details**

Castle Hall Academy Richard Thorpe Avenue Mirfield West Yorkshire WF14 9PH

#### Headteacher:

Mr P Brook **T:** 01924 520500 **E:** office@castlehall.com

It is important that we have up to date information for your child. Please inform the Academy of any changes to your contact details.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's Head of Year or email the office via office@castlehall.com

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you will be aware this half term, we revisited punctuality and attendance, behaviour, home learning and uniform expectations, and reissued ClassCharts activation details. I send my thanks for your support with this.

Thank you to parents who attended the recent Year 7, 10 and 11 parent's evenings/meetings. These evenings are a great opportunity for students, parents and teachers to discuss progress face to face. All parents' evening/meeting dates can be found within this magazine on the key dates page.

We have reached the half-way point of the school year with our spring half-term holiday coming up. For our Year 11 students, this means the start date for their GCSEs can now be counted in weeks and the need to keep focused and working hard is never more important. After half term, Year 11 will undertake mock examinations whilst all other year groups undertake Cycle 2 assessments. All students have been provided with additional revision materials to support them in their preparation.

As you are aware, Ofsted inspected Castle Hall Academy on 7 and 8 February. I would like to take this opportunity again to thank parents who completed the survey, and to those parents who sent in their support, your kind words meant a great deal to all staff. As stated previously, I will write to you again and share the full report when it is published.

I look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 20 February 2023 and seeing students fully prepared for their learning and extra-curricular activities.

Kindest regards,

Bak

Mr Brook Headteacher











FEBRUARY 2023

#### **PUBLISHED POETRY**

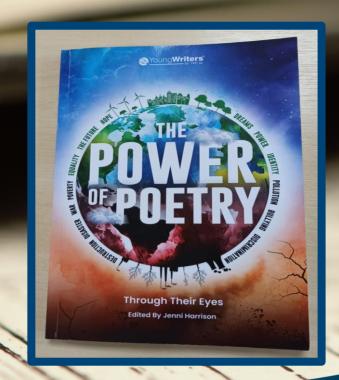
The Power of Poetry! Year 7s were asked - What do you care about? What makes you happy or frustrates you? What would you change?



Custle Hall Academy, Mirfield	
Brooke Harris (11)	1
Harrison Rounding (11)	2
Grace Dugmore (11)	3
Alannah Duffin (11)	4
Lily-Faye Bell (11)	5
Aqib Lukman (12)	6
Esmee Hewitt (11)	7
Zainab Itisham (11)	8
Amelia Zahoor (11)	9
Noor Abdellatif (12)	10
Chloe Bray (12)	11
Amelia Wagstaff (11)	12
Izza Fatima Hanif (11)	13
Sam Wadsworth (11)	14
Isabelle Gomersall (11)	15
Mason Chamberlain (11)	16

In preparation, students explored poetry techniques, word banks, poetic styles, and the spoken word.

Students spent time studying the impact of words, which helped them to write a powerful poem to share with the world on their chosen theme/subject. Well done to all students who took part, congratulations to those students whose poetry was published.















FEBRUARY 2023



#### **ATTENDANCE MATTERS**

At Castle Hall Academy we recognise the importance of regular attendance and punctuality. We work in close partnership with parents and carers to ensure each child attends regularly.

Any absence must be reported to:

- Mrs Toth, Attendance Officer
- By phoning 01924 520500 and selecting option 2
- By 8:00am each day

This is the **only way** to report a student absence.

4	0 days	190 days	100%
	absence	in school	attendance
cess	10 days	180 days	95%
	absence	in school	attendance
Greatest chance of success	19 days	171 days	90%
	absence	in school	attendance
st chanc	29 days	161 days	85%
	absence	in school	attendance
Greate	38 days	152 days	80%
	absence	in school	attendance
	47 days	143 days	75%
	absence	in school	attendance









FEBRUARY 2023



### YEAR 7 BRONZE AWARDS

























**FEBRUARY 2023** 



### YEAR 7 BRONZE AWARDS























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### **HOLIDAY ACTIVITES FOR CHILDREN** WITH A DISABILITY

















FEBRUARY 2028



#### **KINGSWOOD SEPTEMBER 2023**

One of the most important aspects of Castle Hall Academy is our commitment to providing opportunities for all our students to achieve outstanding outcomes.

We are pleased to report that we are busy preparing for the next Educational Revision Residential on Wednesday 6th to Friday 8th September 2023 to Kingswood in Dearne Valley. We look forward to taking current Year 10 students in September 2023.





















**FEBRUARY 2023** 



#### **COMMUNICATION**

It is important that we have up to date information for your child. Please inform the Academy of any changes to your contact details.

Your main point of contact is your child's Head of Year. The Head of Year team spend the day with their year groups in lessons, at break and lunch, they also supervise after-school detentions and support extra-curricular.

Please bear with them when making contact. Below is a reminder of their details:

Staff	Email – allow 24hrs for response	Mobile – urgent
Mrs Bonham, Head of Year 7	lbonham@castlehall.com	07708 795385
Miss Fox, Head of Year 8	ifox@castlehall.com	07895746870
Miss Gill, Head of Year 9	jgill@castlehall.com	07708 796626
Mrs Ennis, Head of Year 10	cennis@castlehall.com	07565 399941
Mrs Adams, Head of Year 11	badams@castlehall.com	07708 795466

#### **Student Absence**

Parent/carer must notify the Academy on the first day of absence, to explain the reason for the absence via:

Staff	Email	Telephone
Mrs Toth, Attendance Officer	StudentAbsence@castlehall.com	01924 523232 from 7:00am









**FEBRUARY 2023** 



#### YEAR 11 DESTINATIONS 2022

The decision our Year 11 students make about their next steps, is a very important one. We always guide our students to make informed choices.

Below shows the destinations of last years (2022) Year 11 cohort

### C+K **Castle Hall Academy**

01484 213856

#### Year 11 Destinations 2022

The Facts

96.8%

stayed in learning at the end of Year 11

60.0%

progressed onto A levels at a 6th form college or school 6th form

37.0%

progressed onto a full-time vocational programme

0.65%

of Year 11 secured an Apprenticeship

#### Top College/Sixth Form Destinations

Mirfield College Huddersfield New College Greenhead College

Kirklees College Heckmondwike Grammar Sixth Form

#### **Full-time Education**

Course Level Total % of students

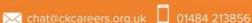
68.39% 18.71% 2.58% Level 3 Level 2

#### Other College/Sixth Form Destinations



#### MyDirections.co.uk







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# CASTLE FA

#### **POST-16 SUPPORT**

### C+K North Kirklees Apprenticeship Event

"For young people and their parents/carers"



Visit the C+K Apprenticeship Event at Dewsbury Town Hall

- get careers advice and guidance watch live presentations

Thursday 2 March 2023 5.00 - 8.00pm

at Dewsbury Town Hall



MyDirections.co.uk



#### C+K **Kirklees** Apprenticeship Event "For young people and their parents/carers" Visit the C+K Apprenticeship Event at The John Smith's Stadium to find out about the range of apprenticeships available to you: check out apprenticeship vacancies talk to employers and training providers Tuesday 28 February 2023 5.00 - 8.00pm at The John Smith's Stadium 900 MyDirections.co.uk







**GFERNO** 

 $\mathsf{FMG}$ 



Kirklees

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#### **COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

If anyone is in need of an emergency food parcel, The Salvation Army can help with that. We have a coffee morning every Friday from 10:00 to 12:00 where Mirfield residents can op in and collect a parcel.

Contact details are email: mirfield@salvationarmy.co.uk tel: 01924 491641













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#### KNIFE CRIME WORKSHOP

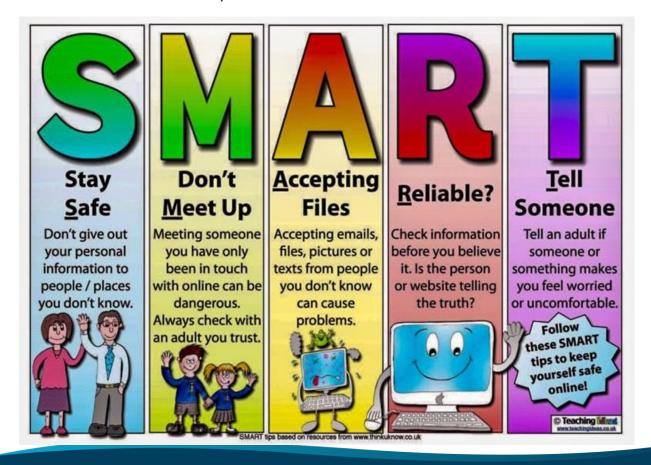
Knife Crime workshops were delivered to a group of students in Years 8, 9 and 10 from the Yorkshire Mentoring company. The students took part in sessions on the impact of knife crime.



#### SAFER INTERNET DAY



During Mastery we discussed internet safety on Safer Internet Day, February 7th and reminded students how to stay safe online.











**FEBRUARY 2023** 



#### CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Children's Mental Health Week 2023 took place 6 to 12 February 2023. This year's theme is Let's Connect.

During Mastery we discussed what connection is and important connections to us.

















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### **READ TO TRAVEL A MILE**

The students from 'Read to Travel a Mile' have embarked on their journey to Paris. The groups first book is The Whitby Witches.















**FEBRUARY 2023** 



### MEAL DEAL - CHEQUERS













**FEBRUARY 2023** 



# FAKE NEWS & EXTREMISM IN A DIGITAL AGE

Year 10 students participated in a Safe Online workshop which explored false news and online propaganda. It highlighted to our students how to tell if information online is suspect or distorts the truth, and what to do if you see online material that promotes extremism.

The session used real life examples from apps, games and websites that are in common use to explore how narratives are spread through imaging, messaging and manipulation. It allows participants to recognise extremist activity, how to be resilient to false and manipulative activity, and how to take action safely if they are exposed to it.

#### Feedback from students:

'Really interesting topic. Learnt a lot from the external speaker. The whole class was engaged from start to end'

> 'We really enjoyed having an external speaker in to deliver a difficult topic'











**FEBRUARY 2023** 



### Propaganda: Past and Present Workshop

Year 7 took part in a propaganda, past and present workshop which ultimately explores how extremist narratives take root. Using examples from history, the session examines how the conditions of a community give rise to fears and frustrations, and how this has been seized upon by extremist groups to manipulate people.

The session used a range of techniques used by those who seek to use propaganda to push extremist narratives - how it focuses in on highly emotive subjects, spreads misinformation or hugely biased information in an attempt to draw a line between two 'opposing' points of view and discredit one or the other.

The feedback from the students who have engaged with the sessions is overwhelmingly positive, and all concerned said that they would recommend the projects to others.

Feedback from students:

'I really enjoyed the talk with the peace museum. I found that I was learning a lot of new things about online safety that I did not know before.'

'It was really interesting learning about how to be extra safe online. I did not realise how far one picture could go online.'















**FEBRUARY 2023** 



#### SAFER SCHOOLS APP

As we are aware the online world can be a bit overwhelming at times, but it is important, we understand what our children are doing online so we can help make them safer. The Safer Schools App aims to help with this.

We are delighted to invite you to download our new Safer Schools App provided by our school insurance provider Zurich Municipal.

The App is designed to support and protect children by educating and empowering them both at school and at home. Through their/your log-in, your children and you will get access to information that is relevant to them, and you will receive tips and advice on how to keep them safer online.

There is an app for both the child and parent to download to their individual device. Please follow the instructions on how to download and log on to the Safer Schools App.

Make sure to enable push notifications to keep up-to-date with our tips, advice and guidance on how to make your children safer.



#### **Login to your App**

- 1. Select your school **Castle Hall Academy** from the dropdown menu and click **'continue'**.
- 2. Enter the **four-digit entry code** provided from the table below for your unique role.

User Role	Login Code
Pupils Year 7 and 8	3447
All Parent/Carers – Secondary Pupils Year 9, 10, 11	7675









**FEBRUARY 2023** 



#### **VAPING & E-CIGARETTES**

#### HAVING CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR CHILD ABOUT VAPING?

#### Find the right moment

when you see someone vaping, walk past a vape shop or see advertisements.

Ask questions what do they think about vaping? Do they know people who vape? Why do they think people vape?

Listen to them learn from them, but also use your knowledge to help them understand the facts and that vapes are not harmless.

#### Talk about your expectations explain your concerns and tell

them why you don't want them to vape or smoke and to make clear that although neither are recommended, smoking is the far greater risk.

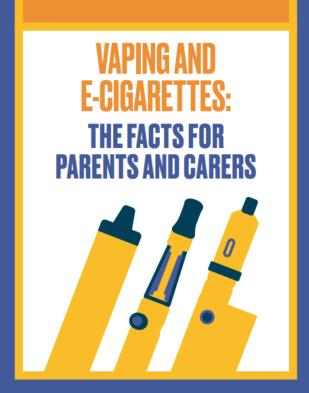
Let them know that you care about them explain that those who knowingly sell vapes to under 18s don't care who they sell to and they are just interested in making money

Talk about the different reasons why children may vape give examples such as wanting to fit in, curiosity, stress. Talk through effective ways to respond if they ever feel pressured to try it and practise responding together.

If your child is vaping try to understand why they are vaping by asking questions like "What do you enjoy about vaping?" Or "How does vaping make you feel?". Understanding this might help you to understand their needs and discuss other ways to meet those needs.







This leaflet is to support parents and carers to have conversations with their children about vaping.













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#### **VAPING & E-CIGARETTES**

#### WHAT IS VAPING?

Vaping is the use of an electronic device to inhale vapour derived from a heated liquid. The main ingredients are vegetable glycerine and propylene glycol, but most e-liquids also contain nicotine, which must be no more than 2% or 2mg per ml, as well as small amounts of flavourings and sweeteners.

#### SMOKING VS VAPING

Smoking is much more harmful than vaping. Tobacco smoke contains carbon monoxide and tar, a sticky soup of around 250 toxic chemicals, 69 of which are known to be carcinogenic, causing disease, disability, and early death.

#### HOWEVER, VAPES **ARE NOT HARMLESS**

Short-term effects can include:

- coughing
- headaches
- dizziness and
- sore throats

Long-term effects are. as yet, unknown.

#### WHAT ARE THE CONCERNS WITH VAPING AND CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE?

Most children and young people don't vape or smoke. However, in 2022 the number of 11-17-year-olds in Great Britain currently using vapes rose to 7% compared to 4% in 2020. Whilst this increase is concerning, it is important to note that most vaping is experimental, with regular vaping mainly confined to children who currently smoke or have done in the past.

The increase in youth vaping has coincided with the arrival on the UK market of a new category of cheap and attractive disposable vapes that have proven particularly popular with children and young people and have been promoted extensively on social media. We are working hard nationally and locally to address these issues.

#### HOW DO VAPES HELP SMOKERS OUIT?

Like nicotine patches and gum. vapes containing nicotine are a useful aid to quitting as they deal with the cravings smokers get when they try to stop. Nicotine vapes are proven effective and have become the most popular quitting aid for smokers in recent years. However, vapes are not recommended for non-smokers, particularly children.

#### THE LAW AND VAPING

Vapes and vaping products containing nicotine, like tobacco, are age restricted. It's illegal to sell them to under 18s, and for adults to buy them on their behalf.

If you know of anyone who does sell vapes or tobacco illegally, you can report them to trading standards through the Citizens Advice online portal

citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer

Advertising of all tobacco products is illegal, but if you see advertising for vapes that you feel is trying to encourage children and young people to try vaping, you can report it to the Advertising Standards Authority: asa.org.uk

For more information about vapes and stopping smoking, visit the Smokefree Sheffield websitesmokefreesheffield.org

Children and Young people can find out more information on vaping on the FRANK website: talktofrank.com/drug/vapes

Or read the ASH Briefing: ash.org.uk/uploads/ASH-brieffor-local-authorities-on-youthvaping.pdf



OUR ADVICE TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IS: DON'T SMOKE? DON'T START















**FEBRUARY 2023** 



#### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR OFFER**

	Lunch Time	After School - 3:30 to 4:20	
	KS3 Ukulele (A112)	KS3 Girls Fitness (Fitness Suite)	KS4 Spanish Homework Support A104
		KS3 & KS4 Darts – (Hall 01)	
Monday		Coding Club – (C103)	
		Creative Writing (A108)	
		Mathswatch (A105	
		Girls Football (Back Field)	
Tuesday		Dance (Hall 02)	
Tuesday		KS3 Boys Fitness (Fitness Suite)	
		Boys Football (Front Field)	Sign Language (A113)
Wodnosday		KS4 Girls Fitness (Fitness Suite)	
Wednesday		Girls Boxing (Hall 02)	
Thursday	KS3 & KS4 Singers (A112)	Educake (C205)	
		KS4 Boys Fitness (Fitness Suite)	
		Netball (Yard)	
		LGBTQ+ (A112)	
		KS3 Boys Rugby (Front Field)	
		Boys Boxing (Hall 02)	











FEBRUARY 2023



#### **KEY DATES 2022-2023**

#### Academy Calendar & Key Dates 2022 - 23



#### STUDENTS FIRST DAY BACK DATES

Year 7 5 September 2022 Year 8 7 September 2022 Year 9 9 September 2022 Year 10 8 September 2022 Year 11 7 September 2022

#### 2022-23 TERM 1

Thursday 01 September 2022 to Friday 21 October 2022

Holiday: Saturday 22 October 2022 to Sunday 30 October 2022

#### 2022-23 TERM 2

Monday 31 October 2022 to Friday 16 December 2022

Holiday: Saturday 17 December 2022 to Monday 2 January 2023

#### 2022-23 TERM 3

Tuesday 03 January 2023 to Friday 10 February 2023

Holiday: Saturday 11 February 2023 to Sunday 19 February 2023

#### 2022-23 TERM 4

Monday 20 February 2023 to Friday 31 March 2023

Holiday: Saturday 1 April 2023 to Sunday 16 April 2023

#### 2022-23 TERM 5

Monday 17 April 2023 to Friday 26 May 2023

Holiday: Saturday 27 May 2023 to Sunday 04 June 2023

#### 2022-23 TERM 6

Monday 05 June 2023 to Friday 21 July 2023

Holiday: Saturday 22 July 2023 onwards

#### PARENTS' EVENING

Year 7 Settling	20 September 2022
Year 11	8 December 2022
Year 7	12 January 2023
Year 10	26 January 2023
Year 11 Targeted	2 February 2023
Year 9 & Options	29 March 2023
Year 11	20 April 2023
Year 8	27 April 2023
Year 10 Targeted	25 May 2023

TRAINING/REVIEW DATES (STAFF ONLY)
1 September 2022
2 September 2022
1 December 2022
2 December 2022
23 March 2023
24 March 2023
20 July 2023
21 July 2023

BANK HOLIDAYS
2 January 2023
1 May 2023
8 May 2023 – additional bank holiday















# Characteristics of Good Learners



#### Reasoning

I ask questions about my learning and try to work things out for myself.



#### Resilience

I am not afraid to get things wrong and don't give up when the work becomes challenging.



#### Responsibility

I take responsibility for my own learning including homework. I work well in groups and show leadership.



#### Respect

My behaviour is excellent. I listen, follow instructions and take pride in what I do.



#### Reflection

I reflect on my learning and behaviour and use my initiative to make improvement.

Work hard, be kind and follow staff instructions - everybody, everyday.







