

Headteacher's Bulletin

Friday 19th July 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's hard to believe that we are at the end of another school year! What a year this has been; one of growth, achievement, and transformation for so many of our students and I feel very proud to be Headteacher in such an exceptional school community!



As parents and carers, you too should feel proud of your children whose hard work in lessons, creativity in the arts, determination in sport and commitment to making a positive impact on our community, is truly commendable.

We have faced various challenges this year, such as the completion of the drama studio roof following the removal finally of all RAAC from the school (look out for us on BBC News shortly!), and various changes to the information we've received about when the expansion work is going to start. Students have responded admirably to these challenges and I'm sure they will continue to adapt to changes forthcoming in the next academic year.

Trust News

On the subject of change, we have re-branded the South Manchester Learning Trust. From September, we will be the **Achieve and Learn Trust**. The trust's new identity has been designed to show our commitment to working together for school improvement.

**Achieve
+ Learn
Trust.**
Better, together.

The Trust has been extremely active this year, with more collaboration between staff and students across both schools. Following the renewal of Trust Vision in Values this time last year, trustees also wanted to change the name of the Trust as we felt it was restrictive to a small area. We would like to grow the Trust to welcome some more schools over the next few years and therefore we feel our new name does not restrict us geographically.

We also introduced a new Trust Award to a student from either school who epitomises the Trust's values. This year it was awarded to Billy C in Year 10, who has achieved wonderful things, not only for the school, but outside of

"Our vision is to nurture well-rounded citizens of the future who are knowledgeable, happy and resilient so that they make a valuable contribution to the world in which they live and are empowered to make informed and positive life choices." 1

school too. Well done, Billy!

As you may know, I fully took over the role of CEO of the Trust in January and since then I have been spending a lot of time supporting Reddish Vale High School in Stockport. That support will continue next year and therefore when I am at Reddish, Mr Keegan will be acting Head of School. Whilst I will continue to be Headteacher of Altrincham College, this will allow Mr Keegan to make decisions on my behalf if he needs to.

Staff Farewells

I would like to thank my outstanding staff for their unwavering commitment, hard work and support for our students this year. We have a small number of staff leaving us this term: Mrs Oates, Dr Steadman and Miss Curle, and as we bid them farewell, we wish them every success with their future endeavors.

Also leaving is Mr Moroney! I wish to congratulate him on his promotion to Acting Headteacher of Reddish Vale High School. I know he will make a fantastic Headteacher and as Reddish is part of our Trust, we will still see him from time to time. We welcome Mr Tyrer, who was introduced to students during assembly today, and he will take up the position of Deputy Headteacher in September.

Prizegiving Evening

The annual Prizegiving Evening, held on Thursday 11th July, saw over 100 students being recognised for their achievements this year. Awards were presented to students for their academic progress, leadership qualities and pastoral development. The hall was filled with excited students and proud parents and carers.

The evening ended with awards dedicated to the four headteachers of the school. Sadly, earlier this year the first of those, Ruth Stoller, passed away aged 101.

Award Winners:

- The Ruth Stoller Award for Performing Arts: **Ted (Year 8)**
- The Margaret Lloyd Community Award: **Erin (Year 13)**
- The Peter Brooks Award for Resilience: **Erin (Year 11)**

- Ms Earle's Apex Award for Rising Above and Beyond All Expectations: **Ka Nam (Year 10)**
- The Abdulla Hasan Award for Acts of Kindness: **Cameron (Year 9)**



Farewell to Year 11 and Year 13

“Leaving Year 11” Assembly

It was wonderful to welcome our year 11 students back from study leave for their final assembly. Following a demanding exam season, students had an opportunity to say goodbye and thank you to each other and their teachers, which was joyous, reflective, and emotional in equal measures.



A formal assembly in the hall included form tutors past and present, as well as speeches and a video celebrating just how far they have come. Once again, they showed themselves to be the brilliant young adults that they are; a credit to parents and carers as well as the many adults who have guided them during their time here. We would like to wish anyone leaving us the very best of luck for the future and we look forward to seeing most return to our Sixth Form in September.

As many of you know, Mrs Scholes has worked with this cohort of students since year 7 and this was her last year group as a Pastoral Manager. Please join me in wishing her well in her new role at AC. – Mr Sumner

Prom

On Friday 28th June, our Year 11s and 25 members of staff enjoyed a very glamorous celebration prom. All attendees enjoyed a delicious 3-course meal and the dancing started before the starters were finished! Students and staff voted for awards, with Eva and Chris winning the titles of ‘Prom Queen and King.’ Other notable winners included Erin for best outfit and Mrs Scholes, who was voted ‘most likely to be remembered in 20 years time.’ The evening was a real success and a fitting send off to our class of 2024. Thank you to Head of Year, Mr Sumner for organising the event! Please visit our school’s Facebook page to see photos and videos: www.facebook.com/AltrinchamCollege

Year 13

The Year 13s gathered together one last time for a special leavers' buffet, followed by a celebratory goodbye assembly. The students received certificates for their many fantastic achievements whilst being a student at our Sixth Form. For many of them, the day marked the end of a 7-year educational journey at Altrincham College. Thank you to Mr Mahmood and the Sixth Form Team for making this so special! We wish our year 13s all the luck for the future...see you on Results Day (Thursday 15th August)!



Arrangements for A Level & GCSE Results Days

Please note the following dates and timings for this year's Key Stage 4 & 5 examination results:

Year 13 A-level & BTEC L3 Results	Thursday 15th August 2024	08.30am - 11.00am
Year 11 GCSE & BTEC L2 Results	Thursday 22nd August 2024	08.30am - 11.00am

We strongly advise that students are available on results day to collect their exam results in person. School staff will be available to support students with any queries that may arise.

Open Evening:

Save the date!

This year, our open evening for prospective students in years 7 and 12 will take place on the same day, Thursday 3rd October 2024.

Please help us to spread the word amongst friends, family and acquaintances:



Altrincham College

OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2024

5:00PM - 8:00PM

OPEN MINDS AND OPEN DOORS

@AltyCollege
www.altrinchamcollege.com
altrinchamcollege
admissions@altrinchamcollege.com
0161 980 7173
Green Lane, Timperley
Cheshire, WA15 8QW



Altrincham College
Sixth Form

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 3rd OCTOBER 2024

6:00PM - 8:00PM

HEAD OF SIXTH FORM TALK: 6:30 & 7:00

@ACSixthForm
@acsixthform
0161 980 7173
Green Lane, Timperley
Cheshire, WA15 8QW

Award news:

National Whole School Wellbeing GOLD Award!



I am delighted to announce that Altrincham College is a proud recipient of the 'National Wellbeing **Gold Award**' in acknowledgment of our participation in the Raising Attainment with Wellbeing Programme (RAW): *putting wellbeing at the heart of learning, teaching and leadership.*

Additionally, we have been identified as a 'Wellbeing Pioneer School', meaning our practice around wellbeing is an example to others. The Department for Education has also recognised us for this achievement and we have become a DfE Wellbeing Charter School!

The course director said, *"I have been inspired by the dedication and passion of the*

"Our vision is to nurture well-rounded citizens of the future who are knowledgeable, happy and resilient so that they make a valuable contribution to the world in which they live and are empowered to make informed and positive life choices." 6



staff team at Altrincham College”

Well done to Mrs Hudson-Kirkham for all her hard work in the co-ordination of these awards.



School Games GOLD Award 2023/24!

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our colleagues in the sports department, Altrincham College has achieved the GOLD AWARD for outstanding provision of curricular and extra-curricular sport.

Transition and Change

Please read the newsletter from Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust for children who are preparing for big changes, such as moving to secondary school, or leaving school for work or education:

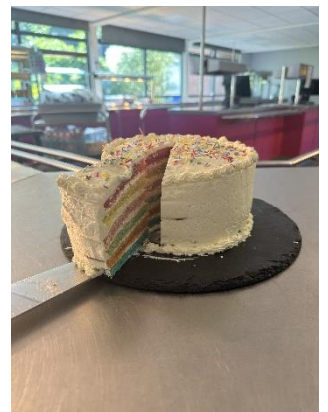
<https://traffordthrive.my.canva.site/transition-and-result-s-day-2024>

Inclusive:

Pride Week

Pride Week at Altrincham College was celebrated with many events, including an assembly written by The LGBTQ+ Space called, “Unpicking The Rainbow”, a ‘Queer Quiz’, a ‘Pride Dodgeball’ competition. Our marvellous canteen staff made a delicious layered rainbow cake and cupcakes!

We were also joined by runner up of Season one’s ‘RuPaul’s Drag Race’ - Divina De Campo - who spoke to Year 9 students about their experience of homophobic bullying and LGBTQ+ Rights. The week ended with staff and students expressing their pride by wearing rainbow accessories. A fantastic team effort - Miss Bruckshaw.



Ambition:

Geography trips and fieldwork

Our geography department's participation in the Geographical Associations 'National Festival of Fieldwork' has led to an extremely busy term, with lots of trips taking place.

Year 9 & 10 fieldwork

Year 9 students visited Altrincham town centre where they collected data to judge how successful the regeneration of Altrincham Town Centre has been. Whilst 80 GCSE Year 10 Geography students visited the sand dunes at Ainsdale to collect primary data to assess the management of the dunes.



Year 8 Geography trip to Manchester City FC

90 students in Year 8 visited the Manchester City Etihad stadium where they enjoyed a tour of the stadium and even visited the home and away teams dressing rooms! Students learnt about the role Manchester City have played in the regeneration of the local area. A fabulous day with compliments from the Manchester City staff about our students' fabulous behaviour. Well done Year 8!

Year 12 Geography trip to Manchester

Our A Level Geography students ventured into central Manchester to investigate Manchester's urban geography, focusing on the impacts of gentrification and financialisation in the city. It was fascinating to see how decision makers are shaping our city.



Year 7 & Year 8 Fieldwork

Our Year 7 Geographers have been carrying out fieldwork around the school site, trying to choose the best location for a wind turbine. Year 8's have been out in the local area to study the varying levels of deprivation around Hale. They have learnt a variety of fieldwork techniques, carried out traffic counts, environmental quality surveys, and completed field sketches.

Kenya 2025 Trip

We are offering prospective Year 12 students the chance to visit **Kenya in October 2025**. During the 10-night trip, students will volunteer in a Kenyan school, experience a Rift Valley adventure safari, and immerse themselves in local culture. Further information has been sent to parents/carers via email, with a link to register interest in the trip. - Mrs Hardy



Costa Rica 2026 Trip

We are offering all students currently in years 8-10 the chance to visit **Costa Rica for 14 days in July 2026**. This will be a Science and Geography cross-curricular trip where students will gain a deeper understanding of sustainability, ecotourism and biodiversity through completing project work aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

The itinerary for the trip includes: trekking through the famous Monteverde Cloud Forest, supporting in the turtle conservation project on Nicoya Peninsula, visiting the NATUWA Wildlife Sanctuary and immersing in local culture in San Jose.



There will be an information evening at 6pm on **Wednesday 25th September** for parents/carers and students.

- Miss Whitehead and Mrs Hardy.

STEM Week

During STEM week in July, competitions took place in all key stage 3 science classes: Year 7s built parachutes to safely transport an egg, Year 8s made sail boats and Year 9s made bridges.

Congratulations to our winners, Mishael and Emily M in Year 8 who were awarded the accolade of ‘STEM champions.’

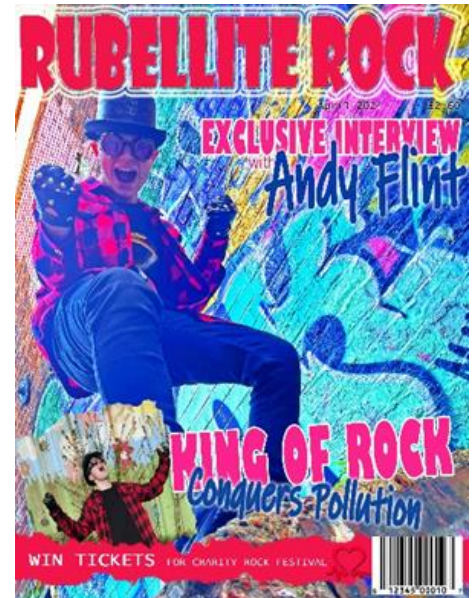


Creative Media at Altrincham College

It has been yet another busy and fulfilling year for the Creative Media Department, with the addition of Mrs Bond to the teaching team, and the return of Mrs Brennan to the role of Head of Department.

The Year 12 BTEC students achieved a 100% pass rate in their first exam, and half of the cohort achieved a distinction *, the highest grade possible!

The Year 10 GCSE groups have produced many high quality, professional magazine designs and the students’ mock exam results were the best on record!



Finally, we’re very excited to introduce the new A Level in Media Studies at Altrincham College Sixth Form from September, as well as welcoming back some of our amazing Year 11 leavers. - Mrs Brennan.



Aspiration:

Year 9 University of Manchester Visit

Well done to Year 9 Linguists who visited the University of Manchester for the annual 'UMILAP Languages' event. We had an action-packed day with students taking part in lectures and learning what it is like to study a language at university. We had a tour of the campus and even learned some Japanese in the afternoon! - Mrs Casey



Sheffield Hallam University Visit

Business students in key stages 4 and 5 travelled to Sheffield Hallam University for an insightful and engaging forensic accounting taster session. The students were introduced to the fascinating world of financial trading, learning about different trading commodities such as Bitcoin. A highlight was a live trading simulation, where students were given a hypothetical £1,000 to invest. In an exciting twist, the Year 10 team, led by **Victoria and Martha**, triumphed by investing in oil, while the sixth formers' decision to invest in gold did not pay off! - Mr Rayworth



Careers News:

The careers team has had another busy term, with lots of assemblies, trips and events taking place.

Year 10 & 12 Practice Interview Day

Students in Year 10 and 12 participated in two practice interview days recently, allowing students the opportunity to practice their interview technique and etiquette with representatives from the world of work.

Thank you to all our volunteers, including many parents and carers, who gave up their time to help!



Female STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) event:

30 girls in years 8 & 10 took part in this event, hosted by the company Amey. Students were tasked with a bridge building cup challenge. Working in teams, they applied their knowledge and the information provided to design, create and build a solution which they presented to a team of judges from Trafford Council.



Congratulations to the winning team:

Zuzanna, Ellie H and Anna (Year 8) and Vivianne, Mina, Grace, Ruby and Raneer (Year 10). - Miss Mitchelmore

News from Religion, Philosophy & Ethics and Politics

Year 9 students visited Christ Church in Timperley as part of a "Celebrating Life" day where they were treated to a warm welcome and an inspiring talk from Fr. Steve Dunton. Students also gained great insight into what is involved in the role of a Funeral Director and learned about the work and support that Francis House Hospice gives to children who use their facilities. Students had the chance to get creative in workshops with representatives from Young Minds and Prestwich Death Cafe by producing collages on their idea of heaven, and poetry.



Politics

News of the general election led to local political candidates Oliver Carroll (Cons), Jane Brophy (Lib Dems), Geraldine Coggins (Green Party) and the elected Conor Rand (Labour Party) all visiting school to meet with students. The students' questions on a range of important local issues, including education, the environment and voting age, were well received by all the candidates. Well done! – Mrs Acharya

Belief: Sport

Cricket:

Year 7 Boys Cricket Team: County Final

What a fantastic start our Year 7s have had to the cricket season! Let's hope next year we can win that gold medal!

AC 69 - 98 Weaverham
AC 80 - 112 Wilmslow
AC 80 - 96 Poynton
3rd/4th Place Play Off : AC 110 - 64
Weaverham

Player of the Tournament: Matthew



Rounders:

Year 7 Girls Team:

Well done to our Year 7 girls who took part in the recent Trafford rounders tournament. AC finished 3rd overall, ahead of: Ashton on Mersey, Sale Grammar and Sale High.

Year 8 Trafford Rounders tournament at Sale Grammar school: AC secured a place in the semi-final.

Well done to all involved, it has been a very successful season!



Athletics

Boys Trafford Athletics event

Congratulations to all 60 students from years 7-10 who attended the boys Trafford athletics event. Some stand-out results include:

Year 7

- Matt H won the 800m and came 2nd in long jump.
- Max L came 3rd in javelin

Year 8

- Ted came 6th in long jump

Year 9

- Tom D WON the javelin.
- Lewis R came 4th in the high jump.
- Jayden 9 came 5th in the 100m.

Year 10

- Jake O WON the javelin.
- Harvey J came 2nd in triple jump.
- Matthew P came 3rd in the triple jump.
- Raion came 3rd in the 200m.
- Pharrell came 6th in the long jump.

Football

Year 11 boys League and Trafford Champions 2024



Altrincham College 4 - 3 Ashton on Mersey

Congratulations to our Year 11 League and Trafford Champions 2024!

The students developed a fantastic team morale during a cup run which saw them beat stiff competition from schools AGSB, Sale Grammar and Wellington to meet Ashton on Mersey (the Greater Manchester Champions) in the Trafford final at Partington Sports Village. After a hard-fought match, AC won by 4 goals to 3 to become Year 11 Trafford Cup Champions 2024! – Mr Stephenson

Year 10 leadership event

30 girls in Year 10 have undertaken training to become Sports Leaders. They led their first event for pupils from Wellgreen Primary School where they organised and ran a range of multi-skills events. The students demonstrated excellent communication, leadership and organisational skills – well done!



Sports Awards

Congratulations to the students from year 7-10 who were recognised for their sport achievements at our annual Sports Awards presentation. The PE department awarded over 250 badges and certificates!

Alongside the bronze, silver and gold awards, two students achieved the platinum award, which meant they represented the school in over 6 sports – what an amazing achievement!

Performer of the Year:

- Year 7: Matt H
- Year 8: Skye F
- Year 9: Aaron J
- Year 10: Raion R

Sports Personality Award Winner:

- Year 7: Holly C
- Year 8: Katie T



- Year 9: Tom D
- Year 10: Josh H

Leader of the Year:

- Harvey J (Year 10)

Platinum Award Winners:

- Hollie C & Isobel L (Year 7)

Team of the Year:

- Year 7 cricket team



Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme:

Thirteen students in year 12 have passed their DofE Silver qualifying expedition, where they completed a 3 day/2 night journey through the Peak District including Kinder Scout, Jacob's ladder and other wonderful areas of natural beauty! The group have been a pleasure to teach this year. Congratulations to you all! - Mr Stephenson.



Community:

Year 7 Fresh Start

Mrs Turner and Mrs Casey had the pleasure of taking the Year 7 Fresh Start Reading Group to Waterstones in Altrincham as a reward for all their hard work this year. Rachael gave the students a tour, they then got to choose a book and enjoy a hot chocolate. This was followed by a visit to Altrincham Library.

A wonderful trip for a hardworking group of students who have successfully completed AC's reading intervention programme.



Performing Arts News

The Drama and Music Departments are delighted to announce that our next school production will be...High School Musical! Auditions will take place week commencing **9th September 2024** – save the date!

The ACMT (Altrincham College Musical Theatre) club has been working on Hamilton highlights which they performed at the summer concert. It is great to see the students oozing in confidence and more students willing to put themselves forward for solos. We always welcome new members! - Mrs Mrozinski.



Dance

Congratulations to our Year 10 GCSE Dance students who received awards from Miss Matthews this week. She is incredibly proud of the progress her students have made this year and thinks you are all fabulous! Well done.



News from the Music Department

Over the past few weeks, Altrincham College musicians have been busy performing and entertaining the crowds all over Manchester! Our Senior and Year 11 Bands performed on the main stage at Altrincham Festival, and some of our instrumentalists took part in the Trafford Music Service Ensembles concerts at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester.



At school, our students have done themselves proud in their wonderful performances at Summer Prizegiving, the Summer Concert, and at our whole-school end-of-term assembly. Alongside fantastic vocal and instrumental solos, we heard ensemble performances from the Key Stage 3 Band Skills, Musical Theatre Club's Hamilton Highlights, Year 10 Music GCSE Group, and the Senior Band.

Huge congratulations and many thanks to all our musicians for their commitment, energy, enthusiasm, and musical talents throughout the year! - Mr Madden.

Support for families

School holiday 'kids eat free' offers:

Tesco has announced it will be bringing back its Kids Eat Free scheme to its 310 cafés across the UK over the school summer holidays (from 24th July – 1st September):

[Kids Eat Free scheme returns to Tesco cafés for school summer holidays \(tescoplc.com\)](https://www.tescopl.com)

ASDA has a similar offer where 'Kids Eat for £1' café meal deals will continue to run in over 205 Asda Café's all year round and not just during the school holidays: [£1 Kids Café Meal Deal All Year Round at Asda | hotukdeals](https://www.hotukdeals.com)

Support for students during the summer holidays on free school meals:

Please see the guidance below from Money Saving Expert:

<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/family/free-school-meals/>

BlueSci

BlueSci at Coppice Library and Wellbeing Centre in Sale has a warm space and provides a range of activities at the centre, including free debt advice, a multicultural women's group and more - <https://bluesci.org.uk/coppice/> or contact them directly:

Email: admin@coppicelibraryandwellbeing.org.uk, Tel: 0161 912 3560



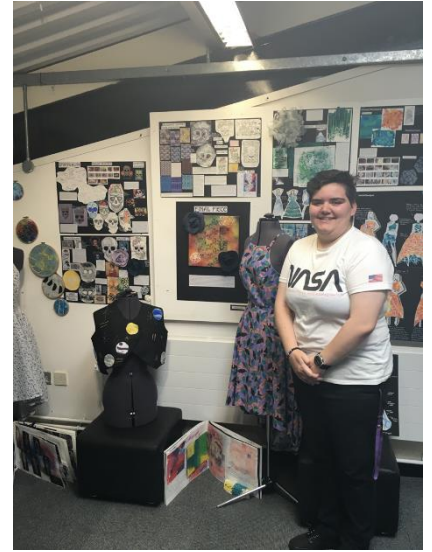
Art

Year 11 & Year 13 Lloyd Art and Textiles Exhibition:

We had the pleasure of showcasing our students' amazing art and textile work in our school art gallery. Previous headteacher of Altrincham College, Margaret Lloyd, sponsored the event and helped to judge the best pieces, which was a difficult decision as the standard was so high.

Students, family and friends attended and helped us to celebrate the fantastic work on show.

Well done all – Mrs Wagstaff.



And finally...

Dates for your diary: Autumn 2024

Staff INSET:

Start of term:

Main school & sixth form open evening:

Staff Inset:

Year 8 HPV Vaccinations:

Half Term

Monday 2nd & Tuesday 3rd September

Wednesday 4th September

Thursday 3rd October

Friday 4th October

Monday 7th October

Friday 25th October

Thank you for your continuous support of our school. Have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing your child relaxed and ready to learn in September!

Ms K Earle

Headteacher and CEO of the South Manchester Learning Trust

