

17th March 2023

Wixams Academy



Newsletter

Greetings from the Principal

Dear Families,

Thank you for your continued support and understanding during the two days of industrial action this week. We all hope for a speedy resolution which will benefit students and staff alike.

You will find some important articles in this week's newsletter:

We are looking for new 'Local Advisory Body' members to join our LAB. The LAB runs in a similar way to a local Governing Body, working in conjunction with our BCAT Board. Do please contact Natalie or Ellie if you think you could contribute and help govern our wonderful Academy.

Emma Chamberlain and Naima Khanom are two amazing Year 10 students who have deservedly been recognised with a High Sherriff's Award. We are so proud of them! Read more below.

On the back page I have shared some images of our building expansion plans. These are due to be completed in September 2024 and will significantly enhance our teaching and sporting facilities.

I wrote to you last week asking for your views on our 'Capacity Change Consultation'. This mail included links to the Bedford Borough Planning page, where you can find further drawings detailing our expansion plans. If you would like to come and discuss how we will ensure that our growth is managed to ensure the highest quality care and education for our students, do drop in to our information events next Tuesday and Wednesday from 5-7pm.

Have a lovely weekend,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Spyropoulos'.

Paul Spyropoulos
Principal

Join our Governors



Are you interested in becoming part of the Governance team at Wixams Academy?

Our Local Advisory Body needs to grow and we are looking for two parent members to join us. We are part of the BCAT governance team and work with the Academy to support and challenge them to achieve the best outcomes for the school community. As a LAB member, you'd be asked to commit to at least one formal meeting a term (held in the evening) as well as taking responsibility for one aspect of oversight which would typically mean one visit to the Academy a term. We also support Open Evenings and school events.

Free training in all aspects of the role is provided, including an induction session, and this is usually delivered remotely. You would need to do a course on safeguarding (again this is provided free of charge) and a DBS check would be undertaken.

This is a great opportunity to make a difference, and to use your life skills to the benefit of the school community. If you are interested, please contact Natalie Robertson NRobertson@bcat.co.uk

Ellie Gamble, LAB Chair



Naima Khanom and Emma Chamberlain have been awarded the High Sheriff Award for Young Persons Citizenship Award in North Bedfordshire due to their ongoing charitable efforts throughout 2022 and 2023.

We are very proud of them both. They have been committed to regular fundraising for their entire time with us at Wixams Academy and are a credit to our Academy.

Mr Spyropoulos



Sixth Form application meetings were postponed over the Year 11 mock week, but are due to start again from Tues 14th March. Students have been informed via letter and emails home, however there are also printed lists in reception, beside Mrs Mountains office and outside the Sixth Form office.

We are very much looking forward to discussing A level options with our Year 11's and their future plans.

If students have any concerns about their meeting slots please direct them to speak to either myself or Miss Rahman.

Kind regards

Mr R Mercel

Upcoming Dates

21 & 22 March	Capacity Change Consultation meetings, 5-7pm
23 March	Year 10 Subject Evening for Parents. Early closure
29 & 30 March	Matilda! Academy Show performances
31 March	Deadline for Year 8 Options Forms to be returned
3-17 April	EASTER HOLIDAYS. Year 11 Revision sessions in first week
18 April	Students return for Summer Term 8.40am start

Academy Expansion Plans

I have written to ask for your comments about the 'Capacity Change Consultation', regarding an increase in the numbers of students attending the Academy. Within that message were links to the Public Planning Permission process which is ongoing. Versions of the drawings below can be found on the Planning Site.

More information will be released soon and I will be happy to speak to you about these plans next week.

