

The Edge Academy

Safe, Ready, Respectful Newsletter

February 2023

I. Principal's Introduction

As always, I am delighted to introduce our latest newsletter, especially as it has been another busy and successful few months for us since our last one. We continue to work hard as a team of staff to support our students and we continue to be incredibly proud of them!

Despite all of the continuing problems posed by the Coronavirus pandemic over the course of 2022, we continue to be a heavily oversubscribed school, and it has been pleasing to see The Edge's work recognised in a number of ways locally and nationally!



We were honoured in recent months to win a “double” of prestigious awards. In November, we picked up our first ever national accolade, winning the PRUsAP “AP Team of the Year” at the 2022 Conference and Awards Ceremony at the Chesford Grange in Kenilworth. PRUsAP represents the Alternative Provision (AP) sector of education nationally and aims to promote the success of vulnerable young people in AP settings. The criteria for the award was focused upon positive impact made on young people.

The school was represented by five staff including one of our governors at the evening event, and beat off

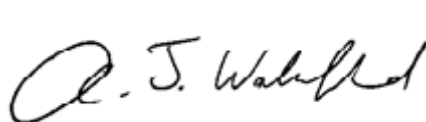
competition from fellow finalists Ethos Academy Trust, Project SEMH, ACE Schools, REAL Education, Maple Medical PRU, River Tyne Academy and Pathways Learning Centre to win the award.



Prior to this, at the end of 2021/22, we were similarly humbled to win the Midlands Education Awards “Outstanding Support for Students Award” at Millennium Point in Central Birmingham. This annual event aims to celebrate and reward the most outstanding contributors to the education sector across the region, and recognises establishments, people and organisations that go over and above. The school was represented by eight staff and two governors, and beat off competition from fellow finalists Ormiston Academies Trust and School of Code to win the award.

The hard work from us will now very much continue following the launch of our new three-year plan for “Unleashing Greatness” which we openly shared with our community at the end of 2021/22. We have recently been awarded “Trauma Informed Attachment Aware School” status, “Essential Skills Silver School” status, and are very proud of the fact that we consistently outperform other schools in the city in the “Gatsby Benchmark” framework based around careers and employment.

Finally, we are happy to be able to share a variety of other news items and recent photos with you from school life. Please feel free to contact me directly via e-mail at andrew.wakefield@theedgeacademy.co.uk for any questions with which I can assist personally.



Andrew Wakefield, Principal



achieved in thus far include Modern Foreign Languages, ICT, Physical Education, Health and Safety, Geography, Animal Care, Hair and Beauty and Construction to name just a few!

- Continued to develop our Vocational Learning links with our friends at Envirohort and Solid Skills.



- Extended the variety of PE and “Well-being” opportunities on offer.
- Run a writing project based on the theme of the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham in partnership with Writing West Midlands and Kurly McGeachie.
- Brought back our annual whole-school trip to the seaside for the first time since the beginning of the pandemic with a visit to Weston-Super-Mare in 2022.
- Continued to run a varied “Safe, Ready, Respectful” two-hour enrichment session every single Friday for every single student.
- Run full “Cultural Capital Weeks” at the end of every single half-term since our last newsletter which have featured a variety of physical and teambuilding activities.
- Achieved an outstanding set of GCSE Results in 2022!

2. Curriculum Experiences/ Updates

As you will see from the pictures in this newsletter, we have again been able to provide students with a broad range of different educational experiences in recent months.



Amongst other activities too numerous to list in a newsletter, we have:

- Continued to expand our AQA Unit Award Scheme that we launched in 2021 and have now presented over 1,100 certificates in that time to students who have achieved awards in “Essential Skills”. Areas certificates have been

3. Communication

A further reminder that we put all letters on our website (www.theedgeacademy.co.uk) and text links to parents/carers each time this happens. We also post reminders on Twitter (address @edgenorthfield or go to website at www.twitter.com/edgenorthfield), Facebook (address @edgeacademynorthfield or go to website at www.facebook.com/edgeacademynorthfield), Instagram (address @theedgeacademynorthfield or go to website at www.instagram.com/theedgeacademynorthfield), Snapchat (go to website at: <https://www.snapchat.com/add/edgenorthfield>) and LinkedIn (go to website at: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-edge-academy-northfield/>) Don't forget our recently launched TikTok channel (address @edgeacademynorthfield or go to website at: <https://www.tiktok.com/@edgeacademynorthfield>) as well as our now famous YouTube channel which is available at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCecMYPWTNC-DYEbioHbBFvA> and has racked up over 10,000 views!



4. Admissions

We continue to experience unprecedented demand for places at The Edge, taking students from all areas of Birmingham, but also from Warwickshire, Sandwell and Worcestershire. If you are a senior leader from a

Instagram: @theedgeacademynorthfield Twitter: @edgenorthfield Facebook: @edgeacademynorthfield

school in the Midlands interested in placing a student with us for the remainder of 2022/2023 or booking ahead for 2023/2024, please e-mail Vice Principal Adam Smith at adam.smith@theedgeacademy.co.uk .

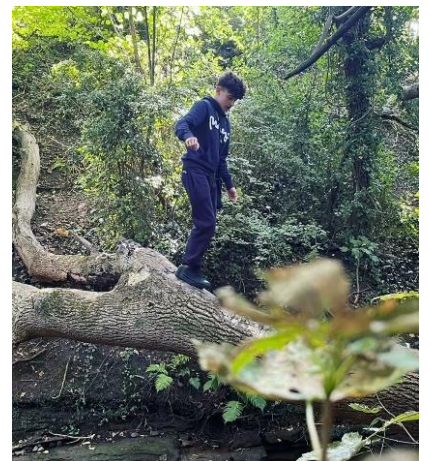
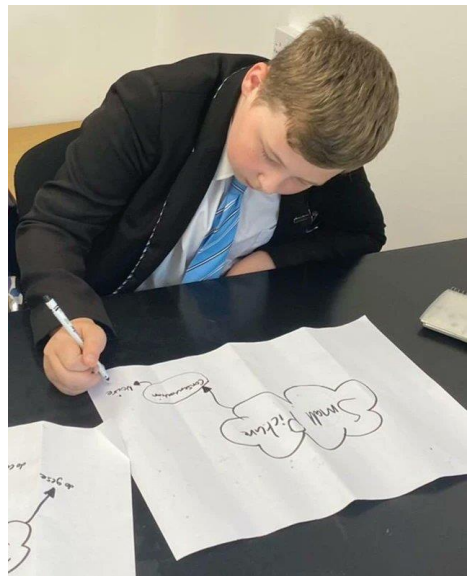
5. Connect

Following a pilot earlier in the year, in the Autumn Term of 2022, we officially launched "Connect", an innovative and short-term programme which helps Key Stage 3 students to connect and engage with positive learning experiences. The programme features a combination of on-site provision at The Edge together with outreach work from Edge staff in mainstream schools. If you are interested in more information about this strand of our work, please visit the dedicated section of our website at:

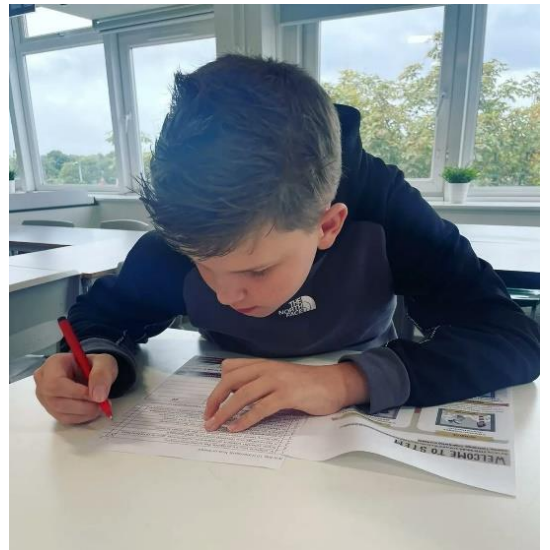
<https://www.theedgeacademy.co.uk/connect/>



You can also keep up to date with the progress of our latest Connect cohort with our dedicated social media accounts on Twitter (address @connectedgeacad or go to website at <https://twitter.com/connectedgeacad>) and Instagram (address @connectedgeac or go to website at: <https://www.instagram.com/connectedgeac/>)




Instagram: @theedgeacademynorthfield Twitter: @edgenorthfield Facebook: @edgeacademynorthfield





Edge GRADED GOOD **The Edge Academy**
 Alternative Provision School

2022 Midlands Winner  "Outstanding Support for Students" Award

Unleashing greatness through our Safe, Ready, Respectful values

The Edge Academy Alternative Provision aims to be a learning, stable and friendly place for our

