

The Edge Academy

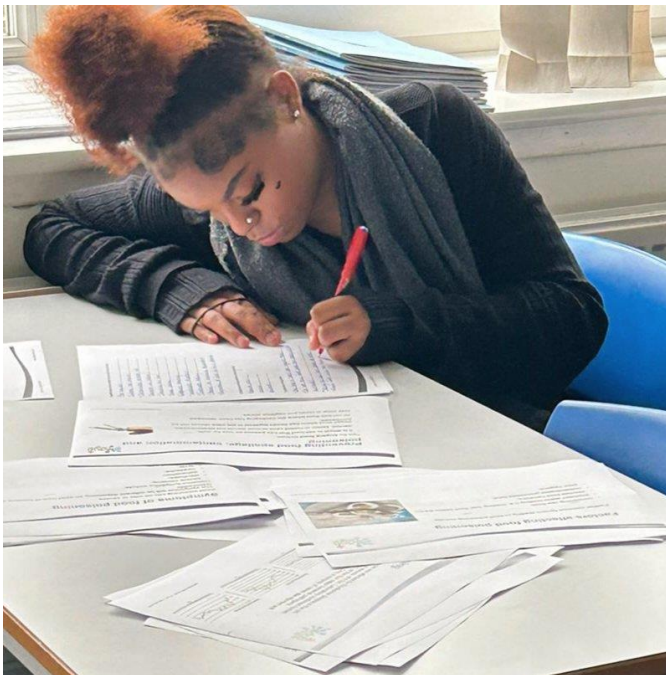
Safe, Ready, Respectful Newsletter

July 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!

We are yet again a heavily oversubscribed school as we approach the end of 2022/23, but despite the ever-increasing numbers of students we have on roll, we continue to be a friendly and welcoming place for the young people that we serve. We remain focused on bringing the best out of our students, ensuring they maximise their potential and are prepared as fully as possible for reintegration to mainstream school or for progress to further learning and life.



We were delighted that our expansion has been recognised by the Department of Education ahead of 2023/24, who have increased our official PAN to a total of 70 students; as a result of this, we are pleased to be expanding our staffing in readiness for September in addition to our existing staff.

We will soon be very sad to say goodbye to our current group of Year 11 students at the end of

2022/23. All of our students make an important contribution to “Edgeline” but we must particularly salute this year group for leading by example in recent months. They have embraced all aspects of academic work before and during the GCSE Examination season, whether that has meant normal lessons, revision sessions or focus in the exams themselves.

Even more impressively, we have been blown away by the commitment Year 11s have shown by attending this year’s Saturday School sessions in such big numbers. Students have attended every single week since April right up until the present moment; it has been a pleasure to support them and we wish all of them well as they embark on the next stages of their education journey.

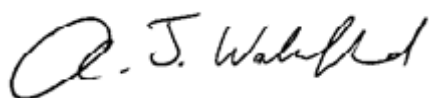


All of our departing students have secured appropriate career progression for September 2023- we are proud of the fact that we consistently outperform other schools in the city in the “Gatsby Benchmark” framework based around careers and employment.

Once more, we are all incredibly grateful to our parents and carers for the fantastic support they continue to

give us as a school as well as their children. It was brilliant to see so many families attending our latest “Fish and Chip” Parents’ Evening last term; the close relationship we have with our families is important to us and a crucial factor in the success our students achieve. Quite simply, we couldn’t do it without you!

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



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 close to 2,000 certificates in that time to students who have achieved awards in “Essential Skills”. Areas certificates have been 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 utilise our Vocational Learning links with our friends at Envirohort and Solid Skills.

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.

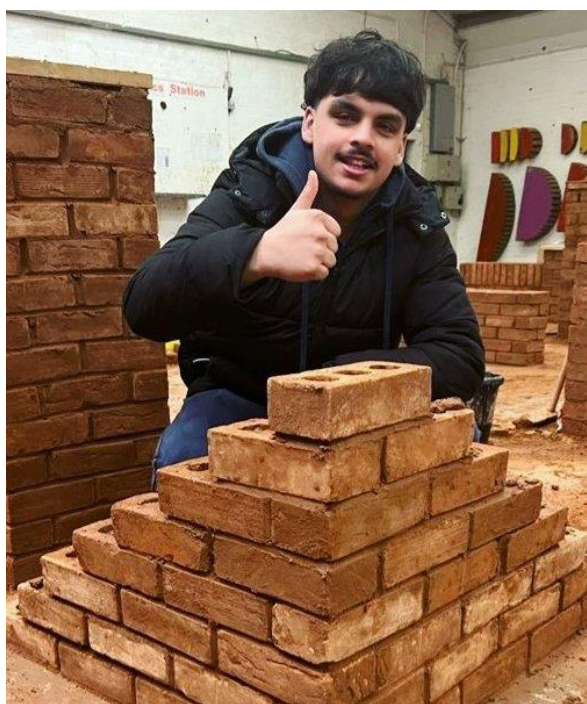


- Extended the variety of PE and “Well-being” opportunities on offer.
- Run two evening free “Community Cookery Masterclasses” where all ingredients were provided free of charge and the general public were invited as well as members of our school community!
- Continued to run a varied “Safe, Ready, Respectful” 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.

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 (over 5,000 views already, 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 11,000 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

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Worcestershire. If you are a senior leader from a 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 successful pilot in 2021/22, 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/>)

