

## A large circular collage of various images showing students in school uniforms engaged in different activities like playing instruments, working on projects, and participating in sports, surrounded by a dark circular border. The images include students playing guitars, working on laptops, participating in group projects, and performing in a hall. The collage is set against a background of geometric shapes in shades of blue and grey.



2024 Spring / Summer



# Principal's Welcome

**W**elcome to the latest edition of **Academy Focus**. As the academic year comes to a close we have much to celebrate.

Last month we said farewell to our Year 11 students who have been exceptional all year. We celebrated with the school Prom at the Village hotel and invited our TCAT CEO Mr Moorcroft to offer some final words of wisdom at the leavers assembly. We are very proud of all their achievements this year and looking forward to welcoming the class of 2024 back to the academy on Results Day.

We continue to offer a range of enriching experiences for our students with Warrington wide sporting events (and successes), the upcoming BCA performance of School of Rock, careers visits, awards evening and a Combined Cadet force trip to Altcar for our aspiring soldiers of the future.

A further exciting development at the school is now nearly at completion - our new and improved dining room. This will provide additional seating, serving options and social space that I know the students will benefit from

In the meantime I want to thank you for your ongoing support of the school and wish you and your families a restful summer.

Gareth Harris  
Principal



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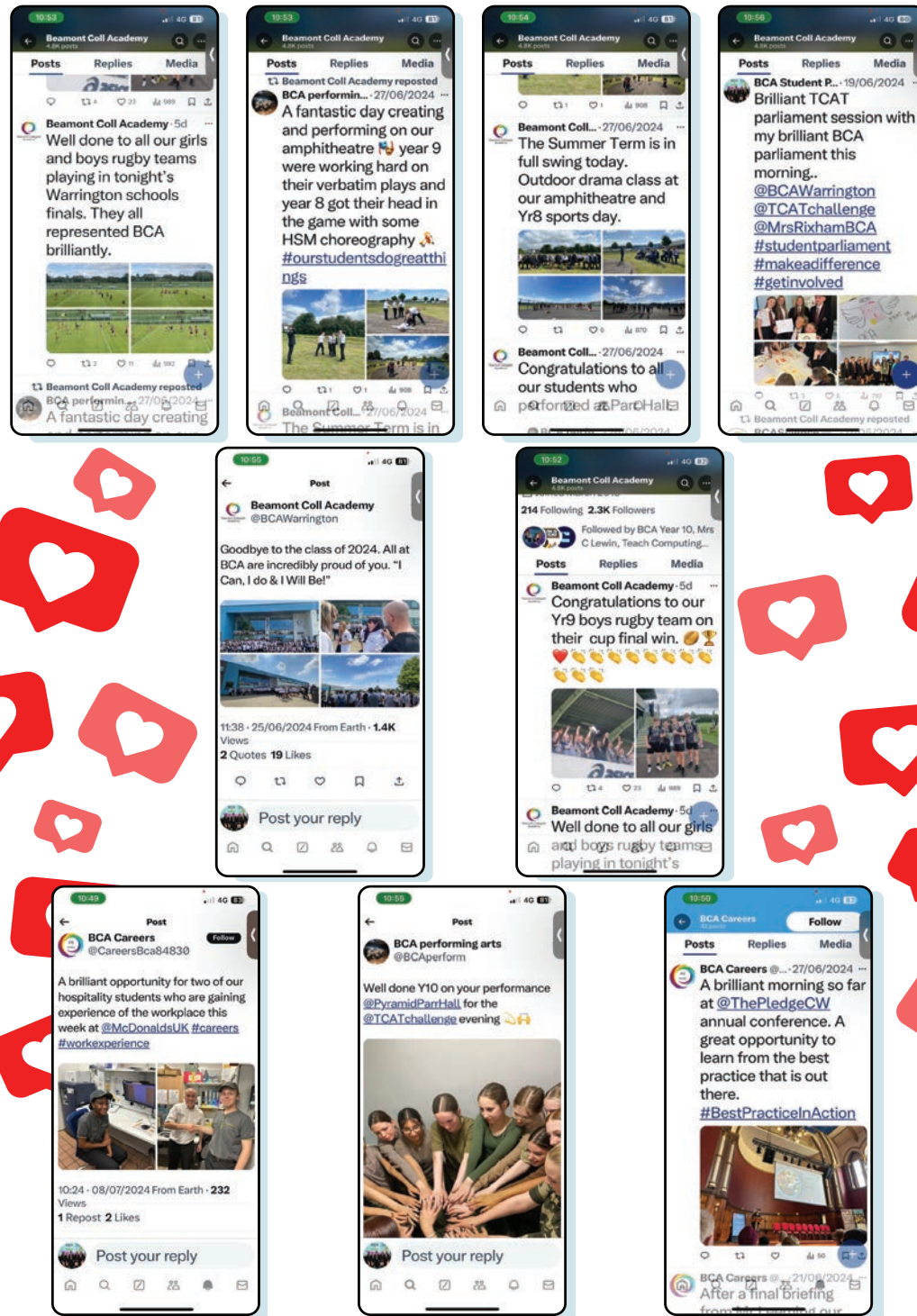
Produced and edited by Bev Ivins at BCA.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about the Academy including transition and admissions.

# Social Focus



Beamont Collegiate Academy



Liked by **Everyone and 1000 others**

BCA #ourstudentsdogreatthings

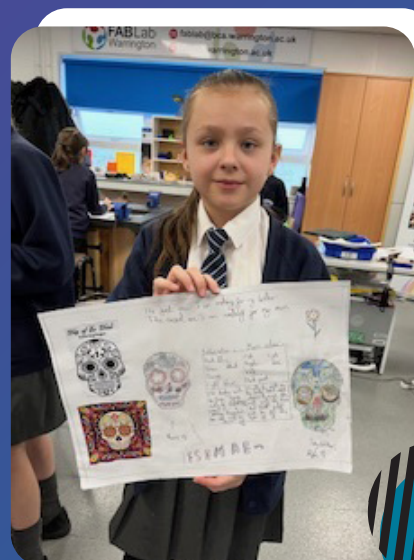


At BCA we pride ourselves on having great links to all our Partner primary schools. The best part of my job every week is when we welcome the children into BCA to take part in our sessions which can be anything from DT and Drama to Science and English. The sessions are a great way for the pupils to get to know BCA and the staff that work here. Equally it is really beneficial for myself as Transition Coordinator to get to know the children. This is something we have done as a school for over 12 years now and we feel it is definitely one of the most important initiatives we have in our Primary Transition Programme.

**Bev Ivins Transition Coordinator.**



# Primary Focus



# Primary Focus



## Transition Day >>>

We really enjoy the transition days at BCA and the main reason is we welcome the whole of the future year 7 in to the school for a couple of days worth of activities and fun. The staff and students get to know each other and the students get the opportunity to see how things work in BCA.





# YEAR 11

# 2024 PROM PREVIEW

MORE IN THE NEXT EDITION OF ACADEMY FOCUS.



## Creative Writing

A selection of BCA Students attend a creative writing enrichment each week. Earlier this year we hosted our annual Creative writing recital where our young authors were able to read out their own work to an audience of fellow students, teachers and their parents. An amazing event led and organised by Miss Blundell.



## CCF

### Army Cadets

In June this year we were lucky enough to have our beret presentation which shows our official affiliation to the Welsh guards, we are now the only northwest school to be under the Welsh Guards Regiment.

These pictures show the Colonel of the Welsh guards presenting our cadets with their berets, the ranking of Colonel is the highest accreditation that can be offered to serving officers within the regiment and armed forces.

We are very proud of the achievements the combined cadet force have already fulfilled and are excited with the possible expansion and opportunities that may come with this.





## DELIVERING THE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY CURRICULUM

At FabLab Warrington, we provide the chance for you to bring your KS1 & KS2 children to us to enrich your Design and Technology curriculum. At FabLab Warrington Primaries can have access to facilities and specialist staff. This can help build confidence in non-specialist teachers within primaries in using equipment and teaching the subject content. Withing FabLab Primaries sessions we deliver NC standards in KS1 & KS2 D&T.

During Primary Sessions children have been taught the technical knowledge, understanding and skills needed to engage in an iterative process of designing and making a finished product based on a given scenario.

- **To design** an item using suitable materials based on that given scenario.
- **To make** their product - design, cutting, sanding, shaping, finishing, decorating wood and acrylic.
- **To evaluate** - choosing suitable materials, and evaluating processes, suggesting improvements to their product and processes conducted.

## CONTACT US

FabLab Tel: **01925 247688**

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/fablabwarrington](https://www.facebook.com/fablabwarrington)

Twitter: [@FablabWarrBCA](https://twitter.com/FablabWarrBCA)

Instagram: [@fablabwarr](https://www.instagram.com/fablabwarr)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/in/fablabwarrington](https://www.linkedin.com/in/fablabwarrington)



## Did you know that Warrington hosts the largest regular CoderDojo in the world?

CoderDojo is a global network of free, volunteer-led programming clubs for kids aged 7-17, where they can learn to code, design, and create in a fun and social environment. Every six weeks, our CoderDojo Warrington opens its doors to an epic STEM extravaganza, featuring activities like drone flying, 3D printing, laser cutting, coding, robotics, and more - essentially a STEM-themed festival for kids!

### FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA TO STAY UP TO DATE ON OUR EVENTS

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CoderDojoWarrington](https://www.facebook.com/CoderDojoWarrington)

Twitter: [@dojowarrington](https://twitter.com/dojowarrington)

## Coder Dojo



## IT'S GREAT TO BE BACK AGAIN WITH AN AMAZING LINE UP OF CODING, TECH AND STEM!

The Fablab will also be fully open and ready for your creativity, doing sublimation printing and CAD design!

Get hands on with the Oculus Quest Virtual Reality set up - if you haven't tried it yet, you need to!

The LEGO stop animation is a huge hit and we'll be running that again. Why not make a movie for your friends!

- We will be running **FREE** drone flying lessons with the latest Mini drones.
- Minecraft, gaming and coding.
- Scratch - beginner to expert - design a game - new games to make!
- Sphero robots are so cool we bought our own set! They are great fun and we will have our amazing maze built for you to code to escape!
- Sublimation printing - each session we do printing where kids can unleash their creativity and design their own item to take home.



Scan the QR code and book your place now on Eventbrite





# National Careers Week

**Exploring Career Pathways:** A Recap of National Careers Week at Beamont Collegiate Academy. Last half-term marked an exciting chapter in the journey of our students at Beamont Collegiate Academy as we celebrated National Careers Week. From the 4th to the 8th March, students were presented with a wide range of opportunities to support them with their career choices and continue to support their aspirations. At BCA, we believe that the curriculum is more than what we teach in the classroom and this week was the perfect opportunity for students to step out of the classroom and see where their studies can take them.

With a line-up of 31 sessions spanning a spectrum of fields, ranging from traditional professions to cutting-edge industries, our students were given lots of choice. The event was designed to empower students with insights and knowledge about potential career paths.

One of the highlights of the week was the interactive sessions that allowed students to immerse themselves in hands-on experiences. From hairdressing to construction, students had the opportunity to explore vocational skills first-hand. For those inclined towards the legal realm, sessions on law offered an insight into the dynamic world of law, igniting aspirations in budding legal minds.

Photography enthusiasts honed their artistic flair, while psychology sessions delved into the intricacies of the human mind, sparking curiosity and fascination. Our students aspiring for a career within sports were lucky enough to attend sessions run by the Steven Gerrard Academy and a talk from one of our alumni and Warrington Wolves player, Danny Walker.

In an increasingly digitised world, the importance of cybersecurity and engineering was reflected in our offer. Students attended a fascinating talk from Balazs, part of our BCA alumni about cyber security, the increase of AI and the threats and opportunities this can bring. Apprenticeships emerged as a popular choice, offering a blend of practical experience and academic learning, while sessions on business management and ownership instilled entrepreneurial aspirations in our students.



We were lucky enough to welcome talks from Cheshire police, the army, the navy and a community pharmacist. Having such a wide range of career talks on offer allowed so many of our students to listen to talks that directly link to their hopes for their future.

In addition to this, students attended a talk on 3D printing which showcased the union of technology and creativity, offering a glimpse into the possibilities of additive manufacturing. With each session, students were encouraged to envision their futures and how they will contribute to the ever-changing world of work.

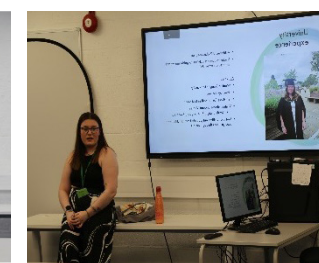
Budding conservationists in year seven were also given the opportunity to attend a behind the scenes trip to Chester Zoo and our aspiring sports journalists attended a journalism experience at Manchester City's Etihad stadium. These were brilliant opportunities for our students to experience real workplaces.

# National Careers Week

As part of our National Careers Week activities, we had the pleasure of welcoming back ten esteemed alumni to Beamont Collegiate Academy. These former students returned to impart invaluable wisdom and insights to the current generation. Through engaging talks, they shared their personal experiences. It was truly inspiring to witness how they have flourished in their respective professions and our students enjoyed learning from our alumni.

The response was overwhelming, with over 650 students seizing the opportunity to participate in the sessions throughout the week. The enthusiasm and engagement demonstrated by our students underscored the success of the event, reaffirming our commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals prepared for the challenges of the professional world.

In retrospect, National Careers Week at Beamont Collegiate Academy was not just a celebration of professions but a celebration of potential, a testament to the boundless possibilities that await our students as they step into the world beyond BCA.



## STEM APPRENTICESHIP SUCCESS

One of our talented Y11 students **Jagoda Kowalewski** works extremely hard every day at BCA and that hard work has really paid off. She has been successful in securing a mechanical engineering apprenticeship at the Daresbury laboratory. These positions are very competitive and difficult to secure all of us at BCA are extremely proud of Jagoda's success.





# BCA Perform

Earlier this year our fantastic Performing Arts department organised a spectacular cast reveal for our school summer show. In a ground-breaking event that merged education and entertainment, the hallways of BCA echoed with the electrifying beats of rock music as the teachers of the school unveiled their hidden talents in a stunning concert performance prior to announcing the cast. The excitement was palpable as students and staff gathered in anticipation as their teachers turned into rockstars. It was a fantastic event that brought the whole school community together.

The "School of Rock" cast reveal at BCA served as a powerful reminder that learning comes in many forms and that sometimes, the greatest lessons are learned outside the classroom.



# BCA Sports

## Ollie Brunt Year 10

Ollie is currently playing for Manchester Magic under 16's prem and under 18's prem. His most recent achievement is that he was selected to attend the Basketball England Aspire trials and then progressed through to the Super Regional trials and got down to the final 15. Something he was also really proud of was being asked to coach year 7's after school in basketball.



## Izzy ball

Izzy's most outstanding achievement is probably being selected and representing Liverpool Women for a year! Successfully selected to play for Wigan Athletic Women: Season One double winners winning the league and Champions Cup. Trialled again for Wigan for the upcoming season and has been offered a further place.



## Year 9 rugby

The boys year 9 rugby team travelled to Victoria Park for their year 9 Final against Birchwood. They qualified for the final by winning all but one game during the 2 qualifying festivals which took place earlier this year. The Beamont attack was fast and kept in the oppositions half for much of the game. Our defence was quick to get of the line and tackling was strong mainly keeping Birchwood in their own half. The final score was a fantastic 22 - 6 win for Beamont. Congratulations to the whole squad for some superb performances throughout the qualifying festivals and the final.



## Amelia Wintersgill Y10

Livewire talented athlete programme. Warrington girl's under fifteens rugby team. Represented Salford Red Devils. Referee for RFL rugby. Parent's player of the year 2024. 38 conversions scored this season! Runner up of golden boot North West Girl's rugby festival Completed pretty muddy with her team mates for cancer research!



## Amelia Gerrard Y10

2023 - Swim England Open Water Champion 2023 (July 23)  
2024 - Invited on the Swim England Talent Programme.  
2024 - Open water qualifier for 2024 age group champs (July 24)  
2024 - English Nationals qualifier for 1500m, 800m, 400m and 200m all freestyle events.  
2024 - British relay qualifier - 800m x 4 female team (age 14-16) (24th July)



## Daisy Mae Asher Y9

Daisy has had a fantastic 2023/24 season in football. She went on to represent Cheshire County U14s School girls on numerous occasions during the year. She also finished the season by winning the Cheshire County U14s Champions League with Moore Utd, they finished the season unbeaten. A great achievement as this is the highest league in the County. She also picked up the Golden boot award scoring 28 goals throughout the season for Moore Utd, along with a Managers award.





# Staff Achievements

## DANIEL BEECH

### Head of Science

In 2015/16 when I undertook my teacher training, I was awarded a scholarship from the Royal Society of Chemistry. The Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) is a learned society/ the professional body for chemistry in the UK. It carries out research, publishes journals, books, hosts conferences and accredits university degrees. Education in Chemistry is a print/ online magazine covering all areas of chemistry education, mainly concentrating on the teaching of chemistry at secondary school.

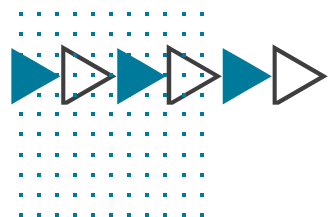
This Scholarship enabled wider networking opportunities which ultimately lead to my involvement in working with their Education in Chemistry section.

My work mainly involves writing articles on how to teach certain aspects of chemistry, general pedagogy techniques, running remote CPD and acting as a quality assurer for CPD courses provided by the RSC.

Currently, I have written articles on a wide range of topics such as assessment, questioning, practical skills, UN sustainability goals and anti-cancer drugs.

A particular highlight was having an article based on feedback shared by the Education Endowment Foundation linked to their guidance report, 'Improving Secondary Science'.

BCA is an RSC Teach Chemistry school which gives us access to high -quality resources, CPD and subject expertise that has helped to inform curriculum decisions.



## PAUL JONES

### Head of IT

Over Christmas Paul Jones a Computing teacher at BCA completed an endurance challenge in an attempt to raise funds for one of our local grassroots football clubs, Bruche Athletic. They have a cabin based in Woolston park and it is in dire need of some repairs and improvements.

The hub serves hundreds of our local kids, with multiple teams at many age groups, right the way through from 5 years old's at the academy, to Under 17s, including Paul's son at under 7s.

Paul decided to engage in a challenge, that he and a couple of the other coaches had dubbed 'Beat the moon', whereby they set themselves endurance tests to complete during the daylight hours of 28th December, between 8.07am and 3.58pm. Paul likes to push himself and decided to attempt to complete a grueling 60 mile bike ride, a half marathon run and 1000 press ups in that time. He is proud to have contributed over £600 to the cause and looks forward to seeing the newly renovated hub buzzing with little footballers over the coming months. "The mild forecast foiled me a bit and the actual weather turned out awful, with me stumbling off the bike frozen solid and soaked to the bone, before having to recover to do a half marathon, with press-ups done sporadically all throughout the day. I was made up to get it done, but I think I under-estimated it a bit and my perspective of how it would fill one of those boring days between Christmas and new year, was a bit short sighted. A few days of Christmas festivities, was not the best prep, but I'm proud to have got through it and would advise anyone doing similar to either prepare better than I did or not do it after a couple of Christmas parties hehe".



# Staff Achievements



## HARRIET EVANS

### Harriet Evans - PE teacher and Leader of Health and Social Care

I have recently completed an NPQ in Leading Teaching. I was originally interested in this specific course as the framework outlined learning around; approaches for how pupils learn, curriculum development and the implementation of strategies, areas I have always been particularly interested in. After reviewing the different NPQ courses available, I felt that the Leading Teaching qualification was most suited to supporting my professional development based on my current experiences and career to date. The course provided opportunities for learning both remotely and face-to-face. It was particularly helpful to collaborate with colleagues who share different levels of experience during the face-to-face events, some who have been subject leaders for several years and others, like myself, who have no experience leading a department. The online learning provided me with a bank of research informed strategies for improving teaching and learning that would support teachers of varying levels of experience, alongside specific approaches to managing a subject effectively. I started the course with no experience leading teaching, therefore I found learning about the planning and implementation of new strategies particularly insightful, as well as approaches to managing and delivering departmental CPD. The course provides you with an online learning mentor and also requires an experienced member of your school to act as your in-school coach. Their role is to support and challenge your learning, providing guidance through the formative and summative assessments. During my time completing my NPQ, I started a position of Subject Leader of Health and Social Care within my school. It has been great to have the opportunity to put my learning into practice. I would recommend completing an NPQ to anyone interested in developing their professional skill set and challenging themselves in their career.



## SHONA CROSSAN

### History Teacher and Head of Year 10

Shona Crossan has recently passed her NPQLBC - National Professional Qualification for Leading Behaviour and Culture. This is why she chose to study this course.

I chose to study this course to further develop my role within school around behaviour and safeguarding. My passion and strengths are aimed towards establishing strong cultures based on consistent routines and high expectations. The NPQLBC has enabled me to deepen my understanding of conditions for good behaviours and how to embed and sustain these models alongside positive learning across all the whole school.

As well as extending my own knowledge and skills, the purpose of the NPQLBC course is to strengthen leadership skills and management qualities to better-support colleagues with theirs. Assessments are often centred around supporting colleagues to implement good behaviour practices, supplemented by face-to-face events.

The course is designed to challenge candidates/participants/? and encourages self-reflection of our own presence, attitude and behaviours which in turn impacts upon pupils learning.

Overall, the course has been beneficial to my development, creating a greater understanding of how rich learning environments, committed teachers and a strong behaviour culture, encourage pupils to flourish.





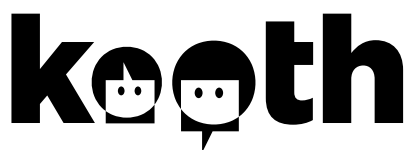
# Finding support for your mental health



**Mersey Care**  
NHS Foundation Trust



Bespoke support for LGBT+ young people and their adults  
**theproudtrust.org**



Online mental wellbeing community for free, safe, anonymous support  
**kooth.com**



**here for you 24/7**  
**giveusashout.org**



Whatever you're going through 24 hours a day, 365 days a year  
**samaritans.org | 116 123**



Online, on the phone, anytime  
**childline.org.uk | 0800 1111**



Essential support for under 25s

Free information and support for under 25s in the UK  
**themix.org.uk**



Giving hope to grieving children

Helping young people navigate grief  
**winstonswish.org**



Helping you focus on staying safe from suicide  
**papyrus-uk.org/  
papyrus-hopeline247**



Discrete emotional wellbeing drop-in service for young people aged 7-19 (25 if additional needs)  
**warringtonyouthzone.org/  
youth-in-mind**



Teenager and Gender Sexuality Youth Support group  
**warrington.gov.uk/  
youth-service**



Youth group for young people aged 13-18 who self-identify as Black, Asian or other ethnic minority  
**warrington.gov.uk/  
youth-service**



A referral can be made to Warrington CYPMHS or schools can have a consultation with the Mental Health Support Team

Do you need urgent help with your mental health?  
Call our 24/7 mental health crisis line FREE

0800 051 3253 if you live in Wigan  
0800 051 1508 if you live in Halton, Knowsley, St Helens and Warrington

