

# BCA ACADEMY FOCUS



2025 Spring

Beamont Collegiate  
Academy

# Principal's Welcome

**W**elcome to the Latest Edition of the Academy Focus.

As we draw to the end of another busy and successful term here at Beamont Collegiate Academy, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to share just some of the many highlights from recent weeks. It has been a term full of opportunity, achievement, and ambition, with students embracing every chance to get involved, learn more, and push themselves further – both in and beyond the classroom.

One of the most exciting developments this term has been the growing success of our sports teams. A particular highlight has been the dedication and determination shown by our rowing team, who have trained hard and competed with great spirit and sportsmanship. Rowing continues to grow in popularity among our students, and we're proud to offer such a unique sporting opportunity as part of our enrichment programme. Our other sports teams have also continued to represent the academy with pride, with students showing commitment, resilience and teamwork in every match and training session.

Alongside sport, our students have also been exploring their futures and widening their horizons through a wide range of academic and careers-focused opportunities. This term, groups of students visited both Liverpool University and Keele University, giving them a valuable insight into university life and helping to raise aspirations around future study and career options. It's been particularly exciting to continue our partnership work with Oxford University, where our students have taken part in both science and modern foreign language projects as part of the Explore programme. These experiences are not only enriching but also hugely important in building the confidence and ambition of our young people.

Our links with employers and industry have also remained strong this term. During National Careers Week, we welcomed a wide range of professionals and organisations into the academy to talk to our students about future pathways and opportunities. From STEM careers to the creative industries, students were able to explore the full range of options available to them, and many left the sessions feeling inspired and motivated about their next steps.

A real standout moment of the term was seeing our students perform at the iconic Lowry Theatre in Salford Quays as part of our ongoing partnership with the National Theatre. Taking to the stage in such a prestigious venue was an unforgettable experience for all involved – a real testament to their talent, dedication and courage.

As always, attendance remains a key priority. I want to take this opportunity to remind all families that every student should be aiming for at least 96% attendance during the summer term. Good attendance is the foundation for success and ensures students are able to take full advantage of the learning and enrichment opportunities available to them.

I look forward to seeing many of you at various events over the summer term – whether that's at parents' evenings, celebration events or performances. Thank you once again for your continued support and encouragement.

**Gareth Harris**  
Principal



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# SOCIAL FOCUS



## Beamont Collegiate Academy



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## FUTURE YEAR 7'S IN TRAINING: DAYS TO REMEMBER!

One of the most valuable aspects of our school is the strong connections we have with local primary schools. We encourage their visits as often as possible, and both our staff and BCA students thoroughly enjoy welcoming them. We offer a variety of engaging sessions, ranging from cooking and drama to languages and maths. These visits give primary students the opportunity to familiarize themselves with our school and staff, making their transition to high school in Year 7 much smoother.



**DO YOU RECOGNISE ANYBODY?**





# BCA ATTENDANCE

Attendance at high school in the UK is crucial for several reasons. Regular school attendance helps students stay on track with their education, ensuring they don't fall behind on lessons or miss key topics that are essential for their academic development.

It also allows students to build consistent study habits, engage in class discussions, and participate in extracurricular activities that contribute to personal growth.

Moreover, consistent attendance is linked to better exam performance and higher chances of achieving academic qualifications, which are essential for future career opportunities or further education.

Beyond academics, being present in school also fosters social skills, builds friendships, and provides a structured environment that helps young people develop responsibility and time-management skills, which are important for their overall development and future success.



# BCA FABLAB



What an amazing event we had on Saturday 1st February, 150 kids plus parents through the door taking part in a variety of Free STEAM activities. Loads of new faces attending and lots of familiar ones too.

Kids can do coding, Stop Motion animation, fly drones, control robots, play Minecraft, take part in crazy Science experiments, control Spheros through our purpose built maze, use VR technology and design and create products to take home. All of which would not be possible without our fantastic Staff and pupil volunteers.



# PRON

## 2024









## TALK MORE PLAY BETTER



AHEAD OF THE GAME



Warrington Wolves delivered a workshop aimed at identifying different levels of mental health, when mental health becomes an issue and how to support.

Both practical and theory elements were utilised with students exploring how to spot signs when a team mate may be struggling, what support they can offer as a friend, and when and where to it's important to seek support.

The Y10 and 11 boys engaged fully, showing great maturity and confidence when discussing sensitive subject matters.

Huge thanks to the Wolves Foundation for rolling out such valuable sessions.

## Charity Events

### A MASSIVE HALL FOR CHARITY CASH FOR KIDS



BCA Student Tyler Hall was invited to the Cash for Kids Mission Christmas HQ in Manchester to meet Mike Toolan and Gemma Atkinson from Hits Radio. Tyler raised £420 this time for the charity.

Tyler is no stranger to raising money for the Cash for kids charity. Tyler creates hampers which he then raffles off to raise money.

Tyler was featured on Hits radio and interviewed by the presenters, who were very impressed with his fundraising efforts.







## Oak National Academy – Science Lead Visit

In January, the BCA science department had Elisabeth Pugh (National Lead for Science) visit us. Elisabeth spoke with pupils, staff and observed KS3 lessons in action. Elisabeth was looking at how Oak National Academy resources were being used, what teachers and students benefitted from and how Oak could help in the future. It was a great opportunity to build connections and Elisabeth was impressed with the lessons she visited.

## BCA Alumni – Ellie Wilson – Polymer Project

A group of triple science students had the opportunity this Jan/ February to work with PhD student and BCA Alumni, Ellie Wilson. Ellie worked on a 6-week project with our students to make polymers from milk, discuss the future of polymers, the negative environmental impacts and how scientists are working on solutions. A biology project is in the pipeline and hopefully a visit to the University of Manchester in the summer to see Ellie and her colleagues in action will get the go ahead!



## Explore

A group of students across year 7-10 were invited to partake in a STEM workshop organised by the University of Oxford. The aim of the workshop was for the groups to be probed a question relating to a problem in STEM with the problems ranging from surviving a natural disaster to healing the planet. It gave an opportunity for students to debate ideas about solutions to the problems and then culminating in an activity where they could design their own solutions. It was a great event which the students found very rewarding.





# BCA Hospitality

## THERE'S SOMETHING FISHY GOING ON



Year 10 Hospitality and Catering students had the chance to learn from Andrew, a skilled fishmonger at Warrington Market, who gave a hands-on demonstration on fish preparation. Students learned essential skills such as filleting, portioning, and deboning, which are crucial for their practical exams and future careers in professional kitchens.

Andrew also emphasized sustainability in the fishing industry, explaining the ethical and environmental aspects of sourcing fresh fish. He shared his career journey, inspiring students to explore opportunities in the hospitality and food sectors. This experience connected classroom learning with real-world industry practices, helping students develop valuable skills for their future careers.

Andrew and his son, Tom, continue the family tradition of providing high-quality seafood at Warrington Market.

## BCA ROWING



At BCA, we've had a rowing team for many years, and each year, we are fortunate to have some truly dedicated rowers who give their all to the sport. These students train consistently every week, competing in numerous events throughout the year. They brave all kinds of weather conditions, demonstrating their unwavering commitment to the sport.

At BCA we think Macey Partington is **OAR-SOME** as she came 1st in the whole of Warrington schools and 2nd in the whole of the North West, including schools from Manchester & Liverpool. Well done Macey!



# BCA Cadets

## ATTENTION!

### CCF Project Expands: A Year of Growth and New Partnerships

For the past six years, the Combined Cadet Force (CCF) project at BCA has been offering young people aged 12-16 a chance to develop new skills, build teamwork, and take on exciting challenges. This year marks a significant milestone as the project has not only gained recognition by being badged to the Welsh Guards but also expanded in an exciting new direction.

In September, we formed a new partnership with Padgate Academy, one of our fellow TCAT schools. This collaboration has been incredibly effective, with our combined strength now reaching 32 cadets—a testament to the project's growth and impact. Together, the two schools have been working on developing key skills, particularly in weapons handling, with a focus on the 9-lesson weapons handling manual.

One of the highlights of this collaboration came during our first-ever joint Skill at Arms weekend. Both schools gathered for a weekend of focused practice, working side by side to hone their abilities and foster camaraderie. It was an incredible experience, and we're excited to share some of the photos from that event right here on this page!

Looking ahead, we have an action-packed few months ahead. In May, we'll be holding a camp that will further challenge and develop the cadets, all leading up to the grand goal—our full week of summer camp in July. It's an exciting journey, and we can't wait to see where this partnership and the CCF project will go next.

If you're interested in what we've been up to, make sure to check out the photos from our joint Skill at Arms weekend. There's so much more to come, and we're thrilled to see the positive impact this project is having on our young cadets.





## IN THE CITY WHERE IT HAPPENS

In January, we took an incredible group of students on a day trip to London. It started with a very early morning.....  
Everyone had to be at school before 5 AM!

It was totally worth it. Once we arrived in London, we had an amazing session at the renowned Pineapple Studios, where the students learned choreography from iconic stage shows like Hamilton and Wicked, taught by famous West End stars. After the workshop, we explored the famous Pineapple Dance Shop and then enjoyed lunch in Covent Garden. The students then went to watch a performance of the ground breaking musical Hamilton at a theatre. An action packed day for students and staff.





## IZZY'S HAVING A BALL IN VEGAS

At just 15, Izzy is proving that talent and determination can break barriers. A standout for Wigan Latics U16s, she had already been earmarked for the first team but had to wait due to age restrictions. That changed when Wigan's first team, set to compete in the prestigious U19 Mayor's Cup in Las Vegas, faced an injury crisis. With limited options and complete faith in her ability, the coach called up Izzy. The tournament's age limit allowed her to compete, giving her a golden opportunity to test herself against older, more experienced players on a bigger stage.

The Mayor's Cup, a high-stakes tournament featuring top youth teams from across the United States, demanded Wigan finish first in their group to progress. Izzy made an instant impact in their opening match against Real Salt Lake, a professional team from Utah. She scored a stunning goal, cutting inside from the left wing before unleashing a perfect left-footed strike into the top corner, securing a 3-1 victory. The next game against Kitsap Alliance ended in a hard-fought 1-1 draw, leaving everything to play for in the final group match. Unfortunately, a 3-1 loss to Albion SC saw Wigan finish second, narrowly missing out on the knockout stages.

Despite their early exit, the tournament was a valuable experience for Izzy and her teammates. Off the pitch, they enjoyed exploring Las Vegas, taking in the famous Strip, shopping, dining, and even visiting the iconic Hoover Dam. Beyond the results, the trip was about more than just football—it was about growth, camaraderie, and learning to compete at a higher level. Playing alongside and against older, stronger players gave Izzy a taste of the intensity required to succeed at the top.

For Izzy, this tournament was a defining moment in her young career. She not only proved she could handle the physical and mental challenges of elite competition but also showcased the skill and confidence that make her a rising star. With her talent and dedication, it's only a matter of time before she breaks into the Wigan Latics first team—and perhaps even the professional football scene. Until then, she'll keep training hard, improving her game, and chasing her dream one match at a time.





## DEEPLALL RAMNARAIN SCIENCE TEACHER

### University and Qualifications:

University of KwaZulu Natal (UKZN), South Africa

BSc Degree (Bachelor of Science)

Postgraduate Diploma in Education (HDE)

MBA (Masters in Business administration)



## REASONS FOR BEING A TEACHER

I was born in South Africa at a time when there were limited opportunities for a good education. The realisation that a good education was instrumental in making a difference to the lives of young people, was instrumental in me becoming a teacher.

The few good teachers that I had in secondary school were not only inspirational in the way that they taught, but they also motivated me to choose a career in the science field.

Teaching has given me an opportunity to work with many children and to be able to play a role in their academic journey. It is always rewarding to meet with my former students and to see how they have excelled in their respective professions through the years.

Having taught at a number of schools in the UK, I am very fortunate to be teaching at BCA. The school has a reputation for great outcomes, whilst still being mindful of both staff and student wellbeing. I have found this experience to be very different from my other teaching roles and it has helped my transition into BCA. The well informed and very supportive science team together with great school leadership has made my work here a pleasant experience.

### Hobbies and interest?

I am a DIY person, and I enjoy working with power tools and have completed a number of projects with both wood and metal, through the years. I have also worked with an allotment during the past 8 years and have grown several varieties of tomatoes.

### Favourite book?

My recent favourite book is the 'Power of your subconscious Mind' by Joseph Murphy. The book has given me more insight into how our subconscious mind can impact on our decisions in daily life.

### FAVOURITE QUOTE:

**'Education is the most powerful  
weapon that can change the world.'**

NELSON MANDELA





# BCA New Staff

## REASONS FOR BEING A TEACHER



### KEVIN GREEN DESIGN TECHNOLOGY TEACHER

University and Qualifications:  
B.Ed Design Technology

It was a career I never even considered until I started dating a teacher. All of my school careers advice was, "Well your Father is an engineer, your brother is an engineer.... So why would you consider anything else...." It was only by socialising with teachers that I began to appreciate how creative and autonomous you can be as a teacher.....I have never looked back.

**What I like about BCA?** So many things...the culture, the building, the students, staff and leadership. Well-being is a clear priority. The systems in school are set up so well - the school feels like it is in a good place and this allows leaders to help teachers maximise their planning and teaching. All this is so well supported by the admin teams - nothing is ever too much trouble. From my perspective it feels like the entire staff body are pulling in the same direction.

### Hobbies and interest?

I enjoy playing and writing music. Most spare time is taken up looking after our 3 cockapoos.

### Favourite book?

The Stand (Stephen King) is one but recently I read The 3 Body Problem trilogy which was an epic read, highly recommended.

### Who inspires you?

My Father, my wife and my son.

## REASONS FOR BEING A TEACHER

### HARRY KELLET HISTORY TEACHER

University and Qualifications:

2:2 in Politics & International Relations from the  
University of Bath

I became a teacher because I wanted to enter a career which made a difference and had a link to my history / politics background.

I like BCA because the culture around challenging and supporting young people to excel runs right through the school. Also, the staff are incredibly supportive and has a really strong team environment.

I play rugby for Warrington RUFC which takes up a lot of my time!  
I love to travel with family and my girlfriend, socialising with friends, watching boxsets.

**Favourite Book?** Before the Coffee Gets Cold by Toshikazu Kawaguchi.

**Who inspires you?** I'm inspired by my grandparents they gave me amazing memories and pushed me to achieve in my academics and my sports teams.





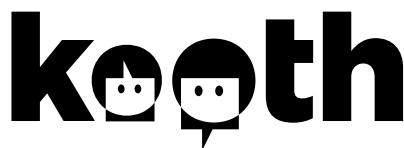
# Finding support for your mental health



**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

