

WELCOME

A message from the Head of School

Mrs G McLaughlin



I am thrilled to share some wonderful news regarding our school's recent accomplishments and exciting plans for the year ahead.

Outstanding GCSE Results: We are delighted to inform you that our students have achieved GCSE results that are significantly higher than the national average. This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of both our students and our exceptional teaching staff. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and we believe this is a reflection of our commitment to providing a high-quality education.

Exceptional Student Attendance: We are equally proud to announce that our students' attendance records for academic year 2022-2023 have exceeded the national average. This demonstrates students' commitment to their education and their enthusiasm for learning. Regular attendance is a vital factor in achieving academic success and we are grateful for the support you provide in ensuring our students attend school consistently.

Dedicated Staff: We are proud to share that our dedicated teaching staff have achieved an attendance rate of above 97% for academic year 2022-2023, demonstrating their commitment to your child's education. Furthermore, our staff retention rate stands at an impressive 80%, highlighting the stability and experience that our teachers bring to the classroom. This consistency and dedication play a crucial role in your child's academic journey.

Exciting Year Ahead: As we embark on a new academic year, we are excited to introduce an array of extended provision to enhance your child's school experience. Our goal is to foster a well-rounded education that goes beyond the classroom. To this end, we will be offering a vast range of clubs during break and lunchtime, allowing students to explore their interests and passions. These clubs will provide students with opportunities for personal growth, skill development, and social interaction, while also creating a sense of belonging within our Academy community.

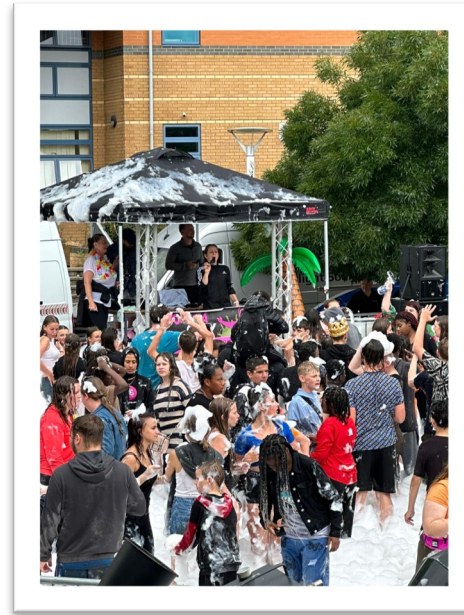
We are dedicated to creating a nurturing and stimulating environment where every student can thrive academically and personally within a 'diverse, truly fair and equal community'. These clubs are just one example of our commitment to that vision.

Thank you for your ongoing support and we look forward to a fantastic year ahead!

Warm regards,

Mrs G McLaughlin

HEAD OF SCHOOL



LAMDA SUCCESS—DRAMA

The LAMDA results are in and our children have done extremely well! 88% achieved a Merit or Distinction! Apart from the results, the whole process has developed our children's literacy skills, confidence and above all communication skills. Please congratulate the students who achieved a distinction as this result truly shows that hard work, works!

Distinction students:

- Tiannah C
- Tommy P
- Keaton N
- Rosie D
- Favour A
- Levi A
- Massimo N
- Zain H
- Alfie M
- Patricia A
- Marjorie N
- Liepa B
- River W



DAN FREEDMAN VISIT

On the 19th September 19 of our fantastic year 8 students had a character development master class with Dan Freedman. They had the opportunity to work alongside Dan to create their own character that could be dropped into Dan's globally published book 'Unstoppable'. They produced some amazing characters and demonstrated some true resilience and creativity.

As the day came to a close, our brilliant year 7s had the chance to attend an assembly with Dan. He inspired all of our students to mix creative writing with their life long dream. Dan spent the hour talking to the students about his career and the journey he has traversed to become a globally published author. Our year 7s posed some amazing questions to Dan and really helped to shape the assembly.

WOW DAY

Well done to year 7 and our Masterclass attendees.

Following the success of last academic year, we celebrated with the students by throwing our legendary party, WOW Day. You will see images throughout this edition from the party in July.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

DATE	Time	Event
26th September	16.30—18.00	Family Learning Event
5th October	All day	Year 7, 9 and 11 photographs
9th October	All day	Year 11 PPE's start

[Click Here](#) for the full parental Calendar



MORE NEWS

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Each week, the Academy celebrates a student of the week. One of the students the past three weeks who won this Accolade was Aaliyah A Year 7



PORTAL COMPETITION

The Portal Competition

In anticipation for the Halloween season, we would like to unveil our first GA writing competition.

Write a 200 word story with the title: It arrived after bedtime.

Entries are to be submitted in The Portal by Friday 13th October.

Need some read - spiration?

Fancy a laugh?		Toto the cat and her brother Silver live footloose and fancy-free in a townhouse in London. Toto is almost totally blind, and learned to trust her senses from a ninja cat-master who taught her back in Italy where they were born. By day, Toto and Silver seem to be ordinary cats, but by night, they love to have adventures!
Love football?		An invaluable guide for personal development, <i>Anything is Possible</i> recounts the inspirational methods that Gareth Southgate employed to spur the England men's football team to the semi-finals of the 2018 World Cup and how they can be effectively translated into everyday life.
Fancy a graphic novel?		This is the story of one of those days - a day so bad you can barely get out of bed, when it's a struggle to leave the house, and when you do, you wish you hadn't. But even the worst of days can surprise you. When one sad ghost, alone at a crowded party, spies another sad ghost across the room, they decide to leave together. What happens next changes everything.

GDPR

May we kindly remind all parents to complete the GDPR and Biometric permission form. Please click the link: <https://forms.gle/Wpt74c8u4qC83cy37>



DRAMA

Year 7 have been making an excellent start in drama, working on their foundation performance skills. They have been identifying, applying and evaluating different skills that they will need to use for the rest of their time studying drama. Students have even started performing in front of each other, which is definitely not easy in the first few weeks of a new school! We've seen their confidence boost, as well as their oral skills, which are some of the most important life skills that we practise in drama. We look forward to seeing how much they improve over the next few years.

Year 8 have been studying improvisation, and all the skills required for such a difficult style of theatre. They have taken on the challenge of creating brand new scenes, with only a short prompt to guide them. This has helped build their team working skills, as well as their creativity and imagination. Each lesson, we have seen a massive improvement, as they apply the feedback that they have received.



Year 9 have been looking at the professional skill of devising, which has meant that they are creating original pieces of theatre, using different stimulus to inspire them. So far, they have used pictures of protests, scripts and sounds to create dynamic scenes. They are constantly practicing team working skills, as well as decision making and creativity. We will soon start developing full pieces of drama, which will require them to use their English and Literacy skills, as they will need to write and create scenes.



Year 10 have started off their first component of their Performing Arts BTEC. This term, we are developing performance and interpretive skills, whilst we look at the *Teachers* script by John Godber. Each student has shown amazing resilience and ambition in this first component, and we look forward to watching them perform selected extracts from the script. They have also been writing about their progress, giving themselves targets and reflecting on their successes. Through the year, they will be pushed and challenged further than ever before, as they create, perform, evaluate and learn.



MORE NEWS

GEOGRAPHY

Geographer of the week:
Elise Pudney
Year 8
Elise has shown a fantastic attitude to learning and application to make progress in lessons.



Living Geography:
Officials in Libya fear 20,000 people may have died in the devastating floods which struck on Sunday night. More than 5,300 people are believed to have died after floods in the Libyan city of Derna, an official has said. "The sea is constantly dumping dozens of bodies," Hisham Chkiovat, a minister in Libya's eastern administration said. There have been desperate calls for more humanitarian support as victims lie wrapped in body bags and others have been buried in mass graves. A tsunami-like river of floodwater swept through Derna on Sunday after a dam burst during Storm Daniel. Rescue teams are digging through the rubble of collapsed buildings in the hope of finding survivors - but hope is waning and the death toll is still expected to rise further. Officials say at least 10,000 people are missing, while 30,000 people are estimated to have been displaced, the United Nations' International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Libya said on Wednesday. Morgues and hospitals have been overwhelmed with bodies.



Our stunning geography logo was designed by Maryam Shah in year 11

Key term of the week: Archipelago- an area that contains a chain or group of islands scattered in lakes, rivers, or the ocean

YEAR 7 NEWS

Mrs L Bruce

What a fantastic start year 7's have had so far this term. They really have been fantastic on the whole and I couldn't have asked for more from them. They are engaged in lessons, eager to complete classwork and are becoming more disciplined at completing homework. This may be new for some students especially with the Google Classroom platform on their laptops. But they are slowly getting themselves used to this and I hope they continue to use their laptops as a good learning tool. The Girls' Football team had their first nail biting fixture against Brampton Manor. The game ended 0-0 however due to it being a Cup game it went to penalties! Three girls stepped up to take them with Ellie S in goal. Unfortunately for our girls the game ended at 1-0 to Brampton Manor. However I have a feeling good things are coming for these girls so look forward to seeing them develop with lots of training and fixtures ahead. I would just like to thank all parents for their support during the transition process, I know there are lots of adjustments for everyone when children move from primary to secondary school. On a last note, I would like to make everyone aware that the Year 7 Lead Coach moving forward will be Miss Livingstone and she can be reached on the following email paige.livingstone@theglc.org.uk, Mrs Fuller will be taking on a different role within the Academy now.

YEAR 8 NEWS

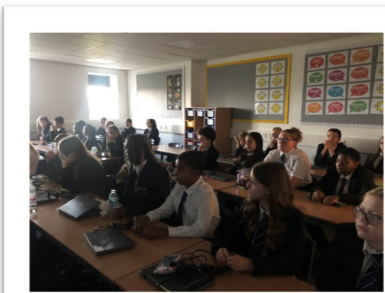
Mr M Scott

Year 8 have settled in beautifully to the Autumn term following their summer holidays. It has been fantastic to see students eager to meet with their friends and to take on the challenge of learning at the beginning of their year 8 journey. Attendance for the year group is looking very positive and is well ahead of the national average and this resilience students are showing is mirrored in their aspiration in their learning. Year 8 is a big step up on year 7 and students have adapted well to this and some of the changes within the Academy.



Technology students have shown fantastic application of previous learning in their preparation for the varying practical projects they will undertake this year.

Morning PAD sessions have students showing they are prepared for the day ahead and fully engaged in the sessions. It is an exciting year ahead and we will tackle the challenges together as a team and continue to improve upon our best.



An Awareness Raising Session for Parents and Carers to Increase Knowledge of Gangs and Child Criminal Exploitation

~~Thursday 14th September 2023~~
Thursday 7th December 2023

18.00 till 19.00
Via MS Teams

This session will identify the harms associated with gangs and county lines and will look on practical advice on how to support a young person who you may be concerned about in relation to Exploitation

To book your place visit www.thurrocklscp.org.uk

ALPS

ADDITIONAL LEARNING PROGRAMME OF SUPPORT

Students must commit to taking part in **ALL** additional hours of learning every week.

What results will be in your envelope?

GCSE RESULTS

Additional learning to ensure you achieve your potential

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Year 11	Option A	Science- X Band Maths- Y Band		Science - Y band English- X band	Targeted Students

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Year 11	Option C	Maths- X Band English- Y Band		Option B	Targeted students & Mr Lovelock 11C/Dt

Subjects in each of the options

Option A
Business
PE
Health and Social Care
History
Art
Computer Science
Psychology
Photography

Option B
Business
Photography
Child Development
Design Technology
Spanish
History
Computer Science
Geography
French

Option C
Art
Business
Geography
Psychology
Creative Media
Spanish
Hospitality and Catering
Dance
Computer Science
Design Technology
History

GLC Gateway Academy
All Different: All Equal: All Improving Upon Our Best



FIRE CADETS

Some of our wonderful students were visited by Mrs. Boureetaa at the end of the summer. Students at the Academy take part in a program with the Fire Service in Thurrock, Fire Cadets.



MORE NEWS



YEAR 10 NEWS

Ms A Shannon

Welcome back, Year 10!

What a few weeks it has been since returning from your summer break! We have hit the ground running straight away since returning from the summer, and the majority of the year group have made a fantastic start to Year 10.

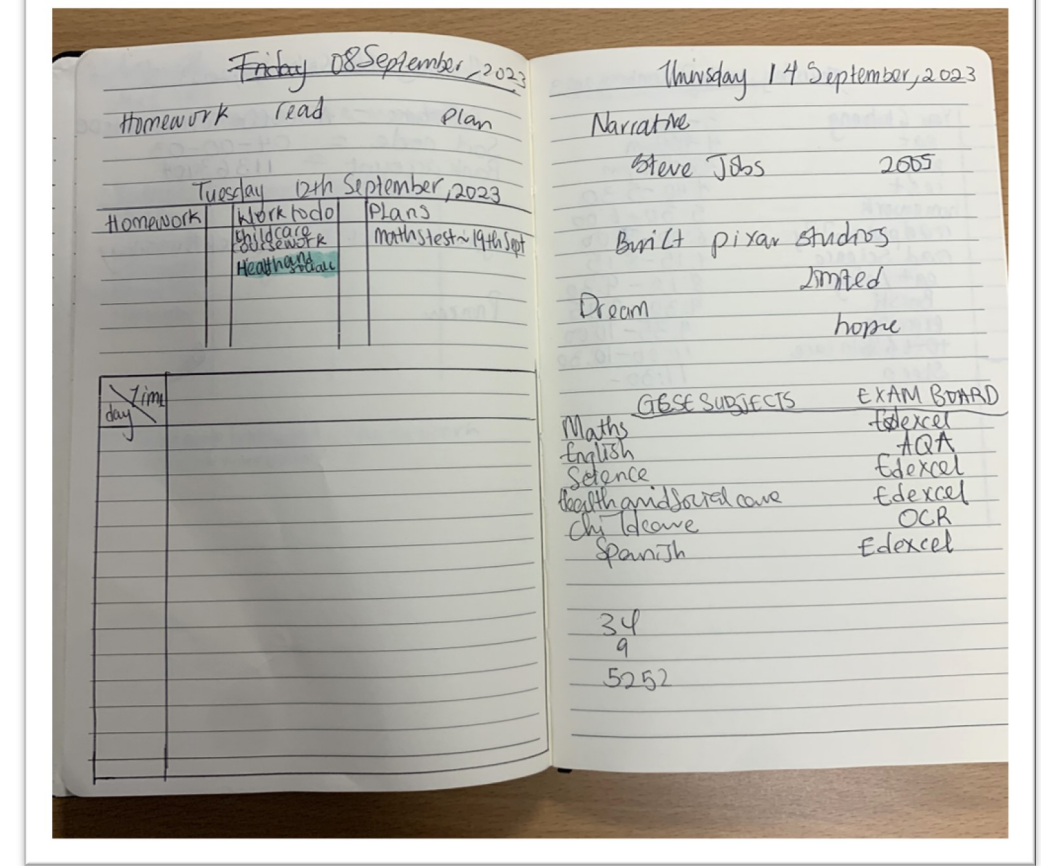
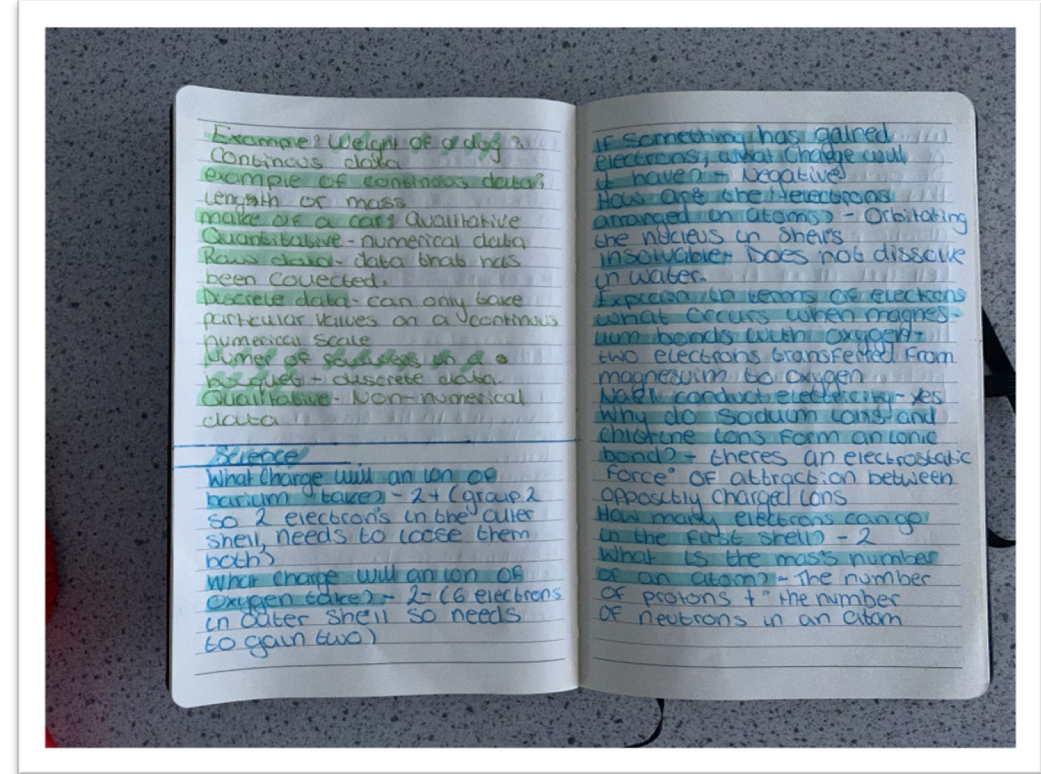
There has been a lot going on in the final option choices, and students are enjoying the work they are studying in their chosen subjects. Some great dances are currently being learned in GCSE dance, helping to prepare for the school musical. Geography has been looking in great depth at the geology of rocks and rivers. GCSE PE students have learned about the skeleton and have been enjoying using the climbing wall in their practical lessons, getting ready to be assessed at the end of the half term, among many other exciting topics. Please speak to your child if they are in Year 10 to find out what other amazing subjects they have been studying.

Students were all given academic journals at the start of the year and are expected to have them with them every day in school. Students have been using them in assemblies, as well as being able to use them during lesson time for any extra notes or notices they want to take down. Students seem to be loving the use of them and are taking full advantage of their benefits!

There are lots of extra-curricular activities being offered for Year 10 this academic year. The netball team has already started their training and fixtures and had their first fixture away at Fitzwimarc School in Rayleigh. This game was a National Cup match, which is a competition the Academy hasn't entered for the past few years. However, we thought that with the Year 10s being one of our strongest netball teams, we would give them the opportunity this year to see what they can do. Unfortunately, drawing Fitz in the first round was really unlucky, and as much as the girls fought and battled to the very last whistle, they weren't lucky enough to secure the win. Nevertheless, the girls were amazing, and it was a great opportunity and experience for them. Well done, girls!

ACADEMIC JOURNALS

All students have been equipped with new Academic Journals. Students use these across the Academy to make notes in assemblies, during PAD, when we have guest speakers, and for any reflective tasks in class.. Two examples shown below



PROM



YEAR 9 NEWS

Miss B Mead

What a fantastic start to Year 9!

Our wonderful students have settled back into Gateway life so well and have been striving to improve upon their best. It has been a pleasure to walk around lessons and see each and every one of them engaging in their learning.

There are now so many opportunities for students to participate in extracurricular activities – before school, break time, lunchtime, and after school. It has been wonderful to see so many Year 9 students involved in after-school clubs, particularly in the new basketball clubs and High School Musical rehearsals. Great work! Please make sure you have checked the clubs’ timetable on Google Classroom, and you are getting involved in these extracurricular activities as these are a great way to further your interests in particular subjects.

This week we have two trips happening in Year 9. On Monday, we have 15 students who will be taking part in the Respect Project, which aims to help students build their confidence and social skills. On Wednesday, we have a number of students who will be taking part in training to become anti-bullying ambassadors, which will offer them the opportunity to have an impact and make a difference in our year group.

This week we will be welcoming Mrs Smith to the Year 9 team as our new Lead Coach. Mrs Smith can be found in the Year 9 office in room 2-110 throughout the day.

At the end of the last academic year, students thoroughly enjoyed their prom. You will all be there one day! Below is a snapshot of some of the images.



MORE NEWS

YEAR 11

Mrs A Dixon

Year 11s have had a fantastic start to this academic year. ALPs have started, and the attendance from the pupils has been outstanding. It's really positive to see so many students studying in the morning and after school in the library. Pupils only have two weeks until their PPEs begin, and it's great to see them using their revision timetables to ensure they do their best.

Many of the Year 11 students have already started signing up to have their one-on-one careers interviews to discuss their next steps, which is just fantastic.

Thurrock Children's Centres are changing and will be known as Brighter Futures Family Hubs.

Don't worry though – you can access all of the same services and support groups – plus lots more!

Brighter Futures Family Hub Locations

West locality	East locality	Central locality
Purfleet-on-Thames Brighter Futures Family Hub	Tilbury Brighter Futures Family Hub	Stifford Brighter Futures Family Hub – opening summer 2023
Ockendon Brighter Futures Family Hub	Chadwell Brighter Futures Family Hub	Thameside Brighter Futures Family Hub
Aveley Brighter Futures Family Hub	Stanford Brighter Futures Family Hub	

Services will be delivered from partner locations that are part of the Brighter Futures Family Hub Network including: East Tilbury Village Hall, The Sunshine Centre, Inspire Youth Hub Grays, Brennon Road Youth Hub and Corringham Integrated Medical and Wellbeing Centre.

Brighter Futures

thurrock.gov.uk

Services at Brighter Futures Family Hubs

Brighter Futures Family Hub Network

WEST

EAST

CENTRAL

START FOR LIFE

Our Family Hubs are welcoming places for families with children aged 0 to 18, or 25 if they have a disability, to access information and support.

Services will include:

■ Support for expectant and new parents (called our Start for Life offer)

■ Midwifery and antenatal clinics

■ Health visitor clinics

■ Baby and child play sessions

■ Parenting support

■ Mental health support for children and parents

■ Help with infant feeding

■ Children's speech, language and early learning

■ Support for children with special educational needs (SEND)

■ Help with managing your child's behaviour

■ Domestic abuse support

■ Job, debt and welfare advice

■ Drug and alcohol support

■ Support for separating couples

For more information visit www.askthurrock.org.uk.

Worried about a child?

Please contact the Academy and speak to one of the safeguarding term.

You can also phone or write to The MASH about your concerns. Phone immediately if you believe it is urgent.

• Thurrock MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding hub), Civic Offices, New Road, Grays, Essex, RM17 6SL, Tel: 01375 652802.

• Emergency Duty Team (for out of hours) 01375 372468.

• Police Child Abuse Investigation Team 01277 266822 or call 999 if you are concerned a child needs immediate protection.

• Childline 0800 11 11 www.childline.org.uk © NSPCC 0808 800 5000 www.nspcc.org.uk; www.facebook.com/nspcc

PARENTAL CALENDER

<https://www.theglc-gatewayacademy.org.uk/calendar/?calid=1&pid=16&viewid=1>

As well as other valuable information, for example, announcements, letters home and uniform can be found on The Gateway Academy website <http://www.theglc-gatewayacademy.org.uk/>. Please check this regularly for any updates

UNIFORM HELP

Has your child outgrown their school uniform over the summer break?

Do the clothes still have life in them, but you no longer need them? If so, please consider donating their old uniform and/or PE kit to the school so it can find a new home. Just drop them off at reception

Thank you.

VACANCIES

There are a number of vacancies throughout the GLC. Please find the full list here; take a look, you never know

<https://www.theglc.org.uk/page/?title=Vacancies&pid=43>

SAFEGUARDING OUR CHILDREN

At The Gateway Academy our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Mrs Bryant, and our Safeguarding Officers are Mrs Newton and Miss Jeffery. Students can contact any of our Safeguarding Team during the school day where they have concerns or need support

Mrs Trudi Bryant – trudi.bryant@theglc.org.uk

Mrs Kerry Newton – kerry.newton@theglc.org.uk

Miss Laura Jeffery – laura.jeffery@theglc.org.uk

For more interesting articles go to <http://www.theglc-gatewayacademy.org.uk/>

Issue # 1 with 5 pages

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GLC Gateway Academy
All Different: All Equal: Together Improving Upon Our Best