



# ONE YEAR ON

# SHIREBROOK ACADEMY NEWS

JUNE 2016

As this academic year draws to close it is a good time to reflect on my first year as Principal of Shirebrook Academy. I have really enjoyed getting to know the school and the local community and have been made to feel very welcome. I said at the outset that I did not see any reason to make great changes and whilst we are always looking to improve I hope that you recognise the strengths of the Academy remain.

However, some changes have been forced upon us. The one-year GCSE model that has served Shirebrook students well in the past will not work with the new-style GCSEs so next year's Y10s will follow a traditional 2 year GCSE course. This has meant some smaller courses couldn't run next year as there were just not enough students opting for them, which is a shame but out of our control.

Another change forced upon us was when the Aspire Sixth Form consortium with Bolsover, Springwell & Heritage schools had to be closed for financial reasons, disappointing a lot of our current Y11s who had hoped to stay on.

However, I am certain that young people in this area need and deserve a sixth form and I am delighted that we have managed to strike a new deal between ourselves and Chesterfield College. The BTEC Health & Social Care and Work Related Learning courses are still running for next year's Y12 and from September 2017 we will re-launch as Chesterfield College @ Shirebrook offering a full range of A level and BTEC courses between Shirebrook Academy & Chesterfield College. I hope that many of next year's Y11 will choose to stay with us and study at Chesterfield College @ Shirebrook.

Other changes have been made by choice as I have identified an opportunity to improve things. Our library has been transformed by the appointment of Katy Noyes as our full-time librarian and with a refresh of the stock and systems. Moving tutor time to the morning has also helped get the day off to a positive start, reduced wasted learning time moving around in the afternoon and increased opportunities for whole school communal activities at lunchtime – arts week proving a great example of that recently.

We are currently making changes to the school environment by providing more space to display students work and celebrate their achievements around school and we also have plans to improve the science labs and build more changing facilities. We are also introducing a new internet based information system called SIMS Learning Gateway that will allow you to see live data on your child's attendance, behaviour, progress and achievements. There will also be a new system for encouraging students to take on leadership roles and get their voice heard in school through Year Team Reps and a Junior Leadership Team that will have its own budget and genuine power to introduce things that the students want to help the school improve.

However, the biggest development I want us to focus on is a long-term one and it is to do with learning. Whilst I know our staff and students work incredibly hard I think we can all be better learners and instead of working harder, work smarter.

I wrote about the Growth Mind Set initiative in a previous newsletter and that is part of a major programme we are launching in September called 'Building Learning Power'. This approach will help our young people to not only achieve well in exams but develop the skills that employers look for, that they need to be life-long learners and to succeed beyond Shirebrook Academy.

As ever, for us to succeed in helping our young people be the best that they can be, we will need to work together and pull in the same direction. I look forward to building our learning power together over the next few years.

*Mark Cottingham*

**Principal - Shirebrook Academy**



# Work Experience Success



Kaine Tonks made such a good impression at Mercury Garage whilst on work experience in year 10 that due to his hard work and motivation to volunteer there in his own time, has been offered an apprenticeship opportunity with the company. Kaine is passionate about working in motor vehicle repair and has been working hard to develop his skills and understanding in a real work environment.

*We wish him every success  
for the future!*

## Bright FOOTBALL Future

**Talented footballer Kieran Darby is looking to a bright future with Nottingham Forest after he was chosen to represent the club in an overseas tour.**

Fifteen-year-old Kieran, a Year 10 pupil here at the Academy and also a Derby County fan – is a member of the Reds' Under-15s squad and will be travelling to take part in a cup tournament in Portugal this month.

It will be the second time in two months that Kieran, a striker, has packed his passport alongside his boots, having played for Forest during a youth tournament held in Hungary last month. It was here that Kieran had his best game against the hosts, Ferencevaros, scoring two goals and providing an assist as Forest ran out 3-1 winners and finished fifth overall.

Now he is looking forward to seeing what he can do in Portugal, rounding off his season in style following a frustrating time on the sidelines with an injury.

Kieran, a former Clipstone player, signed for Forest's Under-15s last year after a club scout watched him score six goals in one game. He juggles his school work in amongst training three times a week – with a game at weekends - attending Forest's Wilford Lane training ground, just a free kick's distance from the City Ground in Nottingham.

He said: "I really enjoyed the tour in Hungary, it was a great experience because you had to learn to be independent and prepare your kit yourself, while we were up against players who were bigger and stronger than we were, which took some getting used to. I'm really looking forward to going to Portugal now."

He added: "I come from a family of Derby fans and my granddad said that he would switch to supporting Forest if I ever played for the first team. The rivalry doesn't bother them, they have always been very supportive of me, no matter who I play for."



# NEW LOOK LIBRARY

- *and new faces!*



**A new librarian has meant lots of new books and resources for Shirebrook students this year.**

Katy Noyes, the new school librarian said:

***“We are trying hard to make the school library a place that students feel they can come and study quietly or relax and read. With beanbags, colourful posters and lots of current and exciting stories we hope to inspire our young adults to pick up a book or to further their own learning in comfort.”***

In a student survey, one respondent said:

***“It’s a really nice place to relax and read or do homework in a quiet environment.”***

The library has also been a base for in-house work experience, with six students from years 7 and 9 becoming ‘Library Assistants’. Each filled in application forms, undertook an interview, and now work as a team to make sure other students find the books they need and keep the shelves tidy.

All are learning valuable life lessons from the experience – working in a team, committing to a timetable, following guidelines, improving customer service skills.

All students and staff now have access to an online library catalogue (also a portal to other educational resources) and a free downloadable App (iMLS) to be able to renew their books, write reviews, access free eBooks and search for useful websites relating to their studies.

***“I wanted to be a library assistant because I love books and I like to help people find what they need.”***  
(Emily Bytheway, Year 7)

***“I applied for my job because I spend a lot of time in the library because the books make me feel at home. It is also a great opportunity to interact with other students.”***  
(Geena Watkinson, Year 7)

***“It gives me something to do at break.”***  
(David Frost, Year 7)

***Look out for more library news in future newsletters***

# STAFF v Y11 STUDENTS

## FOOTBALL FRIENDLY

On Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May, Staff and students faced each other in what was a thrilling encounter to raise funds for the prom. The game was played with great spirit and tenacity, both sides eager to claim the victory. However, in the end the sheer skill of the staff team showed and they went on to win 6 – 2. Thank you to everyone who took part and supported, it was a tremendous occasion.

*“It was a great game with a good mix of people and real sense of sportsmanship. I enjoyed every minute. Next time I will try not to leave the skin from my knees on the pitch”.*

*Rachel Kingston (Staff Team)*



# MOCK INTERVIEWS

Foundation learners recently undertook a series of mock interviews. The mocks are an opportunity for the students to develop confidence for future employability.

The mock interview provision is an exciting event that stretches students beyond their comfort zone. It helps build confidence and instil a sense of pride in their achievements. The process also enhances strong employer links with the school community.

The foundation students could draw upon a range of practical work experiences during their interview and were well prepared and motivated to make a good impression. They should be very proud of their success during this activity.

After the event, the manager of Recruit Unlimited said:

*'Thank you so much for today. The mock interviews were a great success and the students all delivered at such a high level. I have supported with many mock interviews at various high performing secondary schools, however, Shirebrook Academy and the students I met have been the best yet! I was truly impressed with the employability and skills they clearly display. All credit to you and your fantastic work, please let me know if you need any support in the future.'*



A mini careers fair is being held at the Proact Stadium, focusing on 15-24 year olds, however all are welcome.

There will be many organisations and learning services present, including Academies and Colleges, the Armed Forces, various Apprenticeships and Traineeships, and CV guidance.

There will also be specialists who can assist those in receipt of Income Support.

It will take place on the 29th July 2016  
From 10 AM to 1 PM.

**Proact Stadium**  
**East Stand**  
**1866 Sheffield Road**  
**S41 8NZ**

For more info:

[elizabeth.gaunt@dpw.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:elizabeth.gaunt@dpw.gsi.gov.uk)



## BLACK DYKE BAND

in concert at  
**Shirebrook Academy School**  
with

**Shirebrook Miners Welfare Band**

Saturday 15 October 2016  
Commencing at 7pm

**Tickets £10 and £8 concessions**

available from Shirebrook Leisure Centre, Shirebrook Town Council and  
Bolsover District Council Contact Centres at  
Shirebrook, Bolsover, Clowne and South Normanton

**Ticket Hotline 01246 242424**

A debit card charge of 50p per ticket will apply when bought  
over the phone through the ticket hotline.

For more information contact:  
[events@shirebrooktowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:events@shirebrooktowncouncil.gov.uk)

# County BOCCIA Finals

On Thursday 16th June, Shirebrook Academy students travelled to Queens Park Sports Centre to take part in the county Boccia finals. The opportunity to represent their district in the Derbyshire finals was assured after winning the Bolsover round.

They displayed excellent team work and confidence not to mention impeccable manners and sporting behaviour towards their fellow competitors.

Shirebrook got off to a fantastic winning start with a score of 9-0 against Pingle School in their first game. It was a great event and as the last game began, we were playing for 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Despite a fantastic effort and a very close game, we were defeated.

The team received medals for their performance and were rightly proud of their achievement.

## Well Done!



*Pictured are  
year 9 students;  
Thomas Oakton,  
Cody Gascoigne  
& Finlay Mullin*

# Derbyshire Athletics Trials

The Derbyshire athletics trials took place at Moorways Stadium in Derby earlier this month. Five students from the Academy were amongst those chosen to represent Bolsover and compete against other districts in Derby City and Derbyshire.

Matt Shaw came second in his event which resulted in him being selected to represent Derbyshire in the Inter Counties Schools' Championships in Birmingham.

All pupils competed with confidence and excellent sportsmanship and it has given some of the pupils the courage to join an athletics club.

*Academy students were:*

<b>Matt Shaw</b> –	<b>Y11 – 800m</b>
<b>Brooke Selby</b> –	<b>Y10 – Discus</b>
<b>Alana Gibson</b> –	<b>Y8 – Long Jump</b>
<b>Kimmie Wideman</b> –	<b>Y8 – Long Jump</b>
<b>Kian Tansley</b> –	<b>Y8 – Long Jump</b>

# ROTARY YOUNG MUSICIAN COMPETITION 2016



Warsop, Shirebrook & District



**Wednesday 6th July**  
**Shirebrook Academy**  
**Starts at 7pm**  
**Tickets £2**

**Come & Support our Talented Young Musicians**

[www.warsoprotaryevents.org.uk](http://www.warsoprotaryevents.org.uk)

For more information email: [ym@warsoprotaryevents.co.uk](mailto:ym@warsoprotaryevents.co.uk)

**COME  
 ALONG  
 AND  
 SHOW  
 YOUR  
 SUPPORT**

**TICKETS  
 ON SALE  
 NOW  
 FROM  
 RECEPTION**

## UNIFORM SALES 2016

Uniform is available to purchase from May at student reception. The Academy will also be holding uniform sales days on the following dates;

**Monday 11 July 2016**

4.00pm – 8.00pm

**Tuesday 26 July 2016**

12.00pm – 4.00pm

**Thursday 25 August 2016**

GCSE Results Day

10.00am – 2.00pm

From £9.50



From £13.50



Girls PE Top

From £13.50



Boys PE Top

From £16.50



£5.25



From £28.00



Other items available  
 PE socks from £4.50  
 Cravats £8.99  
 School Badge £4.50  
 Prices will vary depending on size

# MALCOLM HALL MBE



Earlier this month, students were visited by multi-award winning businessman Malcolm Hall MBE. Malcolm had built his industrial supplies business from scratch in 2006 and now has over 19,000 customers and trades with 82 overseas markets. Malcolm first spoke to the Y10's about overcoming adversity and having resilience, as they are shortly going out on work experience. He then spoke to Y7 Design and Technology students about their ideas for a 'house of the future', providing them with some real food for thought. Malcolm thoroughly enjoyed his visit and it was a pleasure to host such a talented local entrepreneur.

## Youth Council

Students from Shirebrook Academy and Stubbin Wood Special School received their certificates of attendance from Bolsover District Council for being part of the Young Voice. Students meet four times a year with student representatives from our secondary schools in the area. Over the year students have jointly raised funds for Young Minds a Charity for Mental Health in young people. They have taken part in a survey to look at things to do & places to hang out in their communities. At this month's meeting there was a presentation from the Teenage Cancer Trust which is a charity for young people with cancer. They aim to help ease the experience for young people who are struck by cancer and bring people together making it less isolating for teenagers. Students have been invited to visit one of their units. The students have worked on various projects and with a number of organisations and have said that being part of the Young Voice has given them more confidence in speaking and decision making.

**Sandra Peake**     *Shirebrook Academy*  
**Pat Lyons**        *Stubbin Wood Special School*  
**Alison Lyons**     *Stubbin Wood Special School*





# Anti-Knife Campaign

## Are you a parent or carer and worried about your child carrying a knife?

### What you need to know about carrying a knife:

- Gives you a false sense of security.
- Could be increasing the risk of you getting stabbed or injured.
- You are committing a crime – it's breaking the law to carry a knife.
- Police can stop and search anyone they suspect of carrying a knife.
- Carrying a knife could mean being arrested, going to court and getting a criminal record, or even a prison sentence.

### Communication is the key:

- Have a chat with your kids and see what they think about carrying a knife – you may have seen something current in the news about knife crime that you could discuss.
- Your child may be scared or unwilling to talk about this. But it is never a bad thing to talk and it's important to be clear that your child does have a choice, even when they think they may not.
- Talk to the parents of your child's friends. If you're worried, they probably are too and it's always good to talk about these things.



### What to look out for:

Looking out for changes in your child's behaviour can help keep them safe. Has your child started displaying signs of:

- Complaining that schools not going well or they don't want to go in to school at all.
- They've been a recent victim of theft, bullying or even a mugging.
- Hanging around with a different group of friends, maybe older than your child.

Remind your child that they should always walk away if confronted with the threat of violence.

### Useful Contacts:

#### Gov.uk

[www.direct.gov.uk/talkaboutknives](http://www.direct.gov.uk/talkaboutknives)

#### Parentline Plus

0808 800 22 22  
[www.parentlineplus.org.uk](http://www.parentlineplus.org.uk)

#### Victim Support

0845 30 30 900  
[www.victimsupport.org](http://www.victimsupport.org)

#### Local Constabulary

101  
[www.derbyshire.police.uk](http://www.derbyshire.police.uk)

#### Mothers Against Violence

[www.mothersagainstviolence.org.uk](http://www.mothersagainstviolence.org.uk)

Dear Parents and Carers

Anti-Knife Campaign

As you will be aware knife crime is currently high profile in the national press. As part of Derbyshire Police's anti-knife campaign, Derbyshire schools have been asked to support the project by distributing literature to parents/carers and students.

Our local police officers have also delivered talks about knife crime to Y8 and Y9 students in assemblies. The project aims to discourage young people from carrying knives through a series of activities that will educate, prevent and enforce the consequences of doing so.

The school has a policy of zero tolerance of knives / blades in school. Students found to be in possession of a knife with a blade, whether folded or not, in school may be permanently excluded. (Please see the school's behaviour policy on the website if you require further clarification).

We would be grateful if you could read the above literature and discuss the seriousness of carrying knives with your son/daughter. Please encourage your child to tell an adult or contact the police either via telephone or email if they suspect a friend is carrying a knife.

Hopefully by raising this serious issue we can help to reduce the number of serious knife crimes.

Yours faithfully  
*Liz Cartledge*

# TEA PARTY TREAT

Sixth formers laid on cups of tea, served cake and painted their guests' fingernails when they hosted a Queen's birthday party for residents from a nearby care home.

The teenagers are all studying health and social care and, as part of their work, were tasked with hosting an event – including sending out invitations, buying all of the goodies and making all the arrangements, including carrying out health and safety assessments.

The day began with the students collecting the residents from their care home and taking them across to Shirebrook Academy's Pine Cone Centre. Here, the guests were served refreshments, had their nails painted, played games and enjoyed a sing song in addition to a tour around the centre's flower and vegetable garden.

Louise Hawker, Head of PE at Shirebrook Academy, said: "Everything was the students' idea, they decided on the theme, they were given a budget and they bought everything and had to even do practical tasks such as health and safety assessments.

"So much of what we do on the health and social care course comes from a text book but this was a wonderful way for them to put what they have learned into practice, while also working as a team and demonstrating problem-solving skills.

"Everyone had a really good time, the girls enjoyed meeting the ladies and I know that the residents really appreciated being brought into school and being treated for the morning."

Student Rosie Hiney-Saunders said: "We are learning a lot on our course but it's nice to do something practical that would also be a treat for residents.

"I enjoyed it, I made the sandwiches and liked painting their nails. It makes what we've been learning about real."



Pictured is student Rosie Hiney-Saunders, 18 and Richmond House resident Mary Answer.



Pictured from left, student Robyn Moore, 17, Richmond House resident Queenie Mathers and student Paige Smith, 18

# OPERATING THEATRE LIVE



Monday 20th June saw our Y9 Scientists take part in **Operating Theatre Live**. During the session the students learned the technical terminology of the human anatomy, locating major organs and they had their own patient to cure!

Students were provided with patient notes and using what they were currently learning had to interpret and solve the problems their patients were having; preparing anaesthetics, making surgical incisions using real organs and using the patient simulators to inject the anaesthetic, all the while learning different ways to administer medicines to target sites around the body.

Following on from the administration of medicine came the real hands on part of the day. The students were given a real gastrointestinal tract to see, touch and feel to get to grips with the digestive system within the human body. They went on to secure an understanding of Crohn's disease, lactose intolerance and other diseases that could affect the GI tract.

Students then went on to expand their knowledge on the cardiovascular system by locating the heart and listening to the heartbeat using stethoscopes before performing an angioplasty, fitting a pacemaker and then conducting a heart transplant on their dummy patients using real thoracic anatomy!

After a busy day in the operating theatre, the students ended their day with a wider knowledge, new skills and an eye-opening account into careers within anatomy and medicine. All taking part in the event were awarded with an Operating Theatre Live certificate to add to their personal development portfolio to show their hard work and positive captivated attitude throughout the day.





## Parental Information

At Shirebrook Academy we know that one of the keys to success for our young people is if all of us – teachers, parents, carers, family and students – are pulling in the same direction. We all want to help them to be the best that they can be.

In order to give parents greater access to key information regarding your child/children we have recently purchased an online communication tool called SIMS Learning Gateway.

The Learning Gateway provides live, up to date information about how well each student is doing at school so you don't have to wait for a report, a Target Review Day or a parents evening to find out about behaviour, attendance, achievements and progress of your child. The Learning gateway will also allow you to update any information relating to your child, for example, a new telephone number, an allergy, etc. without sending in a letter or making a phone call.

The Learning Gateway will be shared with all parents at the upcoming Target Review Day on 6<sup>th</sup> July, where prior to your regular Progress Meeting with your child's form tutor, you will be given a quick overview of the Learning Gateway System and receive your individual log-in details and initial password to access the system at home on your laptop, mobile phone or tablet.

We anticipate that the Learning Gateway will give you a new level of access to the key information surrounding your child's education and keep you updated on their progress allowing us all, teachers and parents, to support them in their learning and welfare in a faster and more beneficial way.

MR ANDY GILBERT, VICE PRINCIPAL

Should you wish to find out more information about the Learning Gateway prior to the Target Review Day on 6<sup>th</sup> July please look on our website and follow the SIMS Learning Gateway link or visit

<http://www.shirebrookacademy.org/learning-gateway-informationsupport/>

## POLITE NOTICE TO PARENTS

If you need to speak to a particular member of staff and they are unavailable on the telephone, be assured your details will be forwarded on and they will call you as soon as possible. Whilst we appreciate there may be times when you need to see a member of staff regarding a specific issue, we ask that you please be aware that staff at the academy work to a timetable and are often not available. Please do not arrive at the academy without an appointment expecting to see someone. If you require a face to face meeting, please call our reception on 742722 and we will endeavour to arrange an appointment for you at the earliest convenience to suit both parties.

*Thank you*

## Arrangements for LAST DAY OF TERM

**8:40–9:50 Normal Lessons**

*Brunch will be served from 9:50-10:20*

**10:25-12:25 Students watch "Shirebrooks Got Talent"**

**12:30 Students Leave – Langwith and New Houghton buses only will arrive.**

*This day is optional non-uniform if students contribute £1 to a student nominated charity.*

# Leaving School Soon?

## Leaving Next Year?

**Well here is my opinion as an ex-student of Shirebrook Academy on the route to success.**

Many of you may feel worried or nervous about what happens next, it may even be the biggest obstacle of your life. I have been there. In my first year of leaving Shirebrook Academy, I had a clear mind set of what route to take, I wanted to be a therapist. I was told that to get into university it would be easier to take A Levels. I didn't really do any research into the subjects I had taken, I just knew they would lead me into the right direction. The truth is they didn't. In my first year I found out my capabilities, my strengths and most importantly, my weaknesses. Luckily as post-16 students you receive three years of free education so if you do struggle there are other options.

I didn't give up. Realising what I was capable of made me become stronger as a person. I reapplied for A Levels at Aspire Sixth Form to see if I could seek a new route. As I attended Shirebrook Academy (2009-2014), I knew most of the teachers and most of the teaching styles. I knew a school was better fitted to me than a college. Aspire Sixth form allowed me to take subjects that I knew I enjoyed in the past and helped me create a new route to success. It's not easy to be successful but at a sixth form, you receive more help and more advice on where to take your ideas. I changed my career choice and wanted to become a Journalist. Now you are reading this and wondering if I am taking steps in the right direction but every step you take is a step in the right direction. You choose where you want to take your life. A Levels are so varied that you can mix three of your favourite subjects and find a career that best suits you.

Having asked a few students their opinion of A Levels at Aspire Sixth form, 9/10 came back positive;

**"It opens so many doors, and is rewarding both academically and socially"**-

Psychology Student

**"It is a step in a new direction for a better educational qualification"** – History Student

**"A great opportunity to give you an idea of what to do in the future, either higher education or an apprenticeship"** – English Literature Student

**"You are given support through personal topics as well as work related"** – Art Student

Many of these students feel that they can build up their strengths in their areas of weakness which is why A Levels at Aspire Sixth form has become a big part of their lives. Personally, do what you feel you are capable of and achieve what you want to achieve, it will get harder but you have to get over the obstacles to get your rewards. Even if A Levels are not for you, there are still BTECs and apprenticeships available to you out there, you just need to look.

*Chloe Ford*



# ARE YOU IN OR OUT



As the country turned out to vote in the European referendum, Shirebrook Academy held their own mock referendum. Staff and students took time out to cast their votes in the polling booths. The votes were counted and verified and revealed a great turnout from Y7 and Y8.

## THE RESULTS ARE IN...

	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Staff	Total
Leave	80	86	24	36	3	15	244
Remain	18	18	16	20	0	42	114
Spoilt	2	2	1	0	0	0	5
Total	100	106	41	56	3	57	363

# DIARY DATES

## JULY 2016

- 1 Y11 Prom
- 2 Family Fun Day
- 6 Target Review Day
- 11-22 Y10 Work Experience
- 15 Super Learning Day
- 22 Shirebrook's Got Talent
- 22 Finish for Summer Holidays



## AUGUST 2016

- 25 GCSE Results Day

# SHAVING SUPER STARS

Back in February, four students took the brave step to have their heads shaved for charity. **Gareth Davis, Jamie Bullars, Chloe Blackband and Carter Widdowson** chose to do the head shave for charity to raise funds for the new cancer unit at the Chesterfield Royal Hospital. The students said they wanted to help people with cancer and their families. **A massive well done to all four of them as they raised £3200.**



# PINECONE HORTICULTURE GROUP

We all know how fantastic Shirebrook Academy is but not all of you are aware how hard the Academy works to help the students achieve. The Pinecone centre is not just the base for sixth form, since it first opened it has been developed by Mr Hendley (Behaviour Support Manager) who has used his skills to help the progress of students who need a little extra support. The outdoor team building area up at the Pinecone is almost complete and this has been achieved by hard work from some of the pupils who attend the Pinecone and our excellent site staff.

Students here at the Academy use the Pinecone for its base where we deliver Horticulture as an alternative subject. Students learn to do landscaping and plant a variety of vegetables, fruit and flowers. All the vegetables and fruit we grow are then used to cook a variety of different things which provides the students with an opportunity to learn new life skills. The flowers they grow are used in baskets and tubs which they then sell at school and at events such as Family Fun Day. The money from these plant sales is then used to buy more compost and seeds so we can expand giving those students who need extra support the opportunity to access the project. The students put to use other skills learnt at the Academy such as woodworking to make staging for the polytunnel and they have successfully learned to make fabulous wooden planters.

Our Y10 students are now working towards their AIMS award which will give them a certificate they can add to their portfolio in preparation for the world of work.

One student commented: "Learning different things at the Pinecone makes me feel better about myself, when I have been there it makes me think better in my other lessons."

A member of staff said: "It's wonderful up here just like walking round a garden centre there is so much on offer".

All in all it is a very enjoyable experience for all our students with the added benefit of learning life skills along the way.

For the first time we would like parents/ carers to visit us up at the Pinecone horticulture centre on Target Review Day if you have a few minutes to spare to look around our fantastic facilities.

**Angela Aldridge**  
Outdoor Assistant



# Academy students compete in National Event with Theo Paphitis



**Ryman**  
NATIONAL ENTERPRISE  
Challenge

On June 29<sup>th</sup>, students from year 7 competed against young people from across the country in front of some of business's biggest names at Doncaster Racecourse for the Grand Finals of the Ryman National Enterprise Challenge supported by Kingswood.

The 2016 challenge saw students in year 7 attempting to design a new outdoor attraction for Kingswood's outdoor Dearne Valley activity centre in Yorkshire.

Popular youth television personalities Dick & Dom were hosts of the Grand Finals, which saw finalists from each participating school pit their wits and best business schemes against one another before judge and Ambassador Theo Paphitis in the hope of being awarded the honour of national category winner. This year, over 30,000 pupils from across the UK have taken part in the challenge, and the Grand Finals were expected to be an exciting event packed with challenges, entertainment and words of wisdom from motivating and influential individuals from the worlds of business and showbiz.

Our winning team came up with an attraction called 'Crazy Bowling' where adventure golf meets bowling. Participants have to throw their various size bowling balls, over, through, under and into the obstacles to reach the hole.

Our finalist team consisted of Keira Bellas, Aaron Bradley, Keanan Burns, Lauren Hughes, Ruby Nussey and Cerise Yates from 7JD. This team beat over 30 other teams to be selected for this final event.

The categories that our team competed for at this year's finals in conjunction with Kingswood include:

**KS3 Winner**

**Most Enterprising School**

**Most Enterprising Boy KS3**

**Most Enterprising Girl KS3**

The team pulled off an excellent presentation in front of the judges who commented on how their wacky style, outfits and advert really made them stand out and made a great impression on them. Despite such a great effort the team were not victorious but they left the event having had a wonderful time and feeling proud of their achievements.



Since 2013, the Ryman National Enterprise Challenge has worked with over 100,000 students, in an effort to improve the employment prospects for the next generation of school leavers by developing creative thinking, communication and group work amongst the academic skills that will help young people achieve their ambitions in the future.

To get involved with the Ryman National Enterprise Challenge, visit [www.nationalenterprisechallenge.co.uk](http://www.nationalenterprisechallenge.co.uk)

 **Kingswood**  
Learning by doing

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T: 01623 742722



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[www.shirebrookacademy.org](http://www.shirebrookacademy.org)