



**change@cchs**

Summer Term 2023 Update

We started the termly updates for this academic year by stating that change@cchs is a central part of our school, with our commitment to ensuring that our staff and students are equipped to work against all forms of discrimination and to pursue a fair world for all. Throughout the year this commitment has remained at the very heart of our work, in our curriculum development and in our broader work with our students.

This term, our Change and Diversity Prefects have been working hard with us on their vision for the year, which included the introduction of *PrideFest*, which encompassed a number of celebratory events focussed on raising awareness and education on key issues. A summary of the events from our prefects can be found below.

We would like to thank this year's Change and Diversity Prefects, Mr Hughes, Mr Rowell, Mr Cable and Miss Hutton for their contributions this month and we look forward to future events with our prefects in the Autumn Term.

*Mrs Cross and Miss Harrison, Deputy Headteachers.*

### **PrideFest 2023, Change and Diversity Prefects**

As we celebrate Pride Month this June, we focus on the importance of embracing the movement within school environments. We show how teachers, school leaders and our students can actively support and advocate for equality and inclusivity in our local community.

That is why it is such an important month to acknowledge and celebrate our school's diversity in gender and sexuality. Chelmsford County High School for Girls has always strived to participate actively in Pride Month's festivities, and this year has not been an exception. We kicked this month off by flying the Pride flag outside the school – a tradition our school follows every Pride Month now.

Next, we had an informative and fascinating assembly, orchestrated by our school's own Change and Diversity Prefects. The presentation featured several facets of the LGBTQ+ community's history, as well as its ever-evolving present-day culture: the

history of Pride flags, a history of both the famous and lesser-known queer icons and activists alike, as well as drawing attention to local events like Essex Pride and several art exhibitions honouring Pride Month.

CCHS has been so far enriched and pleased by the ongoing celebratory activities, and yet still has more to offer! Towards the tail end of June, the school will be hosting Rainbow Rush, a festival designated to finalising Pride Month in our community. The event shall be filled with cakes, music and dancing. We will be sponsoring the Albert Kennedy Trust, a hard-working charity devoted to aiding queer youth extricated from their families simply because of their identities and helping them back on their feet, providing a better future. In due course, we hope to be able to update this page with news of successes from the fundraiser on June 30<sup>th</sup> and other proceeding festivities.

In today's diverse and evolving society, it is essential that schools work hard to create an inclusive environment for all students. By recognising and embracing the LGBTQ+ community within schools, it is possible to create an atmosphere of acceptance, respect and understanding, which will all have an excellent impact on the wellbeing and academic success of students.

Happy Pride Month to everyone reading this and we hope that by organising events like this, we can be closer as a community, understanding and celebrating all our differences!