

Care and Guidance Report March 2019

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Maria French

Healthy Schools Award

After a successful inspection for the Healthy Schools Award, we have been asked to present at the Healthy Schools Award ceremony at Chelmsford racecourse on *Find Your Voice!* This project originally began as a PTI Leadership Project. The girls will talk about the importance of speak out opportunities and coaching in public speaking for girls and young women. A team of four Year 9 girls will deliver a 10 minute presentation in front of all of the other successful schools.

National Citizenship Service Award Ceremony

In recognition of the number of Year 11 girls who signed up and successfully completed the NCS scheme in the summer of 2018, we attended an awards ceremony in February to receive the Gold Award.

Counselling Provision

We use Renew Counselling service (Sycamore)

10 hours of counselling a week: 5 students seen on a Tuesday and 5 seen on a Thursday.

The waiting lists are manageable.

We also use CARA and EWMHS by appointment.

The school nurse is available to us every Thursday for lunch time drop-in service and some extra appointments. This service is well used. The school nurse provision is part of our Healthy Schools provision.

Safeguarding and Prevent training.

All staff, including invigilators and volunteers, have received their refresher safeguarding training.

The DSL has recently attended the Mid-Essex Stay Safe Conference- Prevention of Teenage Suicide and promoting positive emotional health and mental wellbeing in young people. March 2019.

CSE training- County Lines March 2019.

MyConcern

[MyConcern](#) has been a great success and is used effectively by all staff. **All staff are aware** how to report a concern under the **new electronic system**. The DSL, Maria French and DDSL, Nicole Chapman, Michael Palmer and Katharine Adams can also see all of the concerns raised under the new system, which also analyses referrals and the nature of concern. The system has been an excellent investment.

All concerns are reviewed and timely and appropriate referrals are made to Social Care or Family Support. Child In Need and Child Protection Case Conferences are always attended by School.

Primary Admissions Outreach work to Year 5

We are devising an action plan to increase the number of disadvantaged children registering to sit the test at our school. A question and answer sheet has already been drawn up to be sent to all of the 10 primary schools and to put on our website. We are in the process of visiting all 10 of the named schools with the highest percentage of FSM students. We take our Year 9 outreach team and speak at assemblies to the children and parents. A familiarisation booklet is also given out. Primary Headteacher and Year 5 teacher outreach meeting will be held in the Spring Term also, and this will be the 5th annual event. A second Maths Summer school is planned for 2019 to increase access for disadvantaged students.

Leadership Awards:

Girls in Years 7 – 11 are awarded with leadership badges annually (Easter Assembly) for demonstrating leadership skills and characteristics. In total 250 Leadership Awards have been given out since they were first introduced in 2014.

SEN(D)

SEN Report All students on the SEN register have had a termly review meeting with parents and external providers, where necessary. We have 18 students on the SEN register in receipt of additional support. The Educational Psychologist and specialist medical, hearing and dyslexia support have been accessed. Access arrangements (SRB and extra time) for public examinations have also been reviewed and are in place for summer. As a first, we have 1 student on an EHCP in Year 7, which brings funding to employ an SEN assistant (Mrs Greenland).

The SEN Register to date is summarised as follows.

Special Education Needs (SEN) support	17
Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans	1

PSHE Programme

The PSHE programme has undergone many changes after a consultation through Student Voice last year. Some examples of the visitors that we have had in school so far this term are: the Fire Service, Self-Defence with Ian Arbon, The Samaritans, Local Magistrates, and Understanding Animal Research. There have also been theatre company visits from Collingwood Learning who performed a road safety play, and Alter Ego Creative Solutions who provided a County Lines Gang drama highlighting Child Criminal Exploitation.

We have also trialled new lessons on 'Run Hide Tell', Mental Health, Relationship and Sex Education, Democracy, Careers and Positive Body image.

Free School Meals

Parents are reminded, via every school newsletter, of the path to apply for Free School Meals as follows. This information is also on the school website.

If you are in receipt of a qualifying benefit: Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance-Income Based, Child Tax Credit (Working Tax Credit is not a qualifying benefit. There are some non-qualifying benefits) If your taxable annual household income is less than £16, 190.

If the above apply you may qualify for free school lunches.

HOW TO APPLY: Go online to www.essex.gov.uk/educationawards

Or request an application form from the Education and Awards enquiry line on 0845 603 2200.

Pastoral programme in Year groups

Each year group has its own pastoral programme for form time and year group noticeboard to raise the profile of these. All involve some Find Your Voice activity as well as an activity that is focused on developing grit and resilience.

Year Leaders

All Year Leaders deal with individual pastoral problems as they arise, including extended illnesses, family and friendship issues, accusations of bullying, misuse of the internet and occasions of suspected theft. They liaise with students and parents to resolve issues and ensure that all of their girls are working to the best of their ability. They continue to monitor the progress and attainment of the students in their year group to ensure that appropriate support is in place to enable them to address issues as early as possible. They provide an action plan for those students who need support after each round of TA Data. Year Leaders also play an active role in their Meet the Tutor Evening. Year Leaders meet regularly and are developing their role and seeking ways to raise the profile of the Year Leaders.

Year 7 - Mrs Katharine Adams

Year 7 participation in extra-curricular activities remains high with large numbers involved in choirs and orchestras and a great turnout in the Dance Show, especially from 7G. All forms have presented their first assembly, including most recently a dramatized debate on the merits of books vs film from 7C. The Internationalism Project (Enrichment Day 3) was great fun and provided an opportunity for creativity and engineering skills as teams designed and built game boards to test their friends on fun facts about the featured countries. The winning entry from 7C was an ingenious design involving the use of chopsticks to lift quiz questions about Japan from a bowl which required both manual dexterity and intellectual skill.

Yr 7 TA data shows good academic progress and our one student with an EHCP (Education Health and Care plan) continues to flourish and is benefiting enormously from the gentle and wise guidance of Karen Greenland who has been employed to support in her class. Several highly gifted students are already emerging from the group including pianist Emily Chen who recently played with great aplomb in assembly. There are a number of pastoral concerns within the year group but these are being monitored carefully and the tutor team is working together to ensure support is given those who need it. There is currently one Yr 7 students receiving counselling support in school.

Miss Burnham and Mr Jones are developing well in their tutor role and we have welcomed Mrs Semeniuk to our team this term as Mrs Connolly stepped up to cover Miss Cope's Year Leader role. The Normandy trip is on the horizon and excitement is mounting.

Year 8 - Miss Georgie Sales

Year 8 have continued to thrive this term by completely immersing themselves into their studies, House events and extra-curricular clubs. We started the new term with the School production; Oliver, and it was fantastic to see so many of Year 8 involved. No doubt more will be involved in next year's show. There were also record numbers in the annual Dance Show, with 76 pupils in Year 8 alone performing (over half the year group!).

There was a very positive turn out for Year 8 Parents' Evening, with lots of encouraging comments from parents and love for the school. We have also had two exciting Enrichment Days - Music Day back in December and a trip to Bletchley Park last month. Both of which were very enlightening and interesting and also gave the girls a chance to be creative too!

Form assemblies continue to be a success with some very interesting topics being covered, along with them being very eloquently presented. The students of Year 8 continue to be very happy in school and are enjoying all that is put on offer to them.

Year 9 – Mrs Rhiannon Connolly

'Positive Mondays' are continuing, with students working in pairs to lead the form through activities from The Mindfulness Pocketbook. All students are continuing to present within their forms on either Tuesday or Thursday, with themes varying from personal interest to current affairs. Internationalism research has now been completed, and fortnightly presentations on family trees are still ongoing. Recently tutors have started the options process by discussing the choices that students are able to take, emphasising that no future career paths will be restricted by their choices. Within the next fortnight we have both parents evening and options evening.

The Enrichment Day activities have included a CSI/Forensics day and newspaper day. These proved to be a great success with students thoroughly enjoying them. A number of students have also recently embarked on the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme, which has encouraged them to take part in volunteering work and extra-curricular physical activities. They are currently in preparation for their expedition with hikes around the local area, and learning how to cook simple nutritious meals.

There are five pupil premium students in Year 9, with money being spent on extra-curricular visits, music lessons and materials to support learning. Three students in the year group are receiving free school meals. Two students are undergoing counselling with the Sycamore Trust; this continues to be extremely beneficial to the students' wellbeing. The progress of all of these girls continues to be carefully monitored.

Year 10 – Mrs Marion Chumbley

The year 10 pupils have worked extremely hard preparing for their first block of examinations taken formally in the hall. They have taken them seriously and behaved impeccably. The remaining 105 Year 10 girls enjoyed their day in Cambridge following the end of their examination period. They had a tour around two colleges, lunch and time to visit the bookshop. It was wonderful to hear them questioning the student tour guides about life at Cambridge University and it was heart-warming hearing their discussions about which college they would like to apply to! A lot of the girls were in awe of the place, but they could see themselves there nonetheless. They were also inspired by the former students they met along the way throughout the day including being our guides.

It was wonderful to see the fruits of their Internationalism work pay off in a very slick MUN Conference in the last Enrichment Day; staff were very complimentary. On the whole year 10 are embracing all aspects of school life and I look forward to hearing about their recent exam successes later this term.

Year 11– Miss Fiona Harrison

Year 11 are having a fantastic term. They had a fabulous day on Enrichment Day 2 with the Maths Department. They were given the treat of four masterclass lectures down at the Council Chambers in Chelmsford followed by an afternoon of workshops. There was a buzz in the air as the students left – they really appreciated the hard work and imagination that went in to the day. The students have received their examination timetables – this has not caused too many worries – but there is a definite air of inevitability. Everyone is working hard, taking advantage of all the revision/mentoring sessions that the staff are offering. There also seems to be a palpable excitement about moving up into the sixth form – with lots of discussion about subject choices and even some thought about the Uganda trip. We are ready for the final countdown to the examinations.

Care & Guidance Report – Sixth Form

Dr Michael Palmer – Assistant Headteacher; Head of Sixth Form
Mrs Emma Hiett – Assistant Head of Sixth Form; Year 12 Leader
Mrs Hayley Ellen - Assistant Head of Sixth Form; Year 13 Leader

The Sixth Form Pastoral Team continues to respond effectively to the needs and concerns of students in Years 12 and 13. The first point of call for each student is their tutor and the tutors are ably led by the Year Leaders for Years 12 and 13. The tutors are hugely effective in monitoring attendance and punctuality and in dealing with the daily concerns of their students. More serious matters are dealt with by the Year Leaders or the Head of Sixth Form. The Sixth Form Administrative Officer also plays a vital role in supporting the work of the pastoral team. She provides weekly reports on attendance and punctuality is most effective in her liaison with parents and students and her support of all aspects of the work of the Sixth Form. Regular meetings of tutors and team members allow for effective communication and responses to different situations.

Year 12 – Mrs Ellen

Year 12 students have been making excellent progress in their lessons and are now beginning to think hard about university options and the various activities that will help them make appropriate applications and indeed be successful in those applications. They have also recently taken over posts of responsibility as Senior Prefects, House Officials, Sports Officials and Dance Officials as well as prefects for subjects and other activities. We look forward to working with them in these roles.

The Rolling Tutor Program in the Sixth Form continues to offer much to stretch and challenge our students beyond their academic subjects as well as to give some skills and knowledge that will help them settle successfully into university. This programme was extensively reviewed last year and the changes made in response to suggestions from students have been widely appreciated.

Sixth Form students in this school are involved in a huge range of extra-curricular clubs and societies, and a very high proportion of these are led by sixth form students; Year 12 students have recently begun to take over these roles. Activities such as Young Enterprise and societies such as MedSoc, Bar Mock and a whole host of others are enabling students to develop their skills and knowledge Both Music and Drama in the school benefit hugely from the commitment to them shown by a number of sixth form students and at the time of writing we have just completed the run of another very impressive Dance Show and looking forward to the Spring Concert later in the term.

The Sixth Form team is working on the yearly cycle of planning and managing the successful transition of students from Year 11 into Year 12. All Year 11 students have had support in choosing their Sixth Form options and we have also received a very healthy number of applicants from other schools. We remain confident that the excellent teaching and wider educational experience on offer in this school will again produce a healthy number of Year 12 students in September.

Year 13 – Mrs Hiett

Year 13 students sat mock examinations in January. Whilst many students did well these examinations did highlight some concerns. Students who achieved low grades have recently re-sat these mock papers and an extensive programme of mentoring and subject support has been put in place. Students at risk of underachieving have also been subject to closer supervision in their study periods than would be normal for Year 13 students. At the time of writing results from mock re-sits are not completely finalised but early indications are reasonably positive.

Year 13 have been receiving their UCAS offers and are now focusing effectively on the work necessary for them to achieve the terms of these offers. 16 students in Year 13 have been made offers from the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. In terms of other 'highly competitive courses' a number of students have also received offers for Dentistry and Medicine and we await further news on these subjects. We are working hard to support all students in achieving the terms of their offers and also ensuring that they enjoy the various events which are run to celebrate the end of their time in this school. Governors may wish to note that Year 13 study leave will be starting earlier than would have been our choice. This is a result of the decision of the examination boards to timetable a number of A level examinations before the May half term. Staff are working hard to ensure that all the necessary work is completed in a slightly shorter time frame than would have been ideal.