

A message from our Principal...



Dear Parent/Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support you have provided to Studio West over this half term. Since returning in September, there has been an increase in the expectations we are placing on pupils relating to uniform, conduct on corridors and engagement and progress within lessons. Teaching staff and Senior Leaders have been extremely impressed with the response from our students and this has been demonstrated through learning walks, book samples and the feedback received from visits by external professionals – all of which have reported positively on what they have observed. That said, we are committed to continuing to drive the school forward but require your support in order to do so, specifically in relation to attendance, lateness to school and resilience. Please continue to support the school in these areas to ensure that our students are fully accessing the educational offer provided. All in all, it has been an extremely positive start to the academic year, and I am confident we can continue to build on this success as the year continues.

Mr Andrew Dryden, Principal of Studio West School



John Pacey, NLT Director of Teaching and Learning

I am delighted to have been appointed as the new Director of Teaching and Learning for the Trust in July and I am already enjoying working alongside staff and students at both Kenton and Studio West. I have moved from a similar Trust in Teesside where I was responsible for leading Teaching and Learning development alongside teaching Mathematics, something I will continue to do at NLT. In my new role, I will be working closely with our fantastic team of teachers to ensure we continue to provide outstanding learning opportunities for all our students. I will ensure that all students receive teaching that follows the most up to date research to help them reach their full potential, regardless of starting point. I am excited to be part of such a forward-thinking trust and look forward to supporting both staff and students as we strive for excellence together.

Elective Curriculum

Our Elective Curriculum began on Monday 9th September. Pupils have had the opportunity to try out a huge variety of activities in order to develop their skills and interests. Pupils will get to try two new activities every term. This is a great way to gather experiences to include in CVs, applications and interviews.

County Lines Filming for a National PSHE Campaign

20 students from Year 9,10 and 11 appeared in a short film filmed at Kenton School. The film will be shown all over the country in school PHSE lessons to educate young people on the subject of County Lines. This educational resource was made by the Violence Response Unit at Northumbria Police in conjunction with Northern Stage. The students worked with a professional film crew and appeared as students in the fictitious school within the film. The director Katja Roberts said 'Thanks so much for making the shoot possible and I'm really pleased the kids got something out of it too. I was really impressed with them all for being so focused and professional. It can drag on a bit especially when things need doing several times but they made it easy for us'.



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Elective Curriculum continued....

A diverse offer of sports, creative projects and skill enhancers were available for students to select their own curriculum, and there has been tremendous engagement from our young learners each afternoon. Examples include the first aid course, which has seen over 40 students gaining qualifications and the stocks and shares challenge has seen students become mini-investors, reading the news to inform decisions on which companies to invest in. The bakers in 'Studio West Bakes' have made a wide range of baked goods to take home and our runners in the 5k challenge are raising money for a local foodbank charity. We look forward to seeing the completion of their projects next half-term. Students will select from the new programme next half-term for a January start.



Super Sports News

This term we have had a number of sporting fixtures across the school, including boys' and girls' football. This has been a really positive experience for student engagement and activity. For some students, it was their first time competing and representing the school so a huge well done to all who have competed this term, an excellent effort by all !

We were also lucky to receive free tickets to the SAFC v NUFC women's game at the Stadium of Light, this was an excellent experience for our students and provides a great inspiration to continue to take part within sporting activity. Into next term, we continue to have further fixtures planned across football and netball matches.

Upcoming Dates for your Diary:

21st November- Y8 Parents' Evening 19th December- Christmas Dinner 20th December INSET

Year 7 Transition and Parents' Evening

Our Year 7 pupils have settled in well to Studio West, fully embracing the opportunities on offer here at Studio West. To ease transition Year 7s were in school a full day before the other years returned, allowing students to understand their way around the school and increase their confidence as well as making new friends. They have taken part in the following opportunities: Grease rehearsals – allowing them to use their drama skills, making delicious items of food and knife skills lessons in hospitality lessons and deductive skills in science lessons and experiments. All Year 7s have been lucky enough to have a great session delivered by Barclay's Life Skills.

I was brilliant to meet so many of you at our Year 7 Parents' Evening with Year 7s receiving glowing reports from their subject teachers, leaving with a cupcake, certificates and a smile!



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