

**Droylsden Academy is a good school**

**IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK**

### Year 11 GCSE Conference

Year 11 students attended a GCSE Conference at the Village Hotel in Ashton on Tuesday to help them prepare for their forthcoming examinations. The students attended a keynote speech from Mr Wilson and then took part in a number of workshops on topics such as revision strategies, examination technique, healthy minds and planning for success.

Feedback from the students would suggest that they found the day enjoyable, interesting and very informative. Thank you to everyone who prepared and led the workshops.



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## More Sporting Success!

Congratulations to the Year 11 Boys Basketball Team who won Gold at the Tameside Championships this week! The boys played outstanding Basketball on both sides of the court and were totally dominant throughout the competition, winning every game they played. The boys have been extremely dedicated to improving their skills throughout their time at the Academy and winning the Gold medal in their final year is testament to their commitment and hard work. We have high expectations and aspirations for our Basketball players and anticipate they will all go on to have successful playing careers when they leave the Academy! Well done to Aaron, Emmanuel, Jessy, Michael and Reiss.



Congratulations also go to the three Year 7/8 Boys Table Tennis Teams who competed against other Tameside schools in the Tameside Table Tennis Championships this week, taking 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place in a very competitive tournament.

Well done to Agape Esayas, Razvhan Galateanu, Harry Hoban, Lamech Asamoah Tannor, Tyler Manderson, Mason Thompson, Mason Pridding, Riley Warrington, Damolo Oseni, Funbi Oseni, Nana Kwame Asabere and Luke Manning on a fantastic performance!



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## Ex-student Ethan Prince visits the Academy

We were delighted to receive a visit from Ethan Prince this week. Ethan left Droylsden Academy three years ago and has just finished his first term at Oxford University where he is studying Biochemistry. Ethan delivered a series of talks to groups of students from Years 9 to 11, students with the academic potential to follow in his footsteps and attend a top University. During the presentation, Ethan talked about his 'A' Level choices, his application and the interview process at Oxford and what University life is like. It was also great to see our students take the opportunity to ask Ethan questions and ask for advice about their possible future academic careers.

Whilst Miss Wictome, one of Ethan's old Science Teachers is incredibly proud that Ethan went to Oxford, there is now a little bit of competition as she attended Oxford's historical rival, Cambridge!



## Year 9 Parent Teacher Evening

Thank you to the parents and carers who attended this week's Year 9 Parent Teacher Evening this week. We hope you found the evening interesting and informative. Thank you also to Tracy Nwanze, Lily Ward and Vandis Akukwe for meeting, greeting and signing in our visitors on Reception.



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## Droylsden Academy Linguist Roll of Honour

Congratulations to Federica Annesi and Wing Leong who have been inducted into the Academy's Linguist Roll of Honour. Wing studies Spanish and Federica studies French with both of them showing a real talent for Languages.



## Leadership Celebration

Members of the Academy Leadership Team meet with students each week in recognition of their achievements, skills, personal qualities or contribution to Academy Life. This week, Mrs Arnold had a breakfast of Hot Chocolate and French Pastries with a group of students who regularly show real character in the way they conduct themselves in and around the Academy.



Ellie Lucas	Jessica Clarke	Aastha Patadia	Marcel Zdunska	Meerab Nasir
	Amaraah Naveed	Joel Egyri	Dalil Alhassan	

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## GCSE Photography

Year 10 GCSE Photography students visited Saddleworth Moor this week to develop their skills in taking landscape photographs.



### GCSE COUNTDOWN

**Year 11, there are only 16 school weeks left, just 80 days in school, until your first GCSE exam.**

Thank you for taking part in the GCSE Conference this week. We are really pleased that you found it a very useful and worthwhile day. We hope that the advice and guidance you were given, and the tips and techniques that you covered, will help in your forthcoming Pre-Public Examinations which will start on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February. The timetable for your Pre-Public Examinations can be found below.

<b>Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb</b>	9.00am: Combined Science/Triple Science Chemistry Paper 2 11.20am: Computer Science and Drama 1.40pm: History (Germany/Health)
<b>Tue 4<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	9.00am: English Language 11.20am: Maths Paper 1 (Non Calculator) 1.40pm: DIT and Statistics
<b>Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	9.00am: Maths Paper 2 (Calculator) 11.00am: French and Spanish (Writing) 1.40pm: PE (Written Exam)
<b>Thur 6<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	9.00am: English Literature 11.20am: French and Spanish (Listening and Reading) 1.40pm: Religious Studies Paper 1 (Religions) and BTEC Dance (Written)

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<b>Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	9.00am: Health & Social Care 12.05pm: Geography (Geographical applications)
<b>Mon 10<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	9.00am: Combined Science/Triple Science Biology Paper 1 11.10am: Maths Paper 3 (Calculator) 1.40pm: Drama
<b>Tue 11<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	9.00am: Geography (Content Paper) 11.10am: Religious Studies (Philosophy)
<b>Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	9.00am: Art (Group 11C) 1.30pm: PE (Practical)
<b>Thur 13<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	9.00am: Art (Group 11B and some students from Group 11C), Photography and Dance

Speaking tests for French and Spanish will take place on Friday 7<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February. Students will be given individual appointment slots by their Languages Teacher.



### OUR MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST PLANNING AND CONSULTATION

Droylsden Academy and Mossley Hollins High School (with which we are currently in a Soft Federation and have been in formal partnership together since 2015, for nearly five years), Hyde Community College and Alder Community High School have jointly submitted three application forms to the Department for Education (DfE) and the Regional Schools' Commission (RSC) in December 2019:

Application 1: for the 3 maintained schools (Mossley Hollins, Alder and Hyde) to apply to become Academies subject to a statutory consultation;

Applications 2 & 3: for all the schools to come together to form a brand new sponsored (by Tameside College/Clarendon VI Form, as Droylsden Academy is now) Multi-Academy Trust (MAT), to be named the **Tame River Educational Trust (TRET)**.

Our proposed launch-date is September 2020, should consultation make that possible. There is a long way to go before then, not least a statutory consultation process with parents and staff (which

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will not begin until we hear back from the RSC and only if their response is positive) and due diligence. We have not yet received any feedback on our applications but are aware that since three of the schools (Mossley Hollins, Alder and Hyde) have buildings and facilities' management that are part of Private Finance Initiatives (PFIs) there may well be significant complications. We would need the support of the Local Authority and the DfE. It is by no means certain that we will be successful but it is important to keep all parents, staff, partners (such as the Droylsden Primary Partners) and key stakeholders abreast of this milestone in our planned journey towards our preferred MAT.

The systematic and hugely significant removal of funding to Local Authorities since 2010 (with no apparent prospect of it returning) and the associated significant loss of school improvement and support functions from the LAs through no fault of their own, has meant that - in England today - almost 75% of all secondary schools in the country are academies. We intend to take control of the situation and get the best out of forging a more formal and legal partnership with 3 other partner secondary schools should they be successful in their bid to become academies. Depending on the outcome from the Department for Education, we will soon begin a formal statutory consultation process with parents and staff.

We have an exciting vision for the potential of the MAT to bring a significant educational and cultural dividend to each school and each school community and have already undertaken significant planning work with the support of each school's Governing Body, Headteacher, SLT, staff and from the sponsor itself. We have a carefully selected shadow Trust Member Group and Trust Board ready to lead and to support each school's Local Governing Body, should the MAT plans come to fruition. The proposed MAT has a MAT implementation plan in operation to guide us towards the launch should consultation permit and we will write a MAT Schools' Strategic Improvement Plan subject to final approval from the DfE, RSC, LA and a favourable outcome from the statutory consultation. In essence, then, there's much still to cover and on which to consult.

At present we have a clear vision document and outline model for what we are calling 'aligned autonomy' (where we protect the separate identity and rich distinctiveness of each school at the heart of its community whilst collaborating on common themes and approaches, where appropriate) and schools' improvement. Our MAT will have 4 key purposes that will guide our joint working and be the measure of our success:

**The Tame River Educational Trust (TRET)**  
*'Great schools in which to learn, teach and belong'*

In the Tame River Educational Trust [TRET], our family of community-based schools share the same 4 educational purposes, promoted and supported by each school and our Sponsor:

4 PURPOSES

1. Our Trust will host a family of great community-based schools in which to learn, teach and belong.

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2. Our Trust will become known for imbuing in our learners positive character traits and enquiring minds and for the talent and professionalism of our staff.

3. Through a cycle of creative self and peer improvement, any school with us for three years or more will be in the top 25% of similar schools nationally for the academic progress of its learners.

4. Students in our Trust will receive a distinctive Trust-wide Community and Educational Dividend (in the arts, sport and sciences, where significant additional opportunities will be made available to them in one or more of these disciplines).

We will present more information on our progress and work together as it becomes available. We are determined that our MAT will be distinctive and special, protecting the autonomy and rich distinctiveness of each school and community in fundamental respects but aligning through our jointly constructed and fully agreed Scheme of Delegation on common practices in other key areas where this is seen as best practice. Should the application and consultation prove successful, there will be a rich MAT offer for students in terms of learning, achievement, character, personal development and wider curricular opportunities and for our staff in bespoke training and development programmes from Initial Teacher Training to expert teacher and from teacher and support staff member to leader and manager.

We will keep you posted. We would encourage you to chat to us about anything at all in relation to our plans, in the meantime, even before any statutory consultation with you begins. Should we be given approval to move to formal consultation we will share anything that is required by our students, staff, parents and partners. Please watch this space...

Mr D. Duncan  
**Executive Headteacher**

Mr P. Wilson  
**Headteacher**

Mr L. Dowd  
**Chair of Governors**

## STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to Kayleigh Cunningham-Clark from Year 8 who has been nominated as student of the week.

Kayleigh has been nominated by the Science Department as she always gives 100% in class. Her resilience, commitment and positive attitude are an example to others and she is a pleasure to teach. Well done Kayleigh and keep up the good work!



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## Occupations 2019 to 2020

Mrs Godrich has curated a fabulous collection of careers titles to ensure that our students have the best information available to guide them to their dream career. As Confucius says "Choose a job that you love and you will never have to work a day in your life." The collection includes the massive and comprehensive publication '**Occupations 2019 to 2021**', the comprehensive Careers Encyclopaedia with over 750 job profiles and over 1800 job titles including Reflexologist, Ceramics Designer, Dental Therapist and Speech and Language Therapist!

The publication also includes 'How to' guides such as 'How to Become a Games Designer', which includes information on the application process and advice on application forms and how to produce a stunning portfolio, and 'How to Become an M15 Intelligence Officer' which includes information on assessment centre exercises and interview questions and answers to prepare potential spies for the rigorous selection process.

There is also a section entitled 'I Can Get Paid For That' which looks at 99 creative careers to live a life less ordinary!

## Careers in Medicine

Calling all prospective medical students!

Do you want to be a Doctor, Dentist or Vet? Take a look at the Medical Awards Programme run by Medic Mentor ([www.medicmentor.co.uk](http://www.medicmentor.co.uk)). Every student considering a career in medicine, dentistry and veterinary medicine should take a look at the programme because:

1. It puts you in the running for a £12,000 university scholarship.
2. It helps you to focus your efforts and achievements.
3. It is an impressive medically relevant Award to have on your CV.
4. It increases your chances of getting into medical, dental or veterinary school.
5. It makes the process more fun and less stressful!

The Awards Programme offers a nationally streamlined process for students to pursue these highly competitive careers and gives them direct access to doctors, dentists and vets who act as Mentors and Award Supervisors. This levels the playing field for students from all stages and financial backgrounds, as well as standardising careers advice delivered through schools across the UK. The scholarships are purely merit based and are NOT means tested, making them accessible to all students. Every student who completes their Gold Award automatically qualifies for interview and scholarship shortlisting.

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For those interested, check out the website. Students who wish to take up this opportunity need to apply via the weblink: <https://medicmentor.co.uk/medic-mentor-awards-programme/>



**Medic Mentor**  
Motivating Medical Minds  
[medicmentor.co.uk](http://medicmentor.co.uk)

## The UK's Medical Awards Body for Secondary School Students

# Medical Awards Programme

YOUR HEALTHCARE CAREER  
STARTS HERE...



### The Awards Programme is for **Year 10-13** students who want to become **Doctors, Dentists and Vets**. Students who achieve their **Gold Award** will be considered for a **£12,000 University Scholarship**

### Why should I join the Awards Programme?

Every student applying to medical, dental or veterinary school should also register for the Awards Programme because:

1. It increases your chances of getting into medical, dental and vet school.
2. It helps you to focus your efforts and achievements.
3. It is an impressive medically relevant Award to have on your CV.
4. It puts you in the running for a £12,000 university scholarship.
5. It makes the process more fun and less stressful!



#### Bronze Award: Explore

The aim of the Bronze award is to explore and develop insight into a medical, dental or veterinary career in order to make an informed career choice.



#### Silver Award: Skills

The aim of the Silver award is to develop your skills to become a good doctor, dentist or vet. This includes leadership, presentation skills, written communication, team-work and organisational skills.



#### Gold Award: Succeed

The aim of the Gold Award is to apply your knowledge and skills and complete a successful application through UCAS to medical, dental or vet school.

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### Sweets and Energy Drinks in School

We provide healthy food and drinks in school because we don't want our students to suffer from issues around obesity or dental decay. Students also learn in Food and Nutrition that simple sugars are not good for long term brain function and concentration. Large amounts of sugar at break or lunch time do not help students learn effectively.

All students know that they are not allowed to bring 'Energy Drinks' into the Academy. If a student is seen with an Energy Drink in school it will be taken off them and disposed of.

Some students have been bringing food, sweets and drinks into the Academy to sell to other students.

If a student is seen buying food or drink from another student, then the item being bought will be disposed of and the student buying the goods will receive a detention.

If a student is seen selling food or drink to another student, then the item being sold, and any other 'stock' in his/her possession, will be disposed of and the student will face exclusion and/or community service in the Academy.

### Music Festival

There will be a Music Festival at Ashton Sixth Form College on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February when a mix of Bands and DJs, all students or ex-students of the College, will showcase their talents. Whilst all students are welcome to attend the event, it may be of particular interest to those currently studying Music at the Academy or who are thinking of studying it at College.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

A group of Year 10 GCSE Photography students will be visiting Saddleworth Moor on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January to take landscape photographs for their coursework portfolios.

The Character Awards Evening will be held on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January.

Year 8 students will be attending a 'Drop-Down Day' on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February when they will be attending workshops on First Aid.

A group of Year 11 students will depart for a GCSE Residential Revision Weekend at Borwick Hall on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February.

The Academy will break up for the half term holiday on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February.

## JOB VACANCIES AT THE ACADEMY

### Higher Level Teaching Assistant (Level 4): Literacy

**Pay Scale:** Grade F (Point 17 - 22), Actual Salary Pt 17 £20,052, Pt 22 £22,140

**Contract:** Permanent, Term Time Only

**Hours:** 36 hours per week

**Closing Date:** Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020

**Start Date** As soon as possible

We are looking for a dedicated and passionate Higher Level Teaching Assistant to join our Learning Support Team.

As a Higher Level Teaching Assistant you will independently tutor and supervise individuals and groups of children in order to accelerate their progress and learning in English and Literacy, working in close liaison with teaching staff and leaders to plan and deliver accelerated tutoring to ensure students catch-up with their learning, enabling them to do well and access the full curriculum.

You will also work with the Curriculum Leader Learning Support to lead the TA/Curriculum Tutor Team in planning and delivery of the Key Skills and Catch-Up group work-shops and support teachers to ensure such students develop good and great attitudes to learning.

### Teaching Assistant (Level 2): Literacy

**Pay Scale:** Grade D (Point 7 – 10), £10.41 - £11.04 per hour

**Contract:** Fixed Term subject to funding (due to end 31/08/2020), Term Time Only

**Hours:** 32.5 per week

**Closing Date:** Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020

**Start Date:** As soon as possible

We are looking for a dedicated and passionate Teaching Assistant to join our Learning Support Team.

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As a Teaching Assistant you will supervise individuals and groups of children in order to accelerate their progress and learning, working in close liaison with teaching staff and leaders to ensure students catch-up with their learning (enabling them to do well and access the full curriculum).

You will also work with the Faculty Leader Learning Support to assist with the planning and delivery of the Key Skills and Catch-Up group work-shops and support teachers to ensure such students develop good and great attitudes to learning.

**For more information and details on how to apply, please visit:**

<http://www.droylsdenacademy.com/work-at-droylsden-academy/3527.html>

Completed applications should be returned by email to:

[hr@droylsdenacademy.com](mailto:hr@droylsdenacademy.com)

or posted to:

Human Resources Department, Droylsden Academy, Manor Road, Droylsden, Manchester, M43 6QD

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