

## CHELLASTON ACADEMY

Swarkestone Road, Chellaston, Derby, DE73 5UB  
Tel: 01332 702 502 Email: [contactus@chellaston.derby.sch.uk](mailto:contactus@chellaston.derby.sch.uk)  
Web: [www.chellaston.derby.sch.uk](http://www.chellaston.derby.sch.uk)  
Proud Executive Headteacher: Mr P Smith



Dear Members of the Chellaston Community,

It was a delight to welcome our students back this week. The atmosphere and climate around the academy has been vibrant and productive where Integrity, Care and Excellence was evident and in abundance. This week saw the launch of 'Positive On Call' alert that whole classes or individuals can achieve. This gives the opportunity for a senior leader to visit the class where excellence is happening and give verbal praise, as well as securing 10 additional ICE points for the students. So far this week there have been a lot of positive on call alerts and it is humbling to recognise our young people who go beyond our expectations of Integrity, Care and Excellence.

### **Refurbishment Update**

We are excited to say that the multi-million pound refurbishment to areas of Chellaston Academy will start on June 30th. Please look out for a more detailed communication from Mr Smith.

### **Rewards Day**

This week in our assemblies we have been super excited to launch Rewards Day 3! This will take place on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July for all students who have gained a 95% or better positive to negative behaviour ratio. Our Rewards day will be our I.C.E festival, a real carnival style celebration for our students who have consistently met our expectations. More exciting information to come...

### **Music in May Concert**

On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May, 13 students from the Chellaston Academy Chorale performed as part of a community concert called 'Music in May' at St Wilfrid's church in Barrow on Trent. This was an excellent opportunity for the students to perform with several other choirs in a wonderful venue. The students performed brilliantly and were excellent ambassadors for the academy.



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### **Download Festival and Exams on Monday**

We appreciate that there has been some congestion in and around the academy this week as people make their way to the festival. Although the exit routes on Monday morning should not have impacts on the community, we would like to reassure parents and students in Year 11 and 13 that we do have contingency plans in place in case some of our young people are delayed in getting into school. We have communicated this via school post.

### **2024-25 Term Dates**

Although it seems like a long way away, we have published our term dates for the academic year 2024-25 on the school website and attached it at the bottom of this email.

### **Year 12 News**

A reminder that Year 12 mocks begin next week and that most students are on study leave. Vocational Subject lessons are running as normal, and full attendance is expected for these. Please see the detailed information that has been sent to parents and students separately.

A reminder about our Next Steps Information evening for Year 12 parents on Thursday 13th July at 18:00 in the Main Hall. During this short meeting we will discuss the different pathways that our Year 12 students may wish to take after Sixth Form, look at the processes involved with each pathway, and explain the support that is on offer as well as highlighting the key deadlines.

### **Parent/ Carer survey**

We take feedback really seriously and really want to hear as much as we can from our community voices in order to improve the experience for everyone at our academy. We have taken on your thoughts around parents' evenings when planning for the year ahead and also listened to feedback during our coffee mornings around RSE, SEND and Safeguarding. Our next parent / carer survey is now open for your responses and will close on Friday 16th June at midday. Please complete it at the link [here](#)

### **PRIDE month**

We are happy to say that our PRIDE month activities have started including displaying the Pride and Progress (6th form) flags, teacher information being shared, and a group of volunteers coming together to plan what they would like Pride to look like at our academy. Next week there will be assemblies about what Pride Month is and how important kindness and allyship can be. Finally, on June 21st we will be having a Pride party at lunchtime and after school open to anyone who wants to join in. As always, we will be encouraging our young people to celebrate difference and also where to go for support.

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### **Student survey**

We are delighted by our student survey results. All three surveys this year have shown really similar responses and we are very proud of our improvements and the stability being experienced by our young people.

Some of the headlines we are most proud of are:

97% of pupils think we encourage them to show INTEGRITY CARE AND EXCELLENCE in all that we do

96% of pupils feel really safe at our school

96% of students feel that teachers set appropriate challenge in their lessons

91% of our pupils feel really listened to by teachers

87% of pupils feel that behaviour is good in their lessons

92% of pupils believe we encourage them to look after their physical health

81% have taken part in extra-curricular or charity activities.

### **National Attendance awards**

Back in January, we reported that we had received a national attendance award from Fischer Family Trust who monitor the attendance of 10,500 schools nationally. Not only did we get into the top 25% schools for attendance nationally, we also got into the top 25% for similar\* schools. (\*This is based on percentage of students eligible for Free School Meals).

This week, the FFT informed us that we have once again received an award for being in the top 25% of schools for national attendance, but are now also in the top 10% for similar schools!

We strive to work with families to reduce any barriers in their child attending school, and we have so much support available that many of our children benefit from. A reminder that our target is 95%, and below 90% is considered to be 'persistent absence'. As always, if you are experiencing difficulties in your child attending school, then please don't hesitate to contact your child's Deputy/Head of Year and form tutor.

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## Safeguarding

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help an informed conversation about online safety with their children. Should they feel it is needed, this guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults...

### What Parents & Carers Need to Know about OMETV

OmeTV is another app which encourages users to 'make friends from all around the world'. People can search profiles by age and gender and send direct messages or photos. However, the app is primarily used for video calls. When using this feature, users are connected at random, although only their country of origin is shared. People can then either choose to move on to the next chat or can stay in that call for as long as they wish.

#### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

##### STRANGER DANGER

While young people generally know not to share personal information with strangers, the safety of their home and the distance offered by technology can make them feel more relaxed and uninhibited. Combined with the fact that OmeTV provides a webcam function – and anonymity – it can be an easy way for groomers to gather information, ask to connect on other social media platforms, or potentially request intimate images.

##### EXPLICIT CONTENT

Unfortunately, there are a lot of users who use OmeTV's webcam feature to expose themselves. While users can swipe to the next call quickly, it's not something that can be filtered out completely – so young people could easily be exposed to highly inappropriate images.

##### REPORTING DIFFICULTIES

When video calling, the other person's username is often hidden and therefore they can't be blocked or reported. There is a 'Report Abuse' tab at the bottom of the video, but the speed with which calls can swipe past can make it difficult to use the system. There's also little evidence to suggest that offenders are dealt with appropriately (through warnings or account termination, for example).

##### AGE VERIFICATION

Although the site states that users must be 18 or over, there's no way to verify this, and it's easy to use an existing Facebook account to log in, or for users to set up a fake account. To access OmeTV, users simply need to press a button confirming they're an adult, which means it's likely many users will claim to be much older than they are.

##### VIDEO RECORDING

When young people are chatting live on a webcam, they could be coaxed by others into doing things they don't feel comfortable doing, or persuaded that no harm can come from it. What they don't know is whether the other user is recording them. These videos could then be used to embarrass or blackmail them, or they could be kept by a potential online predator.

##### LIMITED PARENTAL CONTROLS

OmeTV has very limited parental controls. There is a 'safe mode', but this is of little practical use given that explicit content isn't filtered out. While the site lists several rules and regulations, there are few apparent ways to enforce them or restrict what users can see or do.

#### Advice for Parents & Carers

##### FOLLOW AGE GUIDELINES

OmeTV has an age recommendation of 18 and over, which suggests the developers are aware that it may facilitate adult content. It's important to adhere to the age guidelines and try to restrict access to the app for younger users. If you find it on an under-18's device, talk to them about the potential risks and explain why they probably shouldn't be using it.

##### DISCUSS THE DANGERS

Maintain communication with your child about online safety and empower them to protect themselves. Simply deleting an app from their device impacts their independence and can cause resentment. Instead, highlight news reports of predators exposing themselves to children on the internet, and discuss what they should do if asked for explicit images.

##### DISCOURAGE CHATS WITH STRANGERS

Remind your child of the dangers of talking to strangers online. The anonymity OmeTV offers, plus its webcam function, makes it an attractive place for groomers to network and create inappropriate content. Explain that your child may see something which upsets them – and that it's a crime for anyone to expose themselves to a young person online.

##### ENABLE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Regardless of how responsible your child may be, it's essential to use parental controls on their device. It's easy for young people to get lured in by others, feeling they've built up a trusting friendship and being coaxed into doing things they wouldn't normally do. Ensure in-app purchases aren't enabled on their device, and emphasise that they can always talk to you about anything online that worries them.

#### Meet Our Expert

Dr Kate Southon is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented online wellbeing cyber safety policies for schools in the UK within various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet usage and dating behaviour of young people in the UK and Australia.

**NOS National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

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### Presentation pride award

This week's Presentation Pride Award goes to Janushiya Giritharan in Year 8 for her amazing presentation in MFL.

Please find the link to our website here: [Presentation Awards](#)

### Sports Fixtures

Fixture	Against	Score
Year 7 Girls Rounders	City tournament at Chellaston Academy	Winners!
Year 9 & 10 Girls Football	JCB Academy	Won 7-0
Year 7 & 8 Athletics	City Tournament	Awaiting results but did <u>really well</u>

### Year 10 Mock Exams

The exam timetable for Year 10 exams was issued before half term. There will be an assembly led by our Exams Officer and Mrs Holdgate next week where the protocols for exams will be outlined and students will receive their individual timetables including seating arrangements along with a new ID card with their candidate number. It is important that students keep all their documentation safe and follow their timetable carefully. This is the first opportunity for them to familiarise themselves with more formal exam procedures.

### Dates for your Diary

14th June - SEND drop in session 4.30-5.30pm

20th July - Rewards Day

21st July - End of Summer term!

Kind regards

Phil Smith

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. Smith'.

Proud Executive Headteacher  
Chellaston Academy