Principal's Blog

3rd October 2025

Students First OUTWOOD ACADEMY FREESTON

Supported by the Normanton Freeston Foundation

COMING SOON...

Mon 6th Oct - Y8 and 9 Star Reading tests continue
Tue 7th Oct - Lower School Prize giving evening - DATE TO BE REARRANGED
Wed 8th Oct - Road Safety assemblies start
Wed 15th Oct - Road Safety demo on site
Thu 23rd and Fri 24th Oct - INSET days, students not on site

HONOURS LAUNCH

This week has seen the relaunch of Outwood Honours to all students in years 7-10. The Honours programme is our very own online badge-based platform allowing students to gain praise and recognition for their own personal development, character development, talent development and personal achievements.

Students can currently access up to 100 badges and work towards achieving them. The badges span the 4 areas of our secondary transformative curriculum; intrinsic, academic, enhancement and elective. Students can gain Honours for achievements both within the academy, in their personal lives and for work in the wider community.

Parents/carers can support their children to earn Honours, by encouraging and helping them to apply for badges through their Outwood Portal.

FOCUS ON STAYING SAFE AND POSITIVE WELLBEING

STREET SAFE

Is a service that allows you to report safety concerns in public places without giving us your name (anonymously).

STUDENT PARLIAMENT LAUNCH

This week has also seen the launch of applications for this year's Student Voice Parliament, giving students an opportunity to both develop their own leadership and organisational abilities, and to have a say on important decisions that affect their school

A variety of roles are available for students to apply for, ranging from Prime Minister or Deputy Prime Minister with responsibilities across the whole academy, to Cabinet Ministers with responsibility for a specific area (such as Sustainability, Diversity or Mental Health) and MPs who are representatives for their own year group.

Last year's Student Parliament members took part in a variety of incredible experiences, including meeting local councillors, attending Senior Leadership meetings and visiting Wakefield Council chambers. Our student Prime Minister even visited the real Houses of Parliament in Westminster as part of the experience!

ATTENDANCE

Attendance of all students is very important. There is a clear link between attendance and student outcomes and we know that the more a young person is in school, the more they know and understand and the more support they can receive.

We are reminding all families of the NHS information which goes through when a child can still come to school and when to keep at home. The link is here:
https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/

Please send your child to school and encourage them to stay in school all day, unless the NHS advice is to stay at home or they are so ill they cannot leave the house.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS. ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

Keep in contact: Bluesky: *@OutwoodFreeston* Website: https://www.freeston.outwood.com/
Email us: enquiries@freeston.outwood.com (our phone lines can be busy, email or message us - we try to respond within 48 hours)