



Alumni News

Issue 6. July 2024



whitburnsixthform



@WhitSixthForm

Whitburn CofE Academy Sixth Form

We love gathering together news about our alumni via the annual alumni survey, LinkedIn, emails & word-of-mouth from younger siblings & parents including graduations, promotions, new jobs & travel adventures.

An increasing community of nearly 700 alumni are setting out on professional pathways & making a real difference in the local & national communities.

We hope you enjoy reading some of this news in this year's bulletin. We heard from most of the students featured [via our annual survey](#) but please drop Mr Craggs a line at lcraggs@whitburncofeacademy.org if you have news to share.



Name	Class of:	Graduating from:	In (subject):	Next Steps:
Aiken, Daniel	2020	University of Leeds	PGCE History	Begin teaching at Outwood Academy, Freeston as a history teacher.
Al-Basyouni, Raneem	2020	University of Sunderland	Law LLM Legal Practice (LPC)	Gaining qualifying work experience to become a solicitor
Allen, Katie	2021	Derby University	BSc Criminology	MA in Criminology
Beech, Charlotte	2020	Durham University	MSc Natural Sciences	Graduate scheme in radiological protection at Sellafield in Cumbria
Buhaenko, Rosie	2020	Northumbria University	BSc Psychology	MSc in Psychological Research at Glasgow University
Burdon, Anna	2021	University of York	BSc Psychology in Education	PGCE Primary Education
Carman, Sam	2018	Newcastle University	MBBS Medicine	Take up position as Foundation Year 1 Doctor
Charlton, Phoebe	2020	Leeds Beckett University	BA Criminology	Gap Year involving Travel
Eggleston, Aidan	2018	Northumbria University	BA Architecture	Degree Apprenticeship incorporating Masters in Architecture
Foster, Summer	2020	Northumbria University	BSc Quantity Surveying	Study for RICS chartership alongside working
Gardner, Isaac	2020	University of Manchester	BA Geography	Seeking graduate scheme
Geary, Erin	2018	Newcastle University	BDS Dental Surgery	Seeking employment
Giles, Ellie	2020	University of Warwick	MSc Environmental Bioscience	Graduate environmental consultant at Costain - working on net zero project in Teesside with BP
Gupta, Monisha	2018	University of Nottingham	BMBS Medicine	Take up position as Foundation Year 1 Doctor
Harcus, William	2021	University of Manchester	BA Philosophy	Masters in Philosophy at Newcastle University
Hardy, James	2018	Newcastle University	MBBS Medicine	Take up position as Foundation Year 1 Doctor in Sunderland Royal Hospital
Hedley, Annie	2019	University of Liverpool	BSc Psychology	Graduate SEN Learning Support Assistant, Protocol Education
Milburn, Thomas	2020	University of Glasgow	MA Archaeology	Start a career in archaeology and heritage
Munday, Finlay	2021	Sheffield Hallam University	BSc Financial Trading and Investment Management	Seeking graduate scheme or employment
Rennoldson, Ewan	2020	University of Sheffield	BA Business Management with Employment Experience	Starting commercial graduate scheme at Flutter/tombola in sept 2024
Taylor, Robin	2020	University of Stirling	BA Journalism	Internship with Warner Brothers
Turas, Nicola	2020	Northumbria University	BA Graphic Design with International Business	Take up a position with a design agency as a graphic designer
Turner, William	2020	Newcastle University	BEng Civil Engineering with a Year in Industry	Take up position with Graham Construction as a contracting Civil Engineer
Wood, Archie	2021	Newcastle University	BSc Biology	Masters in Bioinformatics at Newcastle University

Alumni News

Alumni Inspiring the Next Generation...four ways to help

We have built up an Alumni community of almost 750 now and would love you to keep in touch. You may just want to receive these newsletters or follow us on LinkedIn. For those who want to be more involved, **we now have four established ways you can help us:**

1. Alumni Mentoring Programme. Maybe you needed a little more with applying for uni? Applying for Apprenticeships? Deciding on a career? Preparing for interview? Could you give a little time to support a current student by:

- Giving some advice about your course/uni?
- Helping them prepare for interview?
- Helping prepare for interviews and assessment centres for (Degree) Apprenticeships?
- Offering a shadowing opportunity?

Work Experience: Post-pandemic it is still difficult to get quality work placements due to hybrid working.

If you are able to offer a placement to either Y10 and/or Y12 students, please contact Mr Moore: amoore@whitburncofeacademy.org

3. Visits. We are always keen to welcome you back to deliver talks & take part in careers fayres. **James Hardy, Class of 2017** (below), returned to deliver a talk about applying to medicine & our second *Apprenticeship Recruitment Fayre* saw several alumni representing their firms at this event including: **Lewis Farish, Class of 2017 & Ben Kennedy, Class of 2021.**

Complete our survey or email Mr Moore - amoore@whitburncofeacademy.org - to register your interest in helping out like this.



2. Alumni Awards. At Christmas we presented three alumni-sponsored awards. Former students chose a category & sponsored an award by commissioning a trophy or purchasing a book voucher and then helping to choose a recipient.

Please get in touch if you feel you could sponsor an award for around £20-25.

This year we had these alumni awards:

Award for Economics Excellence by Elliott Hearn, 2019

Award for Most Entrepreneurial Student by Jack Richardson, 2019

Award for Achievement Through Adversity by Charlotte Grundy, 2022



4. Alumni Posters. If you would be willing to feature on an 'Alumni Poster' like those along the bottom of this page, email your photo and a short bio to Mr Craggs: lcraggs@whitburncofeacademy.org

We use these in two ways to inspire younger students:

Room naming - Sixth Form rooms all now have an Alumni Poster on the wall at the door.

National Careers Week Trail - Y7 & 8 students are challenged to complete a trail finding Alumni Posters in different departments & to find information about courses, qualifications, universities etc. Mr Moore gave prizes to those who completed the trail.



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News from the Class of 2017

2017 Anjum Jahan: Worked at the first integrated COVID hub in the UK in 2021, then worked in North Tyneside Hospital in the microbiology lab then moved onto my current role as a horizon scanning analyst.
<https://www.io.nihr.ac.uk/team/anjum-jahan/>

2017 Olivia-May Oughton: I secured promotion from class teacher to EYFS lead & became part of the Senior Leadership Team in my second year of teaching.

2017 Nathan Lynch: I graduated from Durham in 2020 studying BSc Geography. I then studied a Masters in Urban Planning & Regeneration at Newcastle. In 2021 I moved to London with Network Rail Strategy & Analysis Graduate Scheme, then into a role in project management including the redevelopment of Euston Station. I'm currently working for a CPC, a project management consultancy in London on transport and infrastructure projects.

Alix Tyler-Hall - 2017:
 Business Change Specialist | RSPCA | Organisational Psychology MSC
 3d · Edited · 📧

Today is my last day at Arup. I have been so incredibly lucky to be part of such a great team.

While I am very sad to go, I am happy to share that I will be starting a new position as a Business Change Specialist with the RSPCA. Im looking forward to meeting the team and getting stuck in!

Lewis Farish 2017:
 Financial Accounting Outsourcing - Supervisor
 17h · Edited · 📧


Seven years later and another first day at RSM just this time in another country 🇨🇦

Happy to announce I've started within the Financial Accounting Outsourcing team within RSM Canada in Toronto!

2017 Alix Tyler-Hall: It's always great to hear about career progression & we picked up Alix's news of a move into the charity sector from LinkedIn.

Massive thanks to everyone at RSM who helped get this across the line. Massive goodbye to everyone in the AIA team, it has been an absolute pleasure over the years and I wish everyone the best!

On the the next adventure and please everyone keep in touch!

Please consider adding us on LinkedIn 



2017 Daniel Henry: It was impressive to see Daniel awarded for some of the toughest aspects of his job: dealing with patients & their families at the end of life. We salute all of our alumni working in healthcare!



Anjum Jahan
Analyst

Anjum is a Horizon Scanning Analyst supporting a range of projects such as technologies in new and innovative medicines as well as innovative MedTech technologies. She works together with the wider team, using various horizon scanning techniques to identify, monitor and report emerging health technologies as well as delivering intelligence to key stakeholders.

Anjum has a BSc in Biomedical Science with experience in bioinformatics to capture and interpret complex biological data, and she is keen to further develop her skills at the Innovation Observatory. Anjum maintains an interest in novel health technologies, and the way in which these can be applied to support the wider healthcare system.

2017 Hannah Fascia: Last year I taught English in South Korea before coming back and getting my EA job.

2017 Adam Laval : Adam was in touch for a reference for a job where he was hoping to be deployed in art lessons as well as helping SEND/SEMH students via creative practices. Adam has an art and design-related degree and continues to work as a freelance illustrator and concept artist since graduating from university.

Mr Craggs was delighted to see Adam's interest in natural history and zoology combining with his illustration and art skills as he creates animal illustrations, creature designs and paleoart (prehistoric animal reconstructions). Adams' incredible work can be seen in these photos and via the links below:

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/adam_rl/
 Twitter: https://twitter.com/adam_rl_art
 ArtStation: https://www.artstation.com/adam_rl





2018 Samantha Brownson: I was recently promoted to Associate Director, Paraplanner at Coutts having joined in Nov 2022.

2018 Katie Carr: We were pleasantly surprised to spot a familiar face in a mailing we received into school about an opportunity for young people interested in creative arts. L-INK are a group of young people who work with the Laing & Hatton Art galleries to collaborate, co-curate, produce events, work with artists & create artworks. In the past, L-INK have worked on facilitated projects with gallery staff, and have had the opportunity to meet artists, curators and different gallery teams. [L-INK 2023/2024 | Laing Art Gallery](#)

2018 Erin Geary: After the best 5 years of my life I finally completed my BDS in 2023 graduating from Newcastle University. I now work as a dentist in Leeds and am applying to work in hospital hoping to specialise within the field. I have a special interest in paediatric dentistry and oral surgery.

2018 James Hardy: I thought I'd include a little overview of each stage of my time at Newcastle:

- In Stage 3, I was in Durham, a district general hospital where I got my first taste of A&E, surgery, anaesthetics etc. I spent 6 weeks in obstetrics & gynaecology (seeing my first baby being born!), 6 weeks in mental health and 6 weeks in paediatrics.
- In Stage 4, you learn about complexity, co-morbidity and continuity of care. I joined the Diagnostic Pathology team at the RVI, which was really interesting; I spent time looking at tissues down a microscope and undertaking autopsies. The elective after Yr4 is a highlight of medical school! I spent the first 4 weeks in Nepal with their ambulance service & had some time to go trekking in the Himalayas! I also went to Malta where I shadowed the anaesthetics team 🌀
- After 4th year, I intercalated with an MRes in Global Health. For my research project (and dissertation), I explored the impact of frailty on the hospital experiences of older people & their carers in the Kilimanjaro region of northern Tanzania. Whilst spending 3 mths in Tanzania, we also had the opportunity to climb Mt Kilimanjaro 🏔️ and go on a safari 🦒.
- In Stage 5, I've been based at James Cook University Hospital in Middlesbrough which has been great!



Lucy Bell (She/Her) 2018:
Recruitment and Engagement Coordinator at British Exploring Society
17h · 🌐

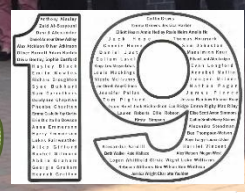
I'm happy to share that I'm starting a new position as Recruitment and Engagement Coordinator at British Exploring Society

Billy Shield 2018: It was great to hear from Billy recently as he took a break after training: I started the course in September 2022, passing out in August 2023. Thankfully, I received an offer to join the Parachute Regiment - my first choice. After the course at the Royal Military Academy, all those wanting to join the infantry had to endure the battle school course in Brecon. After a rough 4 months down in sunny wales (!) during the winter I'm happy to say I passed just in time for Christmas. Since Christmas leave, I've been in Catterick preparing for P company in April, and will start my duties as a platoon commander then. For now it's just lots of physical training and armoury checks as the duty officer. Amidst the PT sessions at Catterick I've had time to reflect on the last few years and again wanted to send my thanks to all the staff for helping me secure my place here; couldn't have done it without you!



Check out more amazing photos from Billy on page 7.

Check out more amazing photos from James on page 7.



2019 Rebecca Williams: Winner of the W.L. Burn prize by Newcastle University for producing work of the highest merit at undergraduate level. Now Studying L2 commis chef apprenticeship & employed as apprentice chef at Yorebridge House in the Yorkshire Dales. [Restaurant - Yorebridge House](#)

2019 Erin Dix: I am about to finish my postgrad RIBA Part 1 of Architecture & will hopefully be starting the DA RIBA Part2/3 in September (4 years part-time while working full-time) which will make me an Architect.



2019 Georgia Graham: I recently graduated from a masters degree in Medical Genetics Research (MRes) & started a PhD in Translational & Clinical Research.

Elliott Hearn -2019: Politics and Economics (BA) Graduate | Assistant General Manager at Blacks Corner Trading Company
6mo • Edited •

Thursday 16th November 2023. A day I'll never forget!
Graduating with 2:1 in Politics and Economics (BA), I couldn't have asked for much more.

York will always have such a special place in my heart, my adopted 2nd city ❤️
Once again want to give my thanks to everyone - friends, family, staff - for supporting me all the way through my tenure at York St. John.
Once a John always a John 🎓❤️



Eleanor Reay -2019: Bachelors degree with honours of the First Class (Microbiology)
7mo •

I'm very pleased to announce that this weekend I will be moving to London to start my dream Masters course, MSc Control of Infectious Diseases, at the [London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, U. of London!](#)

I'm extremely excited to get started and undoubtedly gain a range of invaluable skills that will help me further my scientific career, and hopefully make a positive impact in the fields of epidemiology and public health!



2019 Annie Hedley: I graduated last year from the university of Liverpool with a bachelors in psychology. I now work at a specialist provision school for children with SEND. Working closely with families/care homes, teaching staff and the therapy team to support children with childhood trauma, behaviour and additional needs.

2019 Kinga Lew: After graduating with a 1st from the Uni of York in BSc. Interactive Media last year, I popped in for an enrichment session in March to encourage discussions around repair and sustainability using the medium of board games! I'm designing/creating/testing one on behalf of the Uni of Nottingham to help reduce e-waste and advance science communication research. I am also freelancing in comics, illustration and other game media :)





News from the Class of 2020



2020 Summer Foster: I left my prior company Costain as an apprentice & got promoted to a Quantity surveyor within 3 years of my career. I'm in my 4th year of studies at university, averaging a high 2:1 and beginning preparations for my chartership with the royal institute of chartered surveyors.

2020 Ben Dobbing: Currently an Officer Cadet on Northumbrian Universities Air Squadron with 20+ hours flying including solo & aerobatic flying; Force Development & Adventurous Training in Malta, Belgium, the Italian Dolomites & Venice; Leadership (Positions & Presentations); Parades; Competitions and I have progressed to Officer & Aircrew selection (OASC) in pilot recruitment. At university I'm currently writing a dissertation on the James Webb Space Telescope & a project leader involved in designing & building a functioning Solar Observing CubeSat. Member of Physics & Maths Society as well as Varsity captain in the pool & snooker society. Currently pursuing a commercial flying cadetship.

2020 Charlotte Beech:
Thesis title: Investigations into Novel Everyday Materials for Neutron Dosimetry.

2020 Thomas Milburn:
Dissertation title: How do the Viking graves of Colonsay & Oronsay inform our understanding of Norse activity in the Inner Hebrides in the 9th & 10th Centuries?



2020 Isaac Gardner: In my 2nd year of study at Manchester I had a grade 3 tear to my ACL meaning I was unable to play rugby for UoM in my final year. To stay involved in the club before & after my knee surgery & due to a lack of funding for our 3rd and 4th team I took on the head coaching role for both teams. I volunteered over 200 hours this year; it was a very rewarding experience which also helped me find a new love for the sport in a coaching role. I helped take the newly promoted 3rd team to a 3rd place finish with wins over Liverpool 2s & a draw against MMU 2s which are both huge achievements for a 3rd team.



Thomas Milburn (He/Him) - 1st
Archaeology student at the University of Glasgow, USAcad
1mo · 📍
Submitted my dissertation. How do the Viking graves of Colonsay and Oronsay inform our understanding of Norse activity in the Inner Hebrides in the ninth and tenth centuries?

Charlotte Beech (She/Her) - 1st
Masters Student at Durham University, Natural Sciences (Major: Physics, Minor: Earth Sciences- Paleoclimatology and Geophysical FL...
3w · Edited · 📍
I was absolutely delighted to receive a personal award and an award for the Men's 8+ at the Van Mildert College JCR awards on Tuesday. I was honored to receive an award for outstanding contribution to sporting life celebrating my career in VMDC which culminated in my role as men's captain this year. As captain of the squad and cox of the first 8+, I have really focused on using our sport as a tool for good for ourselves and others. Through the year we have raised money for Movember and AP/OPD, through sponsored mustache wearing and rowing the distance from Durham to Hammersmith in preparation for Head of the River Race. I'm also really proud of my crew who set up their own charitable endeavors, be it a 32 hour running relay for MacMillan (Mital Matthews) or a 24 hour rowing relay for Alzheimer's Society (Zack Ashley-Timms).

2020 Eve Mouat: It was great to see Eve progressing her career in her recent LinkedIn post. It seems her company were really impressed with her and to be honest, we are not surprised!

2020 Eleisha Mitchinson: I am doing Camp America in Summer 2024 teaching high ropes for 9 weeks in New York, then I will have up to 30 days to travel the States after camp with any new friends I make. On a different note, I competed at the Malta World Championships and Malta Open in March & came home with a 1st & 3rd place in the Open and a 2nd & 3rd place in the Worlds. So in other words I'm a vice world champion which is still pretty good!

Eve Mouat (She/Her) - 1st
Graduate Management Trainee at Equans UK & Ireland
2mo · 📍
Grateful for #TeamBSC. It's been an amazing first 6 months with the business and I couldn't have asked for a better team to grow and work with. Thank you for the opportunity and support! Excited for my second 6 months placement in the Pricing and Modelling side of the business!



News from the Classes of 2021-2022



Patrick Allen 2021:

Geospatial Engineering Student at Newcastle University (GCInstCES)
1w · 🌐

I've been awarded the R A Batey Engineering Scholarship! 🎓

Thrilled to share that I've been selected as a recipient of the R A Batey Engineering Scholarship by the Newcastle University Endowed Prizes Committee. This prestigious scholarship recognises my academic achievements during the 2022/23 academic year, placing me among the top-performing undergraduates in stage 1 examinations across all Engineering courses.

I'm truly honoured to receive this recognition and am eager to make the most of this opportunity to further my studies and contribute to the field of Engineering!



2022 Claire Stonehouse: As part of my placement year I will be starting a job at Pfizer as a Healthcare Marketing Undergrad, moving to London
I also completed Gold DofE so will be attending an awards ceremony at Buckingham Palace in May 24.

2022 Tara Watson: I have opened up my own dance school as of January 2023 called Diamond Dancers in East Boldon alongside being at university full time doing a BA in Professional Dance.

2022 Georgia Dinsley returned to the PE department in June with her signed shirt to be added to our Wall of Fame! ☆



Lydia Hart 2021:

Learner Relationship Manager at nesma - Marketing with advertising management at...
4mo · 🌐

+ Follow

I'm happy to share that I'm starting a new position as Learner relationship Manager at **nesma**! I have been at this company for 7 months have been promoted to this new role, just shows hard work and dedication pays off! A huge thank you to **Veronica** for giving me this opportunity and seeing the potential in me! Let the hard work begin!



Mt Kilimanjaro



Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



1. Elective - Nepal Ambulance Service



Passing Out Parade, Sandhurst

More amazing photos from Billy Shield and James Hardy, both Class of 2018



On safari in Tanzania



Mawenzi hospital, Tanzania



News from the Classes of 2023-24



2023 Jasmine Ali: I was approached to be the course rep and took on the role. I meet with the year leads & faculty leads to discuss improvements & feedback. I am also a part-time teaching assistant at a local primary school, since doing placements & voluntary work for 2 years.

2023 Georgia Richardson: With my course at Sheffield Hallam doing Languages with Tourism, next January I will be starting my study abroad in University of Bergamo in Italy & following this I will do a year abroad in Spain on a study placement.

2023 Caitlyn Wright: I was at the university of Sunderland studying health and social care however In September 2024 I will be transferring to Northumbria University to do Primary Education.

2023 Katherine Campbell: I am changing universities to Newcastle & I am doing Camp America next year!

2023 Joe Wipat, Matthew Burton, Jamie Ayre; 2024 Luke Elliott; 2025 Ellie Wipat, Rhydian How: Several of our former and current students were part of a team in Summer 2023 that successfully completed the first leg of the Tall ships race from Holland to Hartlepool through some rough seas due to high winds and high seas. Their experience finished with a crew parade and a party before cleaning and preparing the boats for the next crew taking over after them. What an experience! They have shared some great photos.



Amelia Skevington · 3rd+ [+ Follow](#) ...
 Reposted from Barbour · 7mo · 🌱
 Myself and Emily hosting at the Sunderland University Graduate Recruitment and Placement Fair. Pop along if you're visiting! 📍

JAMES COOK

Class D
 U.K.
 Built: 1986
 Length: 22.55m

The James Cook is named after Captain James Cook, RN, FRGS, probably one of the greatest sailors, explorers and navigators ever to go to sea.

2023 Amelia Skevington: Amelia's career at Barbour has seen her represent them at a recruitment fayre at Sunderland Uni.

2023 Rachael Moore: I started as an apprentice at Kingswood and have now been offered a permanent role as an adventure leader. As part of my job I'm going to Finland for 2 months to work as an elf in Lapland!



Please consider adding us on LinkedIn



Alumni News



Success at Whitburn...

Whitburn CofE Academy Sixth Form



Elliott Hearn, Class of 2019
2023 Award for Economic Excellence
Awarded to Andrew Harrington

2023 Awards Evening

An annual highlight is always our annual Certificate Presentation Evening in December.

The **Class of 2023** returned to collect their hard-earned certificates in a ceremony which also featured our Alumni Awards – more on Page 2 about these. 2022 winner **Marcus Williamson** returned to present **Ellen Wood** with the Award for Academic Excellence and on behalf of **Isabella Blake** we presented **Mark Brundle** with the Academic Progress Award.



Jack Richardson, Class of 2019
2023 Award for Most Entrepreneurial Student
Awarded to Ellie Price



Charlotte Grundy, Class of 2022
2023 Award for Achievement through Adversity
Awarded to Alex Walton

You!!, Class of 20??
2023 Your Award or Prize
Awarded to ???

HEI	2017 Entry	2018 Entry	2019 Entry	2020 Entry	2021 Entry	2022 Entry	2023 Entry	2024 Firm	TOTAL
Northumbria	6	10	8	20	10	27	20	12	113
Newcastle University	7	8	14	16	9	15	10	25	104
University of Sunderland	9	11	15	14	5	7	15	12	88
Leeds Beckett	7	11	3	1	2	9		4	37
University of Leeds	4	5	2	4	4	3	4	2	28
University of York	1	4	2	2	6	4	5	3	27
York St John University	2	7		3	1	4	1		18
University of Manchester	4	3		1	6	1		2	17
Durham University	3	1	1	3	5	1		2	16
Manchester Metropolitan		1	2	4	2	3	1	2	15
University of Nottingham	2	1	1	1	2		3	2	12
Heriot-Watt, Edinburgh		2	4	2	1		1		10
University of Liverpool	1			1	3	2		2	9
University of Sheffield		2		3	1	1		1	8
Sheffield Hallam	2			1	1	1	2	1	8
Teesside University	1	2	1			1	2	1	8
Lancaster University	2	2	1				2		7
Nottingham Trent		2		1	2	1			6
University of Glasgow	2		1	1	2				6
University of Cambridge		1	1		1	2			5
Newcastle College University Centre	1			1			2		4
University of Hull	1	2			1				4
Leeds Trinity		1	1	1			1		4
Loughborough	1			1				2	4
Cumbria	1		1	1					3
Edge Hill			1	2					3
UCFB						3			3
University of Birmingham	1				1		1		3
University of Exeter				1	2				3
University of Lincoln				1				2	3
Edinburgh Napier		2							2
Hull-York Medical School		1	1						2
Liverpool Hope			1	1					2
Liverpool John Moores						2			2
University of Stirling				1		1			2
University of Bristol		1	1						2
University of Oxford	1					1			2
University of St Andrews						2			2
Kings College London	1						1	2	2
Queen Mary, UoL					1	1			2
University College London (UCL)					1			1	2
University of Edinburgh	1						1	2	2
University of Leicester					1		1		2
Cardiff University					1				1
Aston University, Birmingham							1		1
Central Lancashire (UCLAN)	1								1
City, University of London					1				1
Coventry University							1		1
Essex		1							1

As mentioned on Page 2, we would love to present more prizes & awards so if you feel you could sponsor an award in a subject, or other area of Sixth Form life, please get in touch.

A small trophy would cost £20-25 and would be presented annually in your name. We would love to welcome you back to present!



UCAS stats As you can see, below, we have prepared over 600 students to go and study at uni! Local Universities and Manchester/York/Leeds dominate for destinations and top courses for 2023 Entry were: *Psychology and Business Management with 7 each then Geography with 5; Biomed, Computer Science & Mechanical Engineering with 5 each.*

HEI	2017 Entry	2018 Entry	2019 Entry	2020 Entry	2021 Entry	2022 Entry	2023 Entry	2024 Firm	TOTAL
Imperial College London									1
Kingston University					1				1
Leeds Arts University							1		1
Norwich University of the Arts	1								1
Oxford Brookes						1			1
Reading			1						1
SOAS						1			1
Swansea		1							1
The Northern School of Art							1		1
University of Bath							1		1
University of Derby					1				1
University of Gloucester					1				1
University of Kent				1					1
University of Warwick		1							1
University of Winchester					1				1
University of Westminster								1	1
University of Dundee								1	1
University of Chester								1	1
University of East Anglia								1	1
Askham Bryan								1	1
UWE, Bristol								1	1



Alumni News

Train to Teach at Whitburn!



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@WhitSixthForm

You will have read the headlines about the recruitment crisis in the teaching profession but despite its challenges, teaching is still a hugely rewarding role.

We would love to hear from any Alumni considering entering the profession – see the ad below.

Case study: Sam Johnston, Class of 2019

"I'm Sam and I left Whitburn Sixth Form in 2019, having had a wonderful time here as a student, and returned in September 2023 so that I could train to teach here.

I have always wanted to teach, so it was brilliant to be able to come back here to do my Initial Teacher Training this year. It has been an incredible experience. I have been given brilliant support throughout from the entire History department and from colleagues across the school.

Teaching, as a career, is an incredibly worthwhile one to pursue. It is challenging – but also extremely exciting and rewarding when you see the positive impact that you are able to have on the pupils you teach every time you step into the classroom.

I would absolutely recommend teaching – and training to do so to Whitburn – to anyone and would encourage them to get in touch with the school to discuss it further".

Shortfall in teacher numbers hits 30,000

New figures expose recruitment crisis in secondary and further education - and in subjects government declared a priority

UK teaching vacancies 'up nearly a quarter since 2015'

Thousands of pupils face being taught by unqualified teachers or in 'super-sized' classrooms as schools struggle to cope with unfilled teacher vacancies



Secondary schools spent £56m on teacher job ads last year, says Labour

Party claims the figures showing a 6% rise in advertising spend since 2020 point to growing crisis in teacher recruitment and retention



Rachel Wilson,
Class of 2018.
English ITT 2021-22.
Now permanent staff



Nicholas White,
Class of 2020.
Computer Sci ITT
2023-24.



Sam Johnston,
Class of 2019.
History ITT
2023-24.



Oliver Kelly,
Class of 2018.
History ITT
2024-25.

Whitburn Church of England Academy



Interested in Teaching?



➔ Recent Graduate? Career Changer?

If you want a part in inspiring the next generation then talk to us about a career in teaching.

Call us: 0191 529 3712 or
email: whitburnitt@whitburncofeacademy.org
for more information

Alumni News

The Sports Page



Whitburn Sixth Form

Whitburn CofE Academy Sixth Form

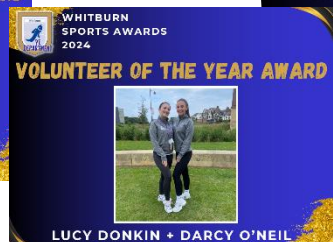


Whitburn Sixth Form AFC tasted their first success this season when they became U-19 County Cup champions in March! In what was to be the last appearance for our Year 13 students, they bounced back from disappointment in losing the league cup final a week earlier to show resilience and determination as they saw off an excellent Durham Johnston side to win the Senior Knockout Cup final 4-2. All of the squad members have made a fantastic contribution this season but special mention goes to Fin Bishop who scored three and won the penalty converted by Zed Handley to secure the win. Fin's performance saw him voted Man of the Match also.



Netball Finals, Sunday 16th March Having been to Nationals previously in 2020 & 2022, as a team we have learnt that even getting there is such an achievement! Especially this year being our last before we all venture off to University or into apprenticeships. We had a great weekend, with a fabulous group of people! Was great to see so many of our parents/carers come all the way to Peterborough to support. As a team it's sad knowing that this our last year as we started off in Year 7 together and have had an amazing 7 years representing Whitburn! We will definitely miss it! Big thank you to our fabulous teachers/coaches for their support over the years.

4th July was not only Election Day but also the second annual **sports awards** organised by the PE department. Video montages were shown and awards were presented across a huge range of categories reflecting the breadth of the sporting offer here at Whitburn. Sixth Form was well represented with the Sixth Form netball & football teams winning 'Team of the Year' and **Millie Mason, Class of 2024** winning 'Lifetime Achievement'. Current Year 12 students **Darcy O'Neill** and **Lucy Donkin** won volunteer of the year and **Trudy Johnson** won 'Outstanding Achievement' having represented England at Cricket.



NOMINEES		
Top Female Footballer	Top Netballer	Top Male Footballer
Daisy Sutton	Ruby Scott	Logan Douglas
Lily Scott	Anals Enrington	Charlie Orr
Emilia Cross	Francesca King	Crux Adams
Lily Stevenson	Erin Ruddick	Finley Bishop
Scarlett Brooks	Isabel Dodds	Zed Handley
Darcy Eiland	Francesca Smithies	Alex Smith
Top Female Rugby Player	Top Cricketer	Top Male Rugby Player
Katie Botter	Josh Gaff	Luca Jackson
Alice Backhurst	Alex Johnson	Sam Parks
Annabelle Priestley	Huw Morgan	Harry Richardson
Masia Overton	Sophie Murrie	Makaila Ely-Smith
Amya Latham	Matthew Neal	Thomas Degnan
Grace Smithson	Andrew Stonehouse	Isaac Bradley-Godfrey
Top Individual (Female)	Top Basketballer	Top Individual (Male)
Frays Hutton	Millie Mason	Isaac McCoolly
Eve Armstrong	Jacob Leung	Elijah Peasey
Isabella Westwood	Sarahanna O'Neill	Tom Smith
Isabel Jones-Pesood	Jaden Mangano	Isaac Hall
Mya Townsley	Gabe Young	Oscar Danjoux
Alice Richards	Josh Chape	Sam Thompson
Unsung Hero KS3 Girl	Volunteer of the Year	Unsung Hero KS3 Boy
Gabriella Pick	Millie Mason	Lenny Jobling
Phoebe Coombe	Phoebe Coombe	Aaron Morton-Crow
John Wright	John Wright	Thomas Gray
Lucy Donkin	Lucy Donkin	Daniel Weight
Darcy O'Neill	Darcy O'Neill	Elijah Peasey
George Bowen	George Bowen	Luca Malfan
Sophia Lee	Sophia Lee	
KS4	Teams of the Year	KS4
Isabel Burton	6th Form Football / Y7 Boys Football / Y7 Boys Football	Taylor Wilkinson
Erin Ruddick	6th Form Netball / Y7 Girls Football / Y7 Girls Netball	Ben Howarth
Mia McGuire	Sports Personality - Junior & Senior	Isaac Whelan
Mabel Foster	James Johnson / Harry Bull / Jack Soderlund / Oskier Young / Charlie Orr	Alice Robson
Mae Nestle	Lily Scott / Katie Botter / Maria Peasey / Wilma Scorer / Isabella Dodds	Mason Brooks
Lilith Atkinson	Ingrun Cook / Thomas Hunt / Isaac Whelan / Theo Alderson / Logan Douglas	Fraser Campbell
	Tilly Beckwith / Maria Over / Aara Eberly / Katelyn Wherry / Eve Armstrong	
	Outstanding Achievement	
	Izzy Armstrong - Gymnastics	
	Harriet McClaughlin - Skiing	
	Trudy Johnson - Cricket	
	Thomas Hand - High Diving	
	Pia Armstrong - Dance	
	Sophia Duffy - Swimming	



Alumni News

The Back Page!



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World Challenge Cambodia 2023 missed the print deadline last year so we have included some of Mr Thompson's incredible photos here. Mr Craggs will be accompanying 9 students to Borneo this summer to embark on some turtle conservation, visit an Orang-Utan sanctuary and do some jungle trekking.

World Challenge

- 2018 Malawi
- 2019 Swaziland
- 2020 Cambodia
- 2021 Thailand
- 2022 Nepal
- 2023 Cambodia
- 2024 Borneo
- 2025 Malaysia



World Challenge

Which member of staff do you think is most likely to survive a zombie apocalypse



Who has been your favourite member of staff during your time Sixth Form?

- 1. Mr Moore
- 2. Mr Sheard
- 3. Miss Rogers

Student Awards 2024



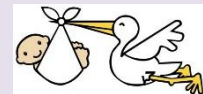
University Challenge: Miss Boswell with her winning 2024 Team!

Student Presidents

- 2015-16 Chloe Manuel & Chris Williams
- 2016-17 Dom Corr & Mel Owens
- 2017-18 Sam Johnston & Eleanor Reay
- 2018-19 Alice Casey & Matthew Appleby
- 2019-20 Patrick Allen & Cameron Chilton
- 2020-21 Anna Tobin & Louie Scott
- 2021-22 Alex Walton & Robert Adamson
- 2022-23 Tyger Emms-Hobbins & Adam Gibson
- 2023-24 Claudia Cook & John Wright



University Challenge: Our annual quiz competition continues to be popular and it is great to see siblings feature in these winners shots from (top-bottom) 2016,17,18,19,21,22,23.



Maternity leave 2024:

Mrs Fortune (was Miss McManus), Miss Roberts, Mrs Whelan (was Miss Johnston), History (all Maternity Leave) Mrs Tollerton (was Miss Garside), English (Mat. Leave)

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[Please update your details here](#) and also tell us if you have changed apprenticeship/job/course/uni since you left us.