



Dear Tytherington Families,

As ever, it gives me great pleasure to update you on the past fortnight's events. In this edition of the Headteacher's Notes, I'm delighted to update you on the national recognition we have received for our outstanding 6th Form. Our recent results place us in the top 10% in the whole country! On the final day of last term, we had our second Takeover Day. Over 70 students have also auditioned for our summer production which will be *Back to the 80s*. I have also been delighted by the way in which the student body has responded to the change to the school day. The feedback has been that students and staff prefer tutor time being at the start of the day. I'm very conscious that lunch time is relatively late in the day, and I will keep a close eye on the impact this has on the students' learning. Those of you who have children who are in Year 8 and above will be aware that the structure of the day changes during exam season to minimise disruption to examinations. We will update you on this. Tutor time will remain at the start of the day. It was great to welcome over 120 local primary school children to our Mission Impossible Science Investigation Day. I have also been out and about in the local community. I attended the Mayor's Community Prayer Breakfast last Friday and was humbled by the number of organisations who were very keen to tell me about the contribution our students are making to the local community. I was also able to catch-up with our local MP David Rutley at the Mayor of Macclesfield's Charity Ball and he was keen to tell me how good the school was doing. The upcoming term will be a very busy one. The School Spring Concert on Tuesday 22nd March will certainly be one of the highlights, as will the semi-finals of the National Football Cup for our Year 9 boys. I also look forward to reporting to you how we celebrated World Book Day.

In this edition, I have included my current evaluation of the school's strengths and key areas for development. I am very keen to hear parental feedback and I plan to run another Parents' Forum later this year.

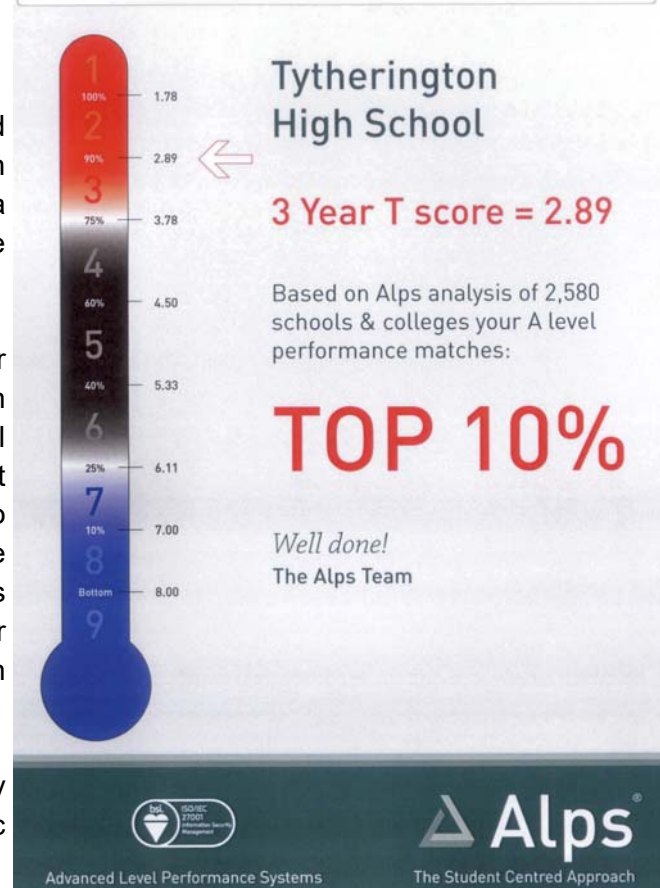
Tytherington School identified as one of the best Sixth Forms in the country!

Tytherington School are celebrating this week after we received official confirmation that we are ranked in the top 10% of Sixth Forms in the whole country! Tytherington School received a special certificate from ALPs (Advanced Level Performance Systems) in recognition of their achievement.

Headteacher, Mr Emmanuel Botwe said: "The hard work of our students, the commitment of our staff and their shared passion for learning has resulted in another year of excellent A level results for our outstanding 6th Form. We are delighted to be yet again ranked in the top 10% of schools in the country. It was also great to be included in the Sunday Times Top Comprehensive list as well so it's been wonderful to celebrate lots of good news about our excellent achievements. We still have places for September 2016 so please visit our website for more information about [how to apply](#)."

Head of 6th Form, Mrs Caroline Brennan added: "We have a very special 6th Form which combines exceptionally high academic results with a wonderful community atmosphere".

2014/15 > CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE



Students Takeover Tytherington School . . . again!

On Friday 12th February, over 50 students were given another opportunity to run Tytherington School during their second Takeover Day. This event has been introduced on a termly basis to provide students with an opportunity to develop their leadership skills. With well over 100 applications for a variety of jobs from the site team to the Headteacher, the response to this event is the best that the school has ever seen.

Students had to complete a letter of application to take part and some of the roles involved an interview. The procedure gave an insight into what would be needed to apply for a job or an interview.

Headteacher, Mr Botwe, said: 'The school community has really embraced this opportunity and I look forward to this event every term. It is lovely to see students from across the years challenging themselves by applying for jobs which will develop their confidence, responsibility and



leadership skills both in and out of the classroom. Our staff are eager to see how students cope with everyday school life from a different perspective.'

Three students were selected to take over the role of Headteacher: they briefed the staff, visited classrooms and were interviewed by a group of visiting Year 6s from Dean Valley Primary School who were on a Journalist workshop at the school. They also looked at plans for revamping the reception area. Ben Maw, Year 9, said 'This has been an amazing experience and I wish I could do it again.' Eva Locoh-Donov, Year 7, said: "It has been really interesting visiting all the lessons today. Mr Botwe visits our lessons pretty much every day so it was great to be able to discuss with him what helps us to learn best." Holly Mae Brockbank, Year 9, added: "I really enjoyed planning a school video to go on our website. It was great to think about what makes this school great and unique."



The Headteacher's self-evaluation report to parents

As a new Headteacher, I pride myself on being upfront and honest with all stakeholders about our strengths and areas for development. I'm very keen that parents are kept up-to-date with my thoughts about the school and what we need to do to improve. Having previously been a Deputy Headteacher at an Ofsted rated "Outstanding" school, I understand what it takes to move this school from being a good school which is in good shape, to being a truly great school providing fantastic opportunities for all our students. What I will do is set out where I see our main strengths and areas for development in five key areas:

- The quality of Leadership and Management
- The quality of Teaching, Learning and Assessment
- Standards of behaviour, safeguarding and welfare (including the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development of our students)
- Outcomes for students (how well do students achieve?)
- The quality of the 6th Form

1) Leadership and Management:

Strengths

- The leadership of the school is best described as restless and ambitious.
- There is ambition amongst the senior leadership team to ensure the school becomes "Outstanding" within 18 months.
- There is a system of rigorous self-evaluation including regular Peer Review Days, lesson observations, students book scrutinies and learning walks. The Headteacher has introduced a new departmental review system which has increased the rigour and effectiveness of departmental self-evaluation.
- There has been a rapid improvement in the quality of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for Middle Leaders. The introduction of a Middle Leaders Development Programme provides Middle Leaders with an opportunity to develop their leadership skills in a way that will impact on the learning of students.
- The Headteacher is a very visible around the school and this enables him to have a good grasp of standards.
- The Governing Body holds the Headteacher and his Senior Leadership Team to account.

Areas for development

- Ensure that we are more proactive in gathering and acting on the views of staff, parents and students.
- Improve the quality of communication to parents

2) The Quality of Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

Strengths

- The overwhelming majority of teaching is good or outstanding.
- Daily learning walks and SLT lesson visits provide confirmation of day-to-day good practice outside of formal lesson observations and allow a constant 'taking of the temperature' of the learning environment.
- The school is developing its own vision of great teaching based on the "Tytherington Half-Dozen": Passion, Purpose, Progress, Pace, Pitch and Participation.
- The quality of CPD has improved significantly since September 2015. Opportunities for CPD for teachers include: The Outstanding Teacher Programme, Investigating Outstanding Teaching, 15 minute Forums organised by Dr Pugh, an additional Thursday morning teaching and learning briefing which provide workshops for staff. We have also set-up a Teaching and Learning Staff Library.

The Headteacher's self-evaluation report to parents (cont.)

INSET Days are now all focussed on providing support for staff to improve their practice in the areas of teaching, namely in the "Tytherington Half-Dozen".

- Our examination results are amongst the best in the county which supports the conclusion that teaching is strong.
- We are keen to ensure that there is increasing stretch and challenge for the most able in key stage 3. A Leader of Advanced Learners has been appointed who co-ordinates and quality assures a range of enhanced learning opportunities for the most able students in Year 7 including: Science trip to Jodrell Bank, Headteacher's Essay Prize, 'Bollington Live' journalism programme, the Secret Mission, etc.

Areas for Development

- The regularity, consistency and quality of homework in key stage 3 is not as good as it should be.
- Assessment and marking in books is not always consistent.
- We are continuing to work on providing greater stretch and challenge to all students in key stage 3.

3) Standards of behaviour, safeguarding and welfare (including the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development of our students):

Strengths

- Students and parents report that they welcome the stricter approach to standards.
- Student-staff relationships are characterised by courtesy and respect in a "values driven community": Students and staff say 'hello' to each other, open doors for each other and there is very little litter on the school site. The atmosphere in and around school is calm, well ordered and friendly. The students care about the local community and raise thousands of pounds on a termly basis to help those less fortunate than themselves.
- The level of our students' engagement and commitment to the school community is strong. This is evidenced through participation in extra-curricular activities such as the *Bugsy Malone* production, The Gardening Project, Takeover Day and sports teams (please refer to [twitter feed](#), [Headteacher Notes](#), [ROSE Awards](#) and [Academy News](#)). The students' desire to contribute and to represent the school at competitions, in assemblies, as 'tour guides' to visitors is very impressive.
- Students report that they feel extremely safe in the school. Our safeguarding team is regarded as a beacon in Cheshire East. The inclusion and special educational needs departments in the school are generously staffed with specialists who provide bespoke support for students who are encountering difficulties both socially and emotionally.
- Our transition arrangements ensures that students feel safe and cared for from the time they start school in Year 7.
- We have set up an Inclusion Base ("The Bridges") to support any student struggling to access mainstream lessons. We have two dedicated Inclusion Workers who provide bespoke support for those young people.

Areas for development

- Further develop opportunities for students to develop independence and leadership. A Head of Ethos post has been created at associate SLT level to develop the Leadership Ladder, establish a prefect system and reinvigorate the House System.
- Support teachers to eradicate low level disruption in a handful of lessons.

The Headteacher's self-evaluation report to parents (cont.)

4) Outcomes:

Strengths:

- Attainment at Tytherington School is very strong. 64% of students achieved 5A*-C including E&M which is significantly above the national average (56%).
- Our value added (Progress measure) for students is significantly above the national average.
- The proportion of students achieving the gold standard EBacc qualification has been significantly above the national average for the last three years. In 2015 the figure was 40% versus a national average of 24%.
- Students in key stage 3 make progress which is above that expected for the national average.

Areas for Development:

- The gap between the achievement of disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged students at the school is still too wide.

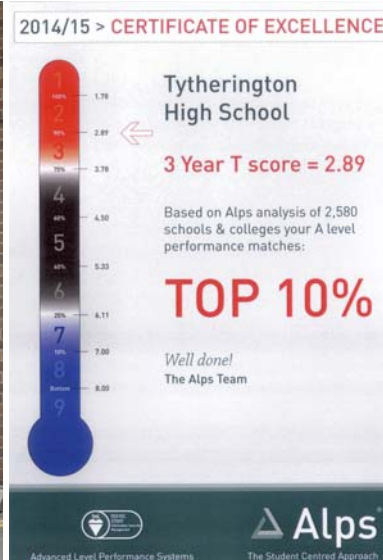
5) The Quality of the 6th Form:

Strengths

- Results at A-Level are in the top 10% in the whole country.
- There is an unrelenting commitment to the highest standards and this has resulted in sustained improvements in all areas of the 6th Form.
- The curriculum provision is extensive with all facilitating subjects being offered to students. All students are expected to take part in a work experience placement lasting at least one week. This is aimed at improving students' employability skills.
- Students receive exceptional pastoral care from a dedicated pastoral support worker. The high quality pastoral provision ensures that students feel safe. Students know how to keep themselves healthy and safe.

Areas for Development

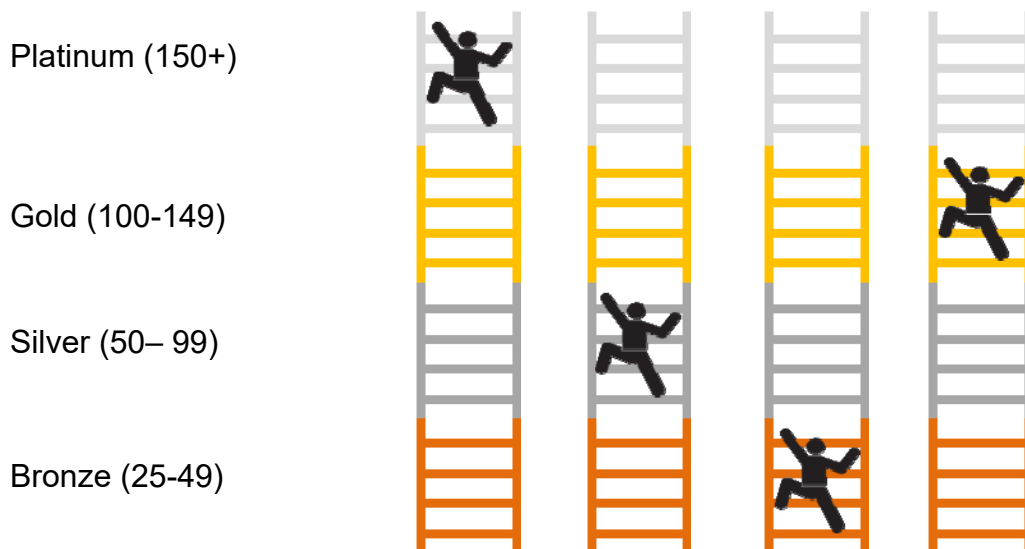
- Continue to develop opportunities for 6th Formers to interact and act as role models for younger students.



At Tytherington we believe that student leadership is integral to student achievement. Engaged students are more likely to succeed in school and beyond and to develop the character and competencies that will help them as they progress through life.

We have developed an extensive range of opportunities for students to contribute to school life. In leading others, students learn to be active citizens, think about their learning, develop relationships with staff and students, develop communication skills and help staff to continually improve the school.

As a school, we are firmly committed to academic excellence and extra-curricular opportunity; we believe that the vehicle of 'Leadership' is helpful in nurturing values that create well-rounded citizens proficient in the skills needed in the world of work, alongside their academic qualifications. To help us recognise the Leadership achievements of students we have devised a Leadership Ladder that will operate from February 2016.



Leadership Points are awarded at teachers' discretion through SIMS within the following framework of guidance (but not a finite list) that has been developed by students:

Leadership Point Level	Guidance for the Awarding of the Leadership Point Level
5	Influencing the wider school community, achieve a formal leadership based award, present to staff or governors.
4	Organising a charity event, takeover day participation, meet with visitors to the school, involvement in staff interviews, writing for Academy News.
3	Presenting to a large group, motivating others, delivering assemblies, assisting with parents' evenings/open evenings/transition events.
2	Attending leadership meeting e.g. Form Captains, House Captains, Student Parliament, Peer mentoring
1	Leading or assisting a task within a lesson, helping others learning, being a role model to others, assisting with the organisation of a school event, demonstrating a Growth Mindset trait, representing the school, participation in a house event, commitment to extra-curricular activities.

Leadership Point Total	Badge Award
150+	PLATINUM – Awarded by the Headteacher in a whole school assembly. Award has to be approved by the Student Parliament and the Headteacher.
100	GOLD – Awarded by Headteacher in a whole school assembly.
50	SILVER - Awarded by SLT member in a year assembly
25	BRONZE – Awarded in a year assembly by HOY.

Raising Standards

Thank you for your continuing support of Tytherington School. I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the progress being made with regards to standards, and the next steps on this journey.

Punctuality

With respect to punctuality, it is very pleasing to see the way in which our recent focus on arriving to school on time is having a positive effect on students' learning. Thank you for your support on this matter.

Uniform update

A New School Skirt

We are very happy to report that in response to feedback from parents, we have worked with Trutex (our uniform stockists on King Edward Road, Macclesfield) to design a longer school skirt. These will be available to purchase from Easter. We realise that families have already purchased uniform for this academic year **so the longer skirts will become a requirement from September 2016**. It will mean that for the next academic year all girls can purchase and wear a school uniform skirt that comes within 5cm of their knee.

Focus on Uniform (including Hoodies & Trainers)

In response to parental feedback we want to continue to raise the bar of school uniform at Tytherington School. We want to ensure that students look as smart as possible and that our uniform rules are adhered to. We are proud of our school uniform and we want to ensure that it is worn correctly at all times both in and out of school.

Over the next two weeks, we will be running a series of assemblies and giving reminders to students about uniform standards. This period is an opportunity for students to rectify any uniform matters. Please do contact us if there are any particular issues. As part of ensuring that the uniform code (right) is fully adhered to, **we will be taking particular action from Monday 7th March 2016 onwards** to ensure that students are wearing school shoes and not trainers, and that they are wearing coats over their blazers and not hoodies over or underneath them. This action will include use of detentions and more serious consequences should any student refuse to comply.

We thank you in advance for your support and working with us to raise standards in our school.

The image features the Tytherington School logo at the top left, which includes a red stag head and the text 'Tytherington SCHOOL'. Below the logo are two photographs of students in school uniform. On the left, a boy is shown in a maroon blazer, white shirt, and black trousers. On the right, a girl is shown in a maroon blazer, white blouse, black skirt, and black tights. Yellow lines connect various parts of the uniforms to text boxes listing the required items and their specifications.

**WEAR YOUR
SCHOOL UNIFORM
WITH PRIDE!**

- Full school uniform is to be worn on your journey to and from school and at ALL TIMES in school.
- All girls who wish to wear a skirt must only wear the drop waisted pleated skirt embroidered with the school logo. Skirts must be of modest length (no shorter than 5cm above the knee).
- Your shirt or blouse (unless it is a fitted blouse) must be tucked into your trousers or skirt and buttoned to the neck.
- During Autumn and Spring terms only the black school scarf and an appropriately smart coat may be worn over your school blazer outside in the school site, but not in the classroom or refectory.
- The sleeves of your blazer must not be pushed or rolled up.
- Only school related badges are to be worn on your blazer lapels.
- Shirt or blouse cuffs must not be turned up over your blazer.
- The cuffs of your jumper must not be pulled or rolled down below the sleeves of your blazer.
- Trouser bottoms must not be tucked into your socks
- Girls are not allowed to wear over-knee socks or leg-warmers.
- Boys and girls are allowed to wear one stud or sleeper in the lobe of each ear and one unobtrusive ring and necklace. No other body piercing is permitted. Additional jewellery will be confiscated.
- Your hair is to be of a conventional style and cut. Extreme style and colours are not allowed - particularly shaven designs, number one clipper grades and excessive braiding.
- Excess facial or hand make-up will have to be removed.

NAIL VARNISH IS NOT PERMITTED

Time for Celebration

Congratulations to our first group of students who attended a Celebration Breakfast this term. Well done to you all.

Student	Form	Achievement
Ellie Holt	7AN	For doing a sponsored silence for Cancer Research, raising £80.
Emma Duerden	7HE	For doing a sponsored silence for Cancer Research, raising £80.
Danny Murdock	8CR	For all his hard work raising money for charity on and before ROSE Day.
Cameron Mitchard	8CR	For all his hard work raising money for charity on and before ROSE day.
Emma Rushton	10CT	For being very supportive of other students.
Will Chester	11GW	For volunteering to be a tour guide at Lyme Park.



'Bollington Live' Magazine Project

On the morning of February 29th, a group of Year 7 Advanced Learners travelled to Bollington Council Chambers to complete the last phase of the '[Bollington Live](#)' Magazine project. Over the past few weeks, these

students have been involved in writing, editing and producing a double page spread for '[Bollington Live](#)', as well as gracing the front page with a great image of the editorial team!



The purpose of Monday's excursion was to involve these Advanced Learners in the actual delivery of the magazine. The students were met by Councillor Ken Edwards and escorted to the stately Council Chamber where they were divided into groups and given a dispatch bag crammed with copies of '[Bollington Live](#)' and a map of the local area. Their task was to distribute the magazine to local houses and businesses. A short time later our keen young editors and journalists were proudly delivering the publication, and in some cases, providing autographed copies on request! Their round complete, the students returned to the Council

Chambers for some well -deserved biscuits and drinks.

Ken congratulated the students on their work and professional conduct, and expressed an interest in further projects with Tytherington students. All nine Advanced Learners agreed it has been an inspiring and enjoyable experience which has taught them a great deal about the publication of a local magazine .

Coming Soon!

The next Headteacher's Notes will be in a fortnight's time and should be with you on the 18th March. I look forward to updating you on how our World Book Day Celebrations as well as the final results from the parental survey and how we plan to respond. There will also be the regular features relating to our Celebration Breakfasts as well as sporting updates. We wish the Year 9 football team all the best in their National Cup Semi-Final. The following week we will send you the termly review in the Academy News.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Emmanuel Botwe,
Headteacher

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