



Respect Collaboration of Schools

Castle School - Bridge Street School - Kingsmead School

Standing united for inclusive education



Junction 16 and Respect Collaboration of Schools were proud to attend an Inclusion Conference held at Pride Park, where staff also hosted a stand in the bustling marketplace — a fantastic hub that brought together local services and organisations committed to inclusive education.

The event provided a fantastic platform for sharing information, resources and ideas to help promote and support inclusive practices in schools. We were thrilled to be part of such an inspiring day. We were incredibly grateful to Derby County Community Trust for organising a powerful event and to everyone who stopped by our stand.



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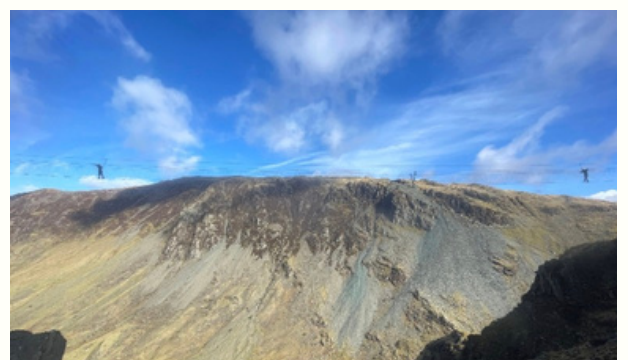
Mr Allen bats for inclusion with the Lions

We're incredibly proud to share that Kingsmead School PE teacher Paul Allen recently took on the role of head coach for the Pan Disability Lions in a three-match T20 series against India.

The squad travelled to Budleigh Salterton, in Devon, where they took part in a training day before playing three back-to-back matches over two days. While the Lions didn't take the win, their progress, passion and teamwork shone through – especially in a nail-biting final match.

Mr Allen described the experience as a "fantastic opportunity" and highlighted how much he learned about inclusive coaching. He's now bringing those lessons back to Kingsmead to support adaptive PE and inclusive practice across the school.

We're celebrating not just a brilliant personal achievement, but the important values of resilience, teamwork and inclusion that this series represented. Well done, Mr Allen!

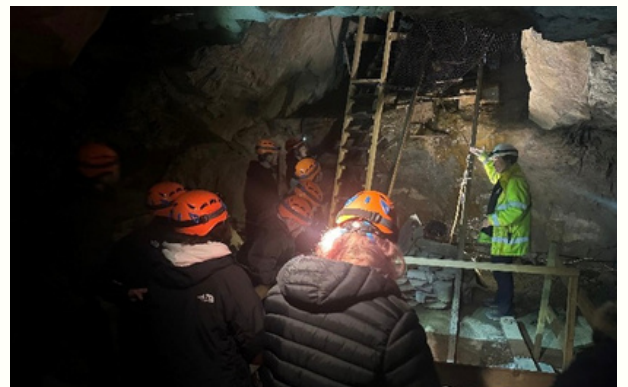


Reaching new 'Peaks' together

Earlier this term, some of our pupils from Kingsmead School took part in a three-night residential trip to the Lake District – and what an incredible experience it was. For many, it was their first time away from home and in such a remote, beautiful location. From hiking up Latrigg and visiting the Honister Slate Mine, to walking across the jaw-dropping Infinity Bridge and reaching the stunning Scale Force waterfall – the highest in the Lakes – every day was packed with challenge, adventure and teamwork.

Pupils supported one another through every activity, whether they were skimming stones at Crummock Water, helping to cook meals back at camp, or reflecting on what they'd learned around the dinner table. Evenings were filled with games, stargazing and marshmallows around the fire – a perfect end to the day.

We're so proud of how they all stepped out of their comfort zones, encouraged one another and embraced the week with maturity and enthusiasm. A huge thank you to Gav, Sydney, Rebecca and James for making the trip such a success.





Reaching new heights and conquering nerves

A key part of the Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award is the two-day, overnight expedition – designed to challenge and inspire. Students completed this element through the J16 Outdoor Education alternative provision, which offers hands-on learning in an active, structured environment.

Across three Bronze Award expeditions, learners from Castle School, Kingsmead School and Bridge Street School showed exceptional teamwork and personal growth. From packing kit to taking part in activities like walking, cycling, rock climbing and abseiling, they embraced challenges together, whether navigating Burbage Moor or scaling Stanage Edge.

After a busy day, students camped or stayed in bunkhouses, many for the first time. They cooked, cleaned and set up for the night, developing independence and building strong social bonds while proudly representing their schools.

On the second day, learners tackled more navigation and climbing, stepping out of their comfort zones to gain practical skills, resilience and self-belief. These expeditions were more than a route to a qualification - they were a journey of discovery and determination.





Respect where it's due

We are so thrilled to share the incredible news that Wayne Norrie – a future Trustee and valued friend of Respect Collaboration of Schools – has been awarded an OBE (Officer of the Order of the British Empire) in the King's Birthday Honours List for his outstanding services to education.

This prestigious honour recognises Wayne's unwavering dedication, visionary leadership and lifelong commitment to transforming the lives of young people. His passion for education has made a lasting impact and we're proud to have him as part of our community.

On behalf of everyone at Respect Collaboration of Schools, we extend our warmest congratulations to Wayne on this richly deserved honour. We look forward to the inspiration and insight he will continue to bring in his future role as Trustee.

We were deeply touched to receive the following message from Chellaston Academy, expressing their gratitude to our J16 construction staff and students. The handmade bench, created with care and donated to the school, now sits in a memorial garden as a lasting tribute.

"Throughout last year, our Year 11 students at Chellaston Academy did an incredible job, supported fantastically by the dedicated staff at Junction 16. They created bird tables, wishing wells, benches to take home and much more - passing with flying colours in the end. As a school, we were extremely proud of our students, who showed great resilience in the face of adversity."

"Sadly, we suffered a devastating blow with the passing of one of our Year 11 students. In response, the students and staff at Junction 16 showed immense kindness and compassion. They donated a bench - handmade by the students - to the school for a memorial garden in honour of their classmate. This space was created to give students a place to reflect and talk about their friend whenever they felt the need. The student's parents were deeply grateful for this heartfelt gesture."

"We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the students and staff at Junction 16 for their hard work, compassion, and for donating the memorial bench."

Built for the future



After 12 months of searching high and low across the city, we're thrilled to announce that J16 Construction has officially found its perfect new home.

Our estates manager, Mark Shipman, has proudly collected the keys from the landlord for the new venue just off Ascot Drive and we couldn't be more excited for what's to come.

A huge thank you to everyone who's helped make this possible. We're aiming to be settled in by September, so watch this space for updates.

Constructing kindness with memorial bench



Pictured: Danny Page, Construction teacher Danny Page, Charlotte Weaver from Chellaston School and a Chellaston student receiving the bench.