

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

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This newsletter captures progress made against our school improvement objectives over the course of the Spring term. It also includes enriching learning activities.

Update from the Governors

This term, governors have continued to play an active role in supporting the school's ongoing improvement journey following our 'Good' judgment from Ofsted last spring. The school remains focused on further strengthening the curriculum and inclusion to ensure the best possible outcomes for our students. The last two governor meetings have centred on curriculum development, inclusion and SEND and how these areas support the school's ambition for continuous improvement. Governors have also visited LVC, meeting with staff to review progress in key areas such as pupil premium and SEND. We hugely appreciate the efforts of staff in providing us with clear, in-depth information, which enables us to offer meaningful support and oversight. The commitment and dedication of LVC staff in these areas is evident and governors recognise the significant work being done to drive improvement.

Alongside this, we have continued to review behaviour, attendance, safeguarding and pupil outcomes to ensure that strategies are having the desired impact. Through ongoing monitoring and collaboration, governors remain committed to supporting the school's ambition to provide the best possible education for all students.

Wishing everyone a restful Easter break and the best of luck to all Year 11 pupils as they prepare for their GCSE exams in the summer term.

Clare Gorman, Chair of Governors

Update from Anglian Learning

As our pupils and their families get set for the Easter break, I would like to take this opportunity to share some key highlights of the work Anglian Learning has undertaken during an empowering Spring term.

I begin with a warm welcome to Stour Valley Community School, based in Clare, Suffolk, who joined Anglian Learning alongside Clare Community Primary School on 1 March 2025.

One continued focus across all our secondary schools has been school improvement. Following the appointment of Jonathan Rockey, Deputy Director of Secondary Education, who previously led a successful secondary school and is a serving His Majesty's Inspector, we have been continuing our work to help deliver our Academies Improvement plans alongside our ongoing development of teaching for Creativity (a national Arts Council England project). More recently, there has been a focus on intentionally developing a culture of positive regard within our academies' communities. Both aspects are key to our goal to strengthen and nurture a sense of belonging.

It has been a very busy and productive term, full of focused lessons, exam preparation, applications for post-16, university and apprenticeship places alongside school productions, ski trips, European city visits and our ever increasing opportunities to engage in a wide range of clubs and societies. I wish all families a restful Easter break and thank you for your continued support. For more information on our Trust's activities, please visit our website www.anglianlearning.org, or follow us on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.

Duncan Cooper, Director of Secondary Education



Jonathan Rockey Deputy Director of
Secondary Education and Duncan
Cooper Director of Secondary Education



SPRING

Belonging by Design: Mental Health

As Director of Inclusion for Anglian Learning, I wish to share our [Belonging by Design](#) strategy. This initiative is a priority for Anglian Learning for the next three years. The five strands of Belonging by Design are Attendance, Communities, Inclusion, Mental Health and Relationships.

Anglian Learning is beginning a collaboration with Cambridge-based charity, [The Foundation for Young People's Mental Health](#) to progress the [Mental Health](#) strand of Belonging by Design. The collaboration aims to help Anglian Learning and its schools select and implement evidence-based approaches for:

- Preventing and recognising mental health conditions, such as depression.
- Supporting and managing pupils experiencing mental ill health.

The first phase will focus on providing accessible information to colleagues, pupils, parents and carers to improve understanding of:

- What depression is and what causes it
- How to manage personal risk factors
- How to make simple lifestyle choices that promote positive mental health

While the initial focus is on depression, the prevention strategies will promote overall mental wellbeing. YPMH's research highlights the impact of everyday factors such as food, movement, sleep, chronic stress, loneliness, and substance use on mental health. Improvements in these areas can help prevent and even reduce conditions like depression.

Alongside YPMH, Anglian Learning will work with existing partnerships. [Innovate IFG](#) our school's catering suppliers and [Anglian Leisure](#), our sport, fitness and leisure centres will help to provide easily accessible advice, nutrition guidance, support and activities for pupils and whole school communities.

As part of our strategy to identify mental health needs, by the end of this academic year, our secondary schools will ask pupils to participate in an anonymised online mental health screening tool to gain further insight into the levels of need for pupils across Anglian Learning.

Your child's wellbeing is important. We will actively share guidance on maintaining good mental health as part of our Belonging by Design: Mental Health approach. We aim for your child to have a sense of belonging within their school and to enable them to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

Camilla Saunders
Director of Inclusion

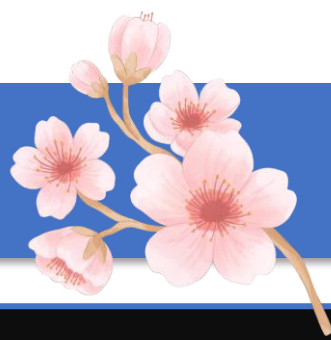


The Foundation
for Young People's
Mental Health

Innovate



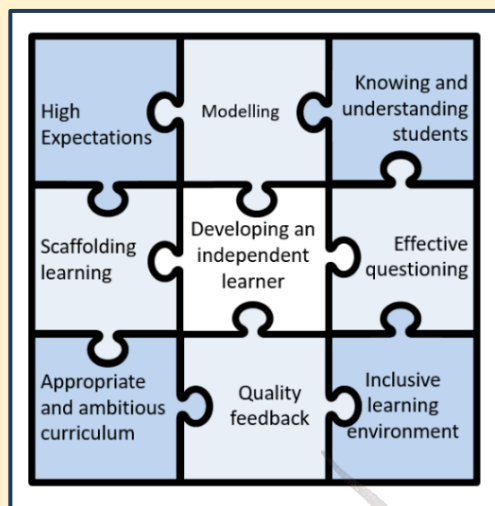
ANGLIAN
LEISURE



Embedding ambitious, inclusive and enriching teaching and learning

Curriculum update

As part of the College Improvement Plan, we are focusing on how we can ensure that our classrooms are as inclusive as possible to ensure that all learners access an ambitious curriculum. We are using the diagram below as a vehicle for this work. This jigsaw puzzle is an effective way for us to communicate the key elements of our teaching and learning strategy.



The four cornerstones of the jigsaw underpin our whole school approach and are the foundation for excellence. The side pieces are being developed by subject teams as they represent how teachers teach to secure all students' learning and therefore need to be subject specific. The centre of the jigsaw, 'developing an independent learner' is our fundamental aim as a school. Independence enables students to thrive in all that they do in the five years that they are with us and in their lives beyond Linton Village College.

In the Summer term we will further consider what an independent learner looks like with colleagues and staff, which will shape a relaunch of the Linton Learner in September.

On 19th March, LVC hosted a SEND review with visiting SENCOs from Netherhall, Joyce Frankland Academy, Stour Valley Community School and a Specialist Teacher from the Trust. During the review, LVC's SEND provision, processes, and support for students with additional needs was looked at (in and out of the classroom). The review team carried out learning walks in a range of lessons and interviewed the SEND Leadership team. Highlights shared from their report commented on the calm and friendly feel of the school and how impressed they were with students' attitude to learning in lessons. They were also struck by the LSA's skilful support in class and teachers understanding and delivery of inclusive classrooms. An area they recognised would further support our learners would be for further screening tools to be developed for students with Social Emotional and Mental Health needs and for there to be a more consistent approach across all subjects with delivering elements of the Inclusive Classrooms framework. These are things that we will focus on during the summer term.

Ensuring ready, respectful and safe behaviour



Behaviour Update

We continue to see an increase in students earning only positive house points for their engagement in learning, and a reduction in the number of negatives being recorded for many students. Over 54% of LVC students have earned only positive house points, this is up from 50% in the Autumn term.

This term has seen positive changes across the College. The new seating in the common rooms has been well received, leading to more responsible use of these spaces. The Friends are planning to purchase more seats in the future. With the recent improved weather, it has been fantastic to see students making good use of the field at lunchtime. They have organised themselves well, with many football games being played simultaneously and others enjoying the weather.

The recent introduction of lining up for lessons has started well. This consistent approach helps students understand what is expected as they arrive and enter classrooms. We will continue to monitor this over the coming weeks until it becomes a habit. To support your child with being ready to learn, please ensure your child's pencil case is fully stocked for the start of the summer term.

Maths Feast

We entered eight of our top Mathematicians in Year 10 into the Cambridgeshire Maths Feast, hosted at LVC. The event comprised of problem solving, geometry and algebra. Out of twenty-one teams from twelve schools across Cambridgeshire, LVC placed 8th and 10th.



We Will Rock You

LVC hosted an absolutely inspirational 'We Will Rock You' workshop with Woody Hanton-Woodford, LVC alumnus and West End Star this term. A huge thanks to LVC Friends for helping to make this possible. Our subsequent 'We Will Rock You' production was a huge success. Thank you to our wonderful cast and crew and to staff that supported the event. Thank you too to all the support the production was given by friends and family, we couldn't do it without you!



Michael Rosen visit

We were very honoured to welcome author and poet Michael Rosen at the start of the Spring term. Michael is a British children's author, poet, presenter and academic and is now a professor of children's literature in the Department of Educational Studies at Goldsmiths, University of London. He has also served as Children's Laureate. This was our second visit from Michael. This time he conducted a series of workshops to a range of different year groups. At the end of the day, very unexpectedly, we had a visit from ITV who filmed an interview with Michael Rosen performing his poems in our library with the homework club looking on silently. This was broadcast on ITV.



An enriching educational experience

Science Week

To celebrate Science Week, LVC holds a week-long series of events that are designed to inspire and engage our students. Science week has been a long-standing occurrence in the school's calendar. British Science Week is a 10-day celebration of science and innovation and is an initiative run by the British Science Association. The BSA believes that its remit is to continue to invest in and position the UK as a leader in undertaking research and development in a way that benefits all of society. Events that took place during LVC's Science Week in March included dissections, 'Shock and Awe' chemistry, a forensic investigation, a Science Fayre, a dance/science collaboration and a trip to Sizewell B Power Station. There were also a series of assemblies aimed at inspiring students to think about how they might change the world and how science can have an impact on that change.



Dance show

Congratulations to all of the students who performed in this term's Dance Show. The talent and passion shone through in every performance. We were delighted that over 100 students performed in this show. Our thanks also go to the wonderful student technical/backstage crew who did a superb job.





INDEPENDENT



RESPONSIBLE



CURIOUS



CARING

Linton Successes

Boy's Day of Dance

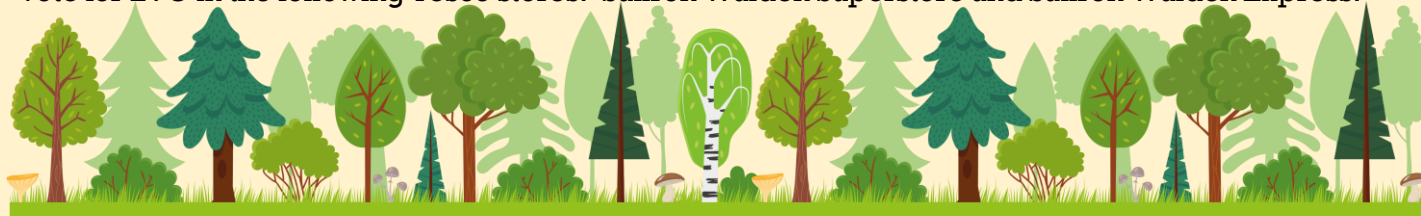
We were delighted to welcome Oddey, a professional dancer from 'Flawless Dance Company' this term. Oddey created a highly energetic Street Dance piece with 24 of our Year 8 male students. Oddey was so impressed with the skills and commitment of our students. Thank you to the LVC Friends for funding this wonderful opportunity.



Tesco Stronger Starts and the LVC Forest School

We were excited this term to announce that our recent application to Tesco Stronger Starts has been successful and Linton Village College has been put forward to a customer vote to receive funding for development of a Forest School Intervention to help LVC students who may need support with anxiety and emotional regulation, using the power of nature.

The project with the highest number of votes across the region will receive up to £1,500, the second placed project will receive up to £1,000 and the third placed project will receive up to £500. To vote, you will need to make a purchase within store of any value. You will receive one token per transaction, and it is not necessary to purchase a carrier bag in order to receive a token. The opportunity to vote for LVC will take place between April 2025 and June 2025, inclusive. You can vote for LVC in the following Tesco stores: Saffron Walden Superstore and Saffron Walden Express.



Sports Successes

Our Year 7's have had lots of great fun this year with football fixtures, most recently we took two teams to the Y7 7aside tournament at Bottisham. One team finished joint 2nd and the other 3rd. This was a fantastic evening for the Y7 boys to play lots of small sided games scoring some great goals. Our Y8 boys have had some entertaining friendlies with Sawston St Bedes 4-1 loss and narrowly bowed out of the District Cup, losing with almost the last kick of the game away to Bassingbourn losing 2-1. A R2 cup fixture awaits in the new term for our Year 9 boys, and our Year 9 girls narrowly bowed out of the cup on penalties, after an entertaining 4-4 draw at Swavesey. Our year 10 cohort have a district cup quarter final to look forward to in the new term, hosting Trumpington after beating Stephen Purse 4-2 recently in a very close game. A huge well done to all of our year groups for representing Linton with good sportsmanship, teamwork, respect and demonstrating great resilience in all games.

The LVC whole school photo

Our last whole school photograph was taken in 2015. It's lovely to have the opportunity to capture the school community together in a commemorative image. Arranging for the whole body of staff and students to come together at the same time in a structured way is no mean feat and not something that many other schools would contemplate. Thanks to Miss Mayzes for organising this event. The school copy will contribute to the College's history and join others in the archive. I hope that it will provide a lovely memory for families that purchase the photograph too.

