



# The Link Academy Newsletter Easter 2021

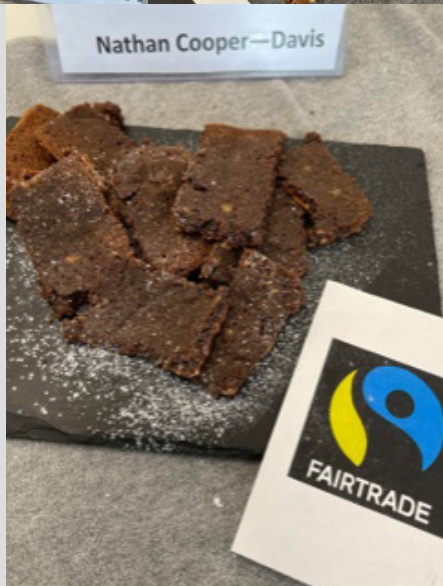


## Fairtrade Fortnight in Food Preparation and Nutrition

To mark Fairtrade Fortnight (which was also our school theme of the week), Year 10 GCSE pupils made Fairtrade chocolate brownies. All year groups had lessons about social and environmental issues in their Food Preparation and Nutrition lessons during this fortnight so lots of learning and interesting discussion took place both in school and through our distance learning provision.

The brownies were all made with socially responsible ingredients which included fairtrade sugar, chocolate and coco powder plus free range eggs.

Just in case you were wondering, they tasted just as good as they looked. Well done Year 10.



## Message from the Principal

Dear parents and carers,

I would like to start with a *HUGE* thank you all for your support during the National Lockdown from January. It has been a challenging term and we appreciate the *LINK TEAM* effort during this time.

Our staff have yet again risen to the challenge. During the lockdown we delivered over 200 DfE Laptops out to learners, taught live lessons over Microsoft Teams and *REWARDED* more learners than last time. We really upheld our value of *LEARNING THAT INSPIRES* by trialling new technologies and integrating these into lessons. I am so proud of the way that our learners have engaged and this really has helped to line Year 11 up for some fantastic GCSE grades at the end of this academic year.

I'd like to also recognise our brilliant support staff team. Administration staff have allowed us to develop a Covid Lateral Flow Testing Centre to safely test learners upon their return. Our site team and cleaners have worked tirelessly to ensure that the site is safe and our Learning Support Team have worked right through lockdown to ensure that learners on site are supported effectively. I am genuinely thankful to have such a wonderful team of staff here at The Link Academy.

We can't wait to welcome *ALL* learners back after Easter to lessons that will support them to achieve their goals. I wish you and your families a safe and happy Easter break.

Kind regards

Mrs Edwards-Morgan  
Principal







## Listening Ear Wednesdays

*Information, Advice and Support Services working together to support parents and carers*

- Does your child (up to 25yrs) have special educational needs and/or a disability?
- Do you live in Wolverhampton, Dudley, Walsall or Sandwell?
- Would you like to join an online session to find out what support is available?

We know that things have been difficult for families, particularly where a child has additional needs. There are still many concerns even as we step closer to returning to normality. We invite you to join us remotely and chat about what you might be finding difficult. We can offer you impartial advice and guide you to appropriate support.

Information, Advice and Support Services (IASS) advise and support children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their parents and carers.

The four IASS from Wolverhampton, Dudley, Walsall and Sandwell are joining together to offer some **FREE** virtual sessions for local parents and carers offering emotional support and a listening ear.

The **FREE** virtual sessions will take place on the following **Wednesdays**:

**24 March - 12.30pm to 1.30pm**

**7 April - 2.30pm to 3.30pm & 28 April - 10am to 11am**

Click on the date to book your place via Eventbrite and receive instructions on how to join.

Click here to find details for your local  
**Information, Advice and Support Service**



**EXCITING NEWS!**

## Year 6 we can't wait— to meet you

#TeamLink #Linkfamily

The Link Academy is fully subscribed for Year 7 in September 2021!

We would like to congratulate all our new Year 6 learners on their place at The Link this September.

We can't wait to welcome you and look forward to working with you on your transition to secondary school. Mr Chater will be in contact during the summer term.

## NOTICE



Face  
masks  
required at  
**ALL** times

Unless exempt

## SCHOOLS QUIZ CHALLENGE

# Quiz

Session 1:  
The Link Academy v St James Academy

A huge congratulations to our Year 10 learners who took part in the virtual School Quiz Challenge and won session one!

# WIN

THE LINK  
ACADEMY  
Netherton





## The Link Academy to be on Channel 4

Exciting news! Channel 4 has commissioned a new documentary series that will chart the lives of a group of young people from our very own The Link Academy. To be broadcast in the first half of next year, six episodes of 60 minutes will follow some of our learners as they are growing up in the communities around Netherton.

The series is being made by the awardwinning production company Label 1, which has had two small teams filming in the academy throughout this term. Label 1 has a history of producing serious reality television that gets to the truth of ordinary people's experiences. This series aims to reflect the challenges of growing up in modern Britain; it is a long-term study and will follow the lives of our learners over several years, both inside and outside of the academy.

These programmes will give our learners a platform to have their voices heard and express themselves in these uniquely challenging times. We know that the series will gain respect for our young people and the communities they come from, and we are all looking forward to seeing the first episode in later this year.

## Easter Break COVID Tracking

If your child, who attended school between Monday 29th March 2021 and Friday 2nd April 2021, tests positive for Coronavirus (COVID-19) or develops symptoms within 2 days (48 hours) of being in school you should notify the academy by emailing (insert email) or telephoning (insert number if applicable) as soon as possible.

Where a learner or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 during the holiday, having developed symptoms more than 2 full days since being in school, the academy does not need to be contacted. Parents and carers and staff should follow contact tracing instructions

provided by NHS Test and Trace.

Please remember that as soon as your child or any member of your household develops COVID-19 symptoms, they must start self-isolating immediately and book a test.

### Important: LFD Home Testing over the Easter Break

It is recommend that all academy staff and learners continue to test themselves at home, twice weekly throughout the Easter holidays.

Thank you in advance for your support, we hope you have a safe and relaxing holiday.

We are so proud of our learners in this challenging time and we want to reward your attendance. Just log on to your lessons and you could be in with a chance to win!



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## Involving Parents in our School Life

Article by Mrs Worsey

### Triple P parenting programme

To strengthen parenting skills and support the parent/child relationship. We continue to work with our parents/carers and offer support by delivering Triple P sessions. This can be with telephone consultations, Microsoft TEAMS or online Triple P. We offer online groups to complete the Teen Group sessions in place of the face to face course. Dates for the sessions available 2021 will be confirmed on return to school in January.

#### What is Triple P?

The three Ps in 'Triple P' stand for 'Positive Parenting Programme'.

Triple P is a parenting programme that does not tell you what to do or how to be a parent. It is more like a toolbox of ideas, where you choose the strategies you need and the way you want to use them. It is all about making Triple P work for you.

#### How do you do Triple P?

You can do Triple P anywhere, anytime—24/7 with the online programmes. Triple P Online is for parents of toddlers to tweens (under 12 years), and Teen Triple P Online is for parents of pre-teens and teenagers (10-16 years). Additional telephone support can be

provided with modules or strategies if parents require. Parents can complete Triple P online using mobiles or laptops, to access an online code go to:

[www.dudleyparents.co.uk](http://www.dudleyparents.co.uk)

For more information go to:

[www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/care-and-health/children-and-family-care/early-help-for-children-and-families/dudley-parenting-service/](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/care-and-health/children-and-family-care/early-help-for-children-and-families/dudley-parenting-service/)

[www.triplep-parenting.uk.net/uk/triple-p/](http://www.triplep-parenting.uk.net/uk/triple-p/)

### Early Help - What is Early Help?

Early help for children and families. Early Help is taking action early to provide support where problems are emerging for children, young people and their families, support may be provided at any point in a child or young person's life. If you are struggling or need help and advice you can speak to someone at your child's school or, contact one of the Family Centres. Check out Early Help and Family Information Service for more information at: [www3.dudley.gov.uk/Synergy/FSD/](http://www3.dudley.gov.uk/Synergy/FSD/)

### Dudley Adult and Learning Community Courses

Dudley Adult and Learning Team are planning to deliver sessions across the borough, details of courses are below. These courses are FREE and online.

- Introduction to British Sign Language

- Online Deaf Awareness Session
- Design your own life
- A Taste of Wellbeing
- Emotional Wellbeing - Introductory Online Workshop
- Mental Health First Approach
- An Introduction to Resilience
- Creative Well Being Journal
- Introduction to Digital Photography
- Introduction to Microsoft Word
- Safer Online
- Introduction to Safeguarding
- Introduction to becoming a Volunteer.

For more information contact Glen Ostins email [Glen.Ostins@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:Glen.Ostins@dudley.gov.uk) or call 01384 816496.

### Things to do over Easter

**Raring2go!** is an online magazine of places to visit, and children's activities. For families of young children in the Stourbridge, Dudley and Kidderminster area.

**Boredom Buster Issue 1** - The Boredom Buster is a 20-page pack full of puzzles, stories, information on the local area and more, all put together by the activity team at Broadway halls care home. <https://dudleyci.co.uk/storage/2156/issue-1.pdf>

For more information on any of the above contact: Mrs P Worsey, Parent Link Worker on 01384 814998 or [pworsey@thelinkacademy.org.uk](mailto:pworsey@thelinkacademy.org.uk)

## Summer Term Dates 2021

**Term starts:** Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021

**Half term:** Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021 - Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021

**Term ends:** Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021



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