

crest academy THE MAGAZINE

EDITION 06 AUTUMN 2018

**Open
Event Season**

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and times!

What's inside?
Exceptional Exam Success
Seamless Transitions
Outstanding Enrichment
Our Thriving Sixth Form

Every student a leader



Welcome

I am delighted to welcome you to the first edition of The Crest Academy magazine of the academic year. It is with great pride that we share the latest progress and developments and student triumphs from across the Academy throughout the last academic year and welcome our new students, whilst looking forward to another exciting and successful year.

Good news continues to flow; as we congratulate our students' excellent exam results at GCSE and A-Level and many offers from top universities across the country. The last academic year proved to be incredibly successful, with an array of individual accomplishments celebrated throughout the Academy.

The autumn term is always busy as we welcome new students and staff to The Crest Academy family and ensure all members of the community are settled and ready to begin another year of hard work. Transition is a key element of all that we do and we look forward to catching up with some of our new Year 7 students to see how they have settled in to their first term with us.

Within our state of the art learning environment, we look to motivate and inspire our students, providing them with unique opportunities and a dynamic, innovative curriculum preparing them for life in the 21st century, encompassing our vision of ensuring that every student leaves our Academy as a confident leader. Be sure to take the time to read all about the exciting opportunities our students have enjoyed, both in and beyond the classroom.

We look forward to welcoming our local families to our open events this September to show firsthand what The Crest Academy can offer your child. I hope you enjoy sharing our current successes and I can assure you that there are many more to come. Should you want to find out more, please don't hesitate to contact us. I look forward to welcoming many of you to our Academy, and to those already with us, continuing to work together to achieve the very best for your child.

Cristalina Fernandes, Headteacher



Our first term!



Firstly, we would like to offer a warm welcome to our new Year 7 students and their families who have settled in extremely well over the past few weeks.

At the Crest Academy, ensuring an effective and enjoyable transition period is at the heart of our offer. Our Student Ambassadors have made a fantastic effort to answer any questions and provide any support to our younger students if they have needed it. Our extensive Induction Programme ensures students settle successfully and their transition from primary school is as smooth as possible. Alongside our famous Friendship Afternoon that kicks off our Transition Programme, we also host parental engagement sessions and run a summer school, that allows our pupils to meet their peers, make friends and grow in confidence within their new surroundings before their September start date. We look forward to seeing our Year 7s develop and thrive over the next 7 years with us.

Off to a fantastic start...

We interviewed Year 7 students – Hawra and Mahamed to find out how they are getting on after their first few weeks at the Academy.

How have you found your first few weeks at The Crest Academy?

Hawra – I felt much more confident than I thought I would be, because we had the opportunity to come to the Academy back in March when we were first invited in for Friendship Afternoon. We met our teachers and made new friends so when we came for Induction Day we already knew people.

Mahamed – I have settled in well and teachers have offered me lots of support and guidance. I know who to talk to when I feel stuck or when I need to.

What has been the biggest change moving from primary to secondary school?

Hawra – It is definitely bigger than primary school but the facilities are amazing and we get to learn so many new subjects in a modern environment.

Mahamed – I love the building! It is really spacious but can be scary at times getting to the right classrooms on time. We have Student Ambassadors to help us.

What are you looking forward to in your time here at the Academy?

Hawra – I am already looking forward to working hard and getting good grades so that I can get into the Sixth Form here. One day I want to go to university and know that Crest will help me get there.

Mahamed – I can't wait to join as many clubs as possible and hopefully get onto one of the Academy's sports teams. I am also looking forward to going on different trips for different subjects.

Open Event Season

We are incredibly proud of the strides The Crest Academy is taking and the endless achievements of our staff and students, and it is with great joy that we share with you that our recent Ofsted monitoring report highlighted that teaching is strong, students work hard and are engaged in their learning, making good progress during their time with us. To find out what The Crest Academy can offer your child, we are opening our doors and welcoming all local families to our open events, to offer an insight into our unique offer and how we deliver our vision, of ensuring every student is equipped with the skills and knowledge to leave our Academy a confident leader.

Please come and visit during our open event season to find out more.

Wednesday 19 September 2018
Open Morning 9.45-11am

Wednesday 19 September 2018
Open Evening 4.30-6.30pm

Wednesday 26 September 2018
Open Morning 9.45-11am

Wednesday 26 September 2018
Open Evening 4.30-6.30pm

Tours available by appointment throughout October. Please contact TheCrestAcademyInformation@E-ACT.org.uk

High achievers

GCSE

We were thrilled to announce that the 2018 GCSE examination results were the most successful in the academy history, with numerous students achieving outstanding A* and 9 grades and 50% of students scoring grade 5 and above in English and Maths. We are exceptionally proud of their commitment and efforts to secure a fantastic set of GCSE results and look forward to welcoming many of them back to The Crest Academy Sixth Form in September. Here we meet with some of our highest achievers to find out their plans for the future:



Abdul joined The Crest Academy from Braintcroft Primary School in Year 7. He achieved 9 in Maths, an exceptional A* in Additional Maths, and 7s in Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Physical Education. Abdul is aiming to study Maths at Cambridge University having developed a passion for the subject at Crest. He is complementary about the teachers at the Academy and how they inspire their students.

“Crest provided me with the structure and discipline to succeed. The teachers are inspiring – they will find a passion in you and help you develop it”.

Aicha achieved an exceptional set of results, including 9s in English Language, English Literature, History and RE, and 8s in Maths and Spanish. She aspires to go to UCL to study Psychology, an interest that was developed during her time at Crest. She praised the careers advice at Crest and the close-knit school community.

“Teachers have supported me and given me information about becoming a Clinical Psychologist. Staff and other students help you to focus, staff are honest about how you are doing and push you to achieve your potential”.



Hafsa wants to go on to study Law at a Russell Group University after receiving exceptional GCSE results at Crest. She achieved grade 9s in History and English Language and 8s in Chemistry, Physics and Maths.

“Extra-curricular opportunities are also fantastic at Crest, they help you make friends, build confidence and learn outside of lesson time”.



Mihai achieved 9 in Maths and Spanish, and 8 in Geography, Biology and Chemistry. He is now looking forward to furthering his studies at Crest Sixth Form before studying Economics at University.

“I would advise younger students at Crest to make the most of everything on offer at school. Working hard early on will make it much easier to succeed later on”.

A-Level

Our Sixth Form has gone from strength to strength in recent years, as we celebrate our A-Level students achieving positive results across the board, impressive individual successes and prestigious university destinations. Their accomplishments are a testament to their hard work and dedication throughout their time at the Academy and are richly deserved. Here we showcase some of our 2018 graduates:



Malaeka, who attended Lyon Park Primary School achieved a Distinction in BTEC Applied Science. She is looking forward to studying Adult Nursing at the University of Middlesex before completing a Masters in the same field. She attributes her success to the environment in Crest Sixth Form as well as the close-knit community among Sixth Form students:

“Staff and other students push you on to work hard. The Sixth Form is very disciplined and staff don’t allow you to fail, they really helped me to get the results I have today. Other students also support you and there is a good sense of community”.

Someyra joined Crest in Year 7 from The Hyde School and received high grades in English Literature, Sociology and Psychology. She was inspired by the staff at Crest to become a teacher herself, and will be beginning an apprenticeship in September as a Teaching Assistant during her gap year.

“One of the most important things Crest Sixth Form teaches you is how to learn independently. They push you on and support you to prepare for your exams, but also teach you how to manage your time and treat you like an adult. I would be proud to recommend Crest and feel like they have prepared me well for university”.



Khadeejah, who attended Anson Primary School, achieved an A grade in Art, C in English and a Merit in BTEC Business. She is looking forward to taking up an apprenticeship as a Dental Technician before going to university in 2019.

“In the Sixth Form at Crest you receive so much careers advice and information about university. I found External speakers were particularly interesting and helpful, and once I knew what I wanted to do the school did everything they could to support me”.



Muneer, who attended Braintcroft Primary School before joining Crest in Year 7, has aspirations of working for the Foreign Office after being inspired to study History, Politics and International Relations at university. He cites the Career Ready programme as having helped him to gain his place at Royal Holloway University for September.

“If you aspire to go to university, Crest is the school to go to. The Career Ready mentoring scheme and visit to Oxford University are just two of the many ways they helped me decide what I want to do”.



Our thriving Sixth Form

The Crest Academy Sixth Form is a vibrant, friendly and highly successful learning and social community, which offers support and challenge to each student to enable them to embrace the requirements of higher level and more independent study. We pride ourselves on getting to know each student and providing a personalised approach, guiding them throughout their Sixth Form journey.

We promise to prepare our Sixth Formers for an exciting world of opportunities. Our dedicated Sixth Form team work together with each student to meet their individual needs and ensure they reach their full potential. Not only will support be given in their chosen subjects, but our staff offer extensive guidance on further study and careers. In addition to this, enrichment is an important element of our Sixth Form offer which we believe contributes to the personal development of each individual and time is devoted to providing students with personal and academic opportunities that go beyond the classroom.

Our Sixth Form Aim

Our aim is that all students will leave well equipped for the next stage of their lives, whether it is university, an apprenticeship, school leaver programme, employment or a Gap Year.

What do we offer our students?

- A wide choice of subjects
- Excellent teaching from a team of highly qualified teachers with a track record of success
- A Sixth Form Tutor Team skilled in monitoring and raising student attainment who also prepare students for Higher Education, training and employment
- Modern purpose built learning environment
- Opportunities outside the classroom to help the local community, try new activities and be a leader in the Academy

How do we support our students?

We recognise during this period, students will face difficult decisions that will directly impact their future pathways. At The Crest Academy Sixth Form, we offer tailored support and advice, which will help them to thrive as an independent young adult; personal tutors are allocated and regular meetings are held to discuss progress and concerns so that academic and personal goals can be reached and to assist the transition from school into Higher Education, employment and training. Additional support is provided by our highly skilled Learning Mentors who help students overcome any barriers to learning.

HERE ARE SOME OTHER WAYS WE SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS:

Coach Bright

Coach Bright is a unique mentoring programme run by Kings College graduates, that aims to boost student's grades, confidence and expectations.

1. Core university access programme: university students coach students in Year groups 10-13 around chosen subjects.
2. Peer to peer leadership programme: Year 12 students coach students in Years 8-10.

The programme offers a stimulating environment where the most able are encouraged to academically flourish. Students are paired with relatable role models who are either completing or have completed their educational journey (either at University or in Sixth Form), allowing students across all year groups to take part in developing their leadership skills, relating to our vision 'Every student a leader.'

Girls Network

The Girls Network is a female 1:1 mentoring scheme, that matches students with an inspiring female professional, to provide support and guidance over the course of an academic year. Alongside this mentoring, we also provide access to high quality workshops, exclusive networking opportunities and work experience that girls may never have had access to otherwise.

Career Ready Programme

Since 2002, the Career Ready Programme have connected employers with schools & colleges to provide young people aged 14-18 with the mentoring, internships, masterclasses, and wider employer-led activities they need to prepare for the world of work. At The Crest Academy, the Career Ready Programme consists of a series of masterclasses on employability skills, paid internships for the summer holidays and a range of sector-specific insight days and work experience opportunities. The Career Ready Programme believe that every young person should have the skills, confidence, and opportunity to enjoy a rewarding future. This programme encompasses the vision and expectations of The Crest Academy in preparing our students with strong skillsets for the next steps in their journey.

Outstanding Opportunities

As part of our promise to prepare our students for life beyond The Crest Academy, we ensure that there are opportunities inside and outside of the classroom to progress, explore and develop lifelong skills. We offer a wide and diverse curriculum with personalised pathways to suit students' abilities.



Duke of Edinburgh

Students have the opportunity to sign up to the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme; the world's leading youth achievement award, it encompasses a range of skills from volunteering to physical activities, life skills to expeditions. Achieving the award is a passport to a brighter future, valued by employers and universities, and it is part of our offer to enrich students' lives.

Over the summer term, twelve students successfully completed their test expedition as part of the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. Students who have taken part in the programme have gained self-belief and confidence in their own ability and have become more independent and responsible learners. In order to pass, participants have to also complete sections in volunteering, learning a new skill and participating in a new physical activity for 3 months.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award has been running at The Crest Academy for over six years and is embedded into the current enrichment programme offered to all students. The award enables students to learn new skills, help others, experience a sense of adventure and offers a great sense of achievement. Congratulations to our 2018 award winners.

TRIP TO IRISH EMBASSY AND HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

An exciting trip to the Irish Embassy began with our personal Ambassador introducing the issues of concern in Ireland, and followed by a series of commentaries on Brexit, trade, culture and communications by the Embassy staff to provide us with context. We were proud that our own student, Ali, contributed to the subsequent Q&A by raising the issue of a surge in immigration from Europe as a result of Brexit, demonstrating his clear interest in the politics sector.

The group then proceeded to the Supreme Court where there was a case of public enquiry in session. While the dense legal jargon might have remained impenetrable, there was a palpable sense of gravity, respectfully mirrored by the composure of our students who tiptoed in and out of the hearing in silence.

After a short rest in Victoria Tower Parks, students cleared Houses of Parliament security and were welcomed into a dining room with a river terrace. Plenty of sandwiches, cakes and cups of tea later, our host talked about the legislative process in the UK and the role of the two Houses.

The highlight for many of the students was not the breathtaking view of the river or the endless supply of cakes and sandwiches served at the tea party in the House of Lords, but the second reading of the offensive weapons bill in the House of Commons. Listening to legislative history in the making, students were mesmerised by the details of a law that will come to affect our communities. Perhaps the call to action will bring them back to one of these venues in the future.



COMPASS PROJECT MENTORING PROGRAMME

The Crest Academy has a variety of mentoring activities, with Year 11 participating in a year-long mentoring programme targeted at young Muslim women. Our students will have regular mentoring sessions, University visits, world of work visits and lots more as a result of the Compass Project, an initiative run by Tony Blair's Institute for Global Change. Watch out for more updates as this programme runs over the next academic year.

E-ACT NATIONAL CELEBRATION

The EACT National Celebration Event was an opportunity for all the schools to come together and showcase the abundance of talent in each of our academies. The students from Crest were a real credit to us all and each student performed outstandingly, to win their substantive categories. Oba as the short story winner, his flair for creative writing; Mohamed winning the wild card round for the rock star times tables and Malak stealing the show as the overall Spotlight winner, with her flawless rendition of the Whitney Houston classic 'Greatest Love Of All'. In addition, our very own Errol won a staff Thinking Big award. Congratulations to all of our winners!





Academy news

LONDON HERE WE COME!

During the summer term, students utilised their persuasive writing skills and ingenuity to craft letters focused on a subject of their choice. Their work was so impressive, it very generously resulted in a reward trip from Ms Fernandes to visit The London Dungeons and The Shard in Central London.

Students shot up into the sunny sky on the morning of their visit at The Shard; taking in the exhilarating and breath-taking views of the London skyline. It was great to see our students savouring the sights London has to offer on a beautiful summer's day, and soaking up the rewards of their hard work. In the afternoon students visited The London Dungeons where they experienced torture, The Black Death and the Great Fire of London, taking the opportunity to learn new facts about London's rich history. Our students were fantastic Ambassadors of the school and they were an absolute delight to take out.

SUMMER CONCERT 2018

After months of hard work and rehearsals, our summer concert was the perfect end to the academic year. Performances on the night were made up of a variety of talent including musicians and singers to name a few. Solos, duets and ensembles filled the school hall which was packed with supporters. The evening was a brilliant success with such high musical talent on display and many confident performers. Well done to everyone involved!

YEAR 7 TRIP TO TATE MODERN

Our Year 7 students made their way to Central London on the tube and experienced some of the many London sights, as they embarked on a trip to one of London's finest art galleries. The goal of the trip was a visit to the famous Tate Modern gallery in Trafalgar Square to experience modern art, and inspire their own future projects. The Crest Academy ethos was very apparent in the students as they supported each other and really engaged with the art work. Students thoroughly enjoyed the magnificent experience and look forward to interpreting the ideas they learnt into their own work.

REGIONAL SPORTS DAY

This year, our Regional Sports Day was hosted at The Crest Academy, a fantastic opportunity for students and staff to continue building strong relationships and the chance to take part in competitive sporting activities. Students demonstrated the great work and resilience that has been developed throughout the year through lessons and enrichment opportunities and we are thrilled that brilliant sports skills and good sportsmanship was shown across all schools that were present at the event.

A special thank you to our PE department at The Crest Academy who continue to provide students with endless opportunities to build their skillsets and rise as individual stars. All pupils enjoyed challenging themselves against some very gifted and talented pupils from across E-ACT, which will help them target set, individually and as cohorts to be better each year.

Congratulations to City Heights who came first in this year's competition and to The Crest Academy who came close behind in second place and Burnham Park in 3rd place. The feedback from the event was extremely positive and I'm sure this will not be the last time we see students from our E-ACT schools cheering, supporting and engaging with each other. We look forward to another exciting day of competition and sport next year. Not long until the 2019 Regional Sports Day...as of now we are in training!



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