



29 April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Re: 'Making the most of opportunities' (April 2024)**

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. As we have passed the midpoint of the academic year, I wanted to update you on some exciting opportunities for out-of-classroom learning that your children and young people have been engaged in.

One of the highlights of our extracurricular program is the Bronze, Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme (D of E). This renowned program offers the chance to develop valuable skills, engage in physical activities, volunteer within communities and embark on adventurous expeditions. The program not only enriches lives but also instills a sense of responsibility, resilience, and teamwork.

- [Find out more about the Duke of Edinburgh award at Finham Park School](#)

In addition to the D of E program, we have been thrilled to host some excellent and inspirational visiting speakers during the year. Viridi, from this year's BBC The Apprentice, spoke to a theatre full of Year 8 – 13 students about the need for self-belief in their endeavors. A speaker from NASA showcased the challenges and thrills of working on space exploration projects. Speakers like these share their knowledge and experiences with our students, providing valuable insights and inspiring them to explore new interests and career paths, as well as broadening their horizons and igniting their curiosity.

- [Period 6+ talks for Finham Sixth Form](#)

We are delighted to be launching a new initiative called the Finham 'Live Lounge'. Students are starting to volunteer to perform in front of their peers at break times during the day. These informal performances showcase the musical talents of our students in a relaxed and intimate setting. From solo performances to group collaborations, the 'live lounge' will provide our budding musicians with a platform to share their passion for music with their peers and the wider school community.

- [Finham 'Live Lounge'](#)

We believe that fostering a love for the arts is essential for the holistic development of students, and I am excited by these opportunities to support them in their creative endeavors.

We encourage all students to take advantage of these out-of-classroom learning opportunities and to actively participate in the extracurricular life of the school. To that end, over half of students are taking part in at least one of the 47 weekly 'out of school hours learning' activities. This rises to 94% of students when you include some of the other 33 one-off activities. We firmly believe that these experiences not only complement their academic studies but also equip them with the skills, knowledge, and confidence they need to thrive in an ever-changing world.

- [Out of School Hours Learning Opportunities](#)
- [Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity at Finham Park School](#)

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. If you have any questions or would like further information about any of the initiatives mentioned above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,

Mr C Bishop (Headteacher)