



Sidney Stringer
Academy

Newsletter

SUMMER TERM 2 2026

Believe | Achieve | Succeed



**WELL DONE TO OUR SSA WINNER SASHA AT
THE MAT ART EXHIBITION**



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



Google for Education
Reference School





Headteacher Message

Dear Parents, Carers, Students, and Staff,

As we come to the end of another academic year at Sidney Stringer Academy, I want to take a moment to look back and celebrate the truly amazing things that have happened across our school community this term. It has been a whirlwind of dedication, creativity, passion, and teamwork, and I could not be more proud of what we have achieved together.

Our students have shown immense resilience, focus, and hard work throughout this summer's exam season. From their meticulous preparation to their excellent conduct in the exam halls, their commitment has been outstanding, and we look forward to supporting them and celebrating their achievements during results days in August.

Creativity and talent have also shone brighter than ever this term. The recent Multi Academy Trust (MAT) Art Exhibition was a resounding success, providing a beautiful showcase of our students' hard work. A massive thank you to our wonderful Art/Design Department and the staff who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make this event happen.

Equal praise goes to the incredible cast, crew, and production team behind our spectacular school show, 'School of Rock'. The sheer energy, talent, and dedication brought to the stage completely blew us away and filled the theatre with immense pride.

On the fields, Sports Day brought out the absolute best in our school community. It was fantastic to see a brilliant display of sportsmanship, determination, and house pride.

None of these incredible milestones would be possible without the collaborative effort of our entire school community. To our parents and carers: thank you for your unwavering partnership and support. To our children: thank you for your endless enthusiasm, energy, and for being such brilliant ambassadors for our school. And to our staff: thank you for your profound dedication and for going above and beyond every single day to inspire our young people.

Thank you all for your efforts throughout this entire academic year. I wish you all a wonderful, safe, and restful summer break. Enjoy the sunshine, and we look forward to seeing you refreshed and ready to achieve even more when we return in September!

Miss Ford.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Friday 17th July - Break up for the Summer Holidays
- Monday 20th July - Friday 28th August - School Summer Holiday
- Monday 31st Aug - Bank Holiday - School closed
- Tuesday 1st September - INSET Day - School closed to Students
- Wednesday 2nd September - Progress Day
- Thurs 3rd September - Return to School for all pupils
Years 7 and 12 in at 08.40am
Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13 in at 11.10am
- Thursday 17th September - Open Evening 5.30-7.30pm
- Friday 23rd October - Break up for Half Term
- Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October - Half Term Holiday
- Monday 2nd November - Return to School

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STARTERS!

This term we welcome the following new staff:

Ms Ganu - Learning Support & Healthcare Assistant
Ms Edwards - LSA Intervention
Ms Noden - Senior Science Technician
Ms Sivakumar - Teacher of Science
Ms Rashid - Receptionist
Ms Paul - Governance Professional
Mr Kablic - Site Services Officer
Mr Cumberlidge - MAT Site Services Officer
Ms Ahmed - Associate Teacher
Mr Abdalle - Associate Teacher
Ms Jone - Finance Apprentice
Ms Whitelock - Finance Apprentice

GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK

This half term we say goodbye and good luck to the staff who are leaving us.

Ms Bharuchi - Senior Vice Principal
Ms Faill - Assistant Principal
Ms Hirsi - Teacher of English
Ms Bryan - Teacher of English
Ms Romanis - Teacher of English
Ms Green - Teacher of Geography
Ms Walters - Teacher of Science
Mr Masudi - Teacher of MFL
Ms Johnson - Head of Centre
Ms Rose - Governance Professional
Ms Ahilan - Cleaner
Mr McKay - Finance Apprentice
Ms Burkin - SEND Lead



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Your commitment to attendance is an investment in your child's future.

EVERY DAY MATTERS: ATTENDANCE IN SEPTEMBER



As we reach the end of another academic year, I would like to say a huge thank you to all parents and carers who have worked closely with us to support their children in achieving excellent attendance. Our attendance remains above the Coventry average, and this would not have been possible without the combined efforts of our students, families and staff.

As we look ahead to September, it is important that every student makes a strong start to the new academic year. Attendance habits are established very quickly, and even a small number of absences during the opening weeks can make it difficult for students to keep up with new work and settle into positive routines.

Our expectation is that all students achieve attendance of at least 95%. Although 90% attendance may initially sound positive, it means missing approximately 19 school days, which is around four weeks of education, over the course of a year. This represents a significant amount of lost learning and can have a lasting impact on a student's progress.

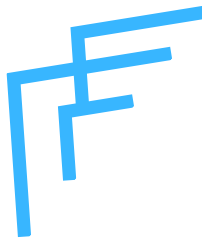
There is also a clear relationship between attendance and academic achievement. Department for Education research shows that students with attendance between 95% and 100% are nearly twice as likely to achieve strong GCSE results at grades 9 to 5 as students whose attendance is between 90% and 95%. Every day in school really does matter.

We will therefore be making a significant push in September to ensure that all students attend regularly and arrive punctually. Parents and carers can help by re-establishing good routines before the start of term, including regular sleeping patterns, preparing uniforms and equipment in advance, and making sure students are ready to return on the first day.

During the final week of the summer holidays, parents and carers will also receive an attendance survey by email. We would strongly encourage all families to complete this survey, particularly if there are any concerns or circumstances that may affect their child's attendance in September. This will allow us to identify any issues early and put support in place quickly to help students return to school successfully.

We understand that there may sometimes be challenges that affect a child's attendance. We encourage families to contact us as early as possible so that we can work together and provide the appropriate support.

Thank you once again for your continued support throughout this year. I hope that all our students and families have an enjoyable and restful summer holiday, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in September, refreshed and ready for a successful year ahead.



YEAR 11 LEAVERS

A MESSAGE FROM MR GRINSELL, MS SIMPSON & MRS FAILL

We have finally made it! Reflecting on the past five years, it has been an absolutely amazing journey for our students, their families, and the entire year leadership and tutor team. What an incredible life milestone this is.

It has been an absolute pleasure to serve as Head of Year for a group defined by their character, individuality, and sense of fun... traits that many of our staff members know and love you for! This year has been all about 'locking in' for exams, and every single student should be incredibly proud of their dedication and hard work.

Of course, we made sure to celebrate your time with us in style this term. From our final leavers' assembly to the leavers' party and our special evening at the Royal Court Hotel, you shone. I was again proud, but not surprised, to hear comments from others outside of Stringer, echoing what we already knew: you are a truly special year group, defined by your maturity, respect, and once again, your great sense of fun.

As I prepare to take on the new Year 7 in September, I do so knowing that dedication to a year group truly makes an impact on both their personal growth, and their character. I have learned so much while supporting you over the years.

Thank you to all of our families for your incredible support and collaboration. I wish every single one of our students the absolute best in their next chapters.

Finally, as you know, Mrs. Faill is also leaving us this term. Over the last five years, she has made a massive difference in the lives of your children, beautifully complementing all your hard work at home to champion our students' futures. While she will be massively missed here, we wish her the very best of luck in her new role as Deputy Headteacher. I have no doubt she will continue to inspire and support young people wherever she goes.

P.s. Mrs. Lovett sends you all her love!

Mr Grinsell

LEAVERS ASSEMBLY AND LEAVERS PARTY HIGHLIGHTS

Class of
2026





YEAR 11 PROM

ROYAL COURT
HOTEL

Class of
2026



National Thank a Teacher Day



On National Thank a Teacher Day, it feels especially fitting to share some brilliant news about two members of our school community who have received national recognition through Pearson's National Teaching Awards.

Mr Oboite has been recognised with a Teaching Assistant of the Year certificate, celebrating the vital contribution he makes to supporting our students and colleagues every day.

Mr Martin has also achieved a Bronze Award for Unsung Hero, a fantastic achievement that recognises the difference he makes through his hard work, dedication and commitment to our academy.

Both Mr Oboite and Mr Martin have also received a personal letter from Sir Michael Morpurgo, which makes this recognition even more special.

These are two nationally recognised awards, and it is wonderful to see members of staff from Sidney Stringer Academy being celebrated in this way. As a school, we are incredibly proud of them both and grateful for everything they do for our students, staff and wider community.

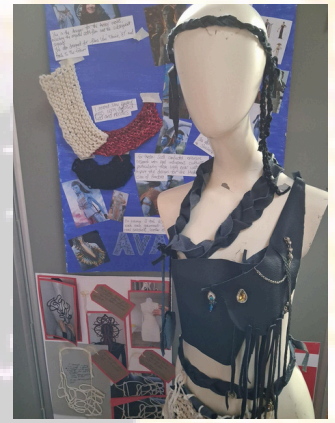
A huge well done to you both – we are very lucky to have you at Sidney Stringer.





Cris Deak from SSA proudly stands next to her drawing

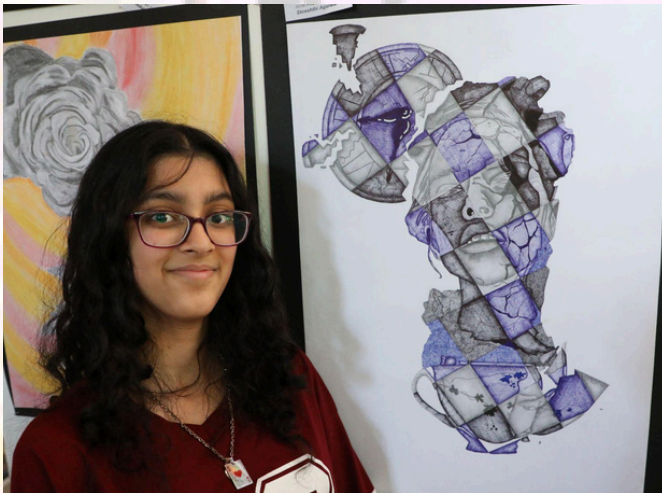
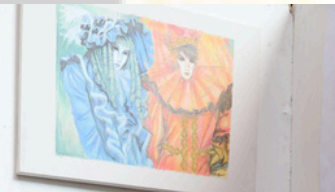
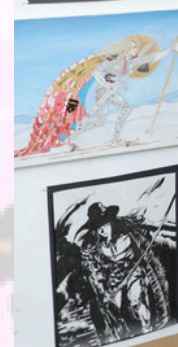
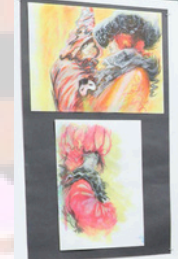
MAT Art Exhibition 2026



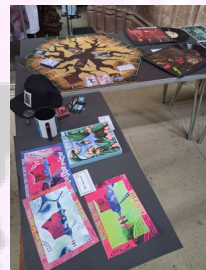
Work from Woodfield

The MAT Art exhibition 2026 was held again at St. John the Baptist Church in Coventry city centre. The church is a beautiful venue to exhibit art work, where visitors were able to really appreciate the fantastic work on display in a calm, peaceful atmosphere. The schools displaying art work were Sidney Stringer Academy, Ernesford Grange Community Academy, Sidney Stringer Primary School, Radford Primary Academy, Riverbank Academy and Woodfield School.

Art and design are such important and valuable subject in all six schools in the trust, enabling students of all abilities, to be creative and express themselves visually. The exhibition included a range of amazing paintings and detailed drawings and illustrations from both SSA and Ernesford Grange, as well as an impressive collection of graphic design promotional products from both schools.



Shreshthi Agarwal with her fragmented pen portrait (SAA)



Stunning illustrations by Safi Mbarushimana (SSA)

There was also paintings of King Henry VIII and observations of flowers from SSP and some self portraits and expressive colour work from Radford Primary. Riverbank displayed a variety of art including some bright, colourful collage work on canvases and a full size wigwam! Woodfield displayed some creative textiles work.



An intricate painting of the human anatomy by Ruqayah Minhas (SSA)



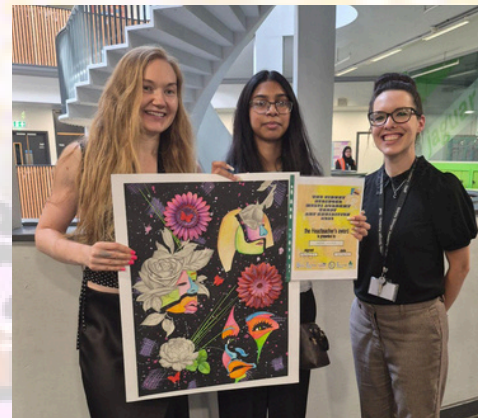
Art staff from across all the MAT schools



Each year, awards and certificates are given out, this year the prestigious "Tomes" award, named after Wendy Tomes the previous CEO of the academy was given to Joanne Taylor, an A Level art student at Ernesford Grange Academy. She produced this stunning painting below, of figures, using a mix of complementary colours.

The Head teachers of all the schools in the MAT, also gave a special recognition award to their favourite piece of work from their own school. Ms Ford chose this fantastic mixed media work by Sasha Nahar as her favourite piece of art from Sidney Stringer Academy.

The current CEO, Claire Turpin, commented on the range and standard of the work and how important it is for art and the creative subjects to be recognised and celebrated in schools.



Here is Ms Ford and Ms Murphy presenting Sasha with her winner's certificate and voucher.



Beautiful oil paintings by Anhaar Mohamed (SSA)



A Level Graphic design (SSA)



GCSE Photography (SSA)



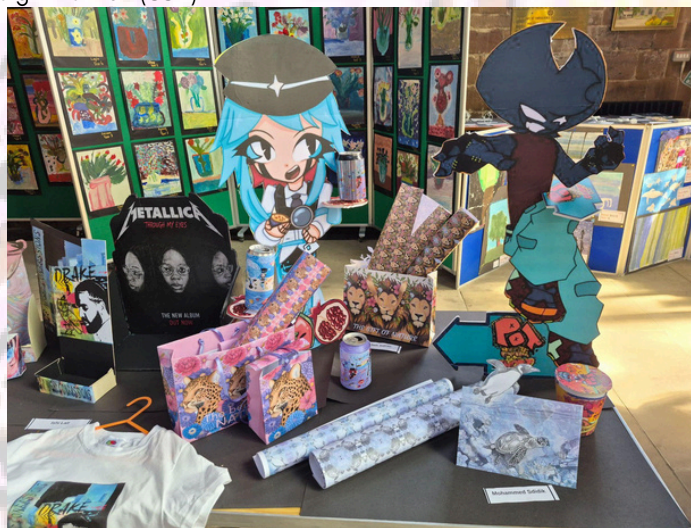
Large KitKat sculpture by Kayleigh Brennan (SSA)



Jawairriyah Bansal (SSA) with her contemporary lamp design



Egyptian Art by D'Marco Cornwall-Mythen and Veronica Kierul (SSA)



GCSE Graphic design (SSA)

SPORTS DAY

07 July, 2026

On Tuesday 7th July, 375 students travelled across to the Warwick University Sports Track to compete in the annual SSA Sports Day! Students battled through the heat to compete in track, field and team sport events throughout the day.

It was an amazing day where the school's DRIVE values were on full display! Representing their house, students engaged in a day full of support, team work, success and celebration.



Final Standings for Sports Day

1st	Phoenix	521
2nd	Da Vinci	486
3rd	Lanchester	446
4th	Swanswell	427
5th	Jaguar	417



**Well Done
Phoenix!**



We are already looking forward to next year when Sports Day will be bigger and better!



WIMBLEDON TRIP

8TH JULY 2026

On Wednesday 8th July, 8 lucky students got the chance to go to the All Lawn Tennis Club for Day 10 of the Championships.

It was an amazing day spent on Court No.2 watching both men's and women's doubles. Students also had the opportunity to explore the impressive grounds and soak up the atmosphere. The 30+ degree heat was testing at times, but we all had an amazing day, and some even managed to get a close up of Roger Federer and Jannicj Sinner on the Centre Court balcony!



**Eco Schools
Green Flag Award 2023 - 2024
& 2024-2025**



GREAT YARMOUTH BEACH CLEAN



On Friday 10th July, a group of 14 students from Eco Club, were lucky enough to go on a trip to Great Yarmouth Beach.

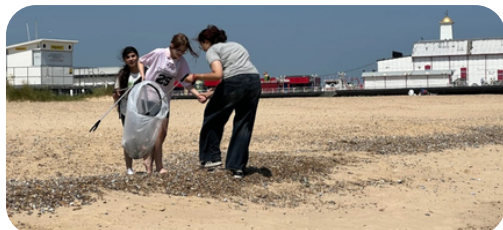
As part of one of our topics for the Green Flag this year 'Marine', we had planned to go and do a beach clean. Miss Burkin had organised the whole trip and contacted Great Yarmouth Council, who kindly provided us with litter picking equipment on the day.

It was an early start, as the students were asked to be at school by 7am, to give us plenty of time to get registered and on the school minibus to start the drive there. It was a 3 hour trip plus rest stops as well. Miss Burkin, Miss Mertens and Mr Gunn accompanied the group. We arrived just after 11am and after finding our meeting point, the students had until 12pm to have a little paddle in the sea first. They absolutely loved it!

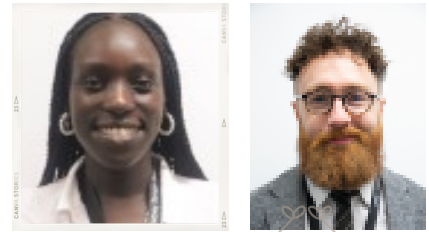
At 12pm we met Mathew the Environmental Ranger Protection and Waste from Great Yarmouth Council. He gave a safety brief and then handed out the litter picking equipment after which the students set off in small groups to give the beach a tidy. They had some lovely comments from other beachgoers, thanking them for cleaning up the beach and commending them on their excellent behaviour.

It was a fairly quiet day at the beach, so plenty of space for them to roam around. They managed to wander around the beach for just over an hour and each group collected a bag of rubbish. We then met the Ranger again and returned the equipment, before heading off for some Fish and Chips for lunch, a play in the Arcades and a final paddle in the sea before returning back to school.

All in all they had an absolutely amazing day, which will hopefully encourage them to pass on the importance of keeping our beaches and everywhere else nice and tidy and litter free, stop pollution and keep our wildlife safe.



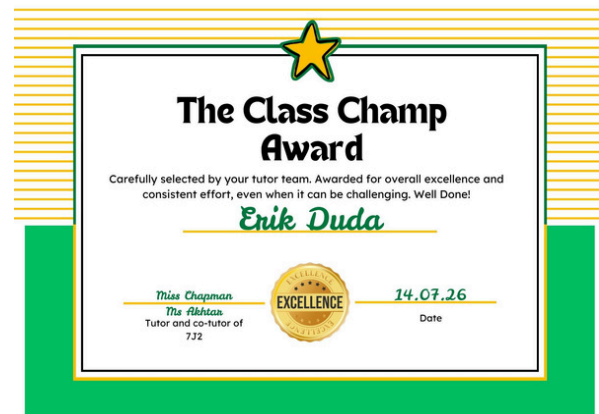
YEAR 8



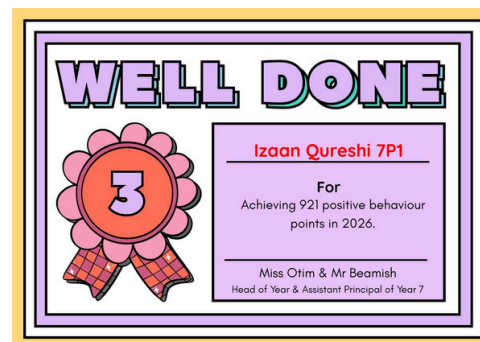
END OF YEAR CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Here's a selection of our winners.....

LET'S
CELEBRATE
you



YEAR 8



YEAR 8

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL AWARD 2026

This Certificate is Proudly Presented to

Edi Mihai 7L1

For your consistent broadcasting of our DRIVE Values, great efforts across the board and overall outstanding year. This is a well deserved award. You should be so proud!

Awarded on this day, 14th July 2026

Mr Beamish
Assistant Principal of Year 7

HEAD OF YEAR AWARD 2026

This Certificate is Proudly Presented to

Hannah Fiaz 7J2

For staying true to yourself and truly showing what it is to be an outstanding student. Your consistent high efforts, kindness and excellent work does not go unnoticed. Well Done!

Awarded on this day, 14th July 2026

Miss Otim
Head of Year 7

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL AWARD 2026

This Certificate is Proudly Presented to

Scarlett Carter 7D2

For your consistent broadcasting of our DRIVE Values, great efforts across the board and overall outstanding year. This is a well deserved award. You should be so proud!

Awarded on this day, 14th July 2026

Mr Beamish
Assistant Principal of Year 7

HEAD OF YEAR AWARD 2026

This Certificate is Proudly Presented to

Israr Rahimi 7S2

For having a charming and bubbly personality, you have shown true determination this year, even when it has been difficult. Well Done on a much deserved award.

Awarded on this day, 14th July 2026

Miss Otim
Head of Year 7

INSPIRING LEADER

this award is presented to

Rayyan Khalifa 7D2

for **leading by example** and motivating others with your actions and attitude as a positive role model.

Miss Otim & Mr Beamish
Head of Year & Assistant
Principal of Year 7

14th July 2026
Date

INSPIRING LEADER

this award is presented to

Ahmed Hussain 7J2

for **leading by example** and motivating others with your actions and attitude as a positive role model.

Miss Otim & Mr Beamish
Head of Year & Assistant
Principal of Year 7

14th July 2026
Date

INSPIRING LEADER

this award is presented to

Sienna Aubrey-Da Cova 7S1

for **leading by example** and motivating others with your actions and attitude as a positive role model.

Miss Otim & Mr Beamish
Head of Year & Assistant
Principal of Year 7

14th July 2026
Date

INSPIRING LEADER

this award is presented to

Aidan Millns 7D1

for **leading by example** and motivating others with your actions and attitude as a positive role model.

Miss Otim & Mr Beamish
Head of Year & Assistant
Principal of Year 7

14th July 2026
Date

INSPIRING LEADER

this award is presented to

Keerit Dhaliwal 7P1

for **leading by example** and motivating others with your actions and attitude as a positive role model.

Miss Otim & Mr Beamish
Head of Year & Assistant
Principal of Year 7

14th July 2026
Date

YEAR 8



Well done to all our Year 8 winners, you are all amazing!

On the 14th June we took a group of Year 7-9 girls on a trip to Edgbaston to watch the Women's T20 World Cup. It was a double header, so students got the opportunity to watch Netherlands vs Bangladesh, as well as the huge clash between India and Pakistan.

The ground was packed, so students were able to experience the excitement of a live sporting event and soak up some rays in the process.



YEAR 9



It has been a very busy half term here in new Year 9! Our wonderful students have been getting to grips with their 2 new option subjects and have been impressing us with their maturity and determination as they tackle their GCSE studies.

It has been lovely to see students excelling in the subjects they have chosen to study and we have enjoyed hearing about how they are developing their skills and knowledge in subjects they are familiar with and subjects that are new to them such as Psychology, Sociology and Business Studies.

In PE students have been enjoying the sunshine developing their basketball skills as well as their cricket skills and the new Year 9 football team enjoyed their enrichment match against Year 10 students.

They have also been enjoying the wealth of opportunities to get involved in school activities such as their instrumental lessons [and we have some fantastic musicians who are lovely to hear] and school trips including sporting and theatre trips that you can read about in more detail elsewhere in the newsletter.

With students having made such an excellent start to life in Year 9, it remains only for us to wish them a very happy and safe summer holidays and we look forward to seeing them on their return in September!

CONGRATULATIONS



It is always a pleasure to see our students actively involved in our community, and this half term we would like to congratulate Noah James-Scott 9L2 on his teams success in the Under 14's Coventry & Warwickshire League.

Well Done Noah!

YEAR 9

VISIT TO ST GEORGE'S PARK - HOME OF ENGLISH FOOTBALL



The students had a brilliant day and really threw themselves into every activity. They took part in a pitch session focused on speed and agility, completed a gym session where they experienced a range of fitness testing, and finished with a hydrotherapy session to learn about recovery techniques used in elite sport.

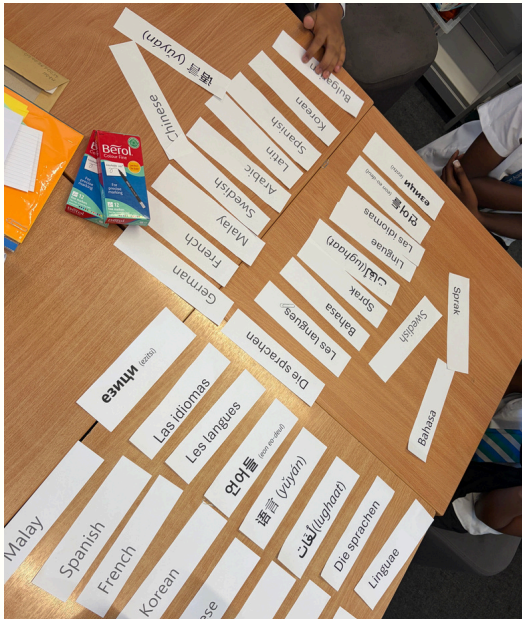
It was a fantastic opportunity for them to experience what life is like as a professional athlete, and they absolutely loved every minute of it. It was great to see them challenging themselves, asking questions, and making the most of everything on offer.

A huge well done to all of the students involved for representing the school so well. They were a credit to us throughout the day.



YEAR 9

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK LAUNCHES 'HIGH FLYING LINGUISTS' PROJECT WITH YEAR 9



We were delighted to welcome Orla Whelan Davis from the University of Warwick School of Modern Languages and Cultures into school last week.

She is working with a group of ten students from Year 9 who have been nominated to participate in a new project entitled High Flying Linguists, which will run next academic year, and will involve students visiting the university along with students from four other secondary schools across the city, to further their appreciation of languages and cultures and give students a unique opportunity to engage in language based activities.

WELL DONE!



THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Fatima Butt 9L2 has been awarded a commendation in the Anthea Bell Translation Prize from the University of Oxford for her Level 3 Italian translation piece.

Over 25,000 students took part in the 2026 competition, with schools submitting up to five entries per language for each level. Our team of 36 judges, including leading professional literary translators and Oxford Modern Languages students, assessed over 5,400 entries to the competition.



WELL DONE ELENA AND JOSH!

We love to celebrate excellence and here are two students who have shone this half term.

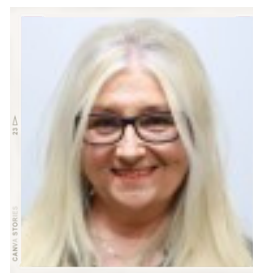
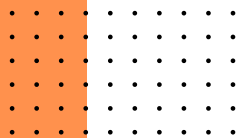
Well done to Elena-Sofia M 8S1 on receiving a certificate for her Excellence in English and also a very well done to Josh S 8S2 for baking some very yummy chocolate brownies.



YEAR 10

A great GCSE practical lesson practicing food presentation skills .





YEAR 11

A MESSAGE FROM MS GREEN & MR MAWDSLEY

I would like to begin by saying how impressed I have been with our new Year 11 students. They have recently completed a GCSE examination and demonstrated a great deal of determination, maturity and hard work throughout the examination period. They conducted themselves extremely well, and I look forward to celebrating their achievements and sharing some positive results with them on GCSE results day.

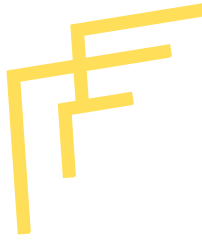
As students move into Year 11, they are entering an important and exciting stage of their education. The year ahead will bring challenges, but it will also provide many opportunities for them to develop, succeed and prepare for their next steps. Students will receive a wide range of additional support, including subject-specific revision sessions, targeted intervention and guidance to help them prepare confidently for their final GCSE examinations.

Excellent attendance will be particularly important. Every lesson matters, and regular attendance will ensure that students do not miss essential knowledge, revision or examination preparation. We ask all students and families to work closely with us to ensure that attendance remains as high as possible throughout Year 11.

As among the oldest students in the school, Year 11 have an important responsibility to act as positive role models for younger students. By demonstrating our school values through their behaviour, attitude, attendance and commitment to learning, they can set an excellent example for the rest of the school community.

I am extremely proud of the start they have made and look forward to working with them throughout the coming year. With continued determination, hard work and support from school and home, I am confident that they can achieve their very best.

16+



YEAR 13 BUSINESS STUDIES REWARD TRIP TO THE PEAK DISTRICT

Our Year 13 Business students had a fantastic day exploring the beautiful Peak District as part of their end-of-year rewards and enrichment programme. The trip was a well-deserved celebration of their hard work, perseverance, and achievements throughout the academic year.

From scenic walks through Bakewell to enjoying a picnic surrounded by stunning countryside, students embraced the opportunity to unwind, spend time together, and make lasting memories.

Of course, everyone tackled the day in their own way! Some students were determined to conquer every steep hill and trail, proving they were more than up for the hiking challenge. Others preferred to appreciate the breathtaking scenery at a gentler pace—making the most of the picture-perfect views and capturing plenty of Instagram-worthy moments (while avoiding too much of the sweaty uphill climb!).

Everyone represented the school brilliantly, showed excellent teamwork and respect, and had a thoroughly enjoyable day.

Here are some highlights from our day in the Peak District!



At the start of June, 14 of our Year 12 students headed to Partners& for an exciting three-day work experience in Insurance. They came back full of enthusiasm, having learned so much about the world of business. Our students were a credit to the school, and their innovative ideas on how they'd partner their business ventures with the firm really impressed the Senior Management Team. A huge well done to all involved!



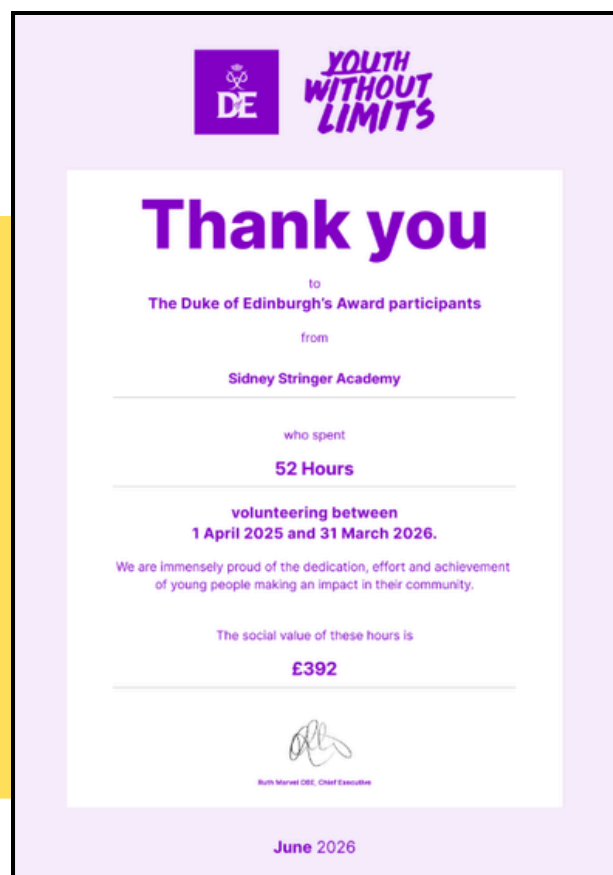
UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER VISIT

During the visit our Year 12 students learnt about universities. They also completed a tour of the campus to investigate more about life as a university student. In the afternoon they took part in a workshop to find out more about what learning is like in a university environment. As a whole students were really enthusiastic about the University and what it has to offer.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH CELEBRATIONS

Our wonderful Year 12 Duke of Edinburgh participants have shown selfless and meaningful contribution to the community. Beyond the hours logged, our students have developed practical skills, empathy, and leadership qualities that shape their future academic and professional paths. We would like to recognise and congratulate our students on this fantastic achievement!



This academic year, six A Level STEM students had the opportunity to complete the highly regarded Industrial Cadets Gold Project, run by the EDT every year for aspiring students to gain insight into the world of engineering. Over this year, we collaborated closely with professional engineers from Dennis Eagle, who mentored us through every stage of the process and made this project become whole.

Their challenge was to create an innovative solution that would boost efficiency during the production of their RCVs, hence we created a welding jig. At first, this felt nearly impossible, but after our initial concept sketches and thorough research, then CAD models and a visit to De Montford University, our final model came to life. The welding jig has been tested during manufacturing and has been proven to work and due to the quality of our product, Dennis Eagle is now considering implementing the jig in future production, making our hard work feel worthwhile.



Our project ended last month with a final trip to University of Birmingham, where we showcased our project to other schools and mentors who have also completed the project. It was here where we were formally recognised for, not just our technical success, but also our communication, organisation and collaborative decision making through an award dedicated to our teamwork that celebrated how well we have worked together during the project.

Taking part in the Industrial Cadets Gold Project has given us the confidence, creativity and mindset to not only thrive in industry, but also valuable skills that we will carry with us into the future.

A group of students went to visit Keble College at Oxford University. Students were given sessions to support with the Oxbridge application process led by the admissions team. They then had a tour of two colleges. Students had lunch in the great Keble dining hall with other students and staff. The day was finished with students attending an humanities or STEM Masterclasses led by lecturers at the university.

All in all it was an incredibly insightful day.



A DAY AT COGNIZANT HQ

Recently, 30 of our Post-16 students traded the classroom for the bustling streets of central London, heading straight to the prestigious head office of global technology giant, Cognizant.

The goal of the trip? To step inside the fast-paced world of tech consulting and discover how modern businesses use cutting-edge Information Technology to solve massive, real-world problems.

During their visit, our students got a front-row seat to the sheer scale of what Cognizant does. Our students were shown how behind-the-scenes IT keeps some of the world's biggest brands running smoothly.

The absolute highlights of the day included learning about:

- High-Speed Partnerships: How Cognizant collaborates with Aston Martin and the FA (Football Association) on high-level information management to drive performance on the track and on the pitch.
- Artificial Intelligence: A fascinating look into how they are actively developing and training next-generation AI models.
- Robotics: An insider's glimpse into the future of automated tech and the pivotal role robotics will play in our everyday lives.



"This trip was an incredibly valuable eye-opener for our Post-16s. Seeing how the theory they learn in the classroom translates into high-octane careers with brands like Aston Martin was truly inspiring."



REWARDS TRIP TO ALTON TOWERS

As a end of year rewards trip our 16+ students got to go to Alton Towers where they all had a fantastic day with friends enjoying the rides and nice food.

This trip is very popular and we love to run this every year for our students to look forward to.



WHATS HAPPENING IN THE LIBRARY?

AWARD WINNING AUTHOR VISITS SIDNEY STRINGER ACADEMY

We were delighted to welcome award-winning author Sufiya Ahmed to SSA in June. We hosted Sufiya and schools from across the city alongside Coventry Libraries and the Coventry Schools Library Service as part of the celebrations to mark 2026 as the National Year of Reading.

Sufiya spoke to students about her experiences growing up in the UK as a Muslim girl and her former career working in the Houses of Parliament, as well as about her books. Students had the chance to meet Sufiya and have their books signed.



SUPER SLEUTHING IN OUR BOOK CLUB

Members of **Page Turners book club** have been super sleuthing recently and were put to task by solving a grisly murder! Students had to navigate their way around the library to answer questions and solve the crime. It transpired that the body discovered in the library was that of poor Mr Beamish who met his end through being poisoned by none other than Ms Bharuchi!



We celebrated National Writing Day on 24th June with some poetic activities during lunchtime in the library. Students created "black out" poetry and wrote their own poems using prompts on the theme of origins. Some of the work can be found on display in our new SSA Student Showcase area.

There is no need for a reading slump over the summer holidays - with any form of reading providing countless benefits. Students can keep up with news and events as we can offer free access to First News - the UK's award-winning newspaper for young people.

The free summer subscription gives unlimited access to the First News app from 9th July - 4th September, with weekly news and past issues, quizzes, daily news stories to read, listen to or watch, puzzles and games and lots more completely free!

Visit

<https://subscribe.firstnews.co.uk/summer-reading-2026/228844905527/> to sign up.



SOME EXCITING NEWS!

We have our own authors at SSA! Students' work has been published in *I Have a Dream* and *Stranger Saga* as part of the Young Writers competitions. Copies of each book are available in the library.

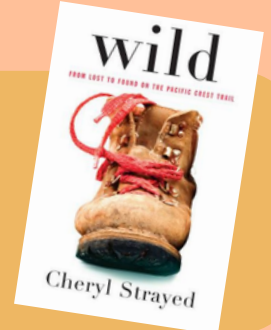


WHAT ARE THE STAFF READING?

Mrs Taylor

What book are you currently reading?

I'm reading forensic scientist Patricia Wiltshire's fascinating memoir *Traces* and Cheryl Strayed's account of her lone hike across the Pacific Crest Trail, *Wild*.



How long have you been a reader?

I've been a reader since the moment I could read. More important than any help in learning how to read, my mum cultivated in me and my sister a love of reading. She took us to our local library from when I was a toddler and read to us, whilst my dad was great at making up stories.

What is a book you've read more than once, and why do you keep going back to it?

I've read a book called *New York* by Edward Rutherfurd more than once. He writes narrative histories of cities and countries and I love *New York*. I notice something new each time I read it. One of my favourites is *The Skylarks' War* by Hilary McKay who I was lucky enough to meet in my last job. She creates brilliantly believable characters who you really root for – the audiobook version is also great.

What is the first book that made you fall in love with reading?

I can remember the words in a Ladybird book called *On The Farm* actually starting to make sense as I read them when I was 4. My mum introduced me to fantastic children's books by Shirely Hughes which I still love now. My friends and I read every copy of *Sweet Valley Twins* and *Sweet Valley High* we could get our hands on when I was a child..

When and where do you read?

Homelife and work are very busy and I don't read as much as I'd like. Before bed is ideal, in the morning on weekends or during holidays. Any time and anywhere I can!

How does being a reader help you in the classroom?

You can't be a librarian without being a lover of reading and, specifically, a reader of all genres as a school librarian. I am unashamedly fanatical about reading – there is something for everyone, in whatever mood you're in and with whatever interests you have – and I love the fact that I get the chance to pass this on to our students.

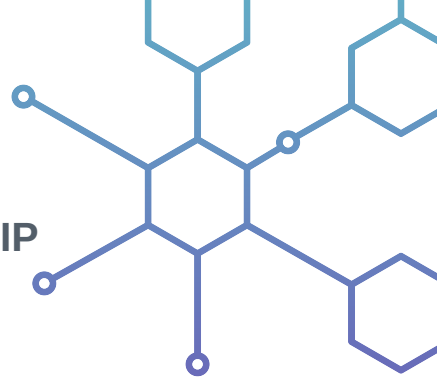
Quick Fire Questions:

1. **Physical book, e-book, or audiobook?** Physical book every time for me.
2. **What is your guilty pleasure genre?** No genre should be a guilty pleasure.
3. **Where is your favourite place to read?** In my back garden in the sun.
4. **What is your favourite reading snack?** I prefer to eat first, then read with a cup of tea in the winter or a cool drink in the summer.



IN SCIENCE

SIDNEY STRINGER ACADEMY RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP SHOWCASED BY BIRMINGHAM CITY UNIVERSITY



Sidney Stringer Academy is celebrating a significant academic achievement after collaborating with Birmingham City University (BCU) on an academic paper that is due to be published this month, following successful peer review.

The paper explores how immersive STEM experiences in forensic science can strengthen careers education through partnerships between schools and higher education. Drawing on Sidney Stringer Academy's innovative work with BCU, the publication highlights how authentic learning experiences can inspire students and raise aspirations for careers in science, policing and criminology.

The collaboration has already attracted wider recognition, with the project selected as a case study of successful partnership working at Birmingham City University's Fusion networking event for Criminology, Sociology and Policing, which was held at the University's Curzon Campus.

Miss Holyman, Lead Practitioner of Science said: *"We are incredibly proud that our collaborative work with Birmingham City University has been recognised in this way. It demonstrates how schools and universities can work together to create meaningful learning experiences that inspire students and open doors to exciting future careers. Seeing our work published and showcased at a regional event is a fantastic achievement for everyone involved."*



NEW HORIZONS FOR OUR YEAR 13 CHEMISTS

As the academic year comes to an end, we would like to congratulate our fantastic Year 13 Chemistry students on completing their A-level studies. The 16+ Chemistry course develops far more than scientific knowledge, it builds problem-solving skills, resilience and curiosity that are valued in every profession.



Miss Holyman, Lead Practitioner of Science and Head of Chemistry at SSA said: *"The next exciting milestone is Results Day on Thursday, 13 August 2026 where their hard work, resilience and enthusiasm throughout the OCR Chemistry A course will surely be rewarded. The students in the Year 13 class should be incredibly proud of everything they have achieved. I can't wait to find out where our wonderful chemists will go, maybe into the field of chemistry, medicine, pharmacy, engineering, biochemistry, forensic science or another exciting field!"*

IN SCIENCE



The summer holidays are the perfect time to relax, but that doesn't mean your science brain has to switch off! Science is all around us!

So, you might love watching TV, why not try a science documentary and discover amazing facts about space, animals or the human body. Maybe you prefer some more in person experience, you could try Coventry Museums which are packed with hands-on activities that make learning fun.

Miss Holyman, Lead Practitioner of Science said: *"Even at home, science is everywhere. Cooking really is just Chemistry where you can eat the products! You say gardening, I say a living Biology lesson, with plants, insects and ecosystems waiting to be explored. Then for the DIY projects, that will be Physics every time you measure, build or work out how to make something stronger."*

Stay curious this summer and why not use your Science curiosity to earn yourself a Blue Peter Badge (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/about-blue-peter-badges>)! You need to be under 15 and send interesting letters, stories, makes, pictures, poems and good ideas to show on the programme, if you get a badge you can gain access to over 200 Blue Peter badge attractions around the country for free and you might see your creation on Blue Peter!

So, ask questions, investigate how things work and see if you can spot science in your everyday adventures. You might be surprised just how much you discover before September arrives!

WHERE CAN CHEMISTRY TAKE YOU?

Chemistry opens doors to an incredible range of careers. From developing life-saving medicines and designing sustainable fuels to creating cosmetics, analysing forensic evidence or tackling climate change, Chemistry really can take you anywhere!

This half term, we were delighted to welcome our prospective Year 12 students during A Week in the Life (AWITL). Those hoping to study OCR A-level Chemistry enjoyed a fantastic introduction to the course, taking part in a couple of taster lessons that gave them a flavour of the exciting topics and practical work ahead.

They also discovered the power of Cornell note-taking, a simple but highly effective technique that helps students organise information, improve understanding and boost long-term recall. Developing strong study habits from day one is just as important as learning new scientific concepts.

We can't wait to welcome our new chemists in September and see where their curiosity, determination and love of Chemistry will take them. The future is full of exciting possibilities!



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10th TO 28th
AUGUST 2026

Monday to Friday

10am - 3pm

HOW TO BOOK

APPOINTMENT ONLY

Booking is essential

Join the waiting list to be
notified when booking opens



clothingcoventry.org/uniform

Due to reduced funding, all items will be second hand / preloved

6th Form Business wear will also be available

*This event is for Coventry schools and residents only

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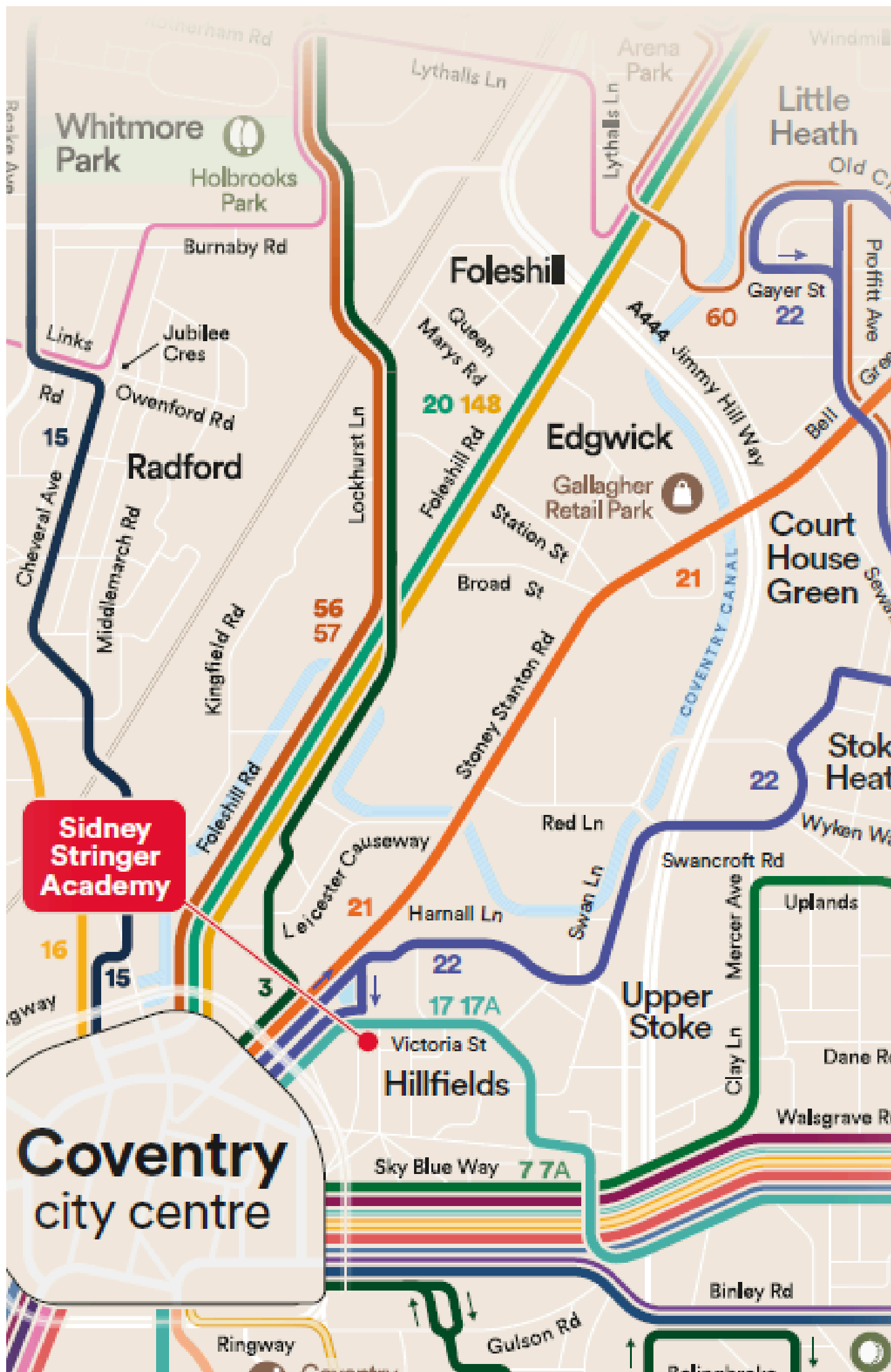
You're Bussing It

Unlimited travel on all bus operators that are part of the nBus scheme, within the nBus zone. Information correct as of June 2026.

Offer valid until 13th September 2026. Terms and conditions apply, see link above for details.



**Getting to
Sidney Stringer
Academy**





How to use the bus



Plan a journey to school

Use the map on this leaflet or the TfWM app.



At the bus stop

Raise arm to signal the driver to stop.



Paying

Tap bus pass on the red ticket machine at the front of the bus.



Let's go!

Find a seat or hold onto a handrail.
Listen for next bus stop announcements, to know where to get off the bus.



Alighting *(Bus lingo for getting off!)*

When nearing the stop, press the stop button.



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13-16 Year Olds

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10:00am - 3:00pm



Sidney Stringer
Academy



THANK YOU FOR READING!

A FINAL MESSAGE FROM US:

We understand that many of you as parents and carers will be collecting your child by car at the end of the day.

Our car parking space is limited. For the safety of all children, and as a courtesy to all, please do not block the exits to the car parks and allow easy access for disabled parking.

We would also like to thank you for not parking in the marked Disabled Bay without a Blue Badge.

LOST PROPERTY

Please label your child's belongings. The school cannot accept responsibility for any lost items.

Students are advised not to leave their personal belongings unattended. The school cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage that occurs to unattended items.