



Echoes of Excellence

A collation of positive comments and feedback

Issue 4



Hello everyone

Welcome to Issue 4 of Echoes of Excellence, celebrating the positive work we do at Ashton Sixth Form College. This issue brings together messages from students, parents and carers, stakeholders and colleagues.

They recognise the care, effort and support that can sometimes go unnoticed, and remind us of the positive impact we have on those around us.

Kim

PA to the Principal

So sorry for not replying to your email before wishing me good luck! I've printed it out and will cherish it. it was so lovely to read. I'm off to Newcastle to study Biology in September. I truly believe it was my distinction star that played a big part in my acceptance and for that I have you to thank. I know you always say it was me who put in the hard work but honestly that work was only a reflection of the effort you put in and attention you give every one of your students. I never really had a relationship with any of my teachers both at college and school but I opened up to you in times of difficulty and felt safe knowing you had my back whatever the situation. Your teaching style is incredible and I feel privileged to have been taught by you - I mean that! Thank you for being persistent and checking up on me when I needed it. even when you had a million things going on. Your jokes will be with me for a lifetime!

Thank you so much for everything! Every bit of it.

Email to a teacher from a former student

I came to college on Wednesday to say goodbye to you but it was about 3 ish and there was no one in the sport building. I just wanted to say a huge thank you for being such good support when you weren't even my teacher you've been amazing. I passed my fitness test this morning, so now I officially have a degree apprenticeship in policing and I wouldn't have been able to do it without you. I'll try and come in again soon to see you. Thank you so much.

Email to a teacher from a former student

That is fantastic to hear, thank you for letting me know. I have always believed in *student*. I know he will do well in life - he's still applying for apprenticeships and the right one will come his way when the time's right.

And thank you for your kind words. I am also very proud of him and always will be.

Your support and guidance over these two years has played a major role in his success, so thank you once again.

You have been truly magnificent! Have a lovely summer.

Email to a teacher from a parent

We would just like to say a huge thank you to all the teachers and support staff who have taken the time to speak to the prospective students that have come in for extra transition visits.

A lot of these students are very nervous about starting the new year in September. Having the chance to speak to members of staff about the courses, and college life in general, has had a really positive impact on both the students and their parents/carers.

Thank you!!
From the IL Team

Internal email to all staff

I also just wanted to say a massive thank you for these last 2 years, you were so helpful and a great teacher, your genuine care for the class and everyone's well being is something I've never seen in a teacher before, you always made sure I had the help I needed and helped me decide what I wanted to pursue at University. I'm so grateful that I had you as a teacher and wish you the best of luck in the future. Thanks so much

Email to a teacher from a former student

I wanted to take a moment to thank you for the commendation and share my appreciation for your kind words and thoughtful act of recognition; it was a pleasant surprise, a great start to the week, and an even better end to the half term. It has not gone unnoticed and I certainly couldn't have done it without you.

Your support, patience and hard work make a real difference. You are a credit to not only to the students, but also the school, regardless of whether you've been commended or not.

Email to a teacher from a GCSE resit student

Massive thanks to *Manager* and the Estates team for the huge amount of work completed over half term.

Lots of important jobs done and significant improvements to the estate in lots of areas.

Internal email to all staff

I would like to thank both you and *Teacher* for putting together that meeting this morning with *Coach* and for not giving up on him. I think it is what he needed to hear and has changed his mind regarding football and signed up for the under 21's with Stalybridge Celtic and is considering a different job at present. Without this I feel *Student* would definitely be making more bad choices and ending up on a very bad path to distraction, I personally want to thank all of you because he wouldn't listen to me but has finally seen that others believe in him also.

Thank you all for how you are as tutors but also as mentors to students who lack in Belief and confidence at times it shows you care and are in the right job, I know *Student* pushed for distraction and pushed buttons for tutors however you never bit back and it shows with the support you are still giving so I want to thank you and I am very grateful for you all for that support when things looked bleak. Have a lovely half term

Email from a parent of an A2 student

I just wanted to say how thankful I am to have had you as my teacher. You were a great teacher and a even better person so thank you.

Email to teacher from a former student

We were absolutely thrilled to read your email with such kind words and sentiments about *Student* so thank you for taking the time and effort to send it to us.

It has really been a challenging time for *Student* at ASFC to step up from school to college academically but we've seen her develop in so many ways and realise that her passion will always be for sports and exercise. For this we would like to thank you as you have been her absolute inspiration, your entertaining and informative lectures whilst sometimes giving her tasks which she truly didn't want to do but did under duress (presentations!).

I always think that people never forget the best teachers from our school and college days and you certainly fill this role for *Student*!

Our best wishes to you and thank you once again.

Email from a parent of a student

WOW... A huge thank you for your incredible hard work in making this happen.

Seeing everything live, electronic, and evolving — watching the vision we had four years ago not only come to life but continue to grow — is a genuinely proud moment for me!

I know how much effort has gone into every part of this:

- recruiting employers and building strong partnerships for placement and project opportunities
- creating fully electronic systems
- designing, branding, and marketing the entire experience
- And now we have gone.....live!

It's phenomenal work and I just want to say a huge thank you to all of you!

Internal email to all staff about 'Be Ambitious Week 2026'

This is a bit of a random email, but I attended Ashton from 2017-19 and was hoping you could pass on a thank you message if possible. I am beginning a doctorate in Clinical Psychology (DClinPsy) at the University of Bath to become a qualified Clinical Psychologist over the next couple of weeks and I was just wanting to express my gratitude for my time during Sixth Form.

When I began at Ashton I was very close to dropping out (and was advised a few times that this might be sensible) as I was struggling with my grades and revision etc a lot and my chances of getting into uni at all looked very bleak, however things turned around for me over the two years quite dramatically which appeared to have set me on quite a good trajectory since. A lot of that was down to the teaching there and my genuine enjoyment of the subjects which is not something I had experienced at school. I'm not sure if they are still working there but I had a psychology teacher XXX in my second year and biology teacher XXX across both years who were both really great teachers - they most likely would not remember me, but I thought it might be nice for them to hear the impact their teaching had and helped me towards what is considered quite a significant achievement in the psychology world - I also published a peer-reviewed research paper earlier this year if that is of any interest too. I frequently reflect on how my journey to where I am now definitely started when things turned around for me at Sixth Form and I realised my potential when I'm engaged with what I'm doing, and how much I enjoy psychology (I liked biology a lot there too!). So it would be much appreciated if you could pass my thanks on.

Email from a former student

Feedback from A2 leavers

What did your Senior Tutor do particularly well in supporting you during your time at college?

"Checked in regularly to make sure that I did not have any concerns and if I did have any, they were sorted out promptly."

"Helped me create a study routine and showed me useful revision websites for my A Level subject."

"Helped me with personal problems and how to overcome them."

"*Tutor* was always there to listen and helped me plan for my future. Showed genuine interest in me and my plans during multiple 1:1 sessions."

"She helped me a lot with issues outside of college and I know I can speak to her about whatever I need to."

"Respectful, always heard me out and was supportive."

"Helped me with my sport scholarship form for university."

"Supported me with my future decisions, like university or taking a gap year."

Feedback from A2 leavers

What has your Senior Tutor done well in supporting you so far this year?

"Giving further options for after college that I hadn't thought about."

"When I have come to her with personal issues, she has put things into place to help support me."

"My Senior Tutor takes time to listen and answer my concerns. She also explains everything I need to know about college in a very understandable way and is really easy to talk to. She gives really good advice and always supports me in anything I do."

"My tutor gives us information about what is happening in the college and how to make our UCAS applications better. She also gives this information in a friendly way, so if a problem ever does occur, I'm not scared to go to her."

"Everything!! He's a credit to the college."

"My Senior Tutor has been supportive, approachable and helpful throughout the year."

"Whenever I have come to her with personal issues, she has put things into place to help support me."

