



Echoes of *Excellence*

A collation of positive comments and feedback

Issue 2



Hello everyone

Welcome to the 2nd edition of '*Echoes of Excellence*' celebrating the end of the academic year 2024/25 and the start of the new academic year 2025/26! This publication is dedicated to highlighting the incredible contributions and daily efforts that often go unnoticed. Within these pages, you will find a collection of emails received from our students, parents/carers, stakeholders, as well as heartfelt messages exchanged between colleagues. These emails capture the essence of what makes our community so special. I hope that '*Echoes of Excellence*' serves as a testament to the positive impact we all have on those around you.

I aim to produce this booklet once a term, so please continue to send me all the positive emails / messages you receive including feedback.

Kim

Hi!!

I just wanted to let you know that I really enjoyed the celebration hour you hosted and it was very much appreciated.

Thank you for the support and guidance you have given over the past 2 years especially over the couple months where things got hard. Being a teacher isn't the easiest job and I thought it would only be right to give you the recognition you deserve, you all are truly amazing.

I will definitely be keeping in touch with you all and will keep your emails written down. Take care of yourselves!

I will always be up to come into college and talk about my college experience as well as the next steps I am taking after college!!!

Thank you for making my time at college so lovely and enjoyable.

From a former Education & Health student

I just wanted to say thank you for being my teacher for this year. You have taught me so much. I'm sad you won't be with us next year. I was going to buy some gifts but I didn't have a lot of money, so I promised to get it next year. You are one of my favourites even though I don't express it. You have helped me with my coursework even though I was too shy to ask. I couldn't ask enough, you have been understanding to me but also to everyone. Your kind words and comments make me believe in myself. I couldn't thank you enough for having you. You have been the best. And, I hope you have a great summer. Thank you.

From a current Education & Health student

Dear Ms

I hope you're well. I sincerely thank you for organising such a wonderful celebration event. It was a truly memorable experience, and I was honoured to receive the Outstanding Engagement and Contribution Award for A-Level Physics.

Thank you again for all the work that went into making the event so special.

From a current A1 A Level student

Hi R

I've left some gifts for you and K's tutors at reception. Again I cannot thank all of you enough for the support, persistence and motivation you have given over the two years.

Thank you for not giving up on him, it will not be forgotten. If you can provide a way to leave feedback for each tutor I'd be so grateful.

Take care and keep changing kids lives x

From a parent of a former student

Good afternoon

I wanted to say a huge thank you for all the support and guidance you've offered me throughout my time at ASFC - especially your advice around careers and next steps. It was, and still is, very much appreciated. Your encouragement has taught me not to shy away from seeing things from a different perspective and not to be discouraged by differences when they arise.

Since our last conversation, I've decided to study Product Design Craft at MMU instead of Product Design. For I visited the MMU degree show two weeks ago and realised the Craft course had a more hands-on approach, which really suits my way of working.

I hope all is well on your end, and I wish you all the best with the rest of the school year. Have a wonderful and well-deserved summer break!

From a former HE student

To All staff at ASFC

A sat his final exam this morning.

We would like to send our thanks for all the help and encouragement he has received from everyone especially A the librarian who helped him with his EPQ.

He has worked hard revising at home and hope he achieves his ambition of studying English Literature at Chester university.

From parents of a former student

Hi G

I hope you're well. I thought you'd be pleased to hear that I've been with your students at UCLan today and they were an absolute credit to the college. Highly receptive, very polite and engaged students who will go far! Taught by the best, I'd say.

Best wishes

From a **Lecturer from UCLAN**

Hi S,

I understand Thursday was our last proper lesson. I wanted to thank you for the past 2 years. You've worked so hard to make a learning environment adaptable to everyone which I appreciate so much, I honestly know you care so much for your subject and it's inspiring to see - even if people don't take geology past a-level. You've been amazing to have as a teacher and I know people can learn a thing or two from you (I'm not meaning course content wise). It's been a pleasure to be apart of your first A-Level geology class.

Thank you again!

From a **former Geology student**

Dearest Ashton Sixth Form HE Team

I want to express my deepest and most sincere gratitude to every single person who has been part of my educational journey.

When I first discovered this course, I felt an overwhelming sense of excitement, I wanted to be part of it so badly! It wasn't an easy path to get here, but somehow, everything aligned, and looking back, it honestly feels a bit surreal. I feel incredibly blessed.

In August 2022, when I was 20 years old, I found myself sitting on a patch of grass outside Wrexham's Maelor Hospital after being admitted to A&E. I turned to my dad and told him, almost out of nowhere, 'I want to go to college'. It wasn't something I had been planning, I hadn't even looked into courses or made any concrete decisions, but those words just tumbled out, and from that moment on, I was determined.

A few days later, I was admitted to an acute ward, and once again, I brought up the idea of college. I remember feeling the urgency, knowing the term was starting soon, but I was merely too unwell at that time to even think about starting something new.

In January 2023, I was transferred to the place I still reside, at Cheadle Royal hospital, and it wasn't until 2024 that I began to truly refocus on my education. I started with a Naturopathic Anatomy and Physiology course, which turned out to be incredibly helpful. It gave me the confidence to study again, to take notes, and to try new techniques for learning and memorising information.

When I first shared my college plans with the ward staff, the main concern was transportation. I'm so incredibly grateful that support was provided, it was the final piece of the puzzle, and with that in place, a whole new chapter of my life began. It was my first time back in an educational setting in years. I was nervous, yes, but also liberated.

The encouragement I received from everyone, from the fellow patients who asked how my classes were going and who surprised me with school supplies to the staff, especially, who have been a constant source of support and kindness throughout my time at Ashton Sixth Form College. As someone who's autistic, school has often felt like a terrifying place in the past. But this experience has been different, healing even.

Though I haven't been able to attend as many classes as I'd have liked this year due to challenges on the ward and personal struggles, I've found real joy in the coursework itself. Every topic, every assignment, it's reminded me of how much I love to learn.

This whole experience has been such a beautiful, empowering journey, and I truly cannot thank you all enough. From the very bottom of my heart, thank you for believing in me, supporting me, and helping me with everything.

From a former Adult Student

I hope you remember me! I was in your A2 Psychology class in 2018/2019. I was just emailing to let you know some good news. I'll be attending Manchester Metropolitan University in October to pursue a PhD in Psychology.

I just wanted to say a massive thank you. You were the first person to not only recognise my passion for psychology, but to nurture it as well. Your lessons really were an escape for me- they really were the one thing I could look forward to every week. I feel really lucky to have been taught by you, and please know that I am so grateful and think about the support you gave me often.

From a former Psychology student

Morning S

Hope you're well.

Just wanted to thank you for all the support you and the department have given me over the last 2 years. It's been really appreciated.

I did try to find you on Thursday to thank you but didn't know where you were.

I'm sure I will be in touch, best of luck for the future

Thanks again

J

From a former Sports & Public Services student

Thank you S, you've been amazing and I can say the best teacher I've ever had!

From a former Sports & Public Services student

Hi all

Just wanted to say a huge thank you for all your support for the Y10 conference today. From the organisation to the delivery to the general 'vibe' and the donuts - it has all just been amazing and the students have been incredibly impressed. They have loved the sessions and loved the professionalism of being a delegate at a conference and getting to engage in things that won't be on their GCSE Specification. Thank you so much as I know this a lot at this stressful time of year.

Hope you all have a relaxing weekend.

Many thanks

From an XL member of staff

Thank you G for your time the other evening and once again just wanted to say I appreciate the adaptations to E's learning that you have implemented, this has helped greatly with her confidence.

I have ordered the recommended book

From a parent of a current student

Hello L

You might recognise me from being student ambassador, not sure.

Today will be my last day coming into college, but I don't want to leave without saying a few things.

During my time at college there were two very important people that have been a positive influence on me as a person as well as my education.

I would like to firstly thank D from careers for her continued effort to both help and encourage me when looking into my next steps after college. At the times where I doubted my abilities, she was there to support me and believe in me, which I cannot thank her enough for! Within the college, she was the first person who gave me the time to listen and feel understood. I had countless careers appointments with D and every time she was there ready to support, with no judgement and a positive outlook, which has been so helpful to me. The college is very lucky to have someone like her!

Lastly, I was in AH's tutor group for my whole time whilst at college. As someone that struggles with their mental health, A has been the best person at helping me in all aspects, not just education. A has been there every time to listen to and solve the problem, and I would never be able to put into words how she has made me feel and has been a real positive influence over my life.

At the times where I have not felt like carrying on with college, she has been there every time to push me along without giving up on me.

When I was unable to see my own capabilities, A was there to remind me that I absolutely could do it, and she believed in me every time. Without going into too much detail myself, A truly has gone above and beyond as a tutor, and I have to thank her for getting me to the end as it would have been impossible to be where I am today without her support and encouragement. I am lucky to have met somebody like A in my life.

I am going on to do Mental Health Nursing and I honestly do have both A and D to thank. They have been amazing.

Kind regards

From a former student

Hi all,

Just wanted to say a huge thank you for a wonderful conference today. From the organisation to the sessions to the student helpers, everything was just spot on and the students were really buzzing. Factor in as well that this is at the end of a really busy term - wow!

Thank you for your support in this and once again I think you've inspired more year 10s to take English at ASFC.

From a XL member of staff

Hi L

I hope you're well.

I want to express my sincere gratitude for all the support you've provided over the past few months in helping L reach this stage. I know I've thanked you many times before, but I really do appreciate your professionalism, care, and attention throughout this process. You and your team have been outstanding, especially given the non-standard circumstances of L's application.

If appropriate, please feel free to forward this message to a senior manager or head of department — I would like them to know just how much we value everything you've done and how well you've done it.

Thank you again for all your help and support.

Warm regards,

From a parent of a student

Good luck with Ofsted. I hope your results show what a truly fantastic college you are.

From a parent of a current student

Thank you for your support! YOU'RE THE BEST TEACHER!

Hi FI

I was meant to send this on Monday, but I had been occupied with Eid and work. I just wanted to say a gracious thank you for everything you have done for me since last year. A lot has happened since I started college and a lot has changed since then. Words can't convey how much I appreciate the continued support you gave me - no matter how many times I say, 'thank you', it will never be enough to show my appreciation. I have experienced a rollercoaster of emotions since the start and you've practically seen every emotion under the sun: Sadness, frustration, fatigue, confusion and a rare case of happiness. I have never been the type of person to have a fixed emotion, but I feel as if I only convey one and that is a major problem which I am trying to work on every day. You have seen me in my darkest of times and you took it upon yourself to recognise and approach me, trying to encourage me to speak up (which I eventually did evidently). From then, I felt somewhat comfortable to come to you about what is going through my complex mind - while never making 100% sense, you still tried to understand what is going on.

Don't get me wrong I am not feeling the greatest of all time with exams coming up which I am overwhelmed about, but I understand everyone feels the same way too. We're at the final lap and the race needs to be finished and I am willing to do my hardest to succeed win or lose. Until then, keep yourself healthy both physically, mentally and spiritually. I hope to see you around college. You've done so much for me and I will never forget what you have done even after I set foot outside of college.

For the millionth time, thank you

From a former student

