



PARTNERSHIP NEWS



WINTER 2020

NEWS • REVIEWS • FACULTIES • CHARITY • PERFORMANCE • SUCCESS



featuring

ZOOM AUTHOR
VIRTUAL SCHOOL
BELIEVE FC
SIXTH FORM NEWS
SENIOR LEADERS

and so much more...



HEPBURN

• PARKS

• ANGELOU

• GERMAIN

• FRANKLIN





Welcome to the first edition of Partnership News for this academic year. Parents and carers will be aware that the shape of school is very different at the moment due to the local and national situation; however, our students and staff continue to successfully rise to the challenges of this new way of working. Our students are working hard and making good progress with their studies.

I am sure that you will enjoy reading this Partnership News as it captures some of the wonderful opportunities and events that our students are involved in. Beyond these activities and events, we are proud that staff and students have been collecting for our school charity, The Wood Street Mission, as we all know the importance of charity work to support our local community, especially at this time. Students in our Sixth Form are also collecting food for the Mustard Tree charity.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your support and send my very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Mrs J. Fahey - Academy Headteacher



TUTOR TRUST

Our school is working with Tutor Trust to offer Maths and English mentoring sessions to fifteen Year 11 students. The bespoke programme is tailored to meet the needs of each individual student and the sessions are being delivered online, with some face to face delivery. The sessions are led by specialist tutors in Maths and English. Each student has 30 sessions to help them bridge any gaps that they have in these subjects. The sessions have been a great success and students are feeding back that they are feeling much more confident in the requirements of their Maths and English courses. Well done to the students involved in the programme; they have shown resilience and commitment to their studies.



BELIEVE FC

The Manchester United Foundation have been running an intervention programme called Believe FC, here at Whalley Range High School. Believe FC is a 6 week programme that focuses on confidence and self-esteem. It aims to provide students with the skills, tools and knowledge to actively change their lives for the better. The outcome of the programme is to enable the students to gain access to the knowledge that will give them the skills, confidence and cognitive strategies for accomplishing and achieving self-improvement and mental strength.



The Foundation aims to take Manchester United to the heart of the community and develop our young people to achieve their potential. No project has gone further to achieving this than their Partner Schools programme. The programme bases a full-time Foundation Officer, Lauren Davies, in our school to help build lasting relationships with our students and the local community. We have had a fantastic response from students and we have seen some brilliant outcomes from those involved.

CORE SUPPORT INTERVENTION

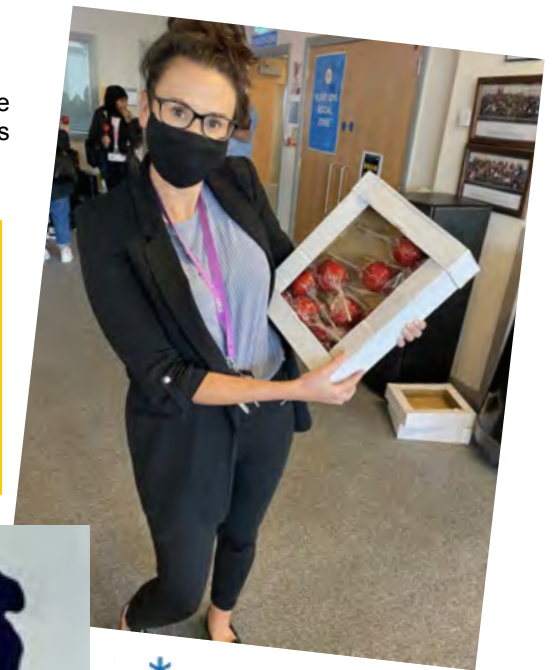
Since March, students and teachers have had to adapt quickly to a variety of changes in education: from the closure of schools and remote learning, to teaching while following social distancing guidelines and here at Whalley Range High School we are committed to supporting students to make the best possible progress for their future. We have therefore introduced 'Core Support' where students have been working with a subject specialist teacher after school to close any gaps, clarify any misunderstandings and to challenge themselves to reach their full potential. This is in addition to every day class teaching. Studies show that this additional support can substantially improve exam performance. Students have been working extremely hard to get the most out of these sessions and staff have planned some invaluable programmes. A huge well done and thank you to all involved.

SIXTH FORM AUTUMN TREATS

At the end of a challenging half-term, all of the Sixth Form students and staff were treated to a toffee apple to mark the start of Autumn and the approaching celebrations like Bonfire Night and Halloween, which had to be celebrated differently this year.

RE-DESIGNING THE SIXTH FORM

Since the start of the academic year, the Sixth Form has undergone a makeover and the fantastic artwork that Mr Eagleton, Media and Reprographics Manager, has produced has added a new level of vibrancy that reflects the positive atmosphere within the Sixth Form building. Lots of the ideas for the design came from students and Mr Eagleton's artistic vision has taken the re-design to a new level.



SSLT - OUR SENIOR STUDENT

As senior student at Whalley Range Sixth Form, my amazing leadership team and I are working towards raising charitable donations for the poor and vulnerable. At this Sixth Form, we are hosting a rucksack, shoebox and toy appeal in order to not only provide many vulnerable individuals with the necessities/ and resources that they may require, especially considering the circumstances everyone is having to adhere to, but to also feel a sense of responsibility and pride for what we achieve together as this Sixth Form.

The subjects which I am currently studying at Whalley Range Sixth Form are A-level History, Sociology, and Biology. I am truly determined to continue the study of history at a much deeper and sustained way at university, in the hope of pursuing a successful career as a history teacher, in the future.

Sabah Kamran, Senior Student, Whalley Range Sixth Form

LRC NEWS

Learning Resource Centre

DELIVER READ

Returning to school in September, it was very sad to see all the books on the shelves in the library and students not having access to them. After a couple of weeks of thinking about how we could overcome this, Deliver-Read was born! Students now have access online to the library system. Here, they can browse and make selections. Books are then put into a goody bag for them, along with a few nice surprises, and delivered to their Year Zone. Once a student has finished reading the book, it is returned and quarantined for 72 hours before it is returned to the shelves. This has proven to be extremely popular!

Mrs Davies, LRC Manager, commented:

'Deliver-Read has really taken off! I can barely keep up with all the orders. It's fantastic to see our students taking advantage of this service and it is keeping my step count up!'

YEAR 13 ACHIEVEMENTS

It has been wonderful to welcome Year 13 back to the Sixth Form at the start of this term! Year 13 have had a very productive term with a key focus on Careers and Future progression pathways. Students have embraced the new virtual way of working and participated in virtual university and apprenticeship open days, careers events and workshops with employers such as Deloitte and PWC. We are delighted that Afifa Choudhary was successfully selected to participate in the virtual work experience programme with Santander. Keep a look out for more great opportunities to get involved with!

A number of students have also been successfully accepted on to the University of Manchester Access Programme, which supports students who are the first members in their family to apply to Higher Education. Students have been working hard on their University applications, with many students already receiving offers from university.

The Senior Student Leadership team in the Sixth Form have also been busy planning and launching some great charity events in the Sixth Form this term to support local charities and causes. This includes collections for the homeless appeal and the Wood Street Mission:

“In the Sixth Form we are hosting a rucksack, shoebox and toy appeal to provide vulnerable individuals and families with the necessities and resources that they may require during the pandemic. We feel a sense of responsibility and pride for what we achieve together as this Sixth Form”

Sabah Kamran, Senior Student, Whalley Range Sixth Form

**INTRODUCING
A NEW A-LEVEL
AT WRSF**

MEDIA STUDIES

Media Studies A-Level is an opportunity to study some of the core skills and knowledge of the 21st Century, combining academic and practical learning.

EVER WONDERED...

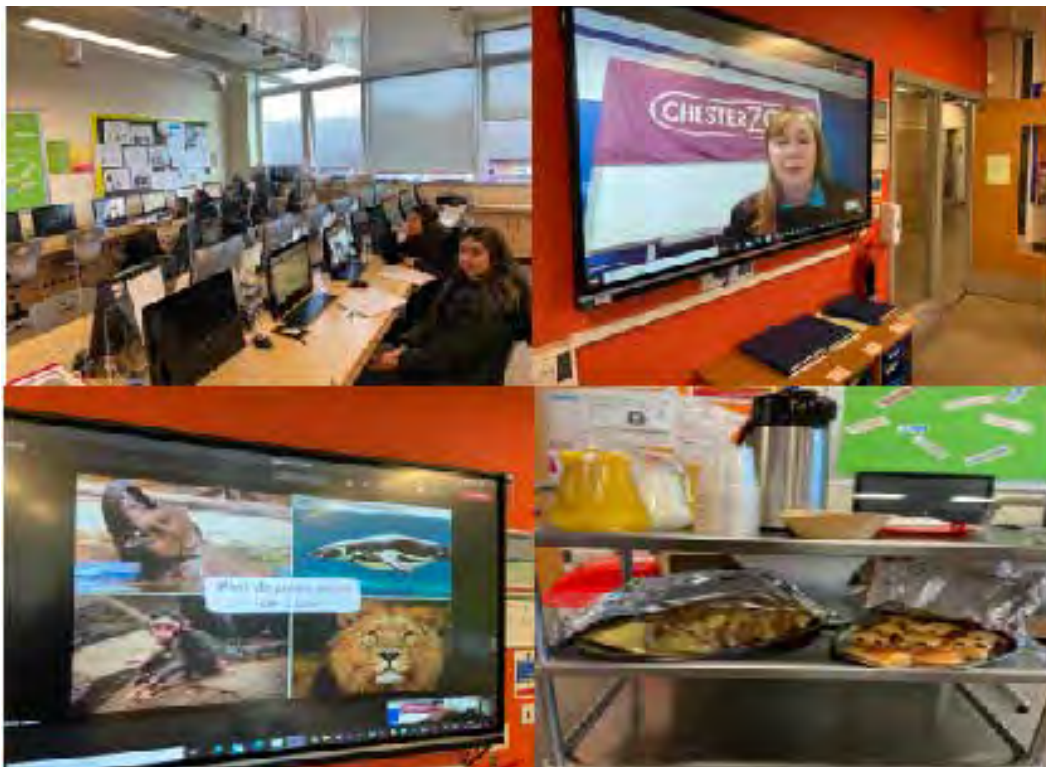
- Why that camera angle was used?
- Why print media still exists?
- How social groups are represented (or not!)?

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- the art and analysis of media language, texts and creativity
- how to plan, make and evaluate media texts such as film trailers, websites, and music videos
- research and critical study of media and sociology theories such as feminism and post-modernism

Spotlight on Media Studies

From September 2021, Whalley Range Sixth Form are introducing a brand new A Level, Media Studies, and the teaching partnership of Ms Vickers and Mr Corney are very excited about the launch of the new course. **If your daughter would like to find out more about this qualification, she can email: sixthform@wrhs1118.co.uk**



CHESTER ZOO VIRTUAL TOUR

At Whalley Range Sixth Form, we truly believe that our students should experience visits, trips and talks from experts across the country in order to enhance their learning experience. Our BTEC business Level 3 students had a virtual education session and tour from Chester Zoo to complete their coursework on 'Teams in Business'. Due to Covid restrictions they were not able physically go to the Zoo. This was the next best thing and the students loved it! It's important for students to gain insight of the business world outside their classroom as this will enhance their subject knowledge and help them grow as young business individuals.



Year 12

The return of students to the Sixth Form has been exceptionally positive: Year 12 students have risen to the challenge of Key Stage 5 learning and have settled in very well to new routines and different ways of learning. Students report that they have enjoyed the range of subjects including Applied Criminology, Business and Physics.

Year 12 students have quickly developed new and purposeful friendships as well as building on existing ones created during Years 7 – 11. In the Common Room, staff hear lively and engaging conversations during social times. Students have welcomed the fresh start that they have received in Sixth Form and are working with Sixth Form staff to build their wider skill set by getting involved in varied extra-curricular activities such as Creative Writing, Knitting Club and Psychology Club. The skills acquired will support students to write strong Apprenticeship, employment and higher education applications in the future.

New Head of Sixth Form

In September, Mr Atkinson became the new Head of Sixth Form, having previously been a member of the Senior Leadership Team for Teaching and Learning. Mr Atkinson is passionate about developing and growing the Sixth Form and working with students to progress beyond Whalley Range Sixth Form.



“Having taught at Whalley Range Sixth Form for 8 years, I am delighted to be leading the Sixth Form and its wonderful students and staff. I am very excited about what the future holds for our college and how we can spread the word about everything that we have to offer.”



Recruitment Events

As we find ourselves in very different times, the team at Whalley Range Sixth Form did not want prospective students to miss out on the opportunity to find out more about our college. Over the course of the term there have been a range of virtual events to promote the Sixth Form including: Virtual Open Week, Live Microsoft Teams broadcasts, Instagram Live Q&A sessions and virtual assemblies to Year 11 students at Whalley Range High School and our sister school Levenshulme High School. Moving on throughout the year, there are a range of virtual events planned for your daughtersto get involved with.



WRF FORM COLLEGE WOOD STREET SIXTH FORM CHRISTMAS CHARITY MISSION

We are going to be collecting the following items for Wood St Mission and the local food bank this Christmas:

- Socks / hats / scarves / gloves
- Food supplies
- Children's toys and books

The collection will start in December so have a look what you might want to contribute and look out for more information



Make your Mark Vote – Whalley Range

All students took part in the Make your Mark vote in November which is an opportunity for 11-18 year olds across the UK to have their say and begin their democratic journey by voting on the policies they want to introduce or change.

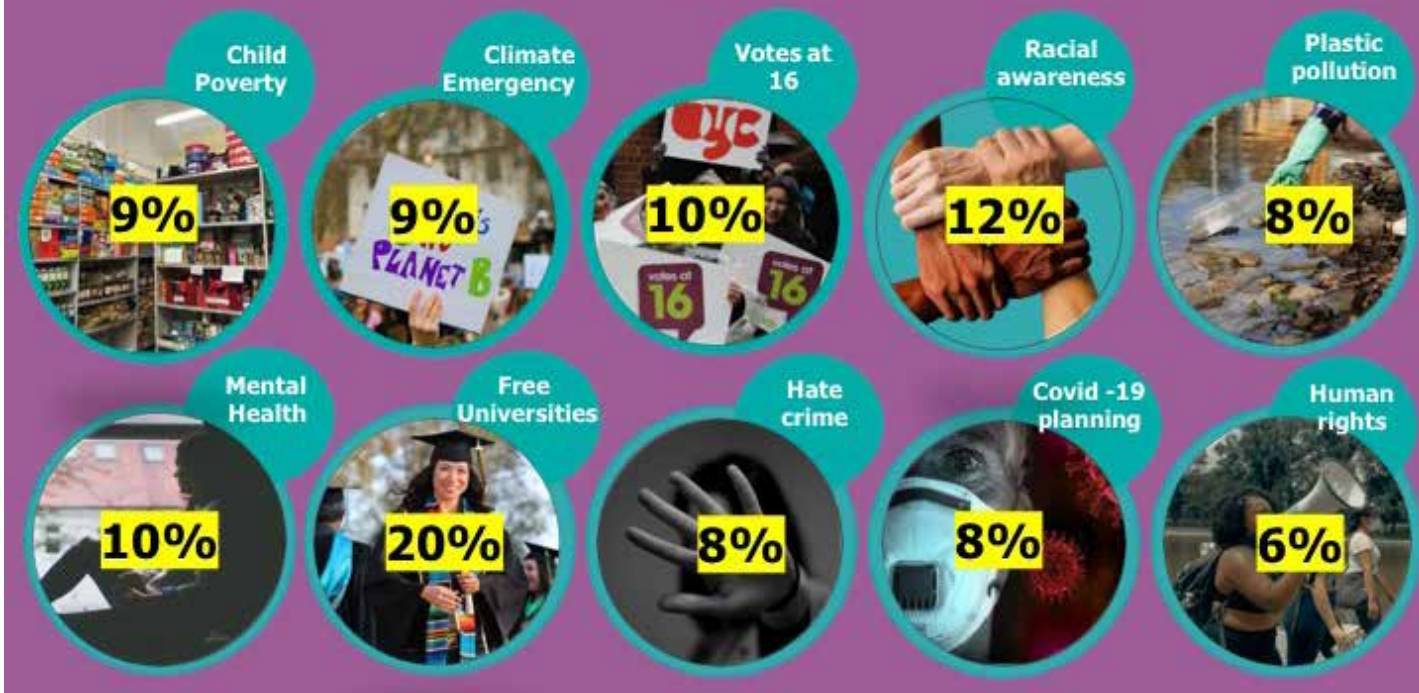
The issues students voted for as the most important will be debated by members of Youth Parliament. They will campaign to influence the UK Parliament and their local representatives, ensuring that the views of young people are listened to by decision makers.

This is an opportunity for all of our students to influence decision makers who can make a real difference on the issues that matter to young people. Make Your Mark is one of the most important and influential ways young people can take part in a democratic process.

These were the results from the school's vote....



Topics across the country



Topics local to you



Is this bullying?



What would you define BULLYING as??

The ABA (Anti-Bullying Alliance) defines bullying as:

The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power.

Bullying can be physical, verbal or psychological.

It can happen face-to-face or online.



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2020

This year, more than ever, we've witnessed the positive power that society can have when we come together to tackle a common challenge. Anti-Bullying Week is no different. Bullying has a long-lasting effect on those who experience and witness it. But by channelling our collective power, through shared efforts and shared ambitions, we can reduce bullying together.

All students took part in Anti-Bullying Week at Whalley Range through their weekly PSHRE activities which aimed to raise awareness of bullying, its impact on others and the role that each person has to help stop bullying.

We are all a piece in the puzzle, and together, we are united against bullying.



MANCHESTER UNITED FOUNDATION

Since September, the School Partnership Officer from Manchester United Foundation has been working with lots of students doing a variety of different sessions. The SPO has been working with the Year 7s and helping them with their transition into high school by working on their confidence and self-esteem and helping them to meet new friends. A cohort of Year 7 students took part in a Friendship Group Intervention which included taking part in team building activities to encourage them all to get to know each other and meet new friends.



Foundation

"I had never seen any of these girls before these sessions but now we are great friends already and they are all down to earth, really chilled and surprisingly funny."

School Partnership Officer



ENGLISH



Helping Your Daughter to Become a Better Reader

At the start of the school year, Whalley Range English faculty launched a new private reading scheme for all students in Years 7-9 classes. We have invested heavily in a range of high-quality modern fiction, literary classics and literary non-fiction. Every child in Years 7-9 will read a different high-quality text each term. This means that students will swap their current text in January for brand new book.

The current texts that students are reading are as follows:

YEAR 7: JACKY DAYDREAM, BY JACQUELINE WILSON

YEAR 8: BONE TALK, BY CANDY GOURLAY

YEAR 9: I AM MALALA, BY MALALA YOUSAFZAI

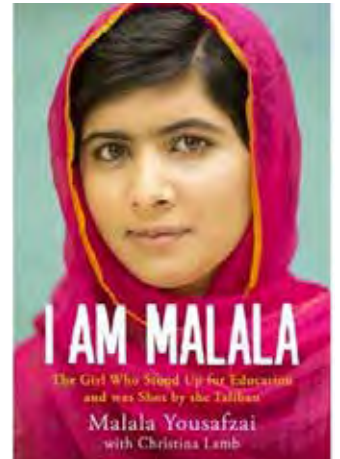
In the coming weeks, we will be launching a competition for students in Year 8 to select the text that they want to read next term. We will also be opening votes for future text choices in Year 7 and Year 9.

We are extremely keen to push the importance of reading at home as research evidence strongly confirms that this is one of the best ways to improve performance in all subjects. In school, we use the reciprocal reading approach to guided reading. An important part of this process is asking questions about what your daughter is reading. It would be great if you were able to support your daughter's reading by asking her questions as she reads. The following questions might be a good place to start:

- **As you read, what are you wondering about?**
- **Can you put what you've just read into your own words?**
- **What might happen next in the text?**
- **What can you tell me about what has already happened?**
- **Can you predict what the ending will be like?**
- **Why do you think the character did?**
- **How would you have felt if you were the same situation as the character?**



If you have any further questions about how to support your daughter with reading, please don't hesitate to contact Mr Stoker.

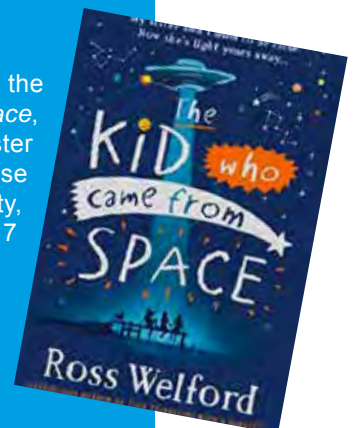


THE AUTHOR WHO CAME FROM ZOOM

On the 18th of November, a select group of students were treated to an author workshop with the popular children's novelist, Ross Welford. Ross Welford's book, *The Kid Who Came from Space*, was given to all Manchester-based Year 6 students during lockdown and Manchester Council ran a range of events and activities connected to the book. One of these activities was a creative writing competition, which took place across the city, during the first month of Year 7. We are very proud that one of our Year 7 students (Mahima Ali) won the whole competition.



On the back of this success, Ross Welford delivered a writing workshop to 50 students who had all been selected for showing Highly Motivated Attitude to Learning in HT1. During the workshop, students wrote their own narrative and had the chance to ask questions about Ross Welford's work. Students had a great time learning about the creative process of writing and how authors work.



MIND FULL, OR MINDFUL?



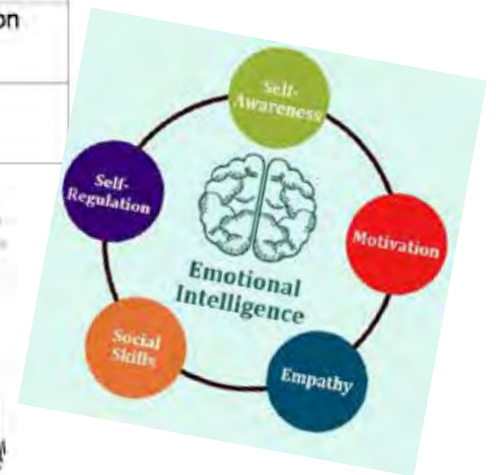
Each week students will be engaging in a Monday morning check in through weekly mindfulness sessions.

Mindfulness is being fully present in the moment. It means to be aware of your surroundings and to pay attention to what we are doing. It's about acceptance and the application of a non-judgemental attitude, so when thoughts do arise, you simply watch them, not change them, accept them, and let them be.

In HT 2 the students have been following the timetable outlined below:

Date	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11
16/11/20	Introduction to Mindfulness Mondays	Introduction to Mindfulness Mondays	Introduction to Mindfulness Mondays	Introduction to Mindfulness Mondays	Introduction to Mindfulness Mondays
23/11/20	Yoga	Meditation	Tratak	Visual imagery	Deep breathing
30/11/20	INSET DAY				
7/12/20	Deep breathing	Yoga	Meditation	Tratak	Visual imagery
14/12/20	Visual imagery	Deep breathing	Yoga	Meditation	Tratak
4/1/21	Tratak	Visual imagery	Deep breathing	Yoga	Meditation
11/1/21	Meditation	Tratak	Visual imagery	Deep breathing	Yoga

Mindfulness
MONDAY



**IMPORTANT NOTICE * IMPORTANT NOTICE * IMPORTANT NOTICE *
IMPORTANT NOTICE * IMPORTANT NOTICE ***

TRAFFIC, PARKING AND ROAD SAFETY

Please could we once again ask all parents/carers to put safety first and park and drive safely at all times near the school.

It would be much appreciated if you could avoid dropping-off and picking-up your daughter on the main road outside of school. There have been many instances of double-parking and parking on the pavements at the front of school which puts students, staff and members of the public at risk of being involved in an accident.

If you live a long distance away from school or your daughter is unable to use public transport and has to be collected by car, please park a few streets away. If you live within walking distance of the school, please encourage your daughter to walk or cycle to and from school; the extra exercise is always beneficial!



If at any time you would like to withdraw permission for your daughter's image to appear in our school magazine, "Partnership News", please contact the Headteacher through our main school number 0161 861 9727 or via email on: head@wrhs1118.co.uk.

Whalley Range 11-18 High School - Wilbraham Road, Whalley Range, Manchester, M16 8GW t: 0161 861 9727



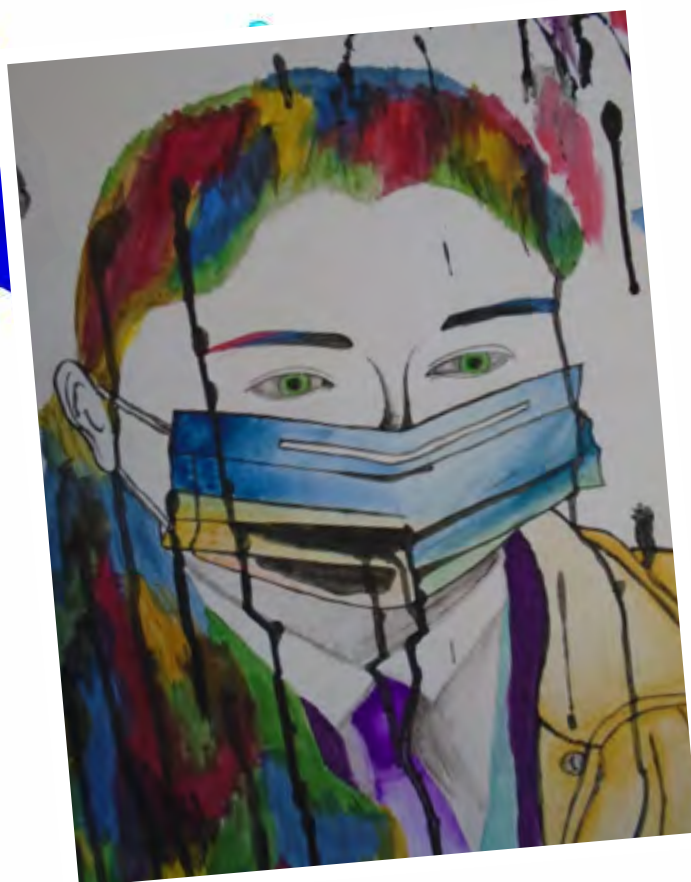
REPRESENTATIONS OF LIFE AT WRHS

Over the first half-term of the new academic year Whalley Range has looked a little different. The students of Mr Leigh-Dalton's GCSE Art classes, have been producing self-portraits to explore how the Covid 19 pandemic has changed our view of the world and each other. The portraits are to represent a time in history and the strength that students have shown through this very challenging year. The brief for the task was to represent an image of yourself focusing on a portrait without drawing the majority of facial features. Not an easy task, but I am sure you will agree the work produced by the students is both of great quality and meaning.



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As we all move into a new year the staff and students wish everyone to be strong and stay safe in 2021.

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