



Spring Term
2025-2026



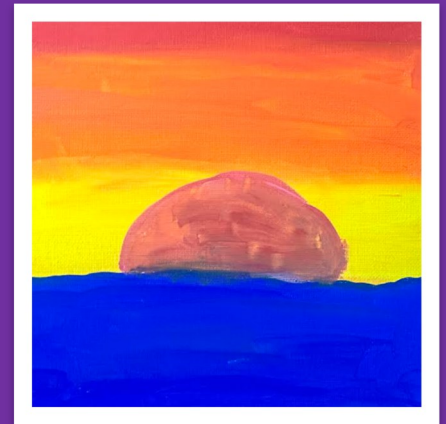
**A look back at
Christmas
Celebrations at
VASE Academy**



**County Lines
workshop
delivered by PC
Manns**



**Introducing our
new animal
friends!**

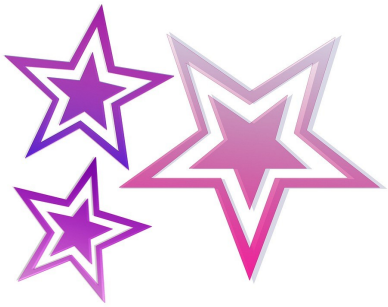


**Post-16 What
Career? event**



**Trips this term!
Shakespeare
and Butterfly
Farm**

A huge thank you to our Students



★ Thank you ★



Following our recent **Ofsted inspection**, we wanted to take a moment to express how incredibly proud we are of our students. They conducted themselves with maturity, confidence, and pride in their school throughout the process. As a gesture of our appreciation for their hard work and positive attitude, we were delighted to organize a series of celebratory trips.

Celebrating Our Success Together

The students had a fantastic time exploring and burning off some energy at three very different locations:

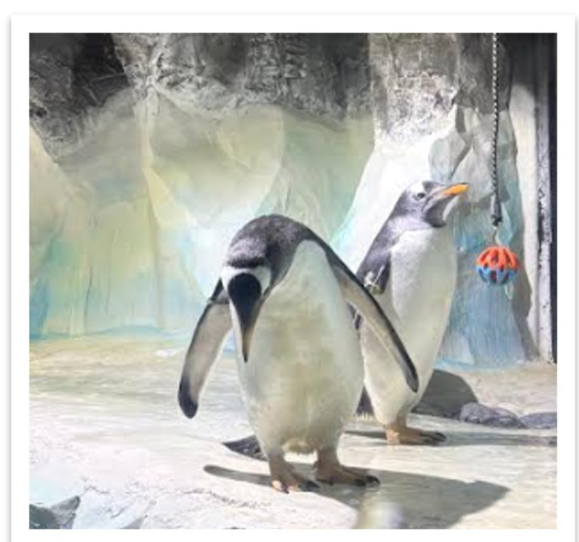
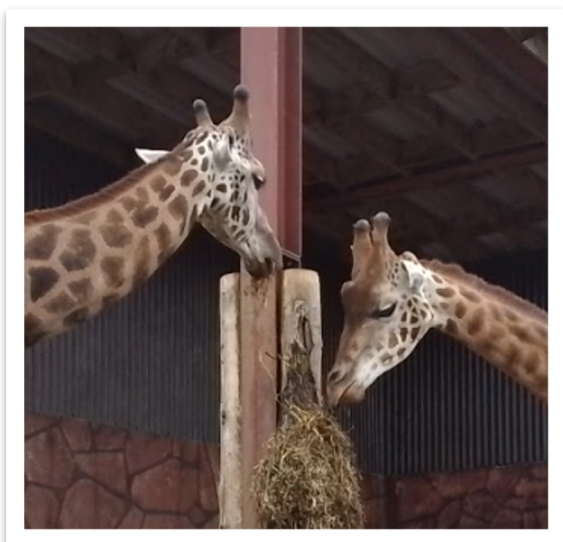
- **The Sea Life Centre:** A chance to marvel at marine wonders and celebrate our school's curiosity.
- **The Safari Park:** An adventurous day out observing incredible wildlife from around the world.
- **The Trampoline Park:** A high-octane reward focused on fun, fitness, and team spirit.

Ofsted Report Update

We know many of you are eager to see the results of the inspection.

We are **currently awaiting the official report** from the inspection team.

Please be assured that as soon as the final report is published and shared with the school, we will distribute it to all parents and carers immediately.





Behaviour Leaderboard

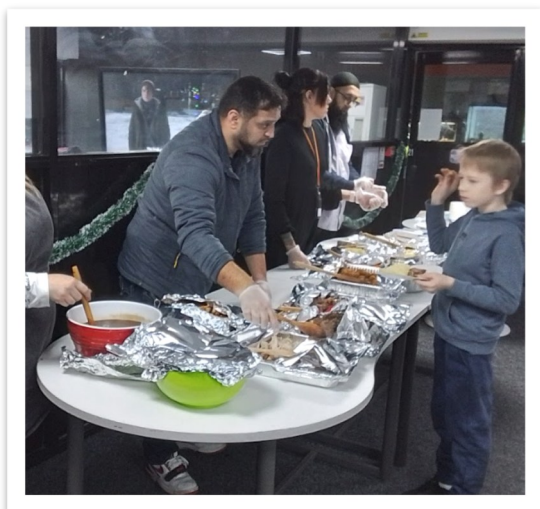
Spring Term Highlights



Top Points Leaderboard in Spring Term at V.A.S.E Academy

Position	Name	Class	Points
1	Mason	Year 8	411
2	Charles	Year 10	399
3	Alfie	Year 7	286
4	Finlay	Year 9	314
4	CJ	Year 8	346
6	Kayden	Year 7	230
7	Devonte	Year 8	262
8	Murtaza	Year 10	259
9	Ibraheem	Year 7	181
10	Daniel	Year 10	293

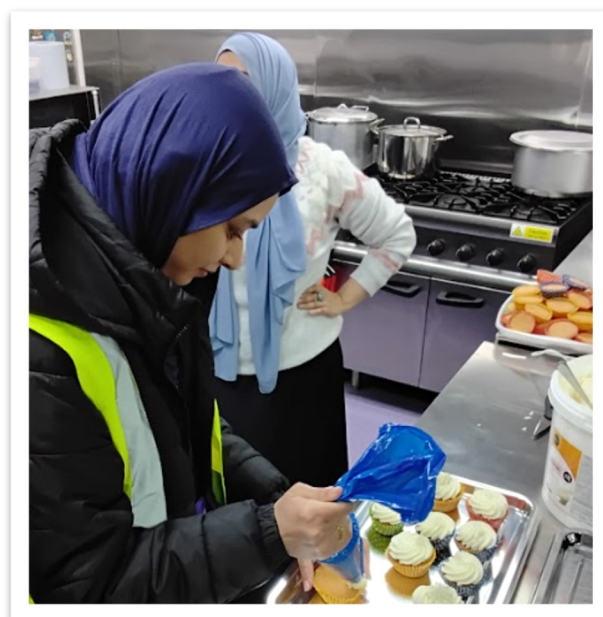
Christmas Celebrations at VASE!



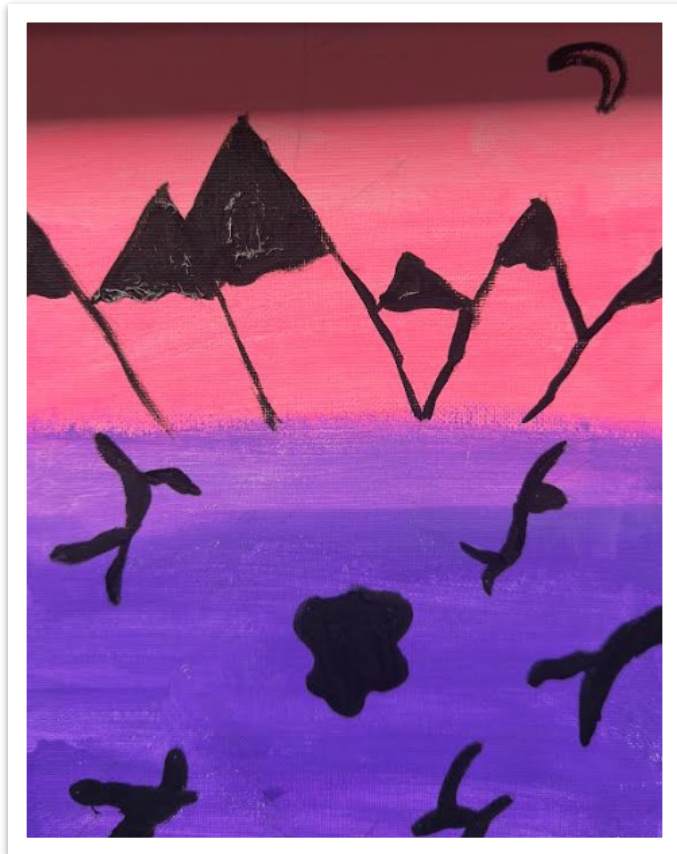
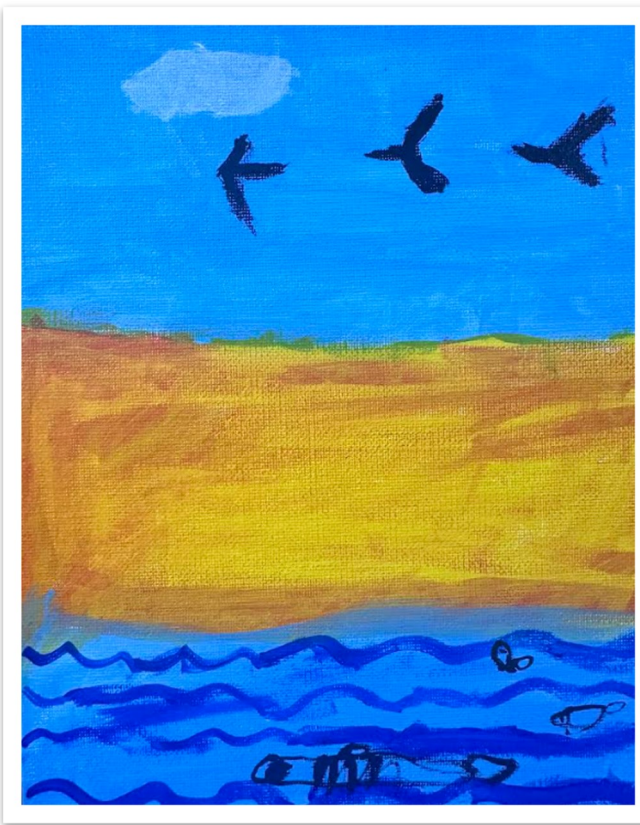
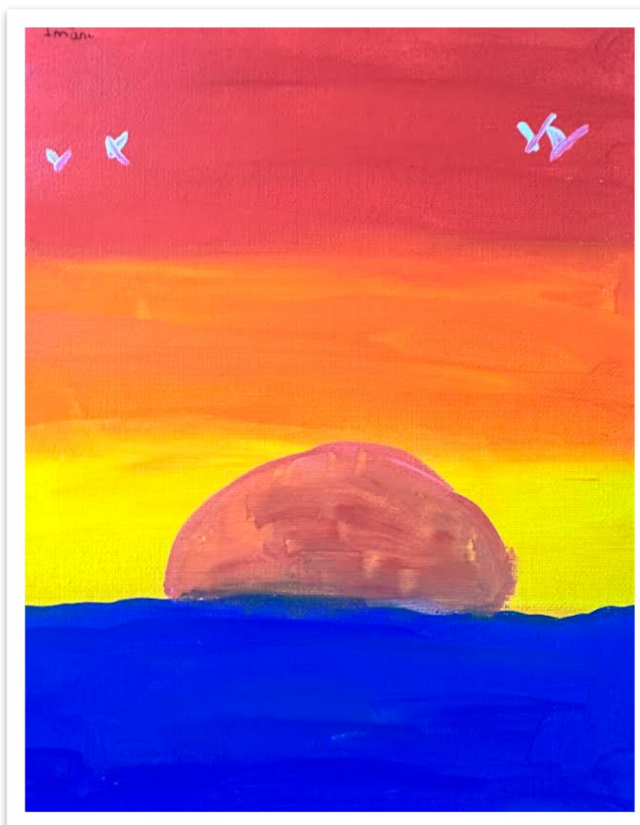
Christmas Celebrations at VASE was a day to remember! The day started with students engaging with painting canvas, board games and a morning of relaxation before our Christmas Assembly! The whole school gathered to celebrate the achievements of the term. It was a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our students' hard work and the progress they have made since September.

This year's Christmas meal was a landmark occasion for our school community. Not only did we gather to celebrate the holiday season, but we also enjoyed the very first festive service prepared in our **brand-new, state-of-the-art kitchen**..

A huge congratulations to all the students who were presented with **certificates** during the ceremony. Whether recognised for academic excellence, kindness, or improved effort, these pupils have set a fantastic example for their peers. Seeing the pride on their faces as they received their awards was the perfect way to head into the holiday break.



Artwork from our Students



Christmas HAF at V.A.S.E Academy



The Christmas HAF programme concluded as a resounding success, providing pupils with enriching experiences that fostered teamwork, confidence, and positive holiday engagement. Across both sessions, pupils benefited from a structured yet relaxed environment that strengthened relationships outside the classroom.

Day One A high-energy day at **Star City** featuring go-karting, VR Quest gaming, and bowling. Special recognition goes to **Devon-tae** for his focused victory in the 20-lap karting race. The day ended with a social meal at Pizza Hut

Day Two The group visited **Winter Funland at the NEC**. Despite initial reservations, pupils became fully immersed in the experience, turning it into an "unforgettable" day of engagement and teamwork. This followed a morning cinema screening and a communal lunch at UK Fried Chicken.



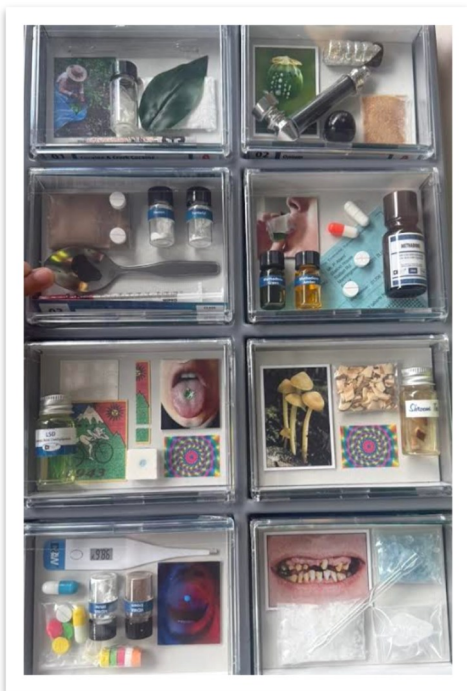
The programme successfully shifted pupil mindsets—moving from initial scepticism to enthusiastic participation. By providing these structured social opportunities, the HAF programme ensures pupils return for the new term feeling **motivated, refreshed, and socially connected.**



County Lines Workshop delivered by PC Manns

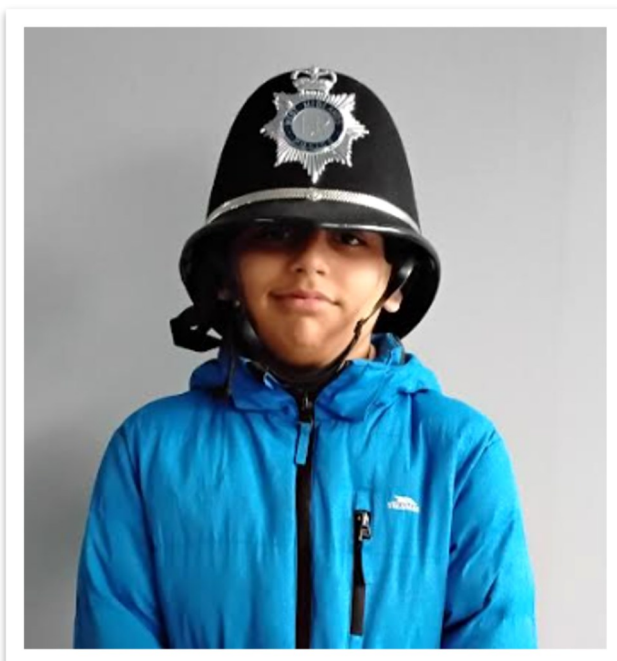
On Monday 2nd March, our fantastic School Police Liaison Officer, PC Manns, visited school to deliver a County Lines workshop as part of County Lines Intensification Week.

All year groups took part in informative sessions focused on raising awareness about county lines, exploitation, and harmful substances. Students were educated on the risks associated with different drugs, the impact they can have on individuals, families and the wider community, and how criminal exploitation can occur.



PC Manns brought along his harmful substances demonstration kit, giving students a clear understanding of the types of drugs they may encounter in the community, the serious effects they can have on physical and mental health, and the legal consequences involved. Importantly, students were also signposted to trusted adults and support services they can speak to if they ever feel worried, pressured, or exposed to unsafe situations.

We would like to thank PC Manns for delivering such an important and engaging workshop to our students.



English with Miss Laura

Visit to Shakespeare's Birthplace

Shakespeare's Birthplace Trip- Year 8's and GM

Students recently enjoyed an enriching trip to Shakespeare's Birthplace in Stratford-upon-Avon to enhance their learning in English, particularly their study of poetry and Shakespearean sonnets. The visit brought their classroom learning to life, allowing them to explore the house where William Shakespeare was born and raised.

Students were fascinated by the immersive experience, gaining a deeper understanding of Shakespeare's life and the context in which his works were written. Walking through the historic rooms and exploring the local town helped them connect more meaningfully with the poetry they have been studying.

The trip concluded with a thoughtful reflection activity back at school, where students shared their insights and favourite moments from the day. It was a memorable and inspiring experience that has further enriched their appreciation of Shakespeare's poetry.



World Book Day

World Book Day was a fantastic success this year, filled with creativity, fun, and a shared love of reading across the school. Students took part in a variety of engaging activities throughout the day, including designing their own bookmarks, creating imaginative potato characters, and enjoying some calming mindfulness book colouring.

Our Year 8 class also had the exciting opportunity to participate in a national football and reading quiz. They thoroughly enjoyed answering questions set by Premier League football players and demonstrated great teamwork and enthusiasm, achieving an impressive score of 16 out of 20.

One of the highlights of the day was the potato character competition. There were many brilliant entries, but the winning creation went to Max for his fantastic version of "The Spud Man" – a truly creative and memorable design!

Overall, World Book Day was a wonderful celebration that inspired students to explore books in new and exciting ways.



Reading Interventions

Celebrating our growing readers

In our reading intervention sessions, we believe that every child has the potential to become a confident, lifelong bookworm.

Our primary goal is to transform the challenge of learning to read into a journey of **joy and discovery**.

Led by **Mrs Ahmed** and supported by **Miss Claire, Mrs Pam, and Miss Annie**, our team provides tailored support to help children navigate the building blocks of literacy while nurturing a genuine love for storytelling. There is no greater highlight for us than seeing the beaming smiles on our students' faces as they receive their **achievement certificates** for moving up a level! These milestones are more than just a step forward in ability; they are a massive boost to their self-esteem and a celebration of their hard work.

The Magic of Reading at Home

Reading with your child for just 10–15 minutes a day can make a world of difference. When young people read outside of school, it:

Builds Fluency: Like any skill, practice makes permanent. Regular reading helps them recognize words faster.

Expands Vocabulary: Books expose children to a richer "word bank" than everyday conversation.

Strengthens Connection: Sharing a story creates a safe, low-pressure environment where reading feels like a treat.



Helping to read at home

We know that supporting a young reader can sometimes feel daunting. If you need any assistance or have questions about how to best support your child's reading at home, **please contact the school**. Mrs Ahmed and the team are more than happy to offer guidance, resources, or simple strategies to help you and your child succeed together.



Mathematics with Mr Ilyaas

It has been a landmark term for Mathematics at V.A.S.E Academy. Our students have been busy proving that Maths is not just about numbers on a page, but a vital tool for navigating the world, understanding our city, and building a successful future.

Year 8: Discovering Geometry in Birmingham

Our Year 8 students recently took their learning to the streets of Birmingham City Centre to study the literal "building blocks" of our environment. The group went on an architectural hunt for **tesellations**—identifying how complex geometric shapes fit together perfectly to create the city's most iconic landmarks. By moving from the textbook to the real world, students gained a new perspective on how symmetry and patterns form the foundation of modern design.



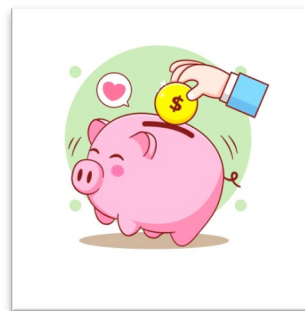
Year 7: The 'Ripple Effect' of Money and Kindness

Back in the classroom, Year 7 has been exploring a unique curriculum that blends functional arithmetic with social responsibility. Through our **"Money & Kindness"** unit, students learned that money is a tool that can be used for "Me" or for "Us".

Highlights from this unit included:

- **The Kindness Shop:** Students calculated totals and change while "budgeting" for kindness parcels to give to others.
- **Budgeting for Others:** Calculating costs and change from £5.00 for a school bake sale to raise money for charity.
- **The Philanthropist Dilemma:** Our high-fliers used algebraic expressions to solve complex problems regarding £1,000 donations to food banks and animal shelters.

As our "Giving Tree" reflection reminded us :
"Money can buy things, but kindness is free. However, when we combine money with kindness, we change the world".



Exam Success: Functional Skills Milestone

The biggest celebration of the term belongs to our **Year 11 and 12 students**. We are incredibly proud to announce that the majority of these cohorts have now successfully completed and passed their **Functional Skills Maths at Entry Level 3**.

This is a massive achievement that provides these students with a nationally Recognised qualification, opening doors for their post-16 pathways. Their dedication to meeting "Entry Expectations"—working independently and showing consistent effort—has truly paid off.

Animal Care With The Green Care Team

In the animal care department, we are excitedly awaiting some new arrivals! Down at Hockley Port, our momma goat is pregnant once again and is expected to have three baby goats. This is always an exciting time, and we are looking forward to welcoming the new additions.

At the start of 2026 we also welcomed two new guinea pigs! Sir Barbabas Theodoric Archbald McGuinea II and Chicken Bartholomew Hamish McGuinea Nugget the Third

We are also preparing for the arrival of two new terrapins, Mikey and Leo. These will be wonderful additions to the VASE family, and we look forward to sharing updates on how they settle into their new home. Thank you to the options group who have spent time making up their enclosure so that they have a suitable and comfy environment to live in.



This term our main focus in animal care has been learning about how animals help us in many different ways and the important roles they play. We explored jobs such as guide dogs supporting people with visual impairments, and how horses are used in therapy to support emotional wellbeing.

Over the past few weeks, we have visited different stables to give the children an insight into what it is like to work with horses. They also learned how horses can be incredibly calming and are often used as a way to help people manage anxiety and stress.

To finish this topic, the children had the opportunity to visit a stable where they could both ride and groom the horses. This hands-on experience was a fantastic way to bring their learning to life and helped them build confidence while developing a deeper understanding of animal care.



Butterfly Farm Visit



Our students recently embarked on a tropical adventure to the **Stratford-upon-Avon Butterfly Farm**, stepping into a lush rainforest environment to celebrate the farm's landmark **40th Anniversary**. From witnessing the magical moment a butterfly breaks free from its chrysalis in the **Discovery Zone** to observing the prehistoric-looking **spectacled caiman** in the Rainforest Realm, the trip offered a vivid, hands-on lesson in biodiversity. Whether they were marvelling at the electric Blue Morphos or learning how leaf-cutter ants support their colony, the children returned with a newfound appreciation for conservation and the delicate wonders of the natural world.

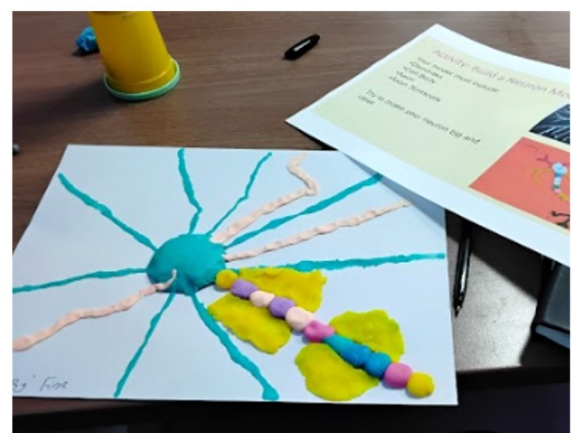


Science with Mrs Shnya

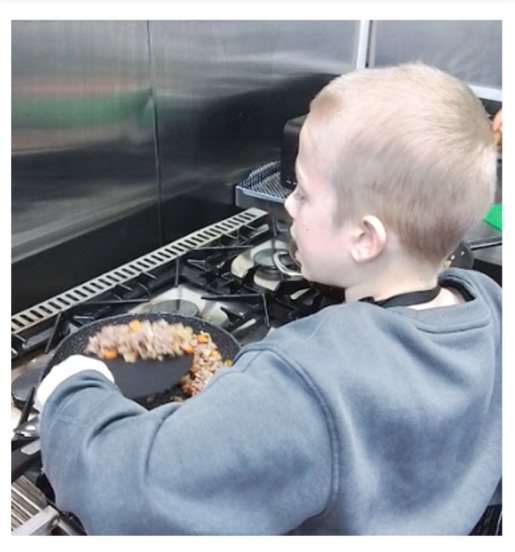
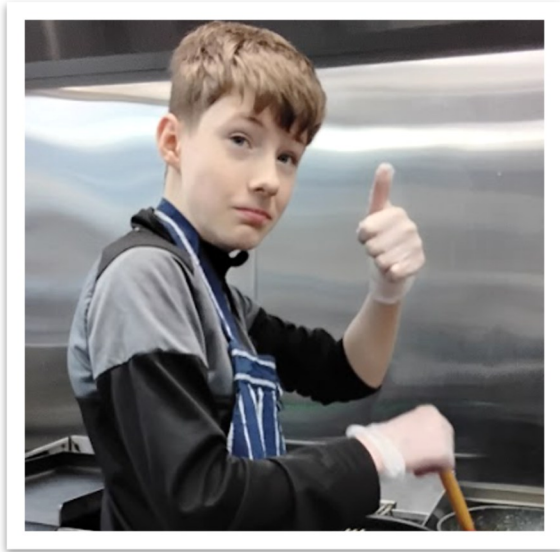


In Science this term, students across KS3 and KS4 have been engaged in a wide range of topics and activities. Each year group has explored different areas of the curriculum, and lessons have included a variety of engaging practical experiments to help students develop their scientific understanding and investigative skills. The students have particularly enjoyed the hands-on practical work, which has allowed them to apply their learning in a fun and interactive way.

09th March 2026 we are also celebrating British Science Week. To mark the occasion, we are carrying out additional practical activities and demonstrations with students to further spark their curiosity and enthusiasm for science.



Cooking with Mrs Debbie



This term in the kitchen has been full of variety and creativity, with students preparing an exciting range of dishes including cheesecakes, beef noodles, chicken chow mein, spring rolls, Swiss roll, lamb kebabs, risotto, and much more.

We are especially proud of two students who completed their final BTEC cooking assessment this term. One student produced an absolutely outstanding pizza, which was a real highlight, while the other created a delicious lasagna, both demonstrating great skill and effort.

It has been fantastic to see every student put in such effort and determination, particularly when tackling more challenging recipes. Their confidence, skills, and willingness to try new things have continued to grow, making this a very successful and enjoyable term in the kitchen



Post-16 with Mr Saqib

What Career? Event

On **Friday 27th February**, our Post-16 students, alongside Year 11 pupils, attended the *What Career & What University Live* event at the NEC in Birmingham.

The trip was a **huge success**, providing students with valuable exposure to a wide range of future pathways, including apprenticeships, further education, university options, and employment opportunities.

Throughout the day, students engaged positively with a variety of employers and organisations. They demonstrated excellent communication skills when speaking to representatives from well-known institutions such as **Jaguar Land Rover**, the **Department for Education**, the **Government Finance Function**, as well as the **Royal Air Force** and **Royal Navy**.

Students also took part in interactive workshops and gained first-hand insight into different career routes, helping them to make more informed decisions about their next steps. It was particularly encouraging to see our learners asking thoughtful questions, collecting information, and showing increased confidence in discussing their future aspirations.

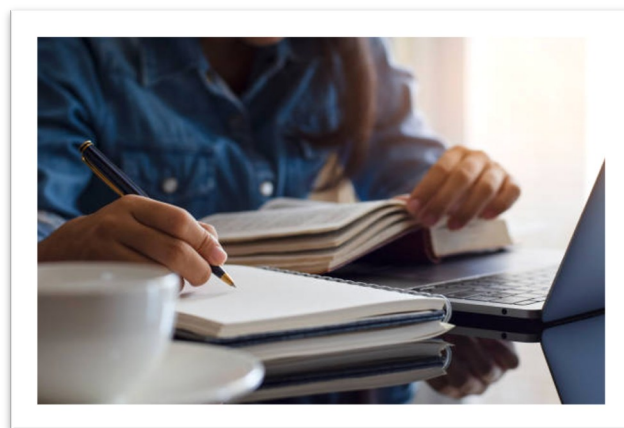
Student Achievement

We are also proud to celebrate the success of one of our Post-16 students, who has recently achieved their **Entry Level 3 qualification in Motor Vehicle Studies**. This is a fantastic accomplishment and has been recognised and celebrated across the school. It reflects the student's commitment, practical skills development, and positive engagement with their vocational pathway.

Exam Preparation

As we move closer to the exam period, students across Year 11, 12, and 13 are now actively preparing for their assessments. In particular, the Maths department has issued **Functional Skills revision booklets** to support learners in consolidating their knowledge and building confidence ahead of their exams.

Students are being encouraged to engage with these resources both in school and at home, alongside continued support from staff, to ensure they are fully prepared and able to achieve their best possible outcomes.



Happy Easter Holidays!

First and foremost, a sincere thank you to our **students**. Your hard work, character, and focus—particularly during our recent Ofsted inspection—have been exemplary. You are the heart of this school, and you should be incredibly proud of yourselves.

Once the Ofsted report has been officially published, we will send a physical copy home to all parents/carers

We wish all of our families a restful and happy Easter break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to continue our journey together in April. Please take note of the following return dates:

- **Monday 13th April 2026: INSET Day** (The school is closed to all students for staff training).
- **Tuesday 14th April 2026: School Re-opens**

Enjoy the holidays, stay safe, and we will see you all soon!



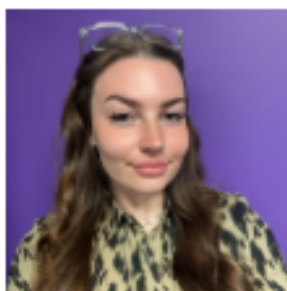
Keeping Our Pupils Safe



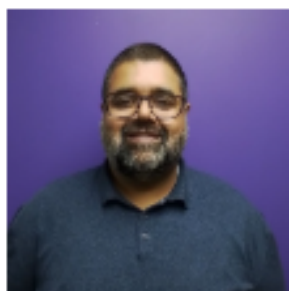
Our Safeguarding Team



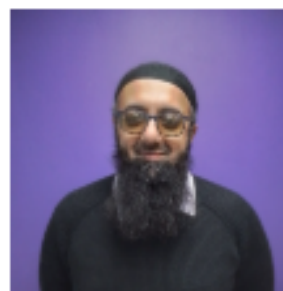
You can speak to any adult at school about anything that is worrying you. However, there are key adults who have the main role of keeping you safe



Deputy DSL
Miss C Rigby



DSL
Mr A Hussain



Deputy DSL
Mr I Sallu

V.A.S.E Academy is committed to protecting the welfare of our learners.

We expect all staff, volunteers and governors to do the same.

If you are concerned about a child, please speak to a member of the safeguarding team.

V.A.S.E Academy School

0121 551 4882

Safeguarding@vaseacademy.co.uk

Birmingham	Sandwell	Walsall	Solihull	Dudley
Birmingham Children's Trust	Sandwells Children's Trust	Walsall Safeguarding Partnership	Solihull Safeguarding Partnership	Dudley Safeguarding People Partnership
0121 551 4882	0121 569 3100	0300 555 2866	0121 788 4300	01384 813061
Birmingham LADO Team ladoteam@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk	Sandwell LADO Team sandwell_lado@sandwellchildrenstrust.org	Walsall Safeguarding Partnership https://walsallsp.co.uk/children/	Solihull LADO Team lado@solihull.gov.uk	Dudley LADO Team allegations@dudley.gov.uk

