

B6 CELEBRATION BROCHURE





Introduction

Happy New Year and welcome to our twice-yearly newsletter celebrating all things B6.

In this edition, we shine a light on the successes of our students and showcase just a small selection of the many career-enhancing opportunities they have taken part in over the last term. We hope you enjoy this whistle-stop tour of what makes The Sixth Form Bolton such a vibrant and inspiring place to learn.

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B6 SHINES AT SHE INSPIRES AWARDS

Students from The Sixth Form Bolton took centre stage at the She Inspires Awards 2025 at the Bolton Stadium Hotel, celebrating their incredible achievements and inspiring journeys.

Three students were named finalists in the Young Achievers category, with Safa Thagia receiving the special Power HER Award in recognition of her resilience and success.

The evening was made even more special as Annabel Jackson, Student Leadership Coordinator and Events & School Engagement Officer, was delighted to win the Rising Star Award (Local), rounding off a fantastic night of celebration for the B6 community.



She Inspires Finalists (L-R Riza, Safa, Ruby)



She Inspires- Annabel Jackson

STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME - TERM 1

Last term, students on our Women into Leadership and Momentum Programmes have taken part in a wide range of inspiring activities designed to build confidence and key leadership skills. Highlights included a communication workshop with recruitment consultant Victoria Sykes, sessions on wellbeing and healthy lifestyles with nutritionist Phil Pukiello, and a talk on resilience and career pathways from PepsiCo's Mark Wilson.

Students also enjoyed our Enrichment Day walk to Rivington Pike and the launch of the new B6 Leadership Podcast, exploring themes such as motivation, resilience, and positive mindset.



Listen by clicking here



Mark Wilson, Pepsi



Phil Pukiello



Podcasting



Rivington Pike



Victoria Sykes

ENRICHMENT DAY

Our first-year students enjoyed a full Enrichment Day away from their usual timetable, taking part in a wide range of engaging activities. Designed to develop new skills and enhance subject knowledge, enrichment helps students stand out in future university and job applications, while also providing opportunities to make new friends and have fun. The day included a mix of external trips and on-campus sessions, with a strong focus on fitness, mental health, and wellbeing.



5k Park Run



Balloon Modelling



Band Practice



Marble Run Madness



Pediatric First Aid

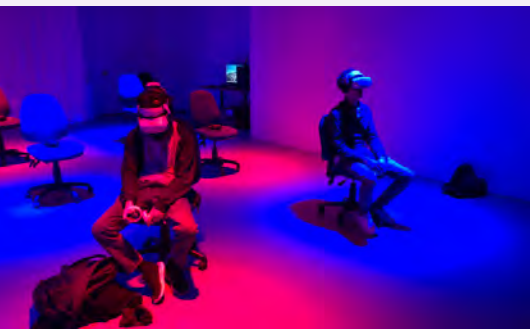


Sociology Board Game Battles

BOLTON INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

20 students from The Sixth Form Bolton's Creative Industries department enjoyed an exciting day out at the Bolton International Film Festival, with five students enjoying the unique experience of volunteering at the event.

Since its launch in 2017, the festival has grown from a small community arts project into a major celebration of local and national talent. This year, it showcased **283 short films**, including **34 World premieres**, **16 European premieres**, and **62 National premieres**, giving students a thrilling chance to see cutting-edge work, meet industry professionals, and connect with filmmakers from across the UK.



MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AIDERS

12 more students at The Sixth Form Bolton have recently qualified as Mental Health First Aiders (MHFAider®). Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) is a powerful course that equips people with the skills to recognise, understand, and support someone experiencing a mental health issue.

Led by our Assistant Principal and qualified MHFA Adult Trainer, Sarah Ball, the course is offered regularly to both students and staff at The Sixth Form. To date, an impressive **83 students and 45 staff** have completed the training, with more opportunities coming soon.

MHFA doesn't train participants to be therapists, but it does empower them to listen, reassure, and respond confidently - even in a crisis. Students learn how to spot warning signs, support others safely, challenge stigma, and guide people towards appropriate help and wellbeing resources.

A huge congratulations to our newly qualified **MHFAiders®**, who now join England's largest mental health support community and gain access to ongoing resources and 24/7 digital support. This is a fantastic achievement that will make a real difference across our B6 community and beyond.



TRAILBLAZING STEM CAREERS DAY

First-year students at The Sixth Form Bolton recently took part in an exciting and informative STEM Careers Day, designed to inspire future pathways in science, technology, engineering and maths. Students from Maths, Science and Vocational Social Sciences enjoyed a range of workshops, panel discussions and speed-networking sessions with industry professionals.

The day opened with an engaging session led by Bilal Sheraz from Medology, offering valuable insight into careers in Medicine and Dentistry. Biology and Chemistry students later attended a Health Sciences panel, while Maths and Physics students explored engineering careers through discussions with industry experts. Vocational Science students also benefited from a dedicated speed-networking session.

Staff praised students for their enthusiasm and professionalism throughout the day, while careers leaders highlighted how the event broadened horizons and showcased the wide range of transferable skills STEM subjects provide. Students described the experience as inspiring and confidence-boosting, helping them better understand real-world STEM careers.



FORMER STUDENT RELEASES DEBUT SINGLE

Everyone at The Sixth Form Bolton is thrilled to celebrate former student **Summer Helme**, who has released her debut single **"Don't Wanna"** on Spotify.

Summer, who studied Performing Arts and Music at B6 and starred as Elle in Legally Blonde, describes the song as capturing the feeling of finding your way while everyone else seems to have it figured out. Since leaving B6 last summer, she has gone on to study **Music Industry & Performance at LMA** and is already making exciting moves in her music career.

Head of Performing Arts, Sam Lawther, praised Summer's incredible talent and confidence, adding: *"This girl is going places... watch this space!"*



Don't Wanna - Single by Summer Helme



STUDENT SECURES AMAZING DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP

A second-year student at The Sixth Form Bolton is celebrating an incredible achievement after securing a highly competitive higher apprenticeship with Deloitte, one of the world's leading professional services firms.

Zainab Dar, who studies A Level Economics, Mathematics and Further Mathematics, was inspired to apply after completing Deloitte's ASPIRE summer programme, supported by guidance from B6 staff. Her BrightStart Apprenticeship, based in London, will see her work towards an AAT Level 4 Diploma followed by a Level 7 Chartered Tax Advisor qualification.

Zainab's success highlights the impact of our dedicated Apprenticeship Academy, which supports students through the demanding recruitment process and helps them secure top-tier apprenticeship opportunities.



MATHS STUDENTS CALCULATE SUCCESS

Forty talented B6 students took part in the **UKMT Senior Maths Challenge**, with six going on to the next round, the prestigious **European Senior Kangaroo** competition.

Our maths team also competed in the **UKMT Regional Final Team Challenge** at the University of Manchester, losing just two marks in the first two rounds and finishing **tenth overall**.



UKMT Team

EDUCATIONAL TRIPS AND VISITS

Life at B6 offers students plenty of opportunities to develop skills both on and off campus. Through a variety of trips and visits, students can broaden their horizons, raise their aspirations, and build their knowledge. A special mention to our Education and Early Years T Level Year Two group who enjoyed an insightful visit to Baby Basics in Bolton, where they met the dedicated volunteers who support families in the local community. Students learned about the vital services the charity provides, including supplying essential items to parents preparing for the arrival of their baby.



Film Premier – In The Kommandant's Garden



Baby Basics



Forest School



Asda Headquarters



Arden UCEN School of Theatre Tour and Workshop



BBC Verify's National Tour

INSPIRING GUEST SPEAKERS

The revolving door of outstanding guest speakers and visiting employers are endless at The Sixth Form! Throughout this first term our students have benefited from inspirational encounters with a host of visitors, including a professional FA referee, a former Hollyoaks star, a survivor from North Korea, local MPs, university guest lecturers, and countless industry professionals. We were also delighted to welcome back former B6 students and alumni Anisha Mohammed and Pippa Lloyd who shared their valuable journey into their careers and university progression.



University of Greater Manchester, Nursing



Jihyun Park, politician and activist



Bolton CVS



University of Greater Manchester Panel



Emily Carney, professional referee



MMU Animation



Anisha Mohammed and Pippa Lloyd



Gabriel Clark (actor and writer)



Amey Engineering Day

B6 RICH EVENTS

Our student B6 Rich and Learner Voice teams have been amazing this term. Fitness Challenges, Bake Offs and Poets... We have had it all! Collegewide events included National Fitness Day, National Poetry Day, Macmillan Coffee Morning and Children in Need. In total we raised over £1,729 for charity.



Macmillan



National Fitness Day



Children in Need 2026



Children in Need 2026

As our students settle back into college life after the Winter break, we look forward to another hardworking and action-packed term ahead. I do hope you have enjoyed this snapshot of life at The Sixth Form Bolton. For more good news stories please follow us on social media.

Stuart Merrills

Principal

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@thesixthformb6