



Honesty
Excellence
Accountability
Respect
Teamwork

Newent Community School nominated for prestigious national community award

Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre (NCS) has today announced that it has been nominated for a Community Award at a national education business awards, in recognition of its working in partnership with the local community.

The 2023 Education Business Awards takes place on June 14 at the Leonardo Royal London Hotel, St. Pauls, and will be presented by former top athlete and four-time Olympian **Donna Fraser OBE**. The awards themselves have been in existence since 2009 and has recognised the achievements of thousands of state and independent schools since that time. To read more about the awards, [click here](#).

The award recognises schools working in partnership with the community and other public sector bodies on projects that bring specific benefits to the local community. To find out more about the awards click [here](#).

One example of the recent projects that the school has undertaken and has contributed to the award nomination is a partnership with the Hollie Gazzard Trust.

NCS invited members of its local businesses, councillors and parents to hear from the trust at the start of the term. As well as this, last half term the Year 7's heard from the trust about the increase in knife crime that was ending the lives of many young people.

They explored the reasons why people carry knives, the damage that using a knife can have, along with the ripple effect it has. They looked at the laws for carrying a knife, the impact of joint enterprise on those involved even if they do not carry or use. They explored the alternatives for safeguarding including 'Hollie Guard', how crimes can be reported anonymously and the support that is available.

It is a developing partnership, as the school also worked with small groups on 'toxic masculinity' so that the Hollie Gazzard Trust can also develop resources with our young people's experiences, thoughts, and opinions.

Speaking about the award nomination Dawn Burke, Head Teacher of NCS, said:

“Being nominated for such a respected community award really aligns with what we are trying to achieve. We believe we have an amazing future ahead, not without its challenges, but one that is committed to the vision and values that we hold dear, and the community that we serve. We are committed to improving – with a clear understanding we have much to be proud of, but we have still much to do.

“We are passionate that Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre continues to be the high achieving school of choice for parents and students. We believe our students are wonderful ambassadors for the school, and take pride in shaping and further developing the excellent community to which they belong.

“Most recently, we have been working in partnership with the Hollie Gazzard Trust. The charity helps reduce domestic violence through creating and delivering programmes on domestic abuse and promoting healthy relationships, in schools and colleges. They spoke to our staff in

April to introduce the charity and we were privileged to hear from Nick Gazzard, Hollie's dad, about how and why they set up the charity."

You can find out more about the Hollie Gazzard Trust [here](#).

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For more information contact admin@newent.gloucs.sch.uk or call 01531 820550

EDITORS NOTES

Since being conceived as Gloucestershire's first purpose built secondary school in 1965 (with the first indoor swimming pool), NCS has looked to be innovative, creative and a front runner in its community.

Through the years the school has exhaled and filled its buildings and at other times inhaled as it has changed; but in all cases it has strived to be at the centre of its community, doing its best for the local people.

NCS is committed to inspiring learners for their future through a vibrant, innovative and supportive environment where students develop resourcefulness, resilience, accept responsibility and are challenged to take risks in order to succeed. Maximising individual students' development and achievement is what every day is about. Students develop the skills and confidence to prepare them for life in the 21st century and it is our aim that students leave us with a passion for life-long learning.

To allow this NCS has embarked on ensuring the school has a 'H.E.A.R.T.' based value system, with 'Honesty', 'Excellence', 'Accountability', 'Respect' and 'Teamwork', at its core.

Over the past few years, the school has established an incredible team of staff that give their all to helping the school be and become 'the best that it can be'.