

## Enriching Lives, Transforming Futures at Erdington Academy

Enrichment at Erdington Academy has been redefined, starting with some headscratching about what we really wanted the students to experience during their "enrichment days".

Eventually we came up with a Mission statement:

"Every child will benefit from a wide range of enrichment opportunities to try new and varied activities that may not strictly fit into the curriculum, but that develop character, resilience and motivation, because we place a great emphasis on personal development."

and our definition of enrichment:

"An enrichment activity allows students to try something, that may not strictly fit into the curriculum"

We planned our enrichment offer:

KS3 OFFER		
Over KS3, each student will have the opportunity to experience some of the following enrichment activities:		
Teambuilding	Attend a live classical music performance	Problem solving/ working in the outdoors
A full day of subject passion	Visit a regional site of historical importance	Visit a local college/ university
KS4 OFFER		
Over KS4, each student will have the opportunity to experience some of the following enrichment activities:		
Teambuilding	Complete a field study	Visit a local college/ university
Attend a cultural performance	Visit a cultural experience	Problem solving/ working in the outdoors

Our first "Enrichment day was on October 16<sup>th</sup>, and what a transformational day it was for most of our students:

**Year 7** spent a day team building in their forms with their new form tutors. They visited an outdoor education centre and participated in a range of activities as a team, competing against all the other forms in year 7. Students participated in activities such as "night line" low ropes, collecting points for their form. Points were then used to "buy" rocket launches in the "space race"

In preparation for year 9 history lessons, **Year 8** visited the Black Country Living museum, and all went down the mine to get a flavour of times gone by.

All students in **year 9** participated in "subject passion day". A day when they were immersed into their "favourite" subject. Learning the mathematics of golf was a highlight for some students, and preparing and enjoying a traditional festive banquet was the dish of the day for others.

**Year 10** students enriched their knowledge of geography at the Sandwell Valley RSPB sanctuary, whilst GCSE Historians took steps back in time exploring Hardwick Hall in Derbyshire.

**Year 11** students were visited by HSBC who gave valuable insights into personal finance, including mortgages and pensions, and what to expect for their first pay packet.

Thanks must go to the dedicated staff, who planned these enriching activities, and shared their passions to help transform the lives of our students