



Hartshill Academy

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HART TO HART | Academy News

HARTSHILL ACADEMY AWARDED PRESTIGIOUS SCHOOL OF CHARACTER QUALITY MARK



Education with Character: Hartshill Academy celebrates its new School of Character status, recognising pupils' character development and values-driven culture.

Hartshill Academy has been recognised as an official Association of Character Education **School of Character** after a successful ACE Quality Mark assessment.

Inspectors praised pupils' strong understanding of character and values, the innovative Character Ladder, leadership opportunities and the academy's values-driven improvement journey.

FULL STORY: PAGE 3

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AUTUMN TERM:

- Tuesday 1 Sept - INSET DAY
- Wednesday 2 Sept - INSET DAY
- Thursday 3 Sept - Years 7 and 11 return to school
- Friday 4 Sept - Years 7 and 11 only
- Monday 7 Sept - All years return to school



Stay Connected



We understand that the more information we can provide to our families, the better equipped they are to support the work of the school in educating their young people.

Our aim is to help our parents, carers and wider school community stay connected with school life at Hartshill Academy.

Our main channel for communication is Arbor. There is also lots of helpful information on our school website. However, there are other ways you can stay updated. Along with our newsletter, we have social media accounts on Instagram, LinkedIn and Facebook.

We also have a Parent and Carer Facebook group with almost 200 Hartshill parents and carers. If you are a parent or carer of a current Hartshill Academy pupil, we are inviting you to join our group.

Search 'Hartshill Academy Parents & Carers Group' on Facebook for more information.



A SCHOOL OF CHARACTER



ACE School of
CHARACTER

We are delighted to announce that Hartshill Academy is now an official Association of Character Education **School of Character**, following our ACE Quality Mark assessment last week! 🎉

It was a pleasure to receive such positive feedback from the assessment team about the work undertaken to provide our young people with an education rooted in character. The final report highlighted many strengths of our character provision:

❤️ "Pupils demonstrate high levels of 'virtue literacy,' when discussing character. Pupils confidently spoke about virtues beyond HART, demonstrating that the shared language of character expands beyond the school's core values. This is testament to a character curriculum which purposefully weaves in a range of traits."

💚 "The 'Character Ladder,' is an innovative tool that has helped cement the importance of intrinsic motivation in the cultivation of 'good character.' Pupils refer to it often and connect with the associated characters and their behaviours for each level."

💙 "Pupils have a clear understanding of their own character and are able to articulate the virtues that they feel they 'live well,' and the virtues they want to focus on developing further. This shows that pupils are encouraged to 'look inwards' and apply what they learn in terms of character, to their own flourishing."

💛 "Participation in extra-curricular activities and pupil leadership is a 'normalised way of being' at the school. This has helped develop pupils who habitually seek out opportunities that will cultivate virtue."

❤️ "Values-based leadership has played a pivotal role in the school's impressive journey of school improvement."

This recognition is a significant achievement and reflects the collective commitment of staff, pupils, families and governors to our vision of empowering pupils to explore and transform the world. Special thanks to Mr Mba for the work and leadership he has given to driving our Character programme.



HART OF THE COMMUNITY

At the start of July, a number of our Year 9 pupils took part in the First Give Final, demonstrating their passion, creativity and commitment to making a difference in their local community.

First Give is a national youth social action programme that inspires young people to engage with local charities and community organisations. Through the programme, pupils learn about social issues affecting real people in their area and work together to support causes they care about.

Over the course of the project, pupils explored a range of local causes before selecting a charity to champion. This year's finalists presented their work in support of the following organisations:

- DACS (Domestic Abuse Counselling Service)
- ROSA
- The Friendship Project
- Doorway
- Nuneaton Foodbank
- The Guardians Grow Charity

A panel of distinguished judges had the difficult task of selecting the winning team:

- Miss Taylor, Principal
- Emma Shiers, Founder of Chill'd CIC
- Katie Hobley, Councillor for Hartshill
- Macy, First Give Winner 2025

The judges were hugely impressed by the quality of the presentations, the depth of research undertaken and the enthusiasm shown by all participating students.

After careful deliberation, **The Guardians Grow Charity** was announced as the overall winner. The team delivered an outstanding presentation, highlighting the charity's important work and showcasing the impact of their efforts throughout the First Give programme.



Year 9 finalists and our judges at the end of the First Give Final 2026



The winning group (9N2) with the funding secured for their local charity



First Give 2025 winner Macy and the First Give 2026 winners, Abbie, Amelia and Molly



Each group of pupils presented to a panel of judges on behalf of their selected charity

NUNEATON YOUTH PARLIAMENT



Nuneaton Youth Parliament has enjoyed another successful term, bringing together pupils from schools and colleges across the borough to discuss issues that matter most to young people. Earlier this year, delegates explored the impact of social media on mental health, online safety and proposed age restrictions, gathering extensive feedback from their peers and debating the practicalities, risks and benefits of government intervention. Representatives also engaged with Warwickshire Police, councillors and other local stakeholders to ensure young voices were heard.

Building on those discussions, a Select Committee in May focused specifically on mental health and social media use. Special congratulations go to **Noah, Isabella, Eliza and Macy** for their outstanding contributions as ambassadors. They asked insightful questions, listened carefully to expert evidence and represented young people with confidence and maturity during discussions with representatives from Coventry, Warwickshire and Worcestershire MIND, Warwickshire Police and Jodie Gosling MP.



The final Youth Parliament meeting of the academic year will take place on **Friday 26 June** at Nuneaton Town Hall and will explore Artificial Intelligence – its benefits and challenges. Delegates have been encouraged to gather views from their schools and colleges on how AI is currently being used, where young people learn about it and whether they see it as a positive or negative influence.

With AI affecting areas from education to the environment, the discussion promises to be wide-ranging and thought-provoking, ensuring the Youth Parliament ends the year on another important and timely topic.

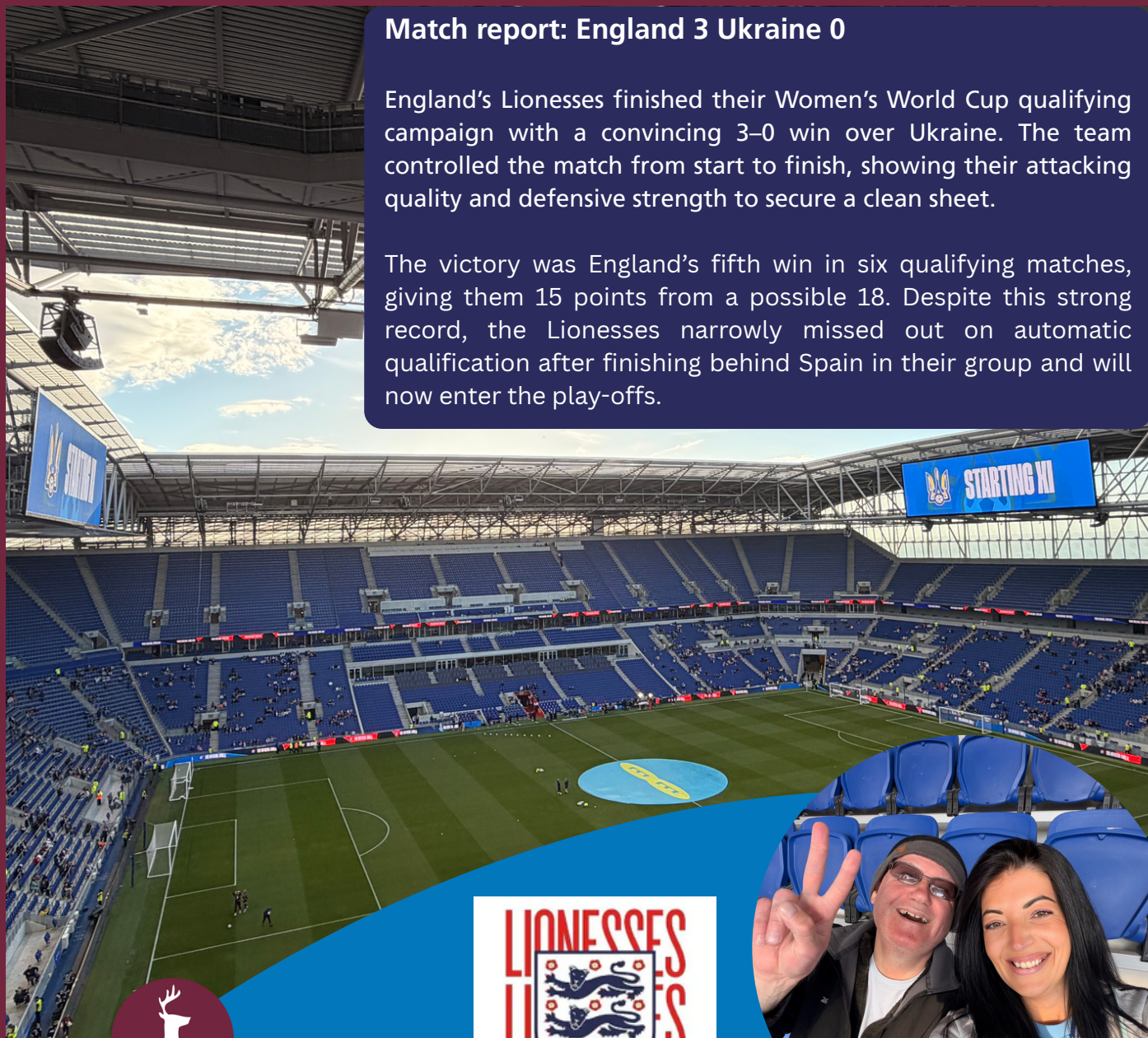
Special thanks to Mrs Freeman for coordinating all the Nuneaton Youth Parliament sessions for our pupils throughout this academic year.

HARTSHILL CHEER ON THE LIONESSES IN FINAL WORLD CUP QUALIFICATION TIE

Match report: England 3 Ukraine 0

England's Lionesses finished their Women's World Cup qualifying campaign with a convincing 3-0 win over Ukraine. The team controlled the match from start to finish, showing their attacking quality and defensive strength to secure a clean sheet.

The victory was England's fifth win in six qualifying matches, giving them 15 points from a possible 18. Despite this strong record, the Lionesses narrowly missed out on automatic qualification after finishing behind Spain in their group and will now enter the play-offs.



Pupils and staff enjoyed a fantastic evening on Tuesday 9 June as they travelled to Liverpool to watch the England Lionesses take on Ukraine at Everton FC's new stadium.

England secured an impressive 3-0 victory, creating an electric atmosphere that everyone loved. It was a brilliant trip, with pupils and staff equally excited to experience top-level football and cheer on the team together.

PE & SCHOOL SPORT UPDATE

It has been a truly fantastic year for sport at Hartshill. From engaging in a wide range of team sports to developing individual skills and, most importantly, building the character that sport naturally fosters, the progress has been exceptional.

As you know, we are working towards becoming a leading character education school, and I firmly believe that sport plays a central role in achieving this. This year, we have seen students try activities they have never experienced before and, crucially, begin to believe that they can take part and succeed in sport. For many, these opportunities simply did not exist previously.

The provision delivered by the PE department has been remarkable. There is genuinely something for everyone. We set out with a clear vision to create a comprehensive before, during, and after-school sports programme and that is exactly what we have achieved. Nearly 1,000 students have been engaged in sport and physical activity, with every lesson ensuring full participation.

In addition, over 200 students have represented the school in a wide variety of competitive fixtures, both internally and externally. We are particularly proud that 100% of pupils in Years 7, 8, and 9 have taken part in house competitions.

Our Challenge and Development pathway has been a key success, giving students autonomy to identify their level within different sports, allowing them to thrive, grow, and build confidence. Students have participated in numerous fixtures across rugby, football, cricket, netball, rounders, dodgeball, athletics, and more.

Looking ahead, we are excited to expand our provision further next year, creating even more opportunities for pupils to get involved in sport.

Most importantly, none of this would have been possible without the students themselves. The commitment, growth, and outstanding character they have shown this year have been phenomenal—demonstrating exactly what sport can bring.

We also want to hear from you. Please send us your child's sporting accomplishments so we can celebrate their achievements as a school community.

We look forward to building on this success and welcoming you again next year.





HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP

The House competition continues to gather momentum as pupils from **Barber Bears**, **Drayton Deers**, **Evans Eagles**, and **Newton Nighthawks** have taken part in a range of activities this term, demonstrating our school values of HART – **Heart, Ambition, Respect and Tenacity** every step of the way.

One of the highlights was our Target Golf Competition, which saw pupils testing their accuracy, concentration and teamwork. Congratulations to the **Drayton Deers**, who claimed first place with an outstanding performance. The Evans Eagles secured second place, while the Barber Bears and Newton Nighthawks shared third place after a closely contested competition. Throughout the event, pupils showed great ambition in striving for success, tenacity in overcoming challenges, and respect for their fellow competitors.

This term also saw the return of our House Assemblies, providing valuable opportunities for pupils to come together, celebrate achievements, and strengthen their house identity. These assemblies reflected the heart of our school community, encouraging pupils to support one another and take pride in representing their house.

As we approach the end of the academic year, the race for the House Championship is becoming increasingly exciting. The scores are very close, meaning that every point earned over the final week could still make a real difference. There are still plenty of opportunities for houses to climb the leaderboard and claim the top spot.

Pupils can continue to support their house by:

- Taking part in Sports Day
- Maintaining excellent attendance
- Earning positive ClassCharts behaviour points

These opportunities allow everyone to demonstrate the values of HART: showing Heart through participation, Ambition through striving for success, Respect through positive conduct, and Tenacity through consistent effort.

Keep showing your house spirit and supporting one another, because there will be a special prize and a big end-of-year reveal for the winning house! With the competition so close, it is still all to play for, and any of the four houses could emerge victorious.

Good luck to Barber Bears, Drayton Deers, Evans Eagles, and Newton Nighthawks as we head into the final stages of this year's House competition. Let's finish the year by showing what HART is all about!



Who will win
the 2025-2026
House
Championship?

