



## Ellesmere College: Partnership and Public Benefit Report

Dated: 27/02/2020

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## School information

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### School name

Ellesmere College

### School address

Birch Road  
Ellesmere  
Shropshire  
SY12 9AB

### School email address

[registrar@ellesmere.com](mailto:registrar@ellesmere.com)

### School website

<http://www.ellesmere.com>

### School head

Mr B J Wignall (Headmaster)

### School phone number

+44 (0)1691 622321

### Day/boarding type

Day  
Weekly  
Full boarding

### Gender profile

Coeducational

### School size

517

### ISC Reference Number

68292

### DfE Reference Number

893 / 6001

## School description

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Ellesmere College is a 7-18 co-educational day and boarding school based in rural Shropshire. Ellesmere successfully provides a platform for academic and personal success, encouraging individuals to fulfil their own potential through a broad range of academic, co-curricular and pastoral opportunities at the College. We are Ellesmere - we are #LifeReady.



## **Partnership impact**

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### **Impact of partnership work done in 2018 (ISC annual Census 2019)**

- 4 state schools involved
- 100 to 200 state school pupils involved
- 30 staff hours given

### **Impact Statement**

We run workshops and shared events with local primary and secondary schools in music, drama and sports. We host state school and county tournaments. We support state schools with their bid to apply for Arts Mark, as we are an Arts Council Platinum Artsmark School and to enable them to plan to offer their pupils Arts Award.

## Partnership case studies

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### Case Study: Learning Support in Ellesmere College

#### Categories

- SEND

#### Partners

- CReSTeD
- Shropshire Dyslexia Awards

#### Summary

Ellesmere College has been awarded Category DU (Dyslexia Unit) by the Council for the Registration of Schools Teaching Dyslexic Pupils (CReSTeD), and continues to make advances in the specialist tuition available in our Learning Support Unit for all SEN needs: dyslexia, dyscalculia, dyspraxia, etc.

Ellesmere College Headmaster, Mr Brendan Wignall, is the Chair of CReSTeD, and we regularly host conferences and speak at conferences as specialist in SEN topics.

Find out more: <https://www.ellesmere.com/the-schools/all/support-for-learning/>

#### Aims

To continue maintaining and reinforcing a caring, supportive environment in which all students can develop academically and personally. We also want to ensure that teachers continue to be well-informed about individuals with special learning needs, and that this information is used effectively to create a network of support which includes individually-tailored teaching and academic support both integrated into the curriculum but also outside of lesson time.

#### Background

The College welcomed CReSTeD inspectors in early May who spent time in specialist support lessons and interviewed pupils, staff and parents.

Ellesmere College was also recognised at the recent Shropshire Dyslexia Awards for the Learning Support Team's ongoing high levels of support and care for students with dyslexia and other learning needs.

#### Resources

Our specialist support staff and facilities are required to provide a strong support for learning, and an information database needs to be maintained in order to create an unobtrusive network of support around those with needs.

#### Impact

Ellesmere College pupils receive constant ongoing support from boarding and teaching staff, improving pupils' confidence and happiness. In addition, our Governors and senior leaders have successfully embedded the school's ethos and there is a wide variety of academic support available outside of lesson time and in the evenings which students can access to reinforce their learning.

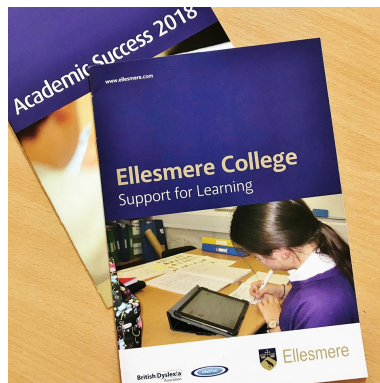
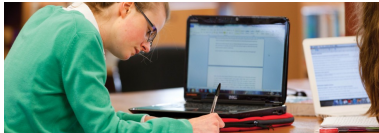
## **Pupil involvement and ages**

All Ellesmere College, pupils of all ages - from Lower School to Sixth Form - benefit from this constant support that reinforces their studies and provides them with a nurturing environment where teachers are aware of the differing needs of their students and of effective methods of differentiation.

## **Frequency and duration**

Ellesmere College are very proud of its Learning Support and its registration as a Dyslexia Unit, and our support will continue to be maintained at the highest quality and improved in every way possible.

## **Images**



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## **Case Study: North West Academies Trust: Ellesmere College**

### **Categories**

- Governance

### **Partners**

- St. Martin's Academy
- Delamere CofE Academy
- Oak View Academy
- Ellesmere Primary School
- Weaverham Primary Academy
- Grosvenor Park CofE Academy

- Rudheath Senior Academy
- Ledsham Manor Academy
- North West Academies Trust

## **Summary**

The Headmaster of Ellesmere College, Mr. Brendan Wignall, is the Chair of the North West Academies Trust (NWAT) Trustees - an organisation which aims to provide world-class education to the academy and free school sector. There are currently eight NWAT Academies within the group in both the primary and secondary school sectors across the North West.

## **Aims**

The aim of the organisation is to ensure outstanding learning opportunities for every child, and to provide each school with access to a team skilled in school-to-school support, finance and accounting, HR, legal services, catering, marketing and communications, thus delivering practical and effective support and solutions to all of their schools.

North West Academies Trust (NWAT) was established in 2011

## **Background**

The North West Academies Trust (NWAT) was established in 2011 and is made up of educators and people from commercial backgrounds, with a proven track record in the academy and independent sectors, alongside an experience of international education. Their experience in running very different schools and understanding the demands placed on the Trust as an organisation is highly beneficial in managing all aspects of new school set-ups and academy conversions.

The Trust aims to work with a range of schools in varying social contexts to create a network - both within the Trust and as associate schools - where mutual support and experience is at the heart of everything.

## **Resources**

A range of resources are required to ensure the highest-quality educational support and to provide students with the best facilities possible, as well as finances to support construction and management projects within the NWAT Academies group.

## **Impact**

More children are being given access to high-quality education as they enter schools with strong teaching and leadership in a creative and supportive environment. The Trust's schools are set up with a highly effective and supportive governance, clear and effective marketing & communications strategies, strong financial credibility, and an excellent working relationship with Ellesmere College.

## **Pupil involvement and ages**

A number of primary and secondary schools are part of the NWAT, affecting many pupils between the ages of 5 and 16 as they gain access to high-quality education.

### **Frequency and duration**

The Trust successfully oversees seven primary and secondary schools as part the NWAT, and is planning to involve more during the coming years.

### **Images**



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## **Case Study: Computing Courses for Teachers**

### **Categories**

- ITT/teacher development

### **Partners**

- National Centre for Computing Education
- Birmingham City University
- STEM

### **Summary**

Externally ratified courses provided by the National Centre for Computing Education (NCCE) - who have also named Ellesmere College as a 'Centre of Excellence for Computer Science' - are delivered by the Head of Computer Science in order to train state school teachers in advanced computer proficiency which they can then deliver at their own respective schools.

### **Aims**

The aim is to provide teachers with the opportunity to further develop their computer knowledge and gain a recognised advanced qualification. They can then use this knowledge to improve the Computer Science provision delivered in their dedicated schools.

## **Background**

These courses have been provided by the National Centre for Computing Education (NCCE), who have also named Ellesmere College as a 'Centre of Excellence for Computer Science', as a part of a substantial government funding scheme to train over 8000 unqualified teachers in CS.

## **Resources**

The College computer facilities are required in order to ensure the best possible delivery of the course, and our Head of Computer Science will deliver the course.

## **Impact**

Computer Science teachers will be able to bring this new knowledge back to their respective schools, which will provide students with a higher quality of learning and offer them some additional encouragement in the field of Computer Science.

## **Pupil involvement and ages**

Pupils of all ages at the respective schools will be positively impacted by the delivery of this course as their teachers will be able to deliver a higher level of computing knowledge through their Computer Science department.

## **Frequency and duration**

Following the success of the inaugural course at the College, they will be delivered annually.

## **Images**



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## **Case Study: Sponsorship of Ellesmere Swimming Pool**

### **Categories**

- School sponsorship

### **Partners**

- Ellesmere Primary School
- Ellesmere Community

## **Summary**

Ellesmere College sponsors the community swimming pool located on the site of Ellesmere Primary School. The pool was on the verge of closure, but the funds provided by the College have kept it open; in addition, the College provided a new defibrillator unit for use by the community.

## **Aims**

To bring the pool up to modern standards and to maintain it at this level, while also ensuring that it is always open and available to both students at Ellesmere Primary School, Ellesmere College and the wider community.

## **Background**

The pool, which was built more than 40 years ago, was on the verge of closure after the funding Ellesmere Primary received from the government was cut short. Ellesmere College's sponsorship has allowed it to stay open for the school and the community for years to come.

## **Resources**

- The use of the swimming pool by local schools and members of the community.
- The frequency of events, swimming classes and activities arranged at the pool.
- Funds by the College to assist in the annual upkeep of the pool.

## **Impact**

A valuable town asset has been protected, and the pool will remain sustainable for both Ellesmere Primary School and other local schools, and will continue to be used for co-curricular lessons.

## **Pupil involvement and ages**

Students from all local schools are able to use the swimming pool, and it is also be available to Ellesmere College students.

## **Frequency and duration**

This is an ongoing sponsorship, and Ellesmere College will continue to support the swimming pool for the benefit of the community.

## **Images**



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## **Case Study: Drama Workshops for Primary Schools**

### **Categories**

- Academic
- Performing arts and music

### **Partners**

- Ellesmere Primary School
- Criftins C of E Primary School
- Woodside Primary School
- Whittington School
- Cockshutt School

### **Summary**

As part of the Arts Mark Platinum accreditation, Ellesmere College arranges outreach projects with their drama students to a number of local primary schools.

These workshops take place at the College and encourage the students from Years 4-6 to express themselves confidently, explore and develop their creative skills and teach them new skills in drama, acting, singing and dance.

### **Aims**

The workshops aim to inspire the young students, and giving them a platform on which to explore and develop their creative performance skills. They gain confidence and leadership skills as they are challenged throughout the workshops and learn new skills using the resources and facilities at the College that they would not normally have access to.

### **Background**

These workshops form part of the Arts Mark Award at the College and are a measurable aspect of the outreach projects as the students perform, create and complete pieces of music, dance and theatre for parents at the end of the sessions.

### **Resources**



The primary school students attend the workshops with members of their teaching and support staff and our students take the lead roles in the creation, delivery and measurement of the workshops. The workshops occur annually through the Lent term and culminate in a production at the College in the Arts Centre theatre.

## **Impact**

These workshops form part of the Arts Mark Award at the College and are a measurable aspect of the outreach projects as the students perform, create and complete pieces of music, dance and theatre for parents at the end of the sessions.

## **Pupil involvement and ages**

Ellesmere College Drama students voluntarily host workshops for 5-11 year olds from local primary schools.

## **Frequency and duration**

These workshops are an ongoing effort, and occur within the Lent term.

## **Images**



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## **Case Study: Ellesmere College Shooting Facilities and the Community**

### **Categories**

- Sport/DofE/cadets

### **Partners**

- Shrewsbury High School
- Belvidere School
- St. Martin's School
- Pentathlon GB
- British Shooting Association
- Manchester Metropolitan University

## Summary

Ellesmere College's Olympic standard shooting facilities host the British Shooting Association's West Midlands Schools Pistol Championship annually and are routinely used by the local community through our links with Pentathlon GB and the weekly modern pentathlon training, both of which attract a number of children from the local area as well as our own students.

For more on our Shooting Facilities visit: <https://www.ellesmere.com/the-schools/all/clubs-and-societies/sport/shooting-academy/>

## Aims

To enable students to benefit from Olympic standard equipment and hone their competitive edge. They provide the opportunity for all levels of students to train in all Olympic shooting disciplines and use of facilities including:

- Outdoor 50m range .22
- Indoor 25m range .22
- Air Rifle and Pistol range
- Electronic Targets
- Clay Target Shooting Range
- Archery
- State of the Art Fitness Facilities
- Indoor Swimming Pool
- Tailored Strength & Conditioning Sessions.

These partnerships do not only support our school; it also supports the local community and those who are interested in target shooting will be able to benefit from our facilities.

## Background

Ellesmere has consistently finished in the top five teams at the Ashburton Shield, and took the National title in 2015. The Academy has previously produced nine international shooters, including two that were selected for England and a number for Wales at Junior Level.

## Resources

- The use of Ellesmere College's Shooting Academy (the first based in a school in the UK)
- Excellent training programmes
- Opportunities in Air Rifle, Pistol and Archery
- Access to the top Physiological and Psychological support in the UK through our connections with the Sports Science Department of Manchester Metropolitan University.

## Impact

We consistently produce international standard marksmen and women, and possess one of the most established shooting facilities in the country while maintaining a good relationship with the community.

### **Pupil involvement and ages**

Pupils of all ages use the shooting facilities, and further opportunities become available as the students enter their teenage years.

### **Frequency and duration**

This is a core element of the competitive development of sporting academies at the College.

### **Images**



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## **Case Study: Ellesmere College: EDGE Lectures**

### **Categories**

- Academic
- Career guidance

### **Partners**

- NetWorld Sports

### **Summary**

The EDGE Lectures are a series of lectures designed to deliver inspiring and informative talks on subjects related to business, entrepreneurship and careers by Old Ellesmerians (OEs) to current Year 11/Sixth Form students, interested parents and members of the public.

### **Aims**

The EDGE Lectures are designed to help give students the 'edge' when it comes to entering the world of university and work, and also provides them with the opportunity to make connections and create relationships with speakers, opening up

opportunities for mentoring and work experience from a range of OEs who remain engaged with the College and its current students.

## **Background**

The EDGE Lectures are a key part of Ellesmere College's Leadership & Entrepreneurship Programme, which is designed to enrich the offering given to students and provide them with an advantage for the working world - to learn about the professional world, and to begin thinking about university, career or other future options.

## **Resources**

The lectures take place in the Ellesmere College Library, and the key speaker(s) are pooled from our network of 7000 Old Ellesmerians (OEs) worldwide.

Previous speakers have included:

- Lady Edwina Grosvenor - 'Punishment & Prison Reform'
- Professor Susan Jebb OBE, Professor of Diet and Population Health at Oxford University
- Major Neil Eisenstein (Trauma & Orthopaedic Registrar)
- Alex Loven - Founder and CEO of Net World Sports
- Oscar winner Bryan Oates
- Barrister David Whitehouse

## **Impact**

Students are greatly inspired by the lectures, gain new business relationships and the opportunity to directly engage with professionals in their chosen fields of expertise.

## **Pupil involvement and ages**

All Year 11 and Sixth Form students are welcome to attend our EDGE Lectures. Parents and members of the public are also welcome.

## **Frequency and duration**

The EDGE Lectures occur in the College approximately three times per term in the Michaelmas and Lent terms.

## **Images**



## Community work and fundraising

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### Case Study: Student Volunteering at Ellesmere College

#### Categories

- Sport/DofE/cadets
- Community work/fundraising

#### Partners

- Lamdon Model School in Ladakh, Kashmir, Northern India
- Ellesmere
- Monduli Green
- C.R.Y UK
- Barnabus Homeless Charity

#### Summary

Ellesmere College students are encouraged throughout their journey at the school to proactively engage with and volunteer in projects for the community - both locally and internationally.

They participate as part of College led projects including the CCF (Combined Cadet Force), Duke of Edinburgh (bronze to gold), Monduli Green Project, Green Team projects, Arts Award projects, etc, but also projects driven by themselves including an Indian School Building project, marine conservation in Belize, homeless charity volunteering in Manchester, the annual Snowdon Run, etc.

#### Aims

These volunteering opportunities allow our students to acquire useful life skills, develop their leadership capabilities and use their initiative in unfamiliar and challenging environments, all while supporting our local and international communities.

Our students create positive relationships with the people of the communities impacted as well as a deeper understanding of the social and environmental challenges the communities face.

#### Background

Volunteering provides students with a challenge that incorporates enterprise, initiative and leadership skills – all of which are highly regarded by prospective employers.

#### Resources

Participating primary schools, communities, and companies for our talented students to assist.

## Impact

As well as benefitting the community, these activities will give students useful life skills, develop their leadership and management capabilities and allow them to use their initiative in unfamiliar and challenging environments.

## Pupil involvement and ages

All of our students are encouraged to volunteer in various activities, helping them to develop both professionally and personally while providing support for a range of pupils and local institutions.

## Frequency and duration

Volunteering opportunities occur regularly in Ellesmere, and the volunteering experience is a considerable part of the Ellesmere philosophy and will always remain important to us and our students.

## Images



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## Case Study: Monduli Green Charity Work & Fundraising

### Categories

- Community work/fundraising

### Partners

- Monduli Green Project

## **Summary**

The Monduli Green Project works with local communities and schools in Tanzania in order to improve the environment and educational facilities for children of school age there. Ellesmere College students organise fundraising projects at the College and in the local community, and also travel to Tanzania to volunteer in the construction and painting of the new school buildings and classrooms built with the money they have raised. They also work on the water and irrigation projects to deliver fresh clean water supplies to the students as well as crop irrigation. In addition, they get involved in reforestation projects in the area.

## **Aims**

Many students in Monduli stop school after primary education because they cannot afford secondary school fees, and therefore, we share Monduli Green's aim of organising scholarships for such students so that they can continue their education for the next 6 years. In addition, we want to update water collection systems in the area, plant 20,000 new trees, improve current school buildings and work on constructing new ones.

## **Background**

The Monduli Green Project is a charity founded in 2008 by Cathy Allen, an English as an Additional Language teacher at Ellesmere College. Its purpose was to support local communities and schools in the Monduli area by improving access to clean water, increasing tree cover, providing more educational opportunities and facilities and raising understanding across cultures. They have a commitment to making a positive difference in the lives of others and the world around us.

## **Resources**

The resources required to maintain the project include Ellesmere staff, students and funds raised by the students. Without these key elements the project would not survive. Other resources are provided by the Ellesmere College Parents Society who fundraise yearly to support scholarships for two students per year to see them through the length of their education.

## **Impact**

We hope that as a result of our efforts, the educational opportunities and quality of life for young people in Monduli will greatly improve, while also providing our students (and the young people of Monduli) a much greater awareness of the differences and similarities in our cultures.

We also anticipate that the environment will greatly benefit from the trees planted by the volunteer students, and when our water project is complete, there will be plenty of clean water available for the communities of Monduli.

## **Pupil involvement and ages**



The Monduli Green Project focuses on primary school students moving into secondary education in the Tanzanian region of Monduli, and involves Ellesmere College students from all Years 3 - 13.

### Frequency and duration

The Monduli Green Project is a constant effort, and our students participate and travel to Monduli annually to support the school and community there.

### Images



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## Case Study: Ellesmere College: Music in the Community

### Categories

- Performing arts and music
- Community work/fundraising

### Partners

- Ellesmere Primary School
- Criffins C of E Primary School
- Cockshutt Primary
- Whittington Primary
- Woodside Primary School
- Prestfelde School
- Age UK
- Hope House
- Severn Hospice



- Oswestry Youth Music Festival
- Oswestry Sinfonia
- Porthwaen Silver Band

## Summary

Ellesmere College utilises both its own musical pedigree and resources as well as facilities for the use of the broader community - participating in, arranging and providing the use of the College assets for a wide range of concerts, events, workshops, rehearsals and charity fund raisers.

Charities supported include (but not restricted to): Age UK, Hope House, Severn Hospice, Peter Messenger Memorial Fund, Breast Cancer Research, and community-focused group including Ellesmere Primary School, Porthwaen Choir, LADS, Easter Orchestra, etc.

In addition, the College has been instrumental in the creation of a Community Choir and a community orchestra - the Ellesmere Sinfonia - which is open-to-all and led by Tony Coupe, Director of Music at Ellesmere College.

## Aims

The College has a strong relationship with the community that has been built over many years and the offering is vital to maintaining, supporting and growing the opportunities for these groups who would not normally have the these of facilities or resources to support them or their survival.

## Background

We believe that creativity is integral to every aspect of a musician's development. The Music Department is committed to working in the community, and therefore, students have the opportunity to perform regularly in concerts outside of the College and we also have a long-established choral society open to all, which is conducted by Tony Coupe, Director of Music at Ellesmere College.

## Resources

Ellesmere College facilities that are used for events on site include:

- Big School
- Arts Centre
- Lower School Hall
- Ellesmere College staff including Operations, Catering, Marketing, Administrative and students themselves who volunteer their time to help.

In addition, school instruments and rehearsals spaces are often used for groups to meet and practice.

The facilities and resources are offered for to the community both on and off site.

## Impact

Ellesmere College has been recognised for its continuing support of music in the community and has been awarded the Arts Mark Platinum Award by the Arts Council of England for the third year in succession.

The public benefit of the offering from the College can be measured one way in the monies raised for the charitable organisations, but there is a much larger, intangible and immeasurable benefit to the members of the musical ensembles groups, the primary schools and community groups.

### **Pupil involvement and ages**

Musical opportunities are open to students of all ages within Ellesmere College, where there is a dedicated Lower School Choir for our younger pupils and at least 5 choirs and a variety of musical ensembles as they progress through to Sixth Form.

There are a vast amount of musical opportunities for every student in the College to be able to take part at every level, and are encouraged to volunteer in, and support the events on and off site.

### **Frequency and duration**

These are very regular events that occur numerous times annually, and provide plenty of opportunities for students around the area to work together and get involved.

### **Images**



## Scholarships and Bursaries

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### Scholarships

- Academic scholarships
- All Rounder awards
- Art scholarships
- Choral scholarships
- Drama scholarships
- Music scholarships
- Sport scholarships
- Clergy discounts
- Sixth Form scholarships
- H M Forces discounts
- Sibling discounts
- Bursaries for new entrants
- Hardship awards for existing pupils