

Finham Park Multi Academy Trust

World Class News

December 2019

Edition 10



FINHAM PARK
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

Outstanding Oliver Performance



Welcome from Mark Bailie



Dear Parent / Member of our community

Welcome to the latest edition of World Class News.

This term has been a busy one for children and staff in our schools, with some excellent learning taking place as well as some 'World Class' opportunities for children, some of which are featured in this edition.

Even in the last few weeks of a long Autumn Term, children have continued to work hard. The Oliver performance by Finham Park students was simply outstanding and on a par with a professional performance. Students in Lyng Hall, Finham Park and Finham Park 2 have been learning about our democratic system in the UK as part of their PSHE and Citizenship programmes. They took part in their own 'General Election' and we shall soon see if their voting pattern mirrored the national picture! Children in Finham Primary and Pearl Hyde have both been enjoying arts and crafts in the Finham Primary 'Christmas Arts Day' and the Pearl Hyde 'Pearl Day'.

One of just many benefits of being a Multi Academy Trust consisting of Primary and Secondary schools is the ability to draw on a wide range of expertise. On Monday 6th January all of our staff will come together for our annual Finham Park MAT Training Day. The day is structured to enable our colleagues to learn from experts in their field; spend time in departments and subject areas; as well as sharing best practice. Through economies of scale and reputation as a forward thinking multi academy trust, we are able to source high quality presenters and academics who want to work with us, which would not be possible as single schools in isolation.

We were delighted to welcome Harry Fletcher-Wood, author of *Responsive Teaching* to Finham Park MAT Offices and Finham Park 2 on Friday 6th December. His book is an essential guide which helps teachers refine their approach to fundamental challenges in the classroom. Based on research from cognitive science and formative assessment, it ensures teachers can offer all students the support and challenge they need—and can do so sustainably. At Finham Park MAT we are committed to a three year Teaching and Learning focus on Responsive Teaching.

During the course of the day Harry met with myself; Bernadette Pettman, FPMAT School Improvement Leader; Russell Plester, Head Teacher Finham Park 2; and Liz Allton, Assistant Headteacher responsible for Teaching and Learning at Finham Park 2. Harry had a tour of Finham Park 2 and saw many lessons which he was impressed with and had the opportunity to talk with students and staff. This is testament to our commitment to Teaching and Learning.

Harry is running two workshops at our Finham Park MAT Training Day, which will provide staff with an opportunity to listen to Harry talk about the different elements of Responsive Teaching and to learn more about the evidence based principles and strategies that he has researched and implemented. Harry Fletcher-Wood is Associate Dean at the Institute for Teaching. He has spent a decade in schools as a classroom teacher, head of professional development and as a researcher.

I would like to wish all students and staff a well earned rest over the Christmas holidays so they come back refreshed and energised in January. I hope you and your families are able to enjoy some time together. I wish you a very Happy Christmas and look forward to an exciting New Year!

Mark Bailie
Executive Headteacher

Co– Construction: How this benefits students

Co-construction allows colleagues to go beyond collaboration to establish a true working partnership which enables staff to work together with a common aim of providing a World Class education for all students. It is much more than sharing ideas; we are able to benefit from:

- ◇ FPMAT CPD Programme—sharing teaching expertise and best practise for all staff to deliver a “World Class” education
- ◇ Using primary and secondary expertise to develop world class learning experiences in subject areas
- ◇ Seamless progression across phases
- ◇ Assessment progression from age 3—19 —ensuring students are making at least expected progress at each phase of their education
- ◇ Moderation across the Finham Park Multi Academy Trust (FPMAT) to standardise assessments
- ◇ FPMAT GCSE groups and masterclasses
- ◇ FPMAT Student Leadership
- ◇ FPMAT World Class Guarantee
- ◇ Finham Park MAT FROG Connect—a VLE (Virtual Learning Environment) which allows students and staff to access shared resources
- ◇ Economies of scale—enabling efficient budgeting allowing us to utilise the budget with the best impact

There are a range of opportunities that students benefit from throughout their time in FPMAT which we believe are only possible through our strong partnership.

Co– Construction: How this benefits students

Assessment Progression

Subjects have completed an assessment overview from Nursery – GCSE.

It was essential we ensure our expectations as a MAT (FPMAT) are consistent. Co-constructing the assessments will ensure the learning experiences for students across FPMAT are consistent, continually progressive and cohesive.

Moderation as a MAT

After creating their assessments, subjects then used their co-construction meeting and teacher training day to moderate work as a MAT against the new assessment criteria.

The continuation of this work will ensure that progress is accurately and consistently tracked across FPMAT.

Finham Park MAT Student Leadership

The Finham Park MAT Student Leadership body consists of students from each of the schools across the MAT. They work together to:

- ◇ Contribute to the development of Teaching and Learning
- ◇ Develop opportunities for students across the Finham Park MAT
- ◇ Experience learning in each of the FPMAT schools
- ◇ Develop leadership qualities
- ◇ Work together on school and community projects
- ◇ Raise money for charities

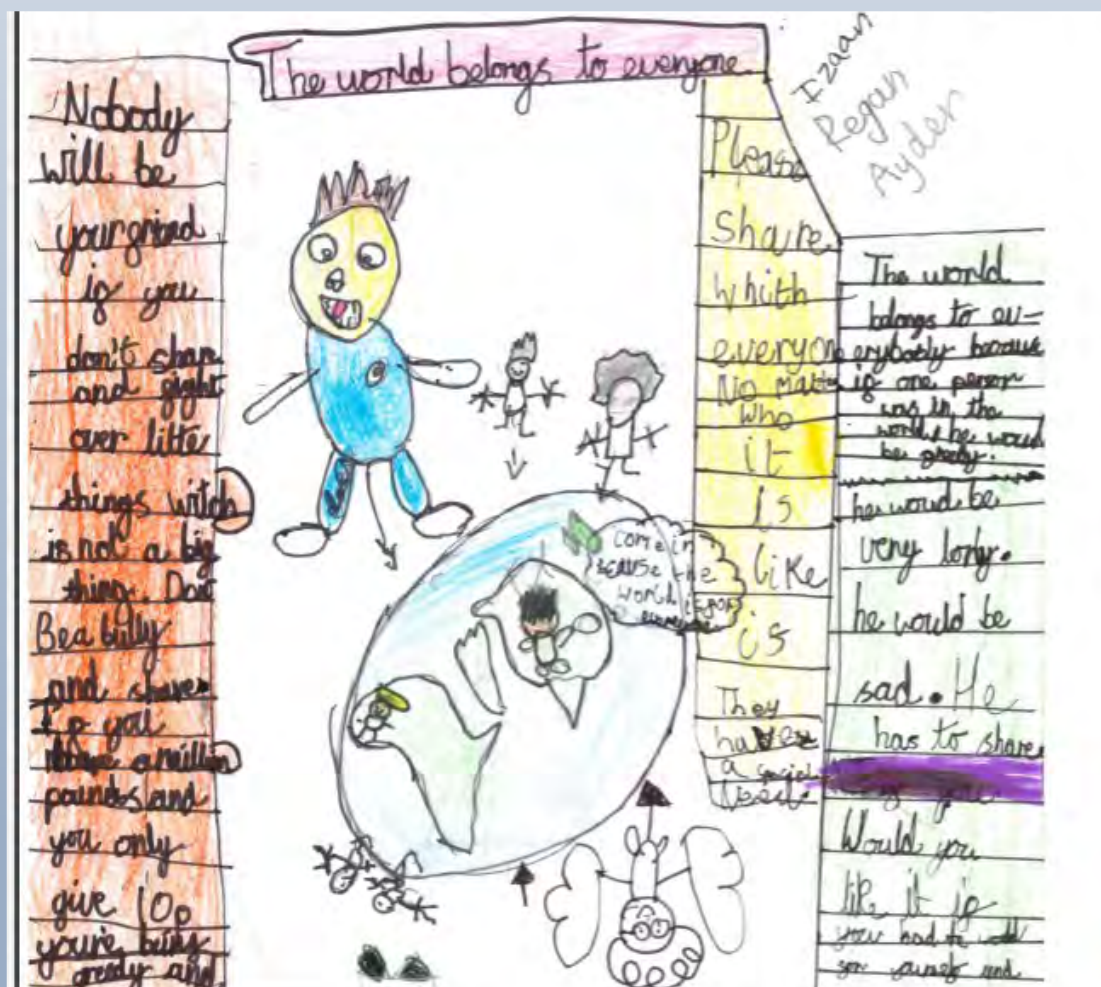


Year 3

'Better World'; 'Volcanoes' and 'Pompeii'

Year 3 have been busy creating posters linked to their learning: 'Better World'; 'Volcanoes'; and 'Pompeii'.

Three Year 3 boys impressed Mrs O'Hara by producing, totally unprompted, posters and brought them to show her.

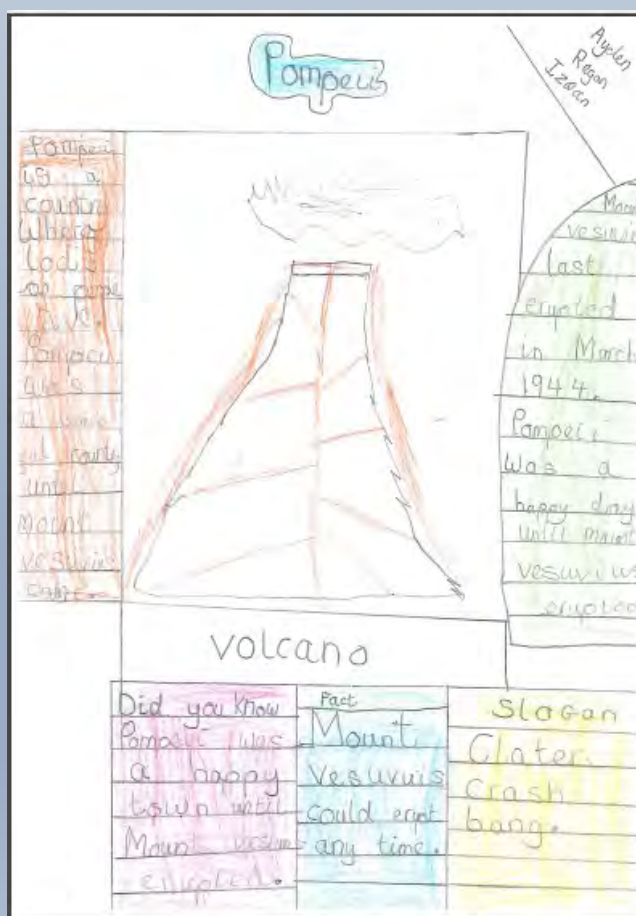


The 'Better World' poster is now enlarged to A3 and laminated copies have been put up around the school by the boys themselves.

I was particularly impressed by the fact that the boys had decided to create these independent of class teacher direction.

In Year 3 they have been finding out about pollution and the impact of it on our world and have recently been studying Pompeii and the impact of volcanoes.

For me, the posters evidence 'Learning in Action' and an obvious enjoyment and emersion in the new learning by these 3 boys. They are so proud of what they produced together and especially pleased to put their work up on our walls around school for everyone to enjoy and learn from.



Theresa O'Hara



FINHAM PARK
SCHOOL

Outstanding Oliver Performance

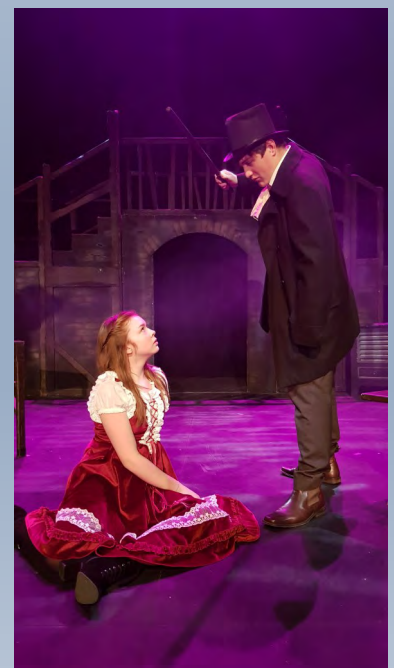
Audience left wanting more!



It's been another exceptionally busy year in the Drama Department at Finham Park School, full of Theatre-trips, talent and triumphs! The greatest of which has to be the outstanding whole school production of Oliver! that took place at the Bridge House theatre in 5th-6th December.

Auditioning in May, pupils from Year 7-13 learnt lines and songs, blocked scenes, choreographed dances and pulled together as an ensemble to show just what the talented pupils at Finham Park are capable of.

Acting and singing aside, the production offered students the chance to develop all kinds of interests as budding directors, musicians, technicians and stage hands emerged- everyone could get involved.



Creative Director, Mrs Spokes was overwhelmed with the students team work and talent as they wowed the audiences each night with numbers such as 'Consider Yourself' and 'Food Glorious Food'.



The cast wowed the audiences and Mrs Spokes has been overwhelmed with the kind words and emails she has received applauding the whole team on the shows professionalism.

What an incredible experience for all!

Mrs Spokes



Coventry Peace Conference

On Friday 8 November, The Lord Mayor's Peace Conference brought together school pupils, teachers, police officers, City Council officials and United Nations representatives with one purpose in mind – how do we tackle rising violence in the city?

Our school was represented by a strong delegation of 7 pupils from 9M – Shay, Alexandra, Zaid, Zeid, Mohamed, Aadam and Hanan.



They participated in 2 workshops and worked together with city officials, activists and police officers to pitch real solutions to promote peace and reconciliation in Coventry. But our delegates didn't merely participate, they lead the discussions in their respective teams and successfully lobbied support for the following ideas:

- The promotion and rollout of a peer mentoring programme (based on MVP) to teach vulnerable young people about conflict resolution
- A toolkit to promote creativity within the curriculum, especially in subjects that develop emotional intelligence and cultural understanding like Art, RE, PE and History.
- Afterschool sports clubs that promote team work and teach communication skills, and provide a safe space for young people
- A Coventry Youth Forum based on the Youth Parliament/ Model United Nations where young people can offer local solutions to global problems



All of these ideas will be put in front of the City Council and turned into actions that will impact different communities across the city.

Aadam Vohra was personally invited by the Lord Mayor herself to sit in the Coventry Youth Council. This is an organisation chaired by the Lord Mayor which campaigns on issues that affect young people in Coventry and aims to raise awareness to tackle these issues.

Juliet Silverton, who is the Education Improvement and Standards lead for Coventry City Council, was extremely impressed with the work our school is doing to promote peace and tackle violence. We talked at length about the MVP programme, the importance we place on RE in the school curriculum and the outstanding work done in Humanities to promote British Values and citizenship across the curriculum. She's invited our school to lead on the Coventry Youth Forum project and promised to get the wheels rolling in the council.

Mr Ivanov

There are 'colleges' at Finham Park 2:

All students are in a college and earn points, learn new skills , raise money for charity as well as work together as a community.

SOUTHGATE COLLEGE

It has been a great start to the academic year 19/20 for students in Southgate. There have been plenty of opportunities to celebrate success, with wonderful students demonstrating the college values of Courage, Unity and Excellence.

So far this term, students have been taking part in a number of events to raise money for charity. There has been a cake sale for Macmillan coffee morning and a range of activities for Children in Need. As a school this year we have decided to support Zoe's Place and Alzheimer's Society as our school charities.

Westgate College

Westgate 'white tigers' have had a roaring start to the academic year 19/20. As a college we are so proud of the number of students who have key roles in the Junior Leadership Team (JLT).

So many of our students demonstrate Westgate College ethos on a daily basis, embracing all the challenges which are presented to them.

Respect
Opportunities
Aspirations
Resilience



Members of Westgate, along with other students, have played an integral part in our whole school charity events.

Eastgate success

What a strong start of the year for Eastgate, we are finally a full gate with 155 students who represent our ethos day in and day out by being hard-working, determined and supportive to each other.

This year so far we have had 130 students reaching 15 merits; 60 students reaching 30 merits which entitled them to a lucky dip, and finally 6 students already achieved Bronze status. Overall we are the gate with the most merits 4340!!

We have also had students doing incredible outside school success and representing Finham Park 2 and most of all Eastgate.

Rio became British Champion in Taekwondo relative to his grading and weight category.



Charity Updates

The week beginning 11th November saw students at Finham Park 2 start their week of support for Children in Need. There was a 'Guess how many sweets in the jar' competition organised by the Junior Leadership Team (JLT) as well as merchandise being on sale during mentor time and break time. We also had a non uniform day and the fantastic FP2 Bake Off.





FINHAM PARK
SCHOOL

Borough Markets Food Preparation and Nutrition

In October 2019 Mrs Devgun and Mrs Checklin from the Technology Department took their Year 9 and 10 GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition students to London to visit the Borough Markets.

This was an excellent opportunity for this group to experience Street Food at its best. Students were able to view the wonderful and diverse array of dishes on sale, as well as having the opportunity to watch and sample many dishes, drinks and food products being freshly prepared by the vendors.



The day also included a visit to the Victoria & Albert Museum to view the Food 'Sustainability' exhibition. This proved very interesting and included some of the history of food production/distribution. For example, for

centuries perishable citrus fruits like oranges were only available locally.

The rise of railways and steamships transformed this and brought these fruits firstly to northern Europe and then beyond. Each orange would be wrapped individually in highly decorated tissue paper.

The growth of supermarkets and the technique of wax coating oranges and using fungicides led to the end of this wrapping technique.

In addition students were able to see how both animal and vegetable waste materials could be recycled and made into completely new products.

Students thoroughly enjoyed the day and many brought food gifts home from Borough Market for their families to sample – most of these products made it home with just a few getting accidentally eaten on the return journey!



Michelle Checklin



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that



CARES

Visit us:

www.thelionalliance.co.uk
admin@thelionalliance.co.uk
c/o Finham Park School

Recruiting Trainee Teachers for September 2020

Do you know someone who is considering a career in teaching?

Perhaps they'd like a taster day in one of our alliance schools or want a chat to understand more about the profession?

Please do ask them to get in touch with us.

We are officially open for applications from prospective trainees and in addition to our partnership with Warwick University, we are also working in partnership with Birmingham City University this year and have places in a wide range of specialisms; we have both primary and secondary places available.

admin@thelionalliance.co.uk



Interested in a career in teaching?

The Lion Alliance Teaching School is proud to offer School Direct places for initial teacher training starting in September 2020

The Lion Alliance is a group of schools based in Coventry and Warwickshire. Training can take place in any of our Primary or Secondary schools within our Alliance and in partnership with Warwick University.

We are committed to providing high quality support and training for teachers in every stage of their career, from Initial Teacher Training through to developing school leaders.



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Apply through UCAS Online
Applications open: 8 October 2019

www.thelionalliance.co.uk
Finham Park School, Green Lane, Coventry, CV3 6EA

Throughout the year, we will be attending several recruitment events across Birmingham and Warwickshire. Our first event will be at Warwick University on Saturday 23rd November, showcasing our excellent training and support for those considering a future in teaching.

There will even be glimpses of our new promotional videos, filmed in many of our alliance schools. Keep your eyes on Twitter – you may soon see some familiar faces, of both students and colleagues!

admin@thelionalliance.co.uk



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Teaching School Alliance
Finham Park School
Green Lane
Coventry
CV3 6EA
(024) 7641 8135



Autumn Pearl Day

'Pearl day' is when all of the children in school go to different classes to complete an activity. The teachers get together to find a good text for us to base art and English activities around. Once we have completed the artwork and English activities, they are placed around the school so that everybody can share them.



In years 1 and 2 we used the 'Jolly Christmas Postman to create snow men; snowflakes; paper houses; ballerina and snowflake tutus, and collage trees.

In years 3 and 4 we used some sections of The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe to focus our writing on the different ways to describe Winter. We then created snowflakes out of CDs and paper; robins and trees.



In year 5 and 6 we used the C E Pike poem about Jack frost to develop vocabulary and figurative language to describe Jack Frost. We also watched a 'Dreamworks' clip to describe how he moves and behaves.

Snowflakes, a poem about Jack Frost and an image. We then used recycled newspaper to make snowflakes. Jack Frost was then able to visit all of our displays.



All of the pupils had a lovely day, and especially enjoy having classes of mixed year groups. It gives us all a chance to be with new teachers and children that we never usually get to meet.

Becky Edwards



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Kev Sutherland's Comic Art Master Class

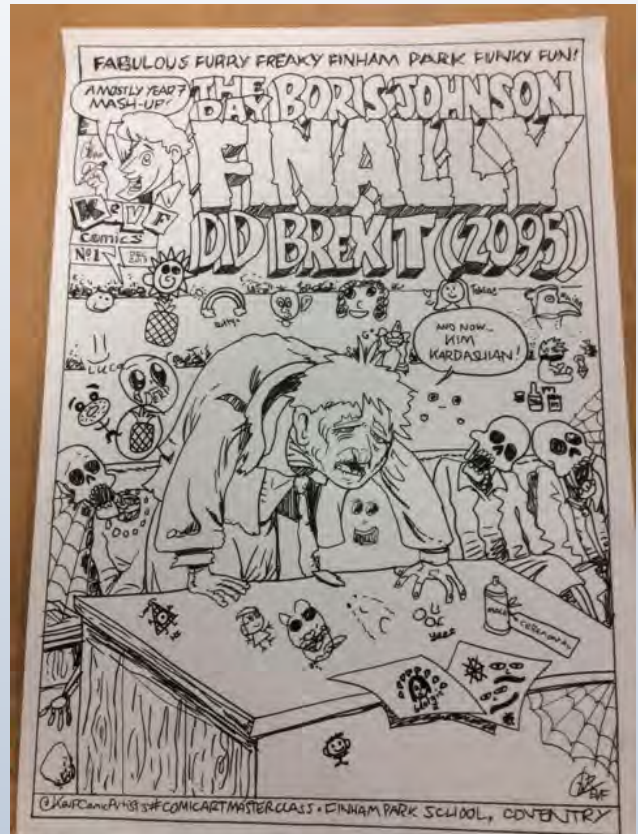
On 5th December, we welcomed Kev Sutherland back to Finham Park to host one of his Comic Art Masterclasses.



Kev is a graphic novel / comic artist and author. He has worked on many famous titles including the Beano, Dandy and Doctor Strange.

Finham Park and Finham Park 2 students really enjoyed the day, coming up with the title, with a very topical slant (see photo on next page) and designing and creating their very own Finham Park comic. Each student went home with a copy of their publication and a brilliant caricature of themselves, as drawn by Kev.





Paul Bates



The Return of the Gavel

Bar Court Mock Trials

After last year's positive experience of the Magistrate Court Mock Trials, this year we took on the herculean challenge of the Bar Court Mock Trials. The experience was a significant step up and preparations revealed an outstanding resilience and passion in a group of dedicated year 11 students.



Our day consisted of three rounds in which our barristers and witnesses had to perform as either the prosecution or defence for one of two cases.

In the first round Jagoda and Sheerah were called to prosecute 'Danny Acosta' on a charge of possession with intent to supply. They competed against a very confident Denefield School team and although incredibly nervous, our barristers and witnesses had managed to convince the jury that 'Acosta' was in fact guilty.

In the second round, Kashmala worked alongside Shabba in defending 'Alex Wallace' against a sixth form team prosecuting the witness of GBH. Here, their work with our defence witnesses Riya and Nicole was so coherent that they had managed to cause reasonable doubt and thus the jury returned a not guilty verdict.



Although our team did not make it to the final round, there is no denying the magnitude of their achievements. Each of the pupils displayed outstanding resilience throughout the competition and it has been wonderful to witness their success.

To honour their achievements, Ms Hagan has purchased each pupil a copy of 'To Kill a Mockingbird' by Harper Lee. This was presented to them alongside their certificate.

George Gubas JP commented after the session: "I really enjoyed Thursday. Thank you for the opportunity to meet up again and see the new team in action. There is some great potential there."

As an English Directorate, we believe wholly in this potential and we were encouraged that it was once again recognised by a professional in the legal world.

Ms Harvey and Mr Tyler

students love Harry Potter. The school library has a wonderful display (*right*) and there is even a Harry Potter club.

It was no surprise that students, and staff, were delighted to visit Harry Potter Studios in London. From the photos below you can see how much they enjoyed

immersing themselves in Harry Potter, but also learning more about behind the scenes including set and costume design.

Harry Potter Studios





Pearl Hyde Primary

Headteacher: Theresa O'Hara

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Website: <http://pearlhyde.co.uk>



Finham Primary

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Tel: 024 7641 5425

Website: <http://finhamprimary.co.uk>



Finham Park School

Headteacher: Chris Bishop

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Tel: 024 7641 8135

Website: <http://finhampark.co.uk>



Lyng Hall School

Headteacher: Paul Green

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Tel: 024 7672 4960

Website: <http://www.lynghallschool.co.uk>

FINHAM PARK 2



Finham Park 2

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Finham Park MAT

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