



**Ellesmere**

A 7 – 18 Coeducational School

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Dear Parent,

During English lessons this year, alongside the more conventional curriculum, all students have been working towards securing a Bronze Arts Award certificate. This requires students to research figures in the Arts; practise and develop their creative skills in an artform, likely to be some form of writing; review a performance or piece of art; and teach a skill to their peers. As this is an externally awarded qualification, there is a cost, much like an examination fee, of £24.50 which is, I believe, a fairly reasonable one.

As this academic year draws to a close, students are in the process of compiling their portfolios and will, I hope, secure their certificate, an achievement that will be celebrated at the start of Year 10. Many students might, as they progress into the Sixth Form, decide to pursue further opportunities and work towards a Silver or Gold Arts Award.

In English lessons next year, students will work towards achieving another certificate, their English Speaking Board (ESB) Grade 5 examination which affords a chance to develop confidence as a public speaker. It is a good preparation for the ESB Grade 8 examination that all students take in Year 12, the merits of which are widely recognised by universities and valued by employers.

With all good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

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*A Woodard School*

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