

Dear Families, Student Voice

At The Marches, student voice is central to how we improve our school. This year, over **1,240 students (93%)** completed our Edurio survey, giving us a highly reliable and representative picture. The feedback is extremely positive. Students tell us they feel **happy, safe and well-supported** in school. **Crew** continues to stand out as a key strength. Students frequently refer to their Crew Leader as someone who knows them well, supports them, and helps them feel secure and valued. This consistent pastoral anchor is having a powerful impact on students' sense of belonging and wellbeing.

We are proud of the progress we have made and grateful for students' honesty. Their voice is shaping our next steps as we continue to strengthen teaching, learning and the overall experience at The Marches.

Solvent Abuse Prevention

We would like to share some resources from the national solvent abuse prevention charity Re-Solv, which may be helpful to parents and carers. Their guide, *Talking to your Child About Drugs: Ten Top Tips*, provides practical advice on discussing substance use with young people and includes information on alcohol, cannabis, nitrous oxide and solvents.

Re-Solv has also produced *Gas and Solvent Use: The Lowdown*, an information leaflet that explains the risks associated with the intentional inhalation of everyday products such as deodorants and aerosols. We know that young people can sometimes come across information, trends or challenges online that may encourage risky behaviours. We would encourage all parents and carers to take a look at these resources and have open conversations with their children about making safe and healthy choices.

[Re-Solv](#). [Talking to your child about drugs: Ten top tips](#), [Gas and solvent use: The lowdown](#)



REMINDERS & NOTICES

Student Survey Compared to National Benchmarks

Comparison against benchmark

+11%	Use of English
+8%	Safeguarding
+4%	Extra-curricular activities
+6%	Relationships
+5%	Behaviour
+12%	General
+5%	Engagement with learning
+6%	Health and emotional wellbeing
+4%	Learning process
+5%	Assessment
+3%	Curriculum
+4%	Workload
-2%	AI use in learning

		Year 12	Year 7	Year 13	Year 10	Year 11	Year 8	Year 9
		64%	56%	53%	46%	46%	44%	44%
Everyone has the right to feel safe and happy, and we must look after each other.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
37) How safe do you feel during class?	72%	91%	81%	88%	72%	60%	67%	64%
38) How safe do you feel in school outside of class?	70%	91%	75%	82%	68%	63%	65%	66%
39) How safe do you feel on your way to and from the school?	77%	89%	79%	84%	75%	71%	76%	76%
40) In the past three months, have you been bullied in any way (physically,	87%	97%	83%	95%	91%	89%	78%	87%
41) Do you know someone else in the school who has been bullied in the past	76%	90%	77%	87%	79%	73%	62%	75%

What does this mean?

We have made great progress with our pupil body. All but 1 areas are improved from last year. Over 1200 pupils completed the survey so it gives a full picture of their voice. The survey paints a reassuring picture of day-to-day **culture** and **safeguarding** in school. Pupils generally know what is expected of them and describe **positive, respectful relationships** with staff and with each other. Most feel safe in lessons, around the site and on the way to and from school, and the majority say they have **not experienced bullying** recently. Crew comes through strongly in the comments as a key part of this – pupils regularly mention their Crew leader by name and see Crew as a place where they feel known and supported. Many pupils can identify a trusted adult they would go to if worried, which suggests Crew is doing an important job in providing a consistent pastoral anchor and helping pupils feel safe and looked after in school.



FOCUS



Areas to Develop

Students are asking for greater consistency in lessons, clearer explanations, and more time to act on feedback so they can improve. They also want a more consistent experience of pace, challenge and homework. These priorities will be built into our school development plan for the next academic year.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Click [here](#) to view our upcoming events. Events at a glance:



Monday 20th July – Alton Towers Reward Trip
Wednesday 15th July – Sports Day
Thursday 16th July – Summer Serenade
Thursday 23rd July – last day of term

Click [here](#) to view our term dates.

NEWS

Click [here](#) to view our latest news articles.



Why not also follow us on Facebook @MarchesSchool for a wealth of content from students and staff, along with school celebrations to competitions. We encourage you to get interactive with our posts!

To hear about news from across the Trust, why not also follow @MarchesAcademyTrust.

