



GATEACRE SCHOOL

# GATEACRE BULLETIN

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GATEACRE SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER

## UNLOCKING POTENTIAL: OUR PUPILS' JOURNEY AT WARRINGTON ROWING CLUB

A FORTNIGHTLY PUBLICATION FOR  
PARENTS AND CARERS OF STUDENTS  
AT GATEACRE SCHOOL

As parents, you're invested in providing your children with opportunities that foster their growth, both academically and personally. We're thrilled to share an exciting initiative our pupils have wholeheartedly embraced: training at **Warrington Rowing Club**, a proud British Rowing Affiliated Club. This partnership isn't just about enhancing sporting skills; it's about cultivating essential life skills that will benefit them in all aspects of their lives.

### A Thriving Training Environment

Warrington Rowing Club offers our pupils an exceptional environment to develop their rowing skills through both indoor and outdoor training sessions. Thanks to significant investment in **state-of-the-art rowing machines and facilities**, students can train effectively at Gateacre School and the rowing club regardless of the weather. This modern infrastructure ensures our pupils receive quality training crucial for building their physical fitness and rowing competence.

### Expert Coaching, Life-Long Skills

One of the standout features of our collaboration is access to **highly experienced coaches**. These professionals are not only adept at teaching the technical aspects of rowing but also serve as mentors who inspire and motivate our pupils. Under their guidance, students learn the importance of:

- **Teamwork:** Rowing is a true team sport, demanding collaboration and communication. Pupils learn to work together towards a common goal, fostering camaraderie and mutual support. This embodies a fundamental part of the **Gateacre GREAT** values.
- **Discipline and Commitment:** Regular training sessions instil a strong sense of discipline and commitment. Students learn to set goals, manage their time effectively, and stay dedicated to their training regimen.

- **Leadership and Confidence:** As they progress, pupils are encouraged to take on leadership roles within their teams, building their confidence and decision-making abilities for future challenges.
- **Resilience:** Rowing can be physically and mentally challenging. Pupils learn to push through adversity, developing resilience and a strong work ethic that will serve them well in all areas of life.

### A Commitment to Excellence

The Northern Schools Trust has made a significant investment in this provision, ensuring our pupils receive the best possible training and resources. This includes not only the state-of-the-art rowing machines but also the opportunity to participate in **national, inter-school, and inter-Trust competitions**. Such events provide our pupils with a platform to showcase their skills and compete at a high level, further enhancing their experience and growth. (Excellence is a fundamental part of the Gateacre GREAT values).

We are incredibly proud of our pupils for seizing this wonderful weekly opportunity at Warrington Rowing Club. The skills they are developing will not only enhance their sporting abilities but also prepare them for life beyond school. As parents, your support in encouraging participation in such initiatives is invaluable and contributes greatly to their overall development.

Let's celebrate the commitment of our pupils and the investment from the Northern Schools Trust in nurturing the next generation of leaders and athletes. **Together, we are building a brighter future for our children!**



## THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD: AN ADVENTURE IN PERSONAL GROWTH AT GATEACRE SCHOOL

The Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award at Gateacre School is more than just an extracurricular activity; it's a transformative journey that empowers our students through outdoor adventures and structured personal development. At each level—**Bronze, Silver, and Gold**—students embark on a programme designed to challenge them, helping them step outside their comfort zones, master new skills, and cultivate a strong sense of responsibility.

Through the DofE, students will:

- **Develop New Skills:** Whether it's learning a musical instrument, mastering a craft, or exploring a new hobby, this component boosts their confidence and instils a lifelong love for learning.
- **Boost Physical Fitness:** The physical pursuit aspect promotes health and fitness, fostering a commitment to an active lifestyle that extends far beyond their school years.
- **Give Back to the Community:** Volunteering is a critical element, allowing students to contribute meaningfully to their communities. This experience nurtures empathy and social responsibility, highlighting the importance of positive societal contributions.

The expedition portion of the programme is particularly transformative. It's the culmination of all their hard work, where they put their skills to the test in real-world scenarios. Navigating diverse terrains, setting up camp, and collaborating with peers teach invaluable lessons in leadership, problem-solving, and resilience. These experiences are incredibly rewarding, often made even more memorable by challenging weather conditions!

As one Gateacre School pupil reflected: "It's been both challenging and rewarding to take myself out of my comfort zone. I feel better for pushing myself as I never thought I could do this."

As part of Gateacre School's broader enrichment offer, the Duke of Edinburgh Award aligns perfectly with other initiatives like the Combined Cadet Force (CCF). Together, they create a diverse range of opportunities for students to develop essential life skills, build lasting friendships, and prepare for future challenges, both academically and personally. Our holistic approach to education at Gateacre ensures students not only excel in their studies but also grow into well-rounded individuals ready to tackle the world ahead.