

# WORD ON — — — THE STREET

## Gateway's Fashion Show 2013

An interview with Gateway's  
own models and designers

## Liz Ward and the Progress Coaches

The Progress Coaches explain  
their role in the college

## Gateway Alumni

A former Gateway Student Creates a  
Business Academy



Ece Kesim - Gateway Model  
Photo by Erolet White



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## Welcome to Word on the Street

Welcome to the fourth edition of 'Word on the Street', the magazine created by Gateway students which keeps you up to date each term about life at Gateway College.

Thank you to students Emma Crabbe, Roxanne Ablett, Anil Chonan, Mayuri Kaur, Victor Chinyere, Lauren Raybould, Chelvia Mussa, Ece Kasim, Ravi Modessa, Laura Kisson and George Ireson for the wonderful range of articles they have put together for this edition. Thank you also to Tim Jones, Teacher of English at Gateway, who has made this possible through his weekly Creative Writing Group and boundless enthusiasm and good humour.

The beautiful layout and artwork for the magazine has been created by students Lucas Hayward and Erolet White.

If you would like to comment on what you have read or make a contribution to the next edition of 'Word on the Street' please email me at [jwalsh@gateway.ac.uk](mailto:jwalsh@gateway.ac.uk). You can also read this and the previous editions of the magazine on the Gateway College website: [www.gateway.ac.uk](http://www.gateway.ac.uk).

Happy reading,  
Until next time,

*Jade*

Gateway Marketing and Promotions Officer

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With ex-Gateway student: *Ian Mattioli*



George Ireson

# CREATIVE WRITING ENRICHMENT



This term's winner was Ricky Uppal, who composed a brilliantly original take on our chosen theme: **Blue**.  
L-R Mr. Gopsill (Chair), Ricky Uppal, Tim Jones (Teacher)

## The Gateway Creative Writing group

meets at 4.00 on Tuesday afternoons, at the end of the college day. Students bring their poems or short stories (on one occasion a full length novel) to read and discuss. The most successful pieces are exhibited on our notice board and in the Central Resources Area. We are also the editorial team for 'Word on the Street', working closely with students and staff across the college to put this magazine together. In the summer term we invite local writers like Bali Rai and Laura Towsey to talk to us and organise writing workshops for anyone interested in improving their creative skills.

We are aware that there are lots of young people writing for their own enjoyment in all parts of the college, and we involve them in our activities by setting up three open competitions a year, (first prize a state of the art kindle), sometimes for poetry, sometimes prose, sometimes incorporating drama or visual images, sometimes focused on subject or theme rather than genre.

## Girls Keep Fit at Gateway

*We all want to keep fit and healthy,  
but can the process also be fun?*

Following our enquiry into boys' basketball in the last issue, we wondered what opportunities are on offer at Gateway for girls. Nicola Leader spoke to Lynsey Bradbury.

Lynsey was keen to emphasise the importance of flexibility and variety in catering for each new student intake. There are peaks and troughs of popularity with all sports, particularly now that our feeder schools have introduced their own specialisms. This year, for instance, basketball has a high take-up with girls, and the college has responded with three training sessions a week before and after college and the adoption of women's teams within the Basketball Centre of Excellence.

Of course not all girls want to give up that much time to excel in a particular sport. For most of our students, the priority is to stay healthy and in good physical shape by taking regular and enjoyable exercise. But it's not always easy getting started. Lynsey drew the attention of our readers to the Health and Fitness Day for Women on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Girls will be introduced to a variety of sporting, keep-fit, and aerobics activities, including the popular Zumba (aerobics linked to Latin dance). This will prove a learning experience for both students and staff, in discovering what will be a popular choice with our students.

Considerable planning is devoted to ensuring that the college's excellent gym facilities are regularly available at all times of the day outside timetabled lessons. The gym is always open from 12.00 to 2.00, and exclusively for girls on a Thursday. Expert instructors are present to offer advice. There are Enrichment activities throughout the day and after college, in more than one session and in different time-tabled blocks to ensure maximum availability. Students are encouraged to bring their friends and mould their fitness sessions into their social life so that attendance never becomes a chore and remains a pleasure throughout the year.

# Where Will They Go Next?

This year's A2s will be soon be saying goodbye to Gateway College and many of us will be going on to university. I am an English Language, Politics and English Literature student and I am hoping to go to The University of Nottingham to do a BA in English and later become a writer and book editor. I have loved all of my subjects and can't wait to start my degree.

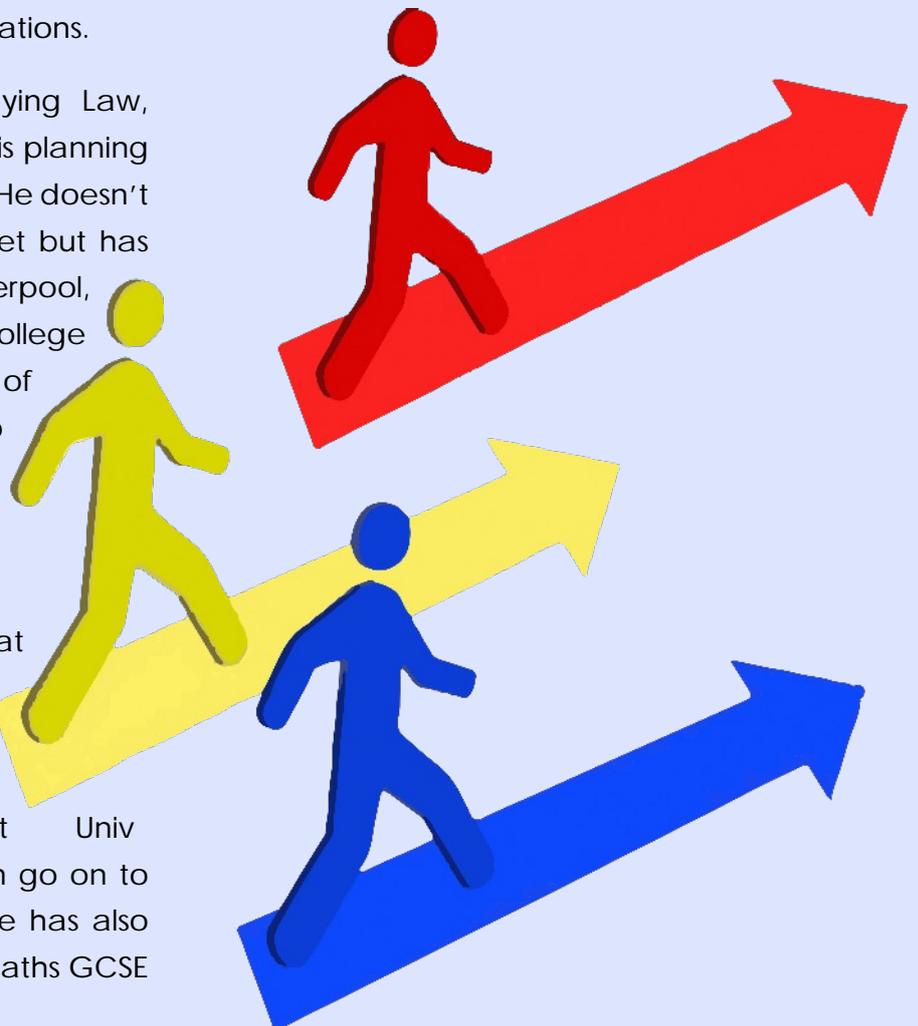
Thinking about my future made me wonder what other A2s plan to do next, so I caught up with a few of them to see what they will be doing next term, what subjects they've enjoyed most here at Gateway, and to find out their future aspirations.

Anil Chonan is currently studying Law, Sociology, Media and EPO. He is planning to go to university to study Law. He doesn't have a first choice university yet but has applied to the Universities of Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol, King's College London, and London School of Economics. Anil wants to become a city lawyer and to work for an international firm when he leaves university.

Mayuri Kaur's favourite subject at Gateway is Drama as it is both creative and includes group work and performing. She hopes to go to Nottingham Trent University to study Drama and then go on to become a drama teacher. She has also studied English Literature and Maths GCSE here at Gateway.

Victor Chinyere studies Law, Politics and English Literature. Politics is Victor's favourite subject as it is something he wishes to pursue as a career after university by working for United Nations. Liverpool Hope is his first choice university and he wants to study International Relations and Politics while he is there.

University is the next big step for most of us after Gateway and it's a very exciting yet very stressful time. Good luck to all the A2s, no matter what you're planning next, and here's to every success in the future!



# FASHION SHOW

§ Another year, another fashion show in preparation. §

As the designers set about stitching and creating fantastic clothing, the students strutted their stuff in the auditions. I managed to interview a first year model and the designer behind one

First, I interviewed the model, **Ece Kesim**.

**Why did you choose to do the fashion show?**

*"At first, it started off as a laugh with my friends, we auditioned for fun. But when I got through the auditions, I found out I really did want to take part."*

**How did you feel your audition went?**

*"It was alright, but it was intimidating in front of the older years. I felt very nervous because I wasn't sure whether I was walking right. There were a lot of people watching too which made me more nervous."*

**I then asked her about the rehearsals and tech runs:**

*"I'd say the tech runs were smooth and ran easily as we had previously run through our routines several times so we knew what we were doing. It was also a fun experience getting to walk on the platform that the technical team constructed. It looked amazing."*

**And, after the show I managed to ask her how she felt it went:**

*"In the shows I think I performed with confidence. I went up onto the stage with a full blown smile as the atmosphere was lively and everyone was having fun and making jokes, even the team who were working the fashion show. I did trip up a few times when climbing onto and descending from the platform but luckily there was support for models who struggled and there were people positioned backstage to help us on and off. Overall it was an amazing time and I'm looking forward to auditioning next year."*





*On the Catwalk*



I then interviewed **Ravi Modessa**, who is the designer of the butterfly paper bodice that was worn by Ece.

**What was your inspiration behind this bodice?**

*"We had to link our work to other artists, so I chose Yleanor James and Sarah Beeton. I chose to keep it simple and choose three colours so I didn't overdo it. I chose red, green and black because we had to link it to natural forms. I did the coffee-stained background because I was inspired by Sarah Beeton."*

**So why did you add the butterflies and how did you manage to attach them to the bodice?**

*"I thought the butterflies would bring life to the paper bodice as well as the flowers and stand out. I printed them out on acetate – they looked very realistic. Attaching them to the bodice was fiddly because I had to sew them on, but it turned out well."*

**So where did you get the idea for the design on the back of the bodice?**

*"I chose one of my own designs to do, as well as linking my work to other artists. It is something that I like the best about my work because it resembles nature but has its own twist to it."*

Fortunately, I got my ticket before they sold out! Witnessing the fantastic displays of clothing was truly amazing; the effort the designers have made is visible from their clothing. The models strutting down the catwalk were simply stunning – each collection was beautifully displayed. However, with the "punk rock" collection, I felt that it was a bit gothic for my taste.. Though, the purple tartan on some of the clothes looked great. One collection of clothing I did like a lot was the sleepwear. It was great how the models interacted with their partners, hitting them with pillows; it gave the models a sense of character. Of course, Ece was looking remarkable in the paper bodice made by Ravi.

Also, the technical theatre students did a great job with the staging, lights and music for the show.

On the whole, it was a unique experience to watch and enjoy; those of you who didn't go certainly missed out! You should definitely attend next year's show! Or, who knows? You may even be a part of it.

Gateway Sixth Form College hosted its annual end of year Fashion Show in December, showcasing a collection of the students' best and most creative work. The catwalk show was certainly diverse and colourful, ranging across the full spectrum of men's and women's wear.

The catwalk consisted of 16 collections which included historic inspired clothes, ball gowns, space inspirations, paper bodices, and lots more.

The first collection to emerge, by A2 Textiles Fashion was 'Inspired by History' and was followed by the unique 'Technical Ideas' by the Foundation Diploma students. Next up was 'Paper Bodice' by level 2 BTEC Arts and Design. The designs were beautiful and extremely creative. Then came 'Photography Sleepwear' by the Foundation Diploma. The collection consisted of sleep dresses embellished with photos, and for males a combination of shorts and vest tops. As well as this, the collection included pillow-cases which were as creative as the sleepwear. The next collection was 'individual creations' by A level Fashion and Textile BTEC National Diploma A&D. Talk about creativity! This whole collection was full of impressive creations. I must say the purple dress with a hint of blue was definitely one of my favourite designs of the night.

The next collection to walk the runway was 'Space' by the Passion for Fashion enrichments. The collection varied from bright neon colours to the darkest designs of all. My ultimate favourite from the collection must be the black and white dress with the long cape at the back. The model sure knew how to work that piece of work! Next was 'Tessellation' by Level 3 BTEC Art and Design year 2. This collection consisted of colourful bodices. Every model wore an embellished bodice and a black maxi



skirt. Next up was 'Mintage', an all-male wear by Annesha Bowman, a Foundation Diploma student. The designs were made up of a beautifully blended series of printed shirts and waistcoats. A collection that really caught my eye was 'Punk Princess' by Foundation Diploma. The designs were very creative. They varied from princess plaid dresses with lace sleeves, to sexy black cut out dresses.

The show overall was fantastic. The whole team did an amazing job with the lights, the music, and the designs. The collections were fabulous; the students definitely outdid themselves this year. With the creations getting better and better I already can't wait for next year's show.

# A Message from the Progress Coaches



Photos by Erolet White

Our role as a progress coach requires us to be flexible, adaptable, non-judgemental and professional at all times. We are a new team providing tutorial and pastoral support, and we regularly monitor the progression of our students through structured one to one meetings. The group sessions that we deliver aim to build life and progression skills that enable students to prepare for life after College. Progress coaches are not teachers, we are here to provide students with a support network; we will get to know you as an individual to understand your needs and how best we can work with you to address them. Although our role involves challenging attendance and behaviour we also look to celebrate student success.

*We are here for the students.*

# An Interview with Liz Ward

## **What is the role of the progress coaches?**

The progress coaches meet with students on a one to one basis every three weeks to discuss and monitor any concerns and track progress. They meet students on a group basis every 2 weeks, which enables them to run sessions on employability skills, or revision and study skills. Progress coaches try and work with students and support their progression through college and into university. They have the role of keeping up with students' work, making sure that they meet coursework deadlines. They also overlook attendance and behaviour and help with personal situations.

## **Why progress coaches and not teachers?**

Teachers have a full teaching time table resulting in them not always being able to have the time that students may need in order to explain their personal situation on a one to one basis.

## **How do we ensure confidentiality in these sessions?**

Progress coaches are aware that a lot of students do need privacy when they talk. Liz explained that private rooms have been set up specifically for this purpose, including one immediately adjacent to the progress coach room.

## **So progress coaches have to get involved in a lot of personal questions?**

Liz emphasised strongly to me that the reason they ask these personal questions is that they have to make sure that all students are safe. Progress coaches believe that all students should be treated as individuals. They do not ask questions unnecessarily; there is always a reason behind the questions they ask. Progress coaches are trying to build an equal relationship where both parties feel comfortable.

## **How different is the pastoral experience from what students are used to in previous schools?**

Progress coaches can have the flexibility to spend more time with a student if that student needs extra support. This is due to the fact that some students may need more support than other students as they have a more pressing personal issue that needs to be addressed. However, each progress coach has over 200 students to support so time is tight.



Liz Ward - Progress Coach

Liz Ward

## Gateway Alumni

**Former Gateway Student  
Creates Business Academy**

Gateway College is launching a new Business Academy in partnership with former student and local business man Ian Mattioli. To be known as 'The Mattioli Woods Academy', this prestigious programme will offer two year placements to 24 of the brightest students each year beginning this September.

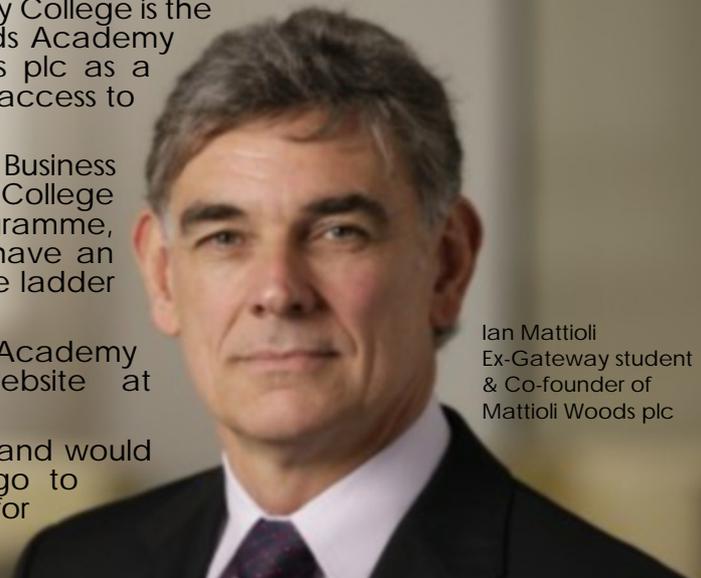
Ian Mattioli, Chief Executive of Mattioli Woods plc, has enjoyed a long connection with the College as both he and his father studied there. Ian has also been a governor at the college, taking a keen interest in the education and development of young people in Leicester and Leicestershire.

Ian commented: "Our association with Gateway College is the critical first stage of our broader Mattioli Woods Academy initiative designed to establish Mattioli Woods plc as a learning organisation, which opens up greater access to talented staff."

Lesley Marshall, Programme Area Manager for Business and Professional Development at Gateway College said, "We are very proud to be launch this programme, it is a fantastic opportunity for students who have an interest in finance to make their first step on the ladder to a career working in the financial sector."

For more information about The Mattioli Woods Academy ring 0116 274 4500 or go to the website at [www.gateway.ac.uk](http://www.gateway.ac.uk)

If you are a former Gateway College student and would like to join the Alumni programme please go to [www.futurefirst.org.uk](http://www.futurefirst.org.uk) and follow the link for 'former students'.



Ian Mattioli  
Ex-Gateway student  
& Co-founder of  
Mattioli Woods plc

# George Ireson

Visitors to the middle floor in D block are soon aware of the presence of *musicians*. There are the posters of course, advertising coming events, and the variety of groggy instruments in the foyer undergoing specialist technical attention. There are the trademark colourful clothes and interesting hairstyles, and the pervasive sense of commitment and theatricality. At break and at lunch time there is the steady hum of softly played keyboards or percussion and the occasional whine of an electric guitar. George Ireson came to Gateway from Soar Valley and is in his second year at the college. He is taking level three courses in Music Technology, Music Performance, and Technical Theatre, as well as being a member of the performance orientated Music company. *Laura Kissoon* asked George about Music at Gateway.

## **Why did you decide to come to Gateway?**

I play the guitar and have always been interested in Music but have little background as a music student. I passed the vital GCSEs at Soar Valley so I could fill my timetable here with musical, technical, and performance subjects. Everything I do is practical based. If I'm not composing a song, I'm mixing music or setting up stages. But you have to be committed. I spend two or three hours a day recording, rehearsing, and setting up equipment, outside lesson time.

## **What do your courses involve?**

In Music performance I have to prepare and perform a 45 minute set on my own or with a band. I can play my own compositions or covers of published songs. I will need to develop a greater understanding of the potentiality of my instrument, in this case the guitar, and become much more knowledgeable on the history of music in general. Music Technology is much more about the nuts and bolts of recording and is a great subject for someone who loves music but is not necessarily a practising musician.

## **Are you involved with any of the productions at Gateway?**

I've worked with Musical Theatre students on the 'Rise and Fall' gig. I was the audio-visual designer for the 'Haunted House' production and was front of house for the Fashion Show. These were very different in-house productions that took place last year, but I was also involved through Music Technology in performances at the Shed, the Musician, and the White House, and at the River Festival.

## **What are you planning on doing after Gateway?**

I want to go on to a degree course in Music technology and Performance. I would like to write and play music for a company like Disney, or start a recording studio and be a live musician.

## **And in ten years time?**

A live musician, or a sound engineer, or even teaching music to students like myself.



Photo by Lucas Hayward

Gateway Sixth Form College is celebrating its 85<sup>th</sup> year and supports around 1,500 learners from across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland providing a range of vocational and academic qualifications from entry level 1 to advanced level 3.

The College is based in Hamilton on a purpose-built 12 acre site. Rated as being a 'Good' College by Ofsted, Gateway College enables students to have a personalised learning experience and aims to challenge, inspire and motivate, regardless of background or ability.

Gateway students are well placed to succeed in their chosen field whether that is further training, Higher Education or employment. This is recognised through the growing Gateway Alumni Community.

Contact [jwalsh@gateway.ac](mailto:jwalsh@gateway.ac) for alternative formats, comments and additions for next issue.

Also available to read with all previous editions of Word on the Street at [www.gateway.ac.uk](http://www.gateway.ac.uk)



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