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School club screen dream

SCHOOLS Secretary Ed Balls was in Wakefield for some lights, camera and action at a school. Mr Balls MP, Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families, stopped by the new Outwood Grange Academy to launch the academy's Filmclub. The school's Filmclub leader and English teacher Annabelle Le Havre said: "With Filmclub, I aim to create a friendly and fun environment in which students and

staff can relax and enjoy themselves in an out-of-classroom context. Filmclub is a network of after-school clubs that offers children free weekly access to thousands of classic and popular films, as well as to film industry news, screenings and talent. Mr Balls said: "Having access to films in after-school clubs is a valuable way for children to develop critical appreciation skills, cultural awareness and have fun."

LIGHTS, CAMERA... Ed Balls at Outwood Grange Academy, Wakefield, to launch its Filmclub

Ed names his film favourites



POLITICAL high flyer Ed Balls, left, counts *The Jungle Book* and *Some Like It Hot*, starring Marilyn Monroe, right, among his favourite films.

The Normanton MP revealed his cinematic tastes at the launch of a new film club at Outwood Grange Academy.

The Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families spoke of his favourite movies when he played clips to pupils.

He visited the school to launch an after-school club which is part of Filmclub, a national initiative started by Beebon Kidron, director of *Bridget Jones' Diary: The Edge of Reason*.

Pupils can watch free films under the scheme, which has proved popular at schools across the county since its launch in 2006.

Mr Balls said: "I am delighted to launch the club. Having access to films in after-school clubs is a valuable way for children to develop critical appreciation skills, cultural awareness and have fun."

Annabelle Le Havre, film club leader at the school on Potovens Lane, said: "With the film club, I aim to create a friendly environment in which students and staff can relax and enjoy themselves outside classes."

