



**COTTENHAM
VILLAGE COLLEGE**
Astrea Academy Trust
INSPIRING BEYOND MEASURE

Cottenham Village College 21st February

Key dates and events



- **Monday 14 to Friday 18 February: Half-term Holidays**
- Thursday 24 February: Year 9 RST Parents' Evening
- Monday 28 February to Friday 4 March: Year 11 Mock Exams
- Tuesday 1 March: Year 9 Eyes on the Prize (live stream event)
- Thursday 10 March: Core RE morning
- Tuesday 15 and Thursday 17 March: Drama Showcase (to be confirmed nearer the time)
- Thursday 17 March: Intermediate Kangaroo & Olympiads Maths Challenge Years 9-11
- **Monday 4 to Monday 18 April: Easter Holidays**

[Term dates for 2022-23 are on the school website and available to view via this link](#)

[Link to view the CVC Spring Term 2022 Enrichment Programme](#)

Covid-19 Update & Vaccinations



Covid-19 cases, whilst falling slightly this week, continue to remain high across all year groups. All current recommendations in terms of hand hygiene and mask wearing in communal areas is still valid and appropriate, to help reduce the number of cases in school when students return after half term.

During half term, can we ask that students continue to test twice over the week and especially on the Sunday evening prior to the start of next term.

Vaccinations - Any students who were not able to get a first, second or booster covid-19 vaccination at school, the nearest walk in centre can be found using this link [Here](#).

My Child At School (MCAS)



The school moved to a new information system this term called Bromcom. This new system is going to allow us to be able to communicate more information, more immediately than we have been able to do previously through something called My Child At School (MCAS). During the week of 21 February, after we return from the half-term holiday, all families will receive an email inviting them to sign up to MCAS. All instructions about how to sign up will be in this email as well as a link to the site.

Once you have signed up, you will be able to view information about your child including their classes, timetable, house points for excellent work and behaviour, any negative behaviour points awarded (with the reason and any sanctions awarded). This information is live each day. In the future, we will be able to use this platform to also share assessment information as well, and the work to enable this will be taking place over the rest of this academic year. We are really delighted that we are going to be able to offer a much more comprehensive overview of your child at school.

Once you have signed up to MCAS you are also able to download an app that allows you to access this information from a smart device; however, there is no need to download the app unless you wish to. The Astrea app will be phased out and MCAS will replace this.

We look forward to the launch of MCAS after half-term.

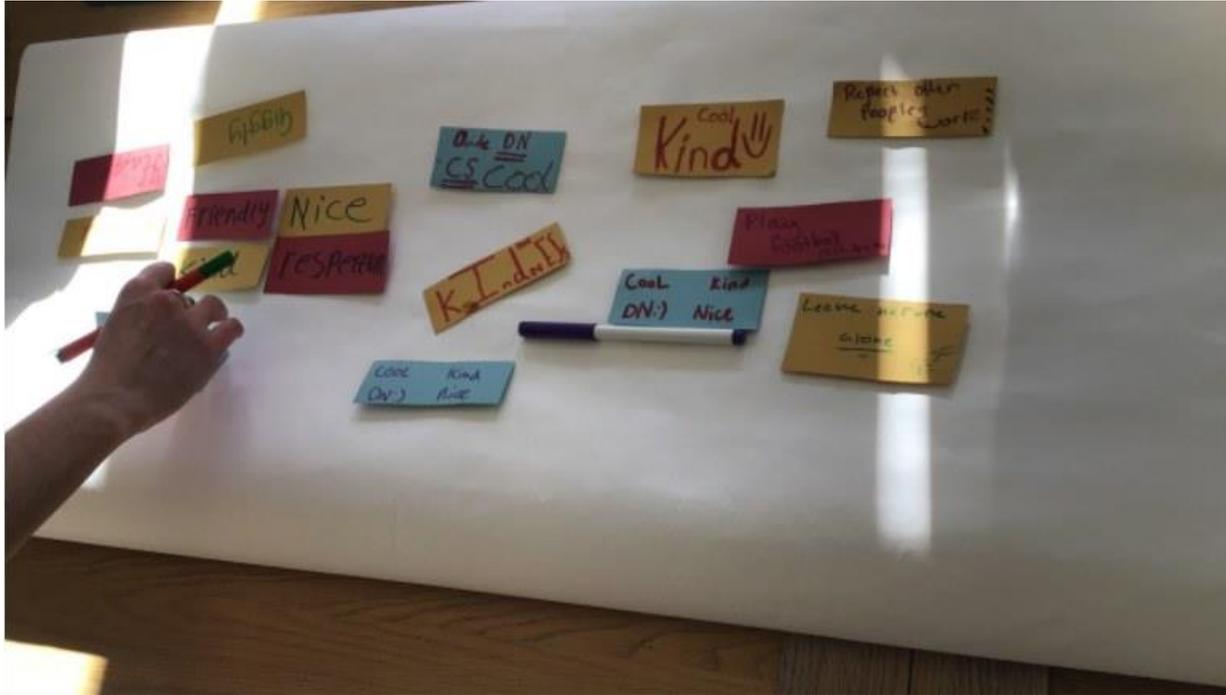
Fixture results this week



On Wednesday, a select group of year 9 girls were invited to join a training session with the FA and Youth Sport Trust to become Football Activators. They will work over the year to complete further training to develop and inspire girls to play football. They must market and deliver sessions to girls in our school to encourage them to play and get active. If they fulfil their role, they will achieve the Youth Sport Trust Girls' Football Youth Sport Award.



Wysing Art trip



Students in the DSC had a wonderful day at Wysing Art on 8th February accompanied Louise and her new hearing dog, Angus.

The students were involved in a number of activities including making a collaborative banner and placing a sculpture they made during a previous visit in the woodland area of their choice. The students were invited to collect pieces of nature close to hand, place it on a fabric banner and with a hammer, hammer the item to release it's colour onto the fabric, plus a choice of black spray to spray over and give a stencil effect of their item.



Year 7

Attendance

The attendance for the week beginning **31 January: 79%**

Leading tutor group: 7L - 89.31%

SHINE

Total SHINE points last week: 316

House with the most points: Bronte

Form group with most points: 7R -77

Year 8

Attendance

The attendance for the week beginning **31 January: 86%**

Leading tutor group: 8T - 94.48%

SHINE

Total SHINE points last week: 364

House with the most points: Sanger

Form group points: 8L - 89

Year 9

Options and Parents' Evenings

A reminder that there are a series of videos for different subjects on the Year 9 page of the school website. On the Year 9 page there will be a series of resources for students and families to access from the start of next half-term. [Please use this link to go to the video](#). The options booklet will be live on the website and available for students and families for use over the half-term holiday.

The 'formal' launch of the options process will be from the start of next half-term. There will be an overview of what will happen, what students need to decide, by when and also some support in arriving at these decisions.

To further support, subject assemblies will take place, subjects may use some lesson time to discuss what the subject is like at KS4, and we are going to run some individual guidance interviews towards the end of the half-term to talk through choices that students have made and to support them to make the best choice that is right for them. Parents will be invited to attend these interviews as well, if they are able to attend during the school day. The dates and times for these sessions will be communicated next half-term.

An overview of key dates next half-term:

- 21 February - 25 February: RST Parents' Evening; Y9 options assemblies begin this week; launch of the options process.
- 28 February - 11 March: two weeks where subject assemblies will continue; students can continue to access the subject videos and options booklet (on the Year 9 website page); students have the opportunity to speak with form tutors and subject teachers if they have questions or want to find out more.
- 14 March: this is the deadline for the options form to be completed and returned. The options form will be shared electronically next half-term. There will be clear guidance on how the form should be completed when it is shared.
- 28 March - 1 April: guidance interviews will take place with staff, students and parents (if they wish to attend) to review the options selected and to ensure that the choices selected are ones that are right and will enable students to achieve and offer a strong foundation for their post-16 studies.

Our staff very much enjoyed meeting with Year 9 families on Thursday 10 February (KLM tutor groups) and are looking forward to the evening on Thursday 24 February for the RST tutor groups. The evening will offer the chance to discuss your child's progress in their subjects as well as perhaps discussing subject choices for KS4.

Attendance

The attendance for the week beginning **31 January: 83.9%**

Leading tutor group: 9M - 90.74%

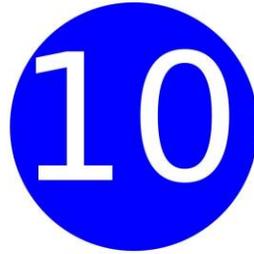
SHINE

Total SHINE points last week: 431

House with the most points: Bronte

Form group points: 9S & 9R – 89

Year 10



Attendance

The attendance for the week beginning **31 January: 83.3%**

Leading tutor group: 10T - 89.31%

SHINE

Total SHINE points last week: 238

House with the most points: Sanger

Form group points: 10K - 56

Year 11



Advanced information for GCSE exams 2022

As expected, the JCQ has published information this week regarding the arrangements for examinations in the summer of 2022. There are different implications subject by subject: some subjects have virtually no changes to content and examinations and others have had more significant changes announced. Some subjects have had amendments or units removed from the content already and these are the subjects where there is much less or even no advance information.

Our Heads of Department will be carefully exploring this information before providing full details to students in lessons. Below is the notice of the release of information with links to useful documents. Each exam board has published subject specific information on their individual websites.

Please do use these links and documents: there are a number of misconceptions and untrue statements that are being circulated via social media platforms. Using the official information and guidance is very important because not all information from other sources is necessarily accurate.

Statement and links:

"From Monday 7 February, students will have access to some of the exam content, texts, topics and sub-topics, themes and skills due to be assessed for the majority of GCSE and all AS and A level subjects with exams to help focus their revision for their exams in summer. Advance information is one part of the adaptations in place to help mitigate the impact of the pandemic on education.

- Visit the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) website, for [Summer 2022 Arrangements: Advance Information](#).
- JCQ have also developed an [Advance Information Student Guide. Download an accessible version](#).
- Access [subject by subject support for GCSE, AS and A level students in 2022](#) from Ofqual.
- Read our article on the [Education Hub](#) on how we are helping students prepare for exams this summer."

Mock examinations

Year 11 will have a second series of mock examinations from Monday 28 February. An overview of the mock timetable has been emailed to students' school email account and is on the website as well. A link to the Year 11 page is [here](#). Individual student timetables will be shared with students at the start of next half-term.

This mock series will be a combination of full papers in the exam hall and formal assessments in class. For the November mocks we ran a full series of exams in all subjects to ensure that students had the experience. At this point in the academic year, formal exams and full papers are really useful for some subjects (for instance, the core subjects); however, in some subjects where they are completing coursework or focused on practical areas of the course or are in the final stages of teaching subject content a full paper can be more disruptive to students' preparation and progress than helpful and supportive.

In order to disrupt as few lessons as possible for Year 11 students, exams that are taking place in the exam hall have been timetabled over one week. All core subjects and a selection of Options subjects are running full-length papers. However, formal in-class assessments will take place over the week of Monday 7 to Friday 11 March in the remaining Options subjects. The mock exams and class assessments will be reported home in the next set of reports as another snapshot of where students are as we approach the final exams in May and June. Subject teachers will communicate when class assessments will take place to students. The timetable is a 'live' document: subjects are finalising the content (in light of this week's announcements for exams) and exactly which lessons they wish to run these assessments: any amendments will be reflected on the live timetable on the website.

Please note that any students studying Further Maths will sit mock papers in this subject now that they have covered enough of the course. These exams will run beyond the end of the school day at 3.05pm. The later buses are available for these students to use to get home. Once students are out of their exam they will be supervised by a member of staff on the site as they relax after the exam and wait for the bus (about 25 minutes). If students walk home, they can leave the school site at the end of the exam and if students are going to be collected, they can also be collected at the time the exam finishes.

Following the November mock series, this is an opportune moment for students to focus their revision and preparation using all of the feedback they have received and to see how much progress they have made. As with the previous mock series, students will receive careful and targeted feedback to support them to address areas that need development.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

A reminder of the Period 6 sessions running every week:

Monday

Art & Design (ST2 & ST3): This session is for students to work on their portfolio with subject specialist support.

Drama (Drama Studio): This session will address different areas of the GCSE: some weeks students will have support in the practical elements and others there will be a focus on the written content of the course. **Students are expected to attend this before other sessions if they need to work on coursework.**

Music (Music studio): This session is for working on coursework. **Students are expected to attend this before other sessions until coursework is complete.**

Spanish (L3): This is a drop-in session for Spanish GCSE.

Science (multiple classrooms): These sessions are for **all** Year 11 students and are designed to target key areas that have been highlighted as a result of the mock exams.

Tuesday

Maths (multiple classrooms): These sessions are for **all** Year 11 students and are designed to target key areas that have been highlighted as a result of the mock exams.

MyTutor - maths (ICT3, ICT6, Library): These online tuition sessions are for invited students only.

Wednesday

English (multiple classrooms): These sessions are for **all** Year 11 students and are designed to target key areas that have been highlighted as a result of the mock exams.

MyTutor - English (ICT3, ICT6, Library): These online tuition sessions are for invited students only.

Thursday

Geography (H1 & H6): These sessions will go over content for Geography and sessions will target key questions that can help to raise grades.

PE (GCSE - ICT1): This offers PE GCSE students the chance to focus on both practical and academic elements of the course.

Computer Science (ICT4): This weekly session offers students the chance to revise challenging sections of the GCSE course and explore how best to maximise marks in exam questions.

Music (Music studio): This is a second session for working on coursework to allow students to attend other subjects on Mondays if needed. **Students are expected to attend this before other sessions until coursework is complete.**

A reminder of the bus routes:

CVC Bus 1

1620 CVC
1630 Landbeach Village Hall
1640 Waterbeach Green
1650 Chittering, School Ln
1700 Stretham, Chapel St (Nr Red Lion)
1710 Wilburton, High St, Carpond Lane

CVC Bus 2

1620 CVC
1625 Rampton
1630 Willingham, Berrycroft (Nr Balland Field)
1645 Sutton, Ely Rd (S&G Car Sales)
1655 Witchford Main St, (Post Office)
1700 Wentworth, A142 (Bus Stop)
1705 Haddenham, High Street Spar Shop

Attendance

The attendance for the week beginning **31 January: 87.1%**

Leading tutor group: 11X - 95%

SHINE

Total SHINE points last week: 178

House with the most points: Bronte

Form group points: 11T & 11R - 34

Reminder for student absences



Please report a student absence **each day** the student is absent.

Our preferred method for parents to report an absence is by using the Astrea Parent App. [Instructions of how to download the Parent App can be found on Astrea Trust's website.](#)

If you cannot access the Parent App, please email attendance@astrecottenham.org

If you do not have access to the Parent App or email, please telephone Mrs Phipps at the college (01954 288 762).

Contact us



Cottenham Village College

High Street

Cottenham

Cambridge

CB24 8UA

01954288944

reception@astrecottenham.org

Visit us on the web at www.astrecottenham.org

Follow us on Twitter @CottenhamVC and Facebook @Cottenham Village College