



Newsletter for Families 22nd September 2023

Our vision is to create an excellent school that gives every child no matter their background or beliefs, the opportunity to live happy and fulfilling lives, go to university or pursue the career of their choice.



Principal's Message

I had the pleasure of meeting Year 7 parents this week at their "Meet the tutor" evening. I was able to inform them that I thought their children had made an excellent start to their studies at Coleridge (I have been similarly impressed by all year groups). I shared with them our Vision for the school which can be found at the top of this newsletter, and I discussed our whole school analogy of students "Climbing the mountain of success" and the use of a rope weaved of excellent learning habits such trying their best, determination and working hard. I was so pleased with the feedback that parents gave me about the start of the year. I look forward to meeting other year groups over the coming weeks.

We had our school photos taken this week – and I would like to say well done to all our students who all looked impressive in their impeccable uniform. As I said last week uniform in general looks excellent across the school. Students should be commended for this, and parents should be thanked.

Whole school attendance is still looking strong at about 94% - this is a significant improvement on this time last year. So, again, thank you for all your support with this. We all know that if students aren't in school, they can't be in their lessons, they miss out on being taught and they miss crucial learning. There is substantial evidence that students who attend school and have over 95% attendance achieve much higher results in their GCSEs.

I watched several of our Year 10 students leave school on Friday to attend Rowing club which was taking place on The Cam – what an amazing opportunity. Coleridge offers a wide range of extra-curricular clubs and events that enrich the curriculum taught in the classrooms. These



clubs also enrich children socially as it gives them a chance to make new friends and socialize. I know that these clubs include computing, PE, drama, music, art and science. I would encourage all students to find a club that interests and excites them and to get involved!

Computing Trip to Ninja Theory



On Thursday 21st September, four of our Year 8 students had the opportunity to attend a Cambridge LaunchPad STEM Project Day at Ninja Theory XBOX Game Studio in Cambridge. Ninja Theory is a Cambridge-based BAFTA Award winning games producer, known for titles such as Hellblade.

Year 8 students had an opportunity to enter a competition last summer term, where students were asked to create a video game storyboard for an original idea. Ninja Theory chose the winners to attend the day.

Students were taken on a tour of the studios, before working in the Environmental Art, Character Art and Animation, Visual Effects and Audio departments.

The students have been given an additional opportunity to win their Year 10 work experience at Ninja Theory by presenting their experiences to their year group. Last year's attendees from Coleridge have secured their work experience at Ninja Theory in 2025. Students were very positive about this opportunity - "I enjoyed the sound room because they had really high-end equipment and it transformed our animation."

Homework

It is important to us that our students can continue their learning when they are at home. This will allow them to learn key vocabulary and content to prepare for future lessons, revisit knowledge they have been taught in class, practice exam questions and techniques as well as tackling any gaps in their knowledge that have been identified by their teachers or through assessments. These tasks are set by staff to give students the very best opportunities to develop their learning and improve their understanding of the topics they have been teaching. There are many different websites and platforms that we use to support our students with their homework, including websites like Sparx and Bedrock so that the tasks set match each individual students' ability. Seneca is also used by staff to direct students to the topics they need to revise.

As a school, we log all these homework assignments in Teams so students can track these tasks and better manage their time. Students have spent time in tutor time, these last couple weeks getting used to this platform and how to use it. We have attached some further information to this newsletter, so you are more able to support our students in accessing these homework tasks on Teams. Students may also discuss any concerns or questions about accessing their homework with their form tutor or class teachers who will be happy to support. Finally, I have also included



a copy of the homework timetable below for you. This shows you the night we would advise students to complete each homework task on to ensure they do not fall behind or get stressed with homework deadlines.

	Key Stage 3			Key Stage 4	
	60 mins every night			Up to 90 mins every night	
Monday	English	Bedrock (Literacy)		English	Bedrock (Literacy)
Tuesday	Maths - Sparx			Maths - Sparx	
Wednesday	Science			Science	Option A
Thursday	English – Sparx	Bedrock (Literacy)		Option B	Bedrock (Literacy)
Friday	Geography	History	Spanish	Option C	Option D

Attendance

As a school we give improving attendance and punctuality a high priority. We firmly believe that the best place for our students is in the classroom, having disruption free lessons and being taught by our teachers.

Research proves that there is a strong correlation between regular attendance and attainment. Our aim is to raise awareness of attendance and highlight the importance of regular attendance whilst celebrating the successes of our students. Not only is academic performance improved by regular attendance, so are vital life skills such as effective communication and peer relationships, alongside increased Post-16 outcomes and thus increased employability opportunities.

Education for children and young people under the age of 18 years is mandatory. Please see the link below for more details of responsibilities for school attendance.

[Summary table of responsibilities for school attendance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/672227/summary-table-of-responsibilities-for-school-attendance.pdf)

At Coleridge we aim for 100% attendance. We will be looking at the importance of attendance and punctuality during tutor time regularly over the course of the academic year and sharing with our students their attendance data. 100% attendance is 190 days in school.

- 8 days of absence= 96%
- 12 days of absence= 94%
- 19 days of absence= 90%



Coleridge Community College

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Our aim is to work closely with parents and carers during the academic year to support with any attendance issues and look at how we can reduce or remove any barriers there are to your child attending school. We will also be celebrating students with consistently good attendance and those who have and are making a concerted effort to improve their attendance.

Uniform

It has been fantastic to see our students arrive at school dressed smartly in full school uniform. Now that the hot weather has subsided, we would like to take this opportunity to remind you of our uniform expectations.

All students in Yr7-9 must wear a blazer to school, whereas Yr10-11 must wear school grey jumper. Any student who arrives in school without the correct uniform, including footwear, will be given the opportunity to borrow the correct uniform from the school without a consequence. Full uniform details can be found on the school website.

Coleridge Community College

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An archive of our weekly bulletins can be found on our website.