



WEEKLY BULLETIN | Friday 20th January

The Week Ahead

Weekly Menu	Please CLICK HERE to see our current Menu
Extra-Curricular Clubs	Please CLICK HERE to see our current programme
Sports Clubs and Fixtures	Please CLICK HERE to see our current programme
Vacancies	Please CLICK HERE to see a list of our current Vacancies

Key Dates

Tuesday 24th January	Curriculum Development Day - no pupils in school
Thursday 26th January	Year 9 Vaccinations Year 11 Animal Care trip to Hamerton Zoo (all day) 10am: In school webcast for Holocaust Memorial Day The Historical Association Great Debate (4.15pm in Cambridge)
Friday 27th January	Live Webcast: Holocaust Memorial Day (Years 7 & 8) (2pm)
Tuesday 31st January	Flu Immunisations Catch up
Thursday 2nd February	Year 9 Parent Consultation (periods 3-6 taught). All pupils leave at 1.30pm

Building Work Progress - January 2023



Henry Morris Awards

Henry Morris was the Chief Education Officer in Cambridgeshire for over 30 years.

He re-organised the county's education provision and founded the Village Colleges.

After Henry Morris died, a group of his friends decided to remember him by setting up the Henry Morris Memorial Trust.

The Trust has a fund, and this fund is used to grant awards for **travel** and **home-based projects**. Young people in Cambridgeshire aged 13-19 can apply. Pupils can apply alone, or with a friend or friends.

Watch this video to find out more and to learn how your children can apply for a grant from the Trust! <https://vimeo.com/643432435>

Pupils can ask [Miss Angell](#) for more information or if they need help with your application. The deadline is 31st January!

Application form is [here](#).

More information is [here](#)



As an LGBTQ+ inclusive school, our latest initiative is a Rainbow Laces campaign. You may have seen this in the media recently as it is a wide-reaching scheme supported by the Football Association and leading LGBTQ+ organisations to raise awareness of related matters. It is a way for everyone - from the community or as allies - to show their support for LGBTQ+ equality and inclusivity.

We are selling rainbow laces for staff and students to wear in shoes until February half term, and in trainers all year. They are just £1.50 per pair and can be ordered via ParentPay or paid for with cash and collected from Mrs Weaver in The Centre. We only have 100 pairs, and these sold out last year so please get them as soon as you can.

We also have a variety of pronoun and flag badges that many of our students and staff wear. Students can bring £1 into school for these and see Mrs Weaver.

We are currently working towards the Rainbow Flag Award. The first section of six has been submitted and we will have lots of other events and initiatives during the year. Our 'We Are All Made of Molecules' club runs on Thursday lunchtimes. If you would like further information on any aspect of our support for LGBTQ+ students, please contact me on zweaver@cambournevc.org.

Mrs Weaver.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about TWITTER



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Twitter is a social media network which allows users to post short messages (tweets) of up to 280 characters. Tweets can consist of text, photos, videos, audio, links, polls and GIFs – often linked by hashtags if they share a common theme or message. Hashtags receiving high levels of interest are said to be 'trending'. Twitter users can engage with other people's posts by liking, retweeting (sharing) or tweeting back (commenting on). Since the entrepreneur Elon Musk acquired Twitter in October 2022 for \$44 billion, he has implemented several major changes to the platform.

INTERACTION WITH STRANGERS

Tweets are public by default, meaning that anyone can view and interact with posts, follow someone and send direct messages. The concern here is that young people may therefore connect and communicate with strangers. Some individuals may follow a young person's Twitter account simply because they have similar interests; however, others may turn out to have more sinister intentions.

FIXATION ON VIEW COUNT

Twitter has recently introduced a 'view count' feature – telling users how many people have seen their tweet (even if they haven't reacted to it). Previous research has found that unfavourable comparisons with other social media users can cause young people to experience feelings of insecurity, jealousy and low self-esteem – leading to an obsession with increasing their numbers.

TROLLS AND BULLYING

The anonymity offered by fake profiles encourages some users to send tweets designed to provoke a reaction; to disrupt conversations; to spark an argument; or to harass the recipient. Such trolling and bullying can impact the mental wellbeing of both the target and anyone who witnesses it. Encourage your child to come to you if they experience such behaviour on Twitter, or if they see it taking place.

PAID-FOR VERIFICATION

Previously, if a Twitter profile displayed a blue tick icon, it meant that the owner – usually a celebrity or a major organisation – had been verified as genuine. Now, however, anyone can pay for a Twitter Blue subscription to receive the tick, with the platform carrying out limited checks on the account's authenticity. This could easily lead to more fake accounts impersonating real people or companies.

CONTENT MODERATION CHANGES

In late 2022, Twitter stated that their 'policy enforcement will rely more heavily on de-amplification of violative content: freedom of speech, but not freedom of reach'. No policies have changed yet, but this wording suggests they may limit who can see posts rather than removing them. While supporting free speech, this could encourage an environment where some toxic content remains online.

HIJACKED HASHTAGS

The hashtag (#) is one of Twitter's most recognisable facets, allowing users to find specific trends or topics. But the sheer volume of tweets each hour can rapidly distort a hashtag's meaning: an initially innocent search term can quickly end up returning inappropriate results. This is common with 'trending' hashtags, as people know that using them will get their tweet seen by a larger audience.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SET ACCOUNTS TO PRIVATE

To reduce some of the fear of your child's tweets being seen and shared by anyone, you can always make their account protected. This means that your child has to give approval for another user to view their posts. You can change Twitter's privacy settings so that your child can't be messaged directly by other people on the platform and their geographical location won't be shared.

FOSTER CRITICAL THINKING

It can be difficult for anyone to ascertain if something online is real or false, but particularly for young people. Encourage your child to check several reputable sources to determine if a story they've seen is true; remind them to watch out for scams and think about the message's possible motive. Emphasise that it's not a good idea to retweet something if they aren't sure it's correct.

ENGAGE SAFETY MODE

When Safety Mode is activated, Twitter checks for abusive or spammy behaviour such as hurtful language or repeated negative replies. The platform then flags these suspect accounts and blocks them from responding to your child's tweets. The autoblock function then prevents these accounts from interacting with your child's again for seven days.

EXPLORE THE NEW SETTINGS

Previously, any user could reply to anyone else's tweets. However, the new conversation settings let your child determine who can reply to their posts – either by selecting everyone (the default option), people they follow or only people they mention (using the @ symbol). This improvement has given users extra control, providing them with more protection from trolls and online abuse.

PAUSE BEFORE POSTING

It's important that young people think about what they're about to post and whether they might regret it later. Twitter has developed 'nudges': little prompts which appear if someone is about to tweet using harmful or offensive language. These nudges promote more positive online behaviour by giving users an opportunity to pause and consider their words before they post something.

BLOCK, REPORT OR MUTE

If someone is upsetting your child on Twitter, you can block and report them. Blocking stops them from messaging or following your child, while reporting an account alerts Twitter to investigate possible misuse. The 'mute' feature, meanwhile, keeps tweets from a specific account (or which include certain words) out of your child's timeline. The other user won't know that they've been muted.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



BE CAREFUL WHO TO FOLLOW

As accounts are no longer being as rigorously verified under the 'blue tick' system, it's essential that young Twitter users understand what this means. In terms of people not necessarily being who they claim. Anyone who your child only knows online is still a stranger, regardless of how long they've been communicating for. Remind your child never to disclose personal information on social media.

Online Safety Tips

KEEPING YOUR CHILD SAFE ONLINE

Please see below some links to helpful ideas and materials around keeping children safe online:

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

<https://oursaferschools.co.uk/home-learning-hub/>



COMBINED MINDS APP

Combined Minds is an app for parents and carers developed for teenage mental health charity Stem4 by Clinical Psychologists. The app aims to help families and friends support young people with their mental health.

Combined Minds use a 'strength based approach' which focuses on the positive attributes of the person and builds on resourcefulness and resilience. The app helps families to find ways to provide the right environment to help individuals they support affect their own change.

The app includes providing further information on certain needs such as anxiety and digital addiction as well as offering ways of accessing further help and useful suggestions of 'things you can do in the moment' to help support the young person.

More information can be found through the Combined Minds website at <https://combinedminds.co.uk/>

TEAMS | ONENOTE

Microsoft Teams, Teams assignments, and OneNote are becoming increasingly more central to the way we are providing and receiving work. Below are some resources to help you support your children with these services.

Click here for a guide to handing in Teams Assignments:

https://catrustorg.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/CambourneVCPublic/Eckeb-WkJX1NoaAciPBjAScBG_cU4zuSmd0A0WEUDyO-Fw?e=OgjANx

[Click here](#) for a YouTube playlist with short tutorial videos (if you prefer, your child can access the same videos through their school account [here](#))



WHAT'S COOKING AT CAMBOURNE VILLAGE COLLEGE

Enjoy

YOUR PLANET MATTERS

Reusable



Please ensure that you return your food pot to the clearing station.

Thank you!

Enjoy

WASTE MATTERS...

All Enjoy food wrappings and packaging are provided by Vegware - utilising plants, not plastics.

We have removed 70% virgin plastics from our range of disposables. Building upon this achievement, we will

introduce in 2023, reusable pots to further reduce packaging waste.

To encourage this initiative, there will be a 20p surcharge for the use of non-recyclable food pots.

We value healthy, nutritious food provided by ethical suppliers, and we choose our supply partners based on their commitment to sustainability.



60%

Within our seasonal menu cycle, 60% of our vegetarian choices are plant based dishes



100%

All of our meat and dairy produce is Red Tractor Assured



75%

We use 75% of British and seasonal produce in our menus



70%

We have removed 70% virgin plastics from our range of disposables



UK FARMERS AND FOOD PRODUCERS HAVE SOME OF THE HIGHEST ENVIRONMENTAL AND ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS IN THE WORLD. THIS IS SOMETHING TO BE PROUD OF.

The National Food Strategy report



pabulum
HONESTLY GOOD FOOD

To all Year 11 leavers from Summer 2022.

We are pleased to report that the certificates from the exams which took place during summer term 2022 are now ready for collection. This can be done any day between the 16th and 20th of January 2023 incl. Please come and collect the certificates from the main reception desk between 7:30 am and 4 pm OR between 6 pm and 9pm. You will need to bring some form of ID and they cannot be collected by anyone else on your behalf.

If you have any questions, please contact Cambourne Village College exams team at CAM-ExamsTeam@cambournevc.org

Think Cambridge - Is Cambridge for me?



Think Cambridge is a three-week long series of webinars, starting on the 30th January, to inspire Year 11 students to apply to Cambridge.

The webinars will show you and your children what Cambridge has to offer, explain how studying here is unique and give you the key information you need to make an informed decision. Current students will also be sharing their advice and tips, touching on topics such as student life, being part of a College, studying facilities and more.

More information, including the webinar listings, can be found here: <https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/events/think-cambridge>

UPDATED



Weekly extra-curricular clubs list

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
Lunch	Afterschool	Lunch	Afterschool	Lunch	Afterschool	Lunch	Afterschool	Lunch	Afterschool
WCCYM Christian Union – P3	PE Clubs	Junior singers – Music	PE Clubs	History reading club – B12	PE Clubs	Made of molecules LGBTQ+ - P11	PE Clubs	Aspirational Friday – B13	PE Clubs
The reading room – P12	KS3 computer programming – Comp01	DT V&A club – DT06	Not just black and white – Dining hall	The reading room – P12	Creative writing – P13		Gardening Club – The Centre	Minecraft club – Comp01	Senior choir - Music
	Cambookworms – P12		Yr11 computer programming – Comp02	Craft club – P5	Games design – Comp01		School production – 3-5pm	The reading room – P12	Mental Health Ambassadors – S1
	Latin club – P18		Jazz band – Music	Ukulele club – Music	Art club – Art1				
	Band – Music		Young carers – The Link		Warhammer club – S1				
	Textiles club – DT06				Drama club - Drama				
					Better together – SF canteen				
					STEM Club - Science				

PE Department Extra-curricular Clubs – January 2023

MONDAY 3-4pm

KS4 trampolining – Gym
KS4 basketball – Sports hall
KS3 football – Astro
Table tennis – Dining hall
Netball – Hard courts

TUESDAY 3-4pm

Dance – Drama studio
KS3 Basketball – Sports hall
Volleyball – Gym
KS4 Football – Astro
Girls Football – Astro
KS4 table tennis – Dining hall
Netball – Hard courts

WEDNESDAY 3-4pm

FIXTURES

BTEC Catch up – IT04 (BTEC staff)
GCSE Catch up – O11

THURSDAY 3-4pm

Sports Leaders Opportunities – Check the Sports Leaders Board
Girls active – Sports Hall (sports leaders)

FRIDAY 3-4pm

Badminton – Sports hall and Gym
Girls' rugby – Field
Just Dance – Performance hall

Boys – meet at the back doors to the **orange** changing rooms

Girls – meet at the back doors to the **green** changing rooms

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

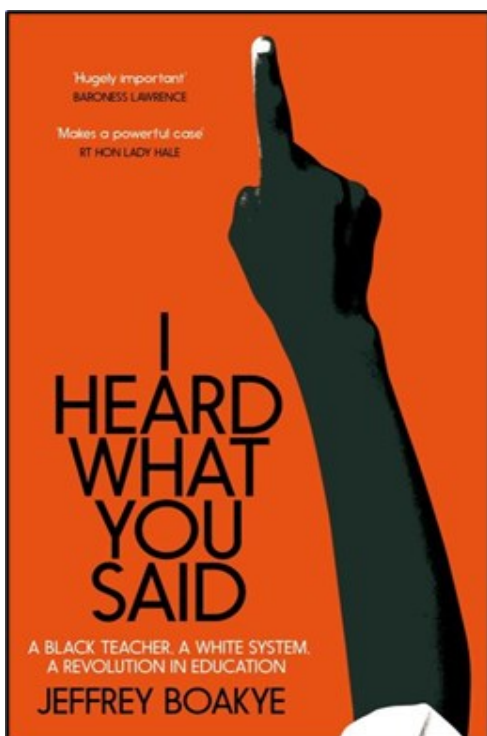


The Blue Book of Nebo by Manon Steffan Ros

Ros

When the electricity is switched off and life as we know it ends, Dylan and his mum must survive by reverting to old ways of living. Dylan was six when The End came, back in 2018; when the electricity went off for good, and the 'normal' 21st century world he knew disappeared. Now he's 14 and he and his mam have survived in their isolated hilltop house above the village of Nebo in north-west Wales, learning new skills, and returning to old ways of living. Despite their close understanding, the relationship between mother and son changes subtly as Dylan must take on adult responsibilities. And they each have their own secrets, which emerge as, in turn, they jot down their thoughts and memories in a found notebook - the Blue Book of Nebo. Nominated for the Carnegie award 2023

(Available from the School Library and on the SORA app)



I heard what you said by Jeffery Boakye

Before Jeffrey Boakye was a black teacher, he was a black student. Which means he has spent a lifetime navigating places of learning that are white by default. Since training to teach, he has often been the only black teacher at school. At times seen as a role model, at others a source of curiosity, Boakye's is a journey of exploration - from the outside looking in. In the ground-breaking *I Heard What You Said*, he recounts how it feels to be on the margins of the British education system. As a black, male teacher - an English teacher who has had to teach problematic texts - his very existence is a provocation to the status quo, giving him a unique perspective on the UK's classrooms. Through a series of eye-opening encounters based on the often challenging and sometimes outrageous things people have said to him or about him, Boakye reflects on what he has found out about the habits, presumptions, silences, and distortions that black students and teachers experience, and which underpin British education. *(Available from the School Library)*

ARTICLES

Students have access to a Teams channel of articles that school staff have chosen as being particularly interesting.

If your child is looking for something to read, there is a continually-updated selection – they'll fit nicely into the reading time each day, and offer something current to learn more about.

Find it here: [Recommended Articles](#)

MUSIC

Instrumental & Singing Lessons

In Cambourne we have nearly 200 pupils regularly doing Instrumental & Singing lessons in school!

If your child would like to learn a musical instrument, or get singing lessons – then it isn't too late to sign them up – and for most instruments they would be able to start almost straight away.

We currently offer instrumental lessons for:

- Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Violin, Trumpet, Trombone
- Piano, Keyboard
- Drums
- Acoustic Guitar, Electric Guitar, Bass Guitar

And singing lessons for all varieties of singer – including pop / classical / musical theatre!

If you would like to find out more about how instrumental & singing lessons work, then visit the school website for more details:

[Instrument lessons - Cambourne Village College \(cambournevc.org\)](http://cambournevc.org)

And then fill in the online form here:

[Application form for instrument and singing lessons at Cambourne Village College \(office.com\)](http://office.com)

If you have any questions about instrumental & singing lessons, please contact Geoff Page (Head of Music – gpage@cambournevc.org)

Music Clubs

There are lots of different clubs that your child can come attend if they want to develop their musical skills and get to know other musicians in the school!

Clubs are free to attend, and the different groups often get opportunities to perform in school concerts, as well as opportunities outside of school.

The following clubs are starting next week (in the Music Block):

Band (Monday 3-4pm), all instrumentalists, all years

Junior Singer (Tuesday lunchtime), years 7 & 8

Jazz Band (Tuesday 3-4pm), years 9-11

Ukulele Club (Wednesday lunchtime), years 7 – 9

Friday Choir (Friday 3-4pm), years 9-11

If your child is interested in joining a musical club, they are welcome to attend (whatever their ability) and see how they get on!

Do you have a bike that's in need of some care and attention? Is it unsafe to ride due to broken brakes or a rusty chain? Get your bike up and running again! 🚲

We've partnered with South Cambs Community Safety Partnership and Outspoken to offer free bike repairs, lights and reflectors on Tuesday 31st January 2023 from 4pm-7pm.

Book a 20 minute slot then bring your bike along to the Cambourne Soul's main hall. Outspoken's friendly mechanic will carry out an inspection and make repairs possible during the time frame. The mechanic will provide a report on your bike with recommendations for any further work required.

Slots will fill up fast so guarantee your place by signing up here:
bit.ly/drbikecambourne

Dr Bike

Session run by

Outspoken!
Cycles



Tuesday 31 January from 4pm to 7pm

Bring your bicycle for a free safety check, and pick-up bike lights and reflectors if you don't have them. The session is open to all, including those attending Cambourne Soul's Tuesday afternoon session, but advance booking is required.

Cambourne Soul Youth Centre, Back Lane, Great Cambourne, CB23 6FZ

Funded by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Safer Communities Fund, through the South Cambs Community Safety Partnership, in conjunction with Cambourne Youth Partnership and Romsey Mill.





A message from Cambridgeshire Constabulary:

Dear parents / carers,

This year, Cambridgeshire Constabulary are celebrating the 20-year anniversary of eCops.

eCops began back in 2003 when an East Chesterton Sergeant wanted a way to keep local residents informed and up to date with what police were doing in their area.

It started as a simple email to all East Chesterton residents and has developed and grown over the past 20 years to an advanced system used by around 19,000 people across the county.

It is free and easy to sign up, and subscribers can register according to their location and interests, reducing information overload and ensuring that they receive targeted alerts that are focused on their own area and interests.

Messages can include crime news, information about crime happening locally, crime prevention advice, details about local incidents and appeals for help in reducing crime in the county.

Members can also reply to alerts, providing a quick and easy two-way communication between yourself and your local officers. You can tell us about your concerns, to help us police your neighbourhoods effectively.

As a parent / carer to a young person in Cambridgeshire, we recommend that everyone subscribes to eCops to be more aware of crime happening in your area, therefore being in a better position to protect yourself and your family against crime.

Sign up in seconds at www.ecops.org.uk

Kind regards,

Cambridgeshire Constabulary



If your child has **lost an item of uniform**, please ask them to check with their **Year team office** in the first instance, or please **email thecollege@cambournevc.org** so that we can arrange for your child to check our unnamed items.

If your child needs a coat/jacket and would like to look through our unnamed items to find something suitable for them, please ask them to go to their Year team office or email the College.

LOST
PROPERTY

SecondHandUniform

We currently have a large number of good quality second hand uniforms available for purchase at a discounted rate. Please complete the form: [Second-Hand Uniform Request](#) and enter what uniform needs your child has.

With evening reception hours (6pm to 9pm) each weeknight (during term time) there is an opportunity to organise a Covid safely-distanced visit to the school to 'see before you buy' at hours to suit you.

Please email our evening receptionist **Liz Staines** to organise a time slot: El-Staines@cambournevc.org



Thank you for your continued support with your children's return to school by sending them back in such smart uniform.

Families who find it difficult to afford school uniform at any time should contact their Year team admin (details below), in complete confidence, so that a way forward can be found.

Year 7 - Sam Tomlinson cam-year7@cambournevc.org

Year 8 - Lorraine Lye cam-year8@cambournevc.org

Year 9 - Louise Boyd cam-year9@cambournevc.org

Year 10 - Mel Stanford cam-year10@cambournevc.org

Year 11 - Kaleigh Blane cam-year11@cambournevc.org

Our up-to-date uniform policy and suppliers can be found on the [school website](#).

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

6 days or less
absence per year
97% or above

**VERY GOOD
THIS IS YOUR
TARGET**

Between
7 and 19 days
absence per year

90% - 96%

**BELOW
EXPECTATIONS**

More
than 19 days
absence per year
Under 90%

**POOR
ATTENDANCE**

Wet and Icy weather

With the change of weather, we are aware that many more pupils are travelling into school by car. With only one narrow access road into the school we are seeing a rise in traffic problems and pupils arriving late to school. Please encourage your child to travel to school under their own steam wherever possible and ensure you leave additional time when travelling to school by car; pupils are expected within their form groups for registration at 8:35am. Any pupil who arrives after this time is registered as late unless there are exceptional circumstances, which we are made aware of prior to their arrival.

Reporting an Absence

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school you have a legal requirement to inform the school **on each day of absence**. Please email (thecollege@cambournevc.org) or call the school on 01954 284000 **by 9am every day of the absence** and leave a message clearly stating the reason for absence and the child's full name and tutor group. If you fail to inform the school, we are legally required to make contact with you, to ensure the child's safety. Even if they have been absent on the previous day we cannot assume they are still at home poorly.

Appointments

If your child misses registration for a medical or dental appointment, this is counted as an authorised absence. Please give advance notice, ideally 2 school days, by emailing thecollege@cambournevc.org with the dates and times the pupil is expected to be out of school and preferably with a copy of the appointment card/notification so that the absence can be authorised. As much as possible, pupils should be in school prior to/ after the appointment and out of school for as little time as possible.

Prior notification ensures the Year team and Reception staff are aware of your child arriving late / leaving early and the necessary arrangements can be put in place. If your child needs to leave early for an appointment, they should inform their teacher that they need to be excused early and make their own way down to Reception. The Reception staff will try to help locate children for appointments, but we do not always have someone available to do a collection from lessons.

All pupils leaving early for appointments need to be collected by a parent to sign them out through our main Reception.



Safeguarding

At Cambourne Village College we work hard to make sure that we build up positive relationships with the pupils in our care and we hope that we can support families in safeguarding your children.

**Safeguarding is
Everyone's
Responsibility**

What is safeguarding?

- Protecting children
- Preventing harm to a child

This includes a variety of different aspects. We are here to help your child make good choices but also support them if they make a mistake.

We work with individual students, their families and external agencies.

What do we do at CamVC to safeguard your child?

- **Staff are vigilant** – staff are very good at noticing small changes and listening to the concerns of those in our care. Tutors are well placed in this process, however all staff play an active role in this.
- **Designated Team** – we have a specific team of people working each day to address concerns raised by staff, pupils, parents and external agencies. This team works to make sure concerns are addressed and the appropriate support is advised
- **Pupil Voice** - we encourage pupils to speak to us or raise their concerns via the 'Report a Concern' button on their iPad

How can we help you?

If you have any concerns about your child or you would like any support, please contact us via cam-safeguarding@cambournevc.org



Students IT Support

If your child needs a password reset, for example to their email, Show My Homework or any of the platforms we use at the College, or if they have any issues with their iPads, please email cam-support@cambournevc.org.

We will aim to respond to any enquiry within 24 hours.

Communication with the School

How can I contact my child's Year Team?



Please email cam-year7@cambournevc.org | PSA Sam Tomlinson

Please email cam-year8@cambournevc.org | PSA Lorraine Lye

Please email cam-year9@cambournevc.org | PSA Louise Boyd

Please email cam-year10@cambournevc.org | PSA Mel Stanford

Please email cam-year11@cambournevc.org | PSA Kayleigh Blane

There are a variety of ways in which we will contact you, including by telephone, by letter, by email, in our newsletters and via our website. There are several ways in which you can contact us, and these include:



By email to thecollege@cambournevc.org



By calling Reception for all general enquiries on 01954 284 000



By writing to Cambourne Village College, Sheepfold Lane, Cambourne CB23 6FR



Via the 'contact us' page of our school website www.cambournevc.org

We aim to respond to any enquiry within 48 hours.