



WEEKLY BULLETIN | Friday 13th October

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 17th - Wednesday 18th October	Curriculum Extension Days (off timetable for all pupils)
Wednesday 18th October	Spanish Exchange Information Evening (6pm)
Friday 20th October	Year 11 Full Reports out
Saturday 21st - Saturday 28th October	MFL Trip to Granada, Spain
Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October	HALF TERM
Monday 30th October	All pupils return to school

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

Reporting your Child's Absence from School:

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school you have a legal requirement to inform the school **on each day of absence**. If you are reporting your child's absence from school today, please can you email cam-absence@cambournevc.org by **8:30am 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 absence 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 cam-absence@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.

Planned Absence Request:

If you plan to take your child out of school for any other reason, a **Planned Absence Request Form** must be completed and returned to the school **10 days prior** to the absence for authorisation. Please email any completed forms to cam-absence@cambournevc.org or hand into our reception. The form can be found on our [website](#), or is available from our reception.

Please note that due to Changes to Section 444 of The Education Act 1996 brought into effect in September 2013, the Principal cannot authorise any term time leave unless there are **exceptional circumstances**.

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

SCHOOL UNIFORM

CONSULTATION: 2

We believe that wearing uniform helps to create a sense of identity and community in school.

School uniform helps improve safety and has a positive effect on the learning environment.

Our uniform is smart, practical and comfortable and we expect pupils to wear it with pride when at school, on journeys between home and school, and especially when representing the school on visits and fixtures.

We are continually grateful for your support in sending your children to school in the correct uniform. We also understand the importance of consulting with our families on the issue of uniform and would appreciate if everyone could answer the questions on the MS form here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/1mjAd4b7xA>

This survey will be open for two weeks, from **Friday 13th October until Sunday 29th October**. Please can all parents and carers fill this in, so we can get the widest view across all our families.

Results will then be fed back to everyone in this bulletin and via a focus group.

Thank you.



Notices

10
YEAR

For Years 10 and 11:

11
YEAR

This is a polite reminder to purchase your child's **KS4 English texts** on [Parent Pay](#). Please [let us know](#) if you are having any difficulties or need any financial assistance.

History Revision Space Every Thursday Lunchtime in BLUE 13 (to start after half term).

Your child can come and complete some History revision in a quiet independent History study room! This will take place every **Thursday lunchtime in B13**.

There will be plenty of revision resources and materials for them to use. Ms Clissold and Ms Murray will be supervising the space and can help answer any History questions you (or your child) may have. Pupils can eat their lunch in the room too.

If your child is in Year 10, they can come and complete their homework or start revisiting content they have learnt this term. If your child is in Year 11, we strongly recommend they make the most of this time to revise for their upcoming mocks!

Ask your child to speak to their History teacher if you (or they) have any questions.

REMEMBER

With more wet weather as we head into autumn...

As the weather starts to turn, this is a reminder that the school gates **do not open until 8:20am**, (and the pupils can head to their social areas). If your child does arrive to school before that time, please make sure they have the appropriate waterproof clothing.

All coats must to be stored in each child's locker during the school day and cannot be worn around the school building (as per our uniform policy).

On rainy days the car park does also get very busy, so please try to leave home earlier to avoid your child getting a late sanction.

Thank you.



Just a friendly reminder...

Curriculum Extension Days

Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th October 2023

We are looking forward to our two **curriculum extension days** on Tuesday 17th & Wednesday 18th October and hope your children are too.

At Cambourne Village College we believe all pupils should benefit from enrichment beyond the 'normal' classroom curriculum, and therefore we have scheduled two curriculum extension days (for whole year groups for Years 7-10) which are carefully planned to inspire and stretch pupils, as well as add to what they are learning in class.

Year 7 are visiting Colchester Zoo with the Science department and experiencing Maths workshop-style activities.

Year 8 are undertaking a Geography field trip to Walton-on-the-Naze and participating in an foreign language film making project.

Year 9 are orienteering and problem-solving in Hinchingsbrooke Country Park and using their design knowledge to participate in a challenge set by the Design & Technology department.

Year 10 will have the opportunity to visit different places of worship in Peterborough and listen to external speakers in school.

To enable your child to participate fully in both days we require your consent; to run these two days we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £24. If you do not consent to them participating in the off-site activity please email Mrs Pearce at VPearce@CambourneVC.org.

Students are expected in school if we do not have consent for them to participate in the off-site activity. If your child will not be in school please could you complete a Planned Absent Request Form.



Our car park on the Curriculum Extension days:

Please be aware that on both Tuesday and Wednesday next week - for the Curriculum Extension days - there will be **8 coaches** arriving at the school each morning and afternoon.

We are expecting the coaches to turn up between 7.45am and 9am reach morning and returning between 2.45pm and 5pm BOTH DAYS.

Please don't drive in if you don't need to and be aware that the car park will be very busy during those two days.

Please see below for an **early evening careers 'expo' event on 1 November** for students in year's 9-11 and their parents. The focus is on building the future and is a great opportunity for young people to discover what jobs are available in planning and the built environment. Click on the poster below for more information.



CDF, together with the Royal Geographical Society, brings you

BUILD THE FUTURE

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT A CAREER IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

1 NOVEMBER 2023

4:00 – 7:30 PM

Fancy designing innovative urban spaces? Want to be a part of shaping a sustainable future? Then come along to our Careers Fair to discover the fantastic opportunities provided by studying Geography and pursuing a career in Planning and the Built Environment. Highlights include:

- Talks from young planning professionals, surveyors and developers
- Expo with stalls from leading companies in the sector
- Networking and work experience opportunities.



THE LEYS SCHOOL, THE FEN CAUSEWAY, CAMBRIDGE, CB2 7AD

Find out more and register via the eventbrite link, found [here](#)

Admission by ticket only



www.camdevforum.com
info@camdevforum.com

CDF



LOST PROPERTY

If your child has lost an item of property, please ask them to go to their year team offices in the first instance.

Other lost property is kept at reception—the below will only be kept until October half term, so please identify any items before that time, otherwise they WILL BE DONATED TO CHARITY.

Please also label all your child's property. The right side of the photo below is all un-named lost property!

→ Lost property that was NOT named



← Lost property that was named

Lost Property Items:





UN-NAMED LOST PROPERTY!



Children in work / employment: A reminder for parents and carers

Guidance surrounding Child Employment

All young people under the 'compulsory school age' and looking for a part-time job will need to apply for a work permit from Cambridgeshire County Council (The law states that a child is of compulsory school age up to the last Friday in June in the academic year in which they turn 16). This has to be signed off by parents/carers, employers and the school.

There are restrictions on what hours a young person can work, dependant on their age:

Hours Children Are Allowed To Work

- a maximum of 12 hours in any week during term time
- only between 7am and 7pm
- only 2 hours in a school day
- only 1 hour before school
- only 2 hours on a Sunday
- they must have 2 consecutive weeks free from work during the year
- they must have a rest break of 1 hour for every 4 hours worked

At 13 and 14 years

Saturdays

- 5 hours between 7am and 7pm.

School Holidays • Maximum of 5 hours a day • Maximum of 25 hours a week.

At 15 and 16 years

Saturdays

- 8 hours between 7am and 7pm.

School Holidays • Maximum of 8 hours a day • Maximum of 35 hours a week

Link to Cambridgeshire County Council information: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/education-your-rights-and-responsibilities/children-in-work-entertainment-and-chaperones>



SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEAL WITH UPSETTING CONTENT

A Guide for Parents and Carers

Raising children in the digital age seems to be getting tougher, with the world currently experiencing so many uncertainties. From climate change to the war in Ukraine and the conflict in Israel, right now children across the globe can scarcely go online without being exposed to unsettling stories, images and ideas. Reassuring a concerned child can be difficult, especially when bad news feels omnipresent. We've put together some advice to help you in discussing upsetting events with young ones.

1 FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD KNOWS

There are many ways that children are exposed to upsetting content in the media, both online and offline. Before swamping your child with information, find out what they know already. Show them you're interested in what they have to say, practice active listening and try to gauge how much your child has been impacted by what they've seen.



2 RIGHT TIME, RIGHT PLACE

Starting a conversation about upsetting content probably isn't the best idea when your child is studying for an exam or about to go to bed. Choose a time when they're relaxed and open to talking, to make sure you have their full attention. Remember, these conversations can become emotional, so choose somewhere your child feels safe and comfortable.



3 KEEP IT AGE APPROPRIATE

With younger children, try and keep the conversation more general and avoid leading questions and complex detail. You can go slightly deeper into the specifics with young teenagers but keep monitoring their emotional response. With older teens, you can be more open about the realities and consequences of what's happening – but again, do stay aware of their emotional state.



4 EMPHASISE HOPE

Upsetting content can make anyone feel angry, scared, sad or overwhelmed. Try to find stories of hope, generosity and strength related to the content you're discussing. Children often feel reassured when they know they can do something to help, so encourage your child's sense of control through activities which make them feel they're positively impacting the events they're concerned about.



5 MONITOR REACTIONS

All children react differently, of course, and young people might not directly say that they're scared, angry, anxious, confused or uncomfortable. Emotional reactions are natural when discussing upsetting topics, so take note of your child's body language and reactions. Allow them to express their feelings in a non-judgmental space and try to stay mindful of how they might be feeling.



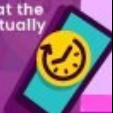
6 CONSIDER YOUR OWN EMOTIONS

It's not only young people who find upsetting news difficult to process: adults also have to deal with strong emotions in moments of stress. Children develop coping strategies by mirroring those around them, so staying on top of how you appear to be regulating your emotion on the outside is important for supporting your child through worrying times.



7 SET LIMITS

Managing screen-time and content can be difficult even in normal circumstances, but especially in unusual or stressful periods (at the start of the pandemic, for example). It's virtually impossible to keep children away from upsetting content completely, but it's important to try to limit exposure by using parental controls, talking about the dangers of harmful content and enforcing screen-time limits.



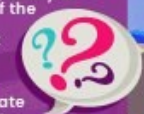
8 TAKE THINGS SLOWLY

Try not to overwhelm your child with information all at once: instead, take the discussion one step at a time. You could make the first conversation a simple introduction to a potentially upsetting subject and then wait until your child is ready to talk again. Opening the door to the conversation and demonstrating that your child can talk to you about this type of issue is a vital first step.



9 ENCOURAGE QUESTIONS

Online, troubling images, posts, videos and stories are shared across multiple platforms, many of which your child might access. Even if the content is actually inappropriate, encourage your child to discuss what they saw instead of being angry at them for seeing it. Children are still learning that not everything online is accurate – you want to be their ultimate source of information, not their device.



10 FIND A BALANCE

There's often a tremendous compulsion to stay right up to date with events. Our phones frequently send us push notifications urging us to read the latest article or view the most recent video on social media. It's essential to remind your child that it's healthy to take regular breaks, and to focus on positive events instead of 'doomscrolling' and risking becoming overwhelmed by bad news.



11 BUILD RESILIENCE

News has never been more accessible. While our instinct may be to shield children from upsetting stories, it's important that they're equipped with the tools to manage this content when they are exposed to it. Talk about upsetting content more generally with your child and emphasise that they can always tell you or a trusted adult if something they see makes them feel uneasy.



12 IDENTIFY HELP

It's hugely important that children know where to find support if they encounter upsetting content online. Encourage them to open up to an adult that they trust, and make sure they're aware of who their trusted adults are. It is essential that children understand that they're not alone, and that help is available if and when they need it.



Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is the director of FaceUp South Africa, which is a reporting system that is currently being used by schools and companies to fight bullying around the world. FaceUp helps give a voice to bystanders by encouraging them to speak up and get the help they not only want but need.



Sources: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-59407936> | <https://www.children.com/blog/supporting-your-child-with-upsetting-content/> | <https://www.unicef.org/parenting/how-talk-your-children-about-conflict-and-war> | <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-57039779>



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety



@national_online_safety

PE Department Extra-curricular Clubs – September 2023

MONDAY 3-4pm

KS3 rugby – Field
KS4 basketball – Sports hall
Girls' football – Astro
Table tennis – Dining hall
Rowing and fitness – Gym

TUESDAY 3-4pm

Dance – Drama studio
KS3 basketball – Sports hall
KS4 rugby – Field
Girls rugby – Field
Netball – Hard courts
Football training – Astro

WEDNESDAY 3-4pm

FIXTURES

BTEC Catch up – IT04
Wellbeing Wednesday – PE (sports leaders)

THURSDAY 3-4pm

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

FRIDAY 3-4pm

Badminton – Sports hall
Champions League football games – Astro
Everyone's invited! – PE (sports leaders)

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

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



Music Clubs

All our music clubs are up and running – so if your child plays an instrument, or enjoys singing, then please encourage them to come along.

The following clubs will be running this term.

- Monday 3 – 4pm: CamVC Band – All instrumentalists welcome (Years 7 – 11)
- Tuesday 3- 4pm: Junior Singers (Years 7 – 9) – Christmas mini-production *tba*
- Tuesday 3 – 4pm: Rock Bands (Years 9 – 11)
- Thursday 3 – 5pm: School Production (Years 7 – 11)
- Friday 3 – 4pm: Senior Choir (Years 9 – 11)

Pupils are very welcome to come along and try any club they are interested in joining.

Instrumental & Singing Lessons

These will be starting next week, and everyone signed up for lessons will receive an email confirming the day and time of their first lesson.

If your child is interested in doing Instrumental or Singing lessons, there are still many places available. You can sign them up for lessons using the online form, found here:

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

Headphones for KS3 Music lessons (all pupils)

As part of the Years 7, 8 and 9 weekly music lessons, they will be continuing to develop their keyboard skills.

To enable pupils to do this with a minimum of distraction we ask all pupils to bring with them to lessons a pair of headphones or earphones that they can use with the keyboards.

We have reminded pupils of this expectation this week in lessons.

These headphones / earphones can be bought for as little £2-£3 from local shops like Morrisons, Home Bargains, or online from places like Amazon. We do not expect (and would strongly discourage) pupils from bringing expensive or bulky headphones with them.

We would expect that it might take pupils between 1 – 2 weeks to source some earphones / headphones, but after that it would be useful if they were ready to use them in lessons. If for any reason it is not possible for your child to bring some earphones to the lesson, please email (or ask them to email) their class teacher. In cases of financial constraints we will be able to provide headphones for pupils to borrow, if arranged in advance.

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



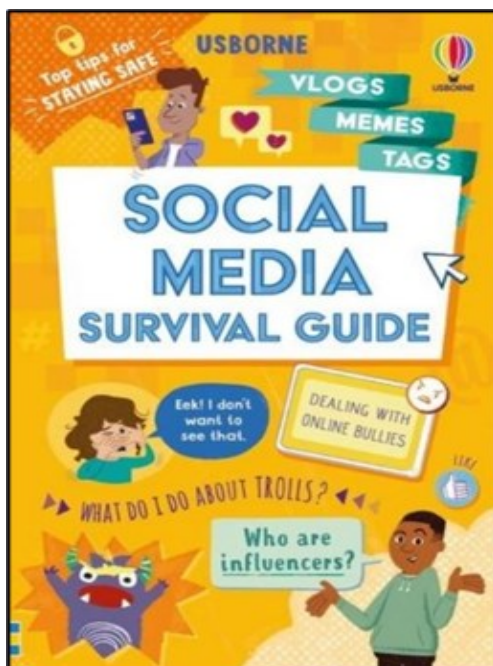
Friends and traitors

By Helen Peters

When Sidney Dashworth's school is evacuated to a huge stately home in the countryside, she thinks she's going to spend the war being very bored. At least her brother must be having fun, flying his Spitfire all over France! But soon Sidney and a somewhat resentful maid called

Nancy discover that the Earl is a bit of a rotter. He has secret nighttime meetings with mysterious men from the government, is hiding something in the garages on his land and is connected to the bombing of a munitions factory.

At first it's all terribly thrilling, creeping about at night and finding secret passageways, but soon everything takes a deadly turn. Sidney's brother goes missing over France and the war hits home with a terrible reality. The Earl and his evil plotters must be stopped, or nothing will ever be the same again... *(Available from the School Library)*



Usborne social media survival guide

by Holly Bathie, Kate Sutton (illustrator) and Richard Merritt (illustrator)

This friendly and comprehensive guide is filled with information on everything from privacy settings, direct messaging and cyberbullying, to appearance-enhancing filters, influencers and fake news. An essential book for equipping young people with the important skills they need to manage their social media safely and confidently and ensuring they consider their mental health and well-being. The book includes links to websites with more advice and support.

A useful self-help title for all those using social media.

(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](#)



U15's TRAINING:
Thurs 6pm
Sun 11am

LOCATION:
Huntingdon
Racecourse

U15's Team Manager: +44 7880 782964

Teen Volleyball Taster Session

When - Sunday 12th November 2-3pm

Where - Cambourne Fitness & Sports Centre, Back Lane, Great Cambourne, CB23 6FY

Who - 13-17 year olds

Price - £5 each (cash on the day)

Format - arrive 10 mins early for a warm up, then there will be training on how to play volleyball followed by one or two fun taster games with 4-6 players per side.

Cambs Chargers Volleyball Club will be running this taster session for teenagers, with a view to perhaps holding a regular session twice monthly if there's enough interest.

Parents need to stay for the duration of the session please and complete a disclaimer on arrival saying that they are responsible for their young people.

Please contact co-organiser darcyjanesimpson@gmail.com to register your teen's interest in the taster session (first come first served). Thank you.

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 have a number of good quality second hand uniforms available for purchase at a discounted rate. Please complete the form: [Second-Hand Uniform Request](#) and enter details of uniform items needed.

Our Reception is open every weeknight evening in term time between 6pm and 8pm so there is an opportunity to organise a visit to the school to 'see before you buy' at hours to suit you. Please email our evening receptionist **Nikki Johnston** to organise a time slot:

NJohnston@cambournevc.org



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

Year 7 - Abby Sterling-Clarke cam-year7@cambournevc.org

Year 8 - Sam Tomlinson cam-year8@cambournevc.org

Year 9 - Lorraine Lye cam-year9@cambournevc.org

Year 10 - Lou Boyd cam-year10@cambournevc.org

Year 11 - Mel Stanford cam-year11@cambournevc.org

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



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

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](#))





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 48 hours.

Communication with the School

How can I contact my child's Year Team?



Please email cam-year7@cambournevc.org | PSA Abby Stirling-Clarke

Please email cam-year8@cambournevc.org | PSA Sam Tomlinson

Please email cam-year9@cambournevc.org | PSA Lorraine Lye

Please email cam-year10@cambournevc.org | PSA Lou Boyd

Please email cam-year11@cambournevc.org | PSA Mel Stanford



We will aim to respond to any enquiry within 48 hours.

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.