



WEEKLY BULLETIN | Thursday 30th November

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

Friday 1st December	School Closed
Monday 4th - Thursday 14th December	Year 11 Mock Exams
Tuesday 5th December	Free History Lecture by Helen Carr “ Looking Back: Why History Matters Today (4pm start in the Performance Hall). ALL WELCOME!
Wednesday 6th November	Year 9 Social ‘Eat N Bowl’ (3:30pm onwards) Rotary Club Xmas Concert (featuring our Junior Choir!) West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge, CB3 9DP - 7pm
Tuesday 12th - Tuesday 19th December	German Exchange to Bad Hersfed
Thursday 14th December	Cambourne VC Christmas Concert - 7pm

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.

Cambourne Village College library has recently launched a collection of books in Cantonese for students to borrow.

For those students whose first language is Cantonese, it offers the opportunity to celebrate their culture alongside their learning in English. The collection has already proved popular with students. As soon as the books arrived a student spotted them on the library desk and begged to be able to read them during a library lesson. While it is important to encourage all students to read in English to support their studies in the school system, it is also vital that we recognise and celebrate cultural differences.

The school reading offers an online reading application – SORA – which also offers books in other languages. This collection recognises the growing numbers of students whose first language is Cantonese.



Happy Reading!
祝你閱讀愉快!

Maths Progress Assessments

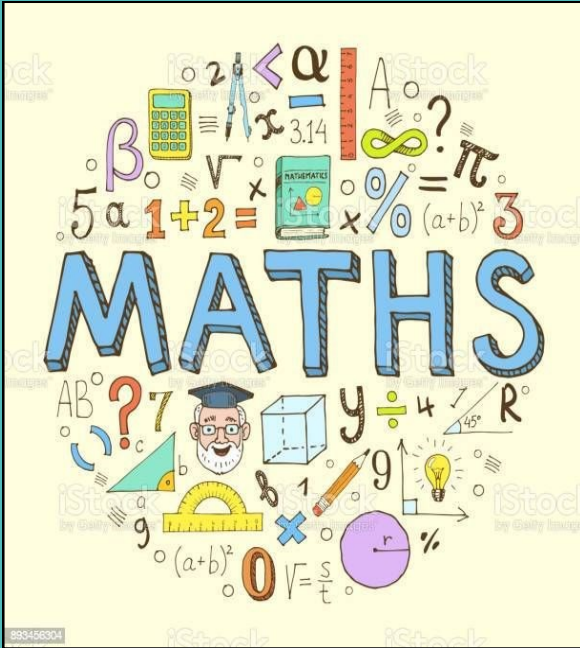
Maths Progress Assessments for all Year 7 – Year 10 students will be held in Maths lessons on the dates below.

Students need to bring their Maths equipment to the assessment.

A list of equipment and a list of topics covered can be found on their Learning Log in their exercise book and/or on TEAMS.

Students can prepare by completing their Sparx homework, reviewing lesson materials and using any revision material given in class by teachers.

Please email Maths class teachers, in the first instance, with any questions concerning these. Thank you for your support in helping to prepare your child.



Year 7	Friday 8th December
Year 8	Wednesday 6th December
Year 9	Tuesday 5th December
Year 10	Tuesday 5th December



As the college continues to grow in size, we have increasing numbers of pupils cycling to and from school.

We routinely deliver assemblies to pupils to remind them about road safety and the importance of being considerate to pedestrians and other road users but we occasionally receive reports of unsafe conduct.

If your child cycles to and from school, please do remind them to cycle on the roads or designated pathways, cycle at a safe speed, and to be aware of their surroundings/ other road users.

It is also important that you remind your child to park their bikes in our designated bike and scooter sheds and particularly **NOT IN FRONT OF THE PRIMARY SCHOOL** (which is for the primary school ONLY).

If you are interested in additional training for your child from Bikeability please follow this link: <https://www.cambournevc.org/parent-carer-and-student-information/bikeability.php> and <https://outspokentraining.co.uk/>

Further tips and advice for cyclists can be found here: <https://think.gov.uk/cycle-safety/>





Join us for a series of
free public lectures.
The lectures are **open
to all** and will be hosted
at Cambourne Village
College in the
Performance Hall



FREE LECTURE PROGRAMME

Join us for our next free History Community Lecture on
Tuesday 5th December (4-5pm)- this event is open to ALL

Helen Carr:

Looking Back: Why History Matters Today.

Helen Carr is an award nominated historian specialising in English medieval history and public history. Described by Dan Snow as ‘one of the most exciting and talented young historians out there’, Helen has built her career in making history exciting and accessible whilst rooted in scholarship.

Helen is the Author of the *Times* best-selling, *The Red Prince: John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster*, one of the *Sunday Times* best books of 2021 and shortlisted for the prestigious Elizabeth Longford Prize. She is also the co-author of *What is History, Now?* a collection of essays co-edited with Suzannah Lipscomb.

Helen’s next book, a new history of the fourteenth century and the last Plantagenets, will be published by Hutchinson Heinemann (Penguin Random House) in 2025.

TUESDAY 5TH DECEMBER

4-5pm (Doors open 3.45pm)

***Cambourne Village College-
Performance Hall***



Follow us on X (Twitter) @CambourneVC and @Historic_All for updates.

For more information contact:
Jess Angell (Head of History at CamVC)
jangell@cambournevc.org



Cambourne Village College Year 7 & 8 Christmas Musical

A CHRISTMAS CAROL



7pm, Monday 18th December

Tickets: £6 / £4 (Concessions)

Tickets here...



Cambourne Village College Christmas Concert

7pm, Thursday 14th December

Tickets: £7 / £5 (Concessions)

*A collection of festive favourites
and non-festive classics from
Cambourne's talented
instrumentalists and singers!*

Tickets here...





Cambourne Village College

CHRISTMAS LUNCH MENU

TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER

Roast Turkey, Sage & Onion Stuffing
& Chicken Chipolata Sausage
or Vegan Roasted Vegetable & Cranberry Wellington

Served with
Roast Potatoes
Sprouts
Roast Parsnips
Carrots & Gravy

Dessert
Gingerbread Brownie

£4.00



Seasons Greetings from
pabulummm
HONESTLY GOOD FOOD

Vacancies at Cambourne Village College

All our current vacancies can all be found on our website here: www.cambournevc.org/contact-us/vacancies. Our current vacancies include:

- **Foreign Language Assistant (French and German)** (closing date: 1st December)
- **Pastoral Support Officer** (closing date: 5th December)

For recruitment queries please contact HR on 01954 284000 or hr@cambournevc.org.

Vacancies in other Cam Academy Trust Schools

[Click here](#) for all vacancies across the Trust

Interested in training to become a teacher?

If you are interested in training to become a teacher please [CLICK HERE](#) for further information.



LANGUAGE ASSISTANTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Do you enjoy working with children and young people?

Are you looking for a flexible role to fit around other commitments?

We are looking to appoint a Foreign Language Assistant to work with students within a classroom setting and small groups during the school day. No previous experience is necessary but basic understanding of French and German grammar is required.

Hours: 3.75 hours per week

Term time only (38 weeks)

Salary: Scale TA1b, £13.45 per hour, plus holiday pay (£2,199 per annum)

Full details are provided on our website:
www.cambournevc.org/contact-us/vacancies.





Lost Property

All these items were handed into reception the week of the 20th - 24th November 2023



These un-named items of lost property were handed into reception between 20th and 24th November. **These can only be stored until the end of term.**

All named items that made their way to reception have been given back to the Year Teams.

If these items are not collected BEFORE CHRISTMAS they will either go into our 2nd hand uniform stock or be donated to charity.

Please ensure that **ALL** your child's possessions that come to school with them, are clearly labelled with their name.





Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust
Stonea Corridor
Doddington Hospital
Benwick Road
Doddington
PE15 0UG

Tel 0300 555 5055

November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

IMPORTANT INFORMATION
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio (DTP) and Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY)

In line with the National Immunisation Programme, the Community School Aged Immunisation Service offers Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio and Meningococcal ACWY vaccinations to all pupils in Year 9. It may also be offered to older students who missed the vaccinations.

Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio (3 in 1 teenage booster)

This booster dose is important to ensure a young person's continuing immunity and protection against these diseases. University, College and future employers increasingly ask for evidence of this vaccination.

Meningococcal ACWY

Meningococcal ACWY vaccination helps to protect your child against 4 types of meningococcal bacteria (groups A, C, W, and Y) that can cause meningitis (inflammation of the lining of the brain) and septicaemia (blood poisoning). Cases of meningococcal W disease in England have increased significantly in recent years.

For Further information about vaccines, click [here](#)

A response is required. You must accept or decline the vaccinations by completing the online form.

We will be in school on Thursday 18th January 2023

The electronic link will close at 3:00 pm the working day before of the session.

Please click on the link [Men/DTP Riviam Link](#) and complete the form.

Please note the form will not work on some mobile phones and tablets. Please call 0300 555 5055 for alternative consent options.

On the date of vaccination, we ask to see the whole year group. It is important for you to discuss and complete the consent form with your child, so they are aware of your wishes.

Measles / Mumps / Rubella (MMR)

We would also like to remind you that all children and young people should have 2 doses of MMR. If you are not sure whether your child has been fully immunised against MMR please contact your local CSAIS Team.

Herts	admin.imms@nhs.net	Norfolk	hct.csainorfolk@nhs.net
Camb/PB	hct.csaiscambspb@nhs.net	Suffolk	hct.csaisuffolk@nhs.net

MUSIC



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.

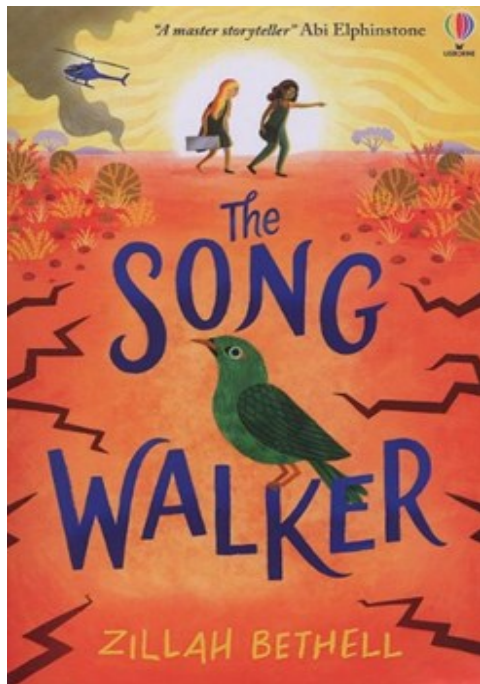
To enable pupils to do this with a minimum of distraction we ask all pupils to bring with them to lessons a pair of headphones or earphones that they can use with the keyboards.

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



The song walker

By Zillah Bethell

"There are three questions that I need to find the answers to:

Where am I?

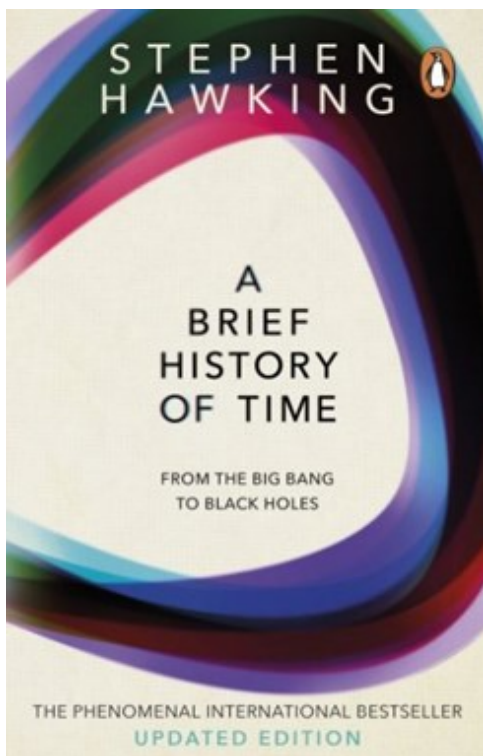
What am I doing here?

And... Who am I?"

When a young girl wakes up in the middle of the desert, she has no idea who she is. She's wearing one shoe, a silky black dress, and she's carrying a strange, heavy case.

She meets Tarni, who is on a mysterious quest of her own. Together, the two girls trek across the vast and ever-changing Australian Outback in search of answers. Except both are also hiding secrets...

(Available from the School Library)



A brief history of time: from the big bang to black holes

by Stephen Hawking

Stephen Hawking's phenomenal, classic work on cosmology. Was there a beginning of time? Could time run backwards? Is the universe infinite or does it have boundaries? These are just some of the questions considered in an internationally acclaimed masterpiece by one of the world's greatest thinkers. It begins by reviewing the great theories of the cosmos from Newton to Einstein, before delving into the secrets which still lie at the heart of space and time, from the Big Bang to black holes, via spiral galaxies and string theory. With its succinct and clear language this work continues to introduce millions to the universe and its wonders.

(Available from the School Library; on SORA as audible work)

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](#)

PE Department Extra-curricular Clubs – November 2023

MONDAY 3-4pm

Rugby (boys and girls) – Field
KS4 basketball – Sports hall
Girls' football – Astro
Table tennis – Dining hall
Netball – Hard courts

TUESDAY 3-4pm

Dance – Drama studio
KS3 basketball – Sports hall
Dodgeball – Gym
Fitness and rowing – Dining hall
Football training – Astro

WEDNESDAY 3-4pm

FIXTURES

BTEC Catch up – IT04
GCSE revision - Classroom
Volleyball – Sports hall
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

A letter to parents and carers of our Year 9, 10 & 11 pupils, from Peter Hains, Char of the [Henry Morris Memorial Trust](#) (registered charity: 311419)



HENRY MORRIS

Memorial Trust

p.hains105@btinternet.com

Dear Parents / Carers

Oct 2023

Re Henry Morris Awards 2024

I am writing to let you know about an exciting opportunity for your son or daughter.

Every year, the Henry Morris Memorial Trust offers students the chance to apply for financial awards. These awards are for students (13-19) for 'travel with purpose' or for 'home-based projects'. Students from **all** Cambridgeshire secondary schools are entitled to apply.

In previous years, students have travelled, alone or in groups, to destinations in the UK and abroad like the Norfolk coast, Stratford, Edinburgh, Paris, Rome and Amsterdam. Home based projects have included building a virtual reality drone, restoring a wrecked 'cello and making a Regency style dress.

Sometimes the projects have a direct impact on students' learning at school, for example art students visiting a gallery in London. Other projects, like walking the Norfolk Coastal Path, develop independence and confidence and can be life-changing experiences. Examples of what students have done can be seen on our website: www.henrymorris.org.

Students apply by using the application form on the website. The **deadline** is the **31st January 2024**. The majority of applicants will be called to interview in Queens' College at Cambridge University on a Saturday in March. For students who live a long way from Cambridge, we can offer a travel bursary to help with the costs of getting to the interview (details will be available on our website).

After the successful students have completed their projects, they are required to write a report, and we give financial prizes for the best ones.

I hope you will encourage your son or daughter to look at our website, and to consider applying for an award.

Yours faithfully

Peter Hains
Chairman.



Christmas Holiday Scheme Places

for free



Would your child like to attend a fully funded holiday scheme this Christmas where fun experiences, a meal and snacks are included?

Children in receipt of income-related free school meals are eligible to attend a participating holiday scheme for up to 4 days.

Please visit the County Council webpage for details and the wider eligibility criteria:

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/haf
(or scan the QR Code)

Questions: HAF@cambridgeshire.gov.uk



South Cambridgeshire CHRISTMAS MARKET



FREE
VISITOR
ENTRY

Sunday 10 December 2023, 11am–3pm

Cambourne Village College, Sheepfold Lane, Cambourne, CB23 6FR

**Come and support your local businesses this
Christmas with 70 independent stall holders.**
Festive crafts, yuletide gifts, seasonal food and much more!

For further information, please visit:

www.scams.gov.uk/christmas-market



South
Cambridgeshire
District Council

Positively parent your teen. 4-week online workshop.

Facilitated by
Samantha Stacey and
Clare Merrington
Education Inclusion Family Advisors

Education Inclusion Family Advisors offer you an opportunity to ask for information, advice and support on any issue affecting your family life in a relaxed and confidential environment.

Session 1 Communication and parenting styles

Session 2 How do we identify what our children need and challenging behaviour.

Session 3 Active Listening and increasing self-esteem.

Session 4 Labelling and encouragement.

Please follow link below. Booking is essential and places are limited.

Four week parenting workshop
December 2023



For more information speak to your school office or contact me directly on:

 samantha.stacey@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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](#).

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=OqjANx

[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](#))



New Mental Health Text Line

A new local mental health free text messaging support service has launched across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. **HEAR 85258** is being funded by NHS Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, in partnership with the national service SHOUT.

The free to use text service provides real-time support to people who are struggling with their mental health across the county.

When texting the word HEAR to 85258, the person will be connected to a trained volunteer who will offer them calm in a time or place of crisis. During the confidential and anonymous conversation, the texter will be supported while working on a plan of action and signposted to local and national mental health services.

Texting HEAR to 85258 is free, discreet and runs 24/7. It won't appear on a mobile bill and requires no app, data, password, or registration. It is available for anyone who lives, works or studies in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

For more information about what mental health services are available in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, visit www.keep-your-head.com

If you feel your or somebody's life is at risk due to their mental health, dial 111 and listen for the option for the mental health crisis team.



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.

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 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.