



WEEKLY BULLETIN | Friday 9th February

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 9th - Friday 16th February	Year 11 Mocks
Friday 16th February	Year 10 Full Reports Out
Monday 19th - Friday 23rd February	HALF TERM
Monday 26th February	All pupils return to school. Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
Tuesday 27th February	Year 10 Art Berlin Information Evening (6:30pm)
Thursday 29th February	Year 8 Parents Consultation (periods 3-6 taught). All pupils leave at 1:30pm

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.



CamVC Productions...

7pm, Wednesday 6th—Saturday 9th March
2024 in The Coates Theatre

Tickets:

Weds / Thurs — £8 / £6

Fri / Sat — £10 / £8

Book online...



Disney
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Beauty and the Beast: *A young prince is cast under a spell, a spell that can only be broken through true love. When Belle arrives at the castle, the household hope that finally the spell might be broken, but how could such a beauty ever fall in love with a beast?*

CamVC Productions brings this tale as old as time to the stage in their 2024 whole school musical, Disney's Beauty and the Beast.

7pm (start), 6:40pm (doors open)

Wednesday 6th March – Saturday 9th March

Tickets*:

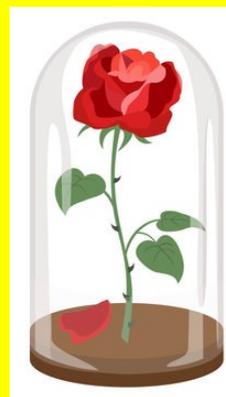
Wednesday / Thursday - £8 (full price) £6 (concessions)

Friday / Saturday - £10 (full price) £8 (concessions)

* additional booking fee applies

<https://www.wegotickets.com/CamAcademyTrust>

(The Coates Theatre, Cambourne Village College, Sheepfold Lane, CB23 6FR).



**REMINDER: History Revision Space Every Thursday
Lunchtime in BLUE 13**

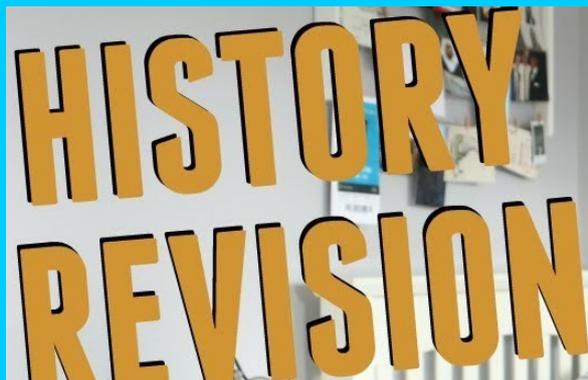
Encourage your child to come and complete some History revision in a quiet independent History study room! This will take place every **Thursday lunchtime in B13**. There will be plenty of revision resources and materials for you to use.

Ms Clissold and Ms Murray will be supervising the space and can help answer any History questions they may have. They can also have lunch in the room.

We highly recommend that as many pupils as possible come along and get started with their revision in this supportive space.

If your child is in Y10, they can come and complete their homework or start revisiting content they have learnt this term. If your child is in Y11, they can 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.

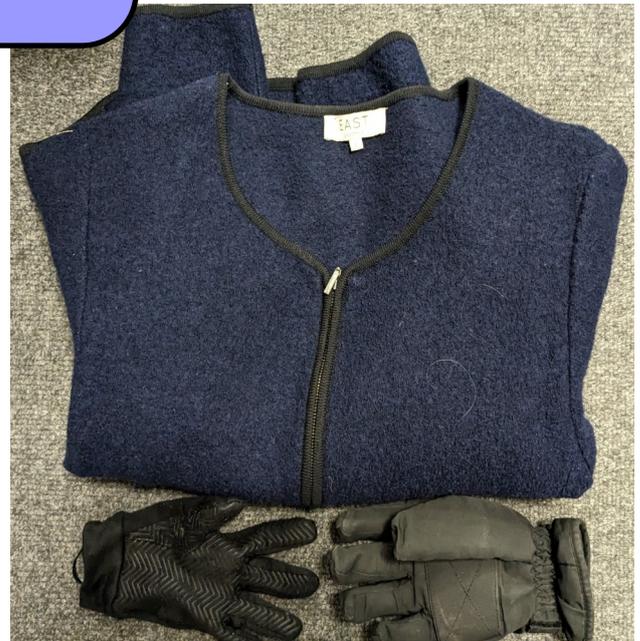




LOST PROPERTY



Items that have been handed into reception this week - 5th to 9th February 2024



Any items not collected within 4 weeks will be donated to charity.

PLEASE READ

Public Health Directorate

New Shire Hall
Alconbury Weald Civic Hub
Emery Crescent
Alconbury Weald
Huntingdon
PE28 4YE

Dear Parents and Guardians

As you may have seen in the news, the West Midlands is currently experiencing a large outbreak of measles with a rapid rise in cases. UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has therefore declared a national incident. While the outbreak has not yet spread to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, we need to be prepared in case this happens.

Two doses of the MMR vaccination give long-lasting protection against measles, mumps and rubella. Now is a good time to check that your child is up to date with their MMR vaccinations. You can do this by looking at their personal health record (Red Book) or by asking your GP. Children who have missed their routine MMR vaccination can catch up at any age so please book an appointment at your GP as soon as possible. You can request a version of the MMR vaccine that does not contain pork products from your GP, making it suitable for all faiths.

The Community and School Age Immunisation Service is running walk-in vaccination clinics for children who are not up to date with their MMR vaccinations. Details of upcoming clinics can be found here: <https://www.cpics.org.uk/measles>. Please check your child's vaccination status before attending one of these clinics.

If your child is identified as a close contact of a measles case and they do not have satisfactory vaccination status, they may be asked to self-isolate for up to 21 days, during which they will not be able to attend school or childcare. Children who are fully vaccinated do not need to be excluded from school or childcare. If a child catches measles they will probably feel quite poorly and be off school for around 10 days. Vaccination can help keep your child in school.

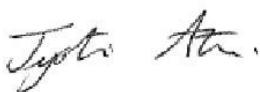
Measles is a highly infectious disease that can lead to serious problems such as pneumonia, meningitis and seizures (fits). Complications are rare but some people are more at-risk including babies, people with weakened immune systems and pregnant women. Measles symptoms to be aware of include:

- High temperature
- Cough
- Sore, red, watery eyes
- A blotchy red brown rash, which usually appears after the initial symptoms
- Spots in the mouth

Further information on measles and what to do if you think your child has measles can be found here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/>.

Please help us stop the spread of measles.

Yours sincerely



Jyoti Atri
Executive Director: Public Health

Cambridgeshire Peterborough Children's Health: A Platform for Families



Introducing www.cambspborochildrenshhealth.nhs.uk the new online NHS resource for parents and carers. Designed with local families, 0-19 Healthy Child Programme and other NHS children's services to be a go-to-resource for children and young people's health advice.

The platform focuses on:

Easy access to health information – with a family focused design, information is quick to access and easy to use on a phone, tablet or laptop. Accessibility has been prioritised to ensure information can be translated, downloaded and adapted to suit a family's reading needs.

Being a local resource connected with local services - seamless linking to local resources such as 'Keep Your Head', Cambridgeshire and Peterborough SEND Hubs and partner NHS services. There are also dedicated service pages where professionals can find the most up to date contact details, referral forms and guidance.

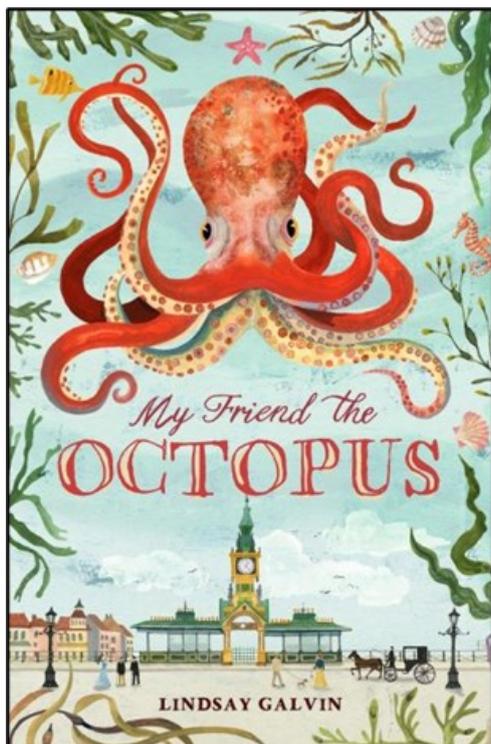
Evidence based topics for our families' diverse needs - offering a mixture of general and specialist NHS advice for families with children and young people. Covering many topics including:

- Behaviour, emotions and mental health
- Child development and growing up
- Common illnesses
- Feeding and eating
- Moving and being active
- Peeing, pooing and toileting
- Sleep
- Speech, language and communication
- Staying safe and accident prevention

There is also specialist information on topics such as sensory differences, physical skills development, communication skills, physical and mental health and more.



BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



My friend the octopus - By Lindsay Galvin

A mystery/adventure story that weaves Victorian child labour, aquariums & finding your own independence. With a few heartrending moments, it's a page turner as the intriguing plot unfolds. The octopus really is the star of the book.

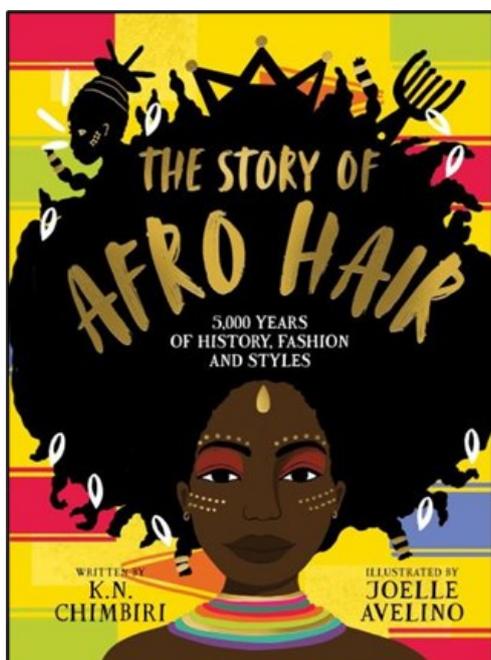
England, 1877, and aquarium fever is at its height.

Twelve-year-old Vinnie Fyfe works in the tea-shop at Brighton aquarium, and waits for her milliner mother to return from Paris.

The arrival of a giant octopus changes her life for ever. Discovering a talent for art, Vinnie begins to draw the extraordinary beast.

She soon realises she can communicate with the octopus through colour and - as a gripping mystery begins to unfold - discovers what true courage really means...

(Available from the School Library)



The story of afro hair: 5,000 years of history, fashion and styles

By K N Chimbiri and Joelle Avelino (illustrator)

The Story of Afro Hair celebrates the fashion and styles of Afro hair over the last 5,000 years. From plaits to the Gibson Girl, cornrows to locks, the hi-top fade to funky dreds.

Kicking off with an explanation of how Afro hair type grows and why, it then takes us right back to the politics and fashion of Ancient Egypt.

Speeding forwards to modern times we experience the Kingdom of Benin, Henry VIII's court, the enslavement of African peoples, the Harlem Renaissance, the beginnings of Rastafarianism, Britain in the 1980s - and much more.

With profiles of inspirational key figures in the Afro hair beauty industry, such as Sara Spencer Washington, Madam CJ Walker, Viola Desmond, Lincoln Dyke, Dudley Dryden and Anthony Wade.

(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 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.



Thinking about becoming a Teacher?

Come talk to us on
Tuesday 13th February
6-7pm



Book the online event via EventBrite

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ctsn-scitts-february-train-to-teach-information-event-tickets-814087516677>

CTSN SCITT

Train to Teach Information Event

The Cambourne VC Charitable Trust would like to hear from you if you would like to see a cinema in Cambourne! Click on the poster below and take a few minutes to fill out the survey, to show your support and to give your views on the type of film you'd like to see.

Also visit <https://cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk/communitycinema/> for more information.



Cinema Questionnaire

Have your say!

We are most interested to hear from Cambourne residents and those of the surrounding villages, the types of films they may wish to see at the community cinema.

You are cordially invited to participate in the survey by completing the questionnaire online at:

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/57W7PKV or scanning the QR code above.

Email: cambournecommunitycinema@gmail.com

www.cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk/communitycinema





Autism Empowerment Webinar

This one-hour lunchtime webinar is a brief exploration of how Autism can present, the history of Autism, diagnosis as well as differences in communication and social interaction. We will also be looking at how the environment can impact on someone with sensory processing challenges.

The main aim of this webinar is to focus on the many strengths autistic individuals have and how we can increase understanding and Neuro-inclusivity through education and raising awareness.

Webinars are held on Zoom on the following dates:

Thursday 29th February 12:30 to 13:30

Friday 29th March 12:30 to 13:30

Friday 26th April 12:30 to 13:30

At the end of the webinar, you will receive a certificate of attendance that will be emailed to your given email address.

The cost of this one-hour webinar is only £5.50!

To book your place on the webinar please either scan the QR code below or go to: www.theautismtrainingnetwork.com/training

“For every person who understands Autism better, another Autistic person will be happier.”-
Libby Scott, Autistic Author (at age 11)



PLACES STILL AVAILABLE DURING THE HALF TERM WEEK!



YOUTH ROWING COURSE

**14-18YR OLDS
LEARN TO ROW**

FEB '24
19TH-23RD

APR '24
2ND-4TH

MAY '24
27TH-31ST

JUL '24
22ND-26TH

JUL-AUG '24
29TH JUL- 2ND AUG

NO PREVIOUS ROWING REQUIRED

An exciting opportunity to learn the most iconic sport in Cambridge - in the most fun way possible!

- 5 day course from £150pp (+ booking fee)
- Learn and perfect the full rowing technique
- Proven to aid college and university applications
- Learn to row in an 'eight' boat - same as the Cambridge-Oxford Boat Race
- Work together as a team

Limited spaces available - Book now

- ✓ Safest boat in the fleet
- ✓ Led by a club captain
- ✓ includes land and water training
- ✓ Row on the iconic River Cam



✉ info@cambridgerowing.com

🌐 www.cambridgerowing.com/youth-course

☎ +44 (0)1223 665000

Routes into STEM Virtual Experience

2023/24

Routes into STEM virtual experience provides an exciting opportunity to explore the various routes you can take towards your STEM career. This course is designed to enable young people to work through activities and projects at their own pace, tour a variety of institutions virtually and also have access to live career sessions and mentor panels with STEM employers.

Who is it for?



- Students in **Year 9 or 10 / S3 or S4 / equivalent** who are interested in exploring a career in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)
- All you need is an interest in STEM and curiosity about the future. The course is open to all academic abilities

What's involved?

- Approximately 20 hours of study virtually at a pace that suits you
- Exploring different Routes into a STEM career including College Courses, University Courses, and Apprenticeships and learning from industry what is involved in a STEM career as well as enhancing your skills
- Live interactive sessions over the half-term breaks, school holidays and after school, allowing you to listen and ask questions to STEM students and professionals
- Getting to work on a project set by a STEM company to look further at a career area that interests you

What do you get out of it?

- Find out about different Routes into a STEM career from industry experts, college and university leaders, as well as young people who are currently on that path
- Engage in projects and activities that will enhance your problem-solving, critical thinking, creativity and innovation skills and inspire you to find career motivation. Projects include a Biopharm challenge from GSK, a Design challenge from Balfour Beatty, an RSC Chemistry challenge and many more exciting challenges in all areas of STEM.
- Create your own personalised action plan to see your own Route into STEM
- Learn about your career skills and how you could write about this in your CV/ Personal Statement or Application form
- Receive an Industrial Cadets Bronze Award showing all that you have achieved on the course



www.etrust.org.uk

When is it?

This experience runs from 2 October 2023 until 2 August 2024 **with live sessions running throughout the duration, over the half-term breaks, school holidays and after school**

Cost

£75

If cost is a barrier, fully funded places are available, please indicate your interest on the application form



How to apply?

To apply, please visit our website [here](#) or **scan the QR code!**



What previous students have said

"This experience has shown me just how varied STEM is. I know that I can have a career that suits me, no matter my academic merit or personal qualities. I've also heard a lot from people who study and work in STEM, and it has been inspiring and encouraging to hear about their positive experiences and ambitions for the future. Industrial Cadets has also taught me key skills such as problem-solving and communication, which I am eager to apply to my future education and career."

"I've always loved STEM things but I always worried about not being able to make it, but now getting a STEM career seems more achievable."

"Before, I was fixed on a regular plan to go into 6th form, go to you university, and move forward without looking for any non-linear pathway. Routes into STEM has shown me that many of those who end up in STEM careers have not pursued that linear pathway, and this has made me more open to options such as apprenticeships, which I had never considered previously"

94% of students felt confident about making future career choices following their course

99% of students felt they know more about the STEM careers opportunities available to them



www.etrust.org.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

**Safeguarding is
Everyone's
Responsibility**



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.