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Transition from Primary School to Cambourne Village College, September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

We are looking forward to welcoming your child in September, and to working with you over the next five years to ensure that your son or daughter's secondary school career with us is happy and successful. We know that the transition from primary to secondary school is an exciting and sometimes anxious time for the pupils and we try hard to ensure they feel confident and happy about starting at Cambourne Village College in September. This letter contains an outline of the events planned for this summer; more detailed information will be provided to you later in the term.

Transition Events

A number of activities have been organised to help our incoming Year 7 pupils and their parents meet the staff and become familiar with the routines of Cambourne Village College before September. These are summarised on the table below. All events take place at the College unless otherwise indicated.

May	Registration Packs and Information sent out to parents via email
June	Cambourne Village College staff liaison with catchment primary schools: Communication with Year 6 teachers. Information distributed to pupils.
June and July	Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator liaison with primary schools. Some 'bridging' learning activities provided for Year 6 pupils by Cambourne Village College.
Monday 1 st July	Uniform Shop 3:30-5pm - Total Clothing (daily wear and PE Kit) at CamVC. <i>To view sizing, purchase must be made online.</i> Parents' New Intake Information Evening - PARENTS ONLY to attend 7.00pm - 7.45pm : Talk in The Coates Theatre for parents of pupils at Monkfield and The Vine. 8.00pm- 8.45pm : Talk in The Coates Theatre for parents of pupils at Jeavons Wood, Hardwick & Cambourne and out of catchment.
Thursday 4 th July 8:30am – 2:50pm	New Intake Day 1 – All Year 6 Pupils. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils spend day at CamVC in tutor groups, taking part in a range of different lessons. • Primary school uniform to be worn. • Bring pencil case, water and snack. • Lunch is provided from our School Canteen.



Friday 5 th July 8:30am – 2:50pm	New Intake Day 2 – All Year 6 Pupils. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils spend day at CamVC in tutor groups, taking part in a range of different sporting activities. • PE kit and trainers to be worn. • Pupils will need to bring a packed lunch, water and snack.
Monday 12 th August and Tuesday 13 th August Wednesday 14 th August OR Thursday 15 th August	Bikeability Training Level 1/2 , for pupils without this, who wish to cycle to Cambourne Village College in September. Level 3 , for those who wish to improve skills and confidence (1 day course). All bookings should be made direct with Bikeability via the link on our College website.
Wednesday 4 th September 2024	Cambourne Village College opens for Year 7 pupils only.
Thursday 19 th September 2024	Meet the tutor evening for parents only. More information given in September.

Please note that parking at the College is limited and Sheepfold Lane can become congested. We encourage our pupils, staff and visitors to walk or cycle wherever possible. Pedestrian and cycle access is via Swansley Lane. Please use the Sheepfold Lane entrance if you do drive to school. **PARENTS MUST NOT DROP OFF OR COLLECT FROM THE SWANSLEY LANE ENTRANCE AS THIS CREATES A HAZARD FOR PUPILS.**

Parents' New Intake Information Evening, Monday 1st July

This is an important evening for parents, at which many of the routines and expectations for pupils of Cambourne Village College will be explained. The presentation will be delivered in two talks, please only attend one. There will be talks by a range of college staff and there will be the opportunity to ask questions. **This evening is for parents only.**

- **7.00pm - 7.45pm** : Parents of pupils at Monkfield and The Vine.
- **8.00pm- 8.45pm** : Parents of pupils at Jeavon's Wood, Hardwick & Cambourne and out of catchment.

New Intake Days, Thursday 4th and Friday 5th July 8.30am – 2.50pm

These days are arranged in order to give pupils the opportunity to experience the routines of the College, to meet key staff, and to participate in a range of lessons and activities before starting with us formally in September. Pupils are expected to attend both days.

Travel

Pupils need to arrive by 8.30am. Please allow your sons and daughters to make their own way to school, in practice for September, wherever possible. We advise that those who cycle to school should wear a cycle helmet, and a bicycle lock is recommended. Bikes and scooters are left in our cycle sheds at the owner's risk.

Lunches

Thursday: Lunch will be provided free of charge, so that pupils are given the opportunity to try our popular school cafeteria. Pupils who wish to bring a packed lunch may do so. All pupils should bring a water bottle and break time snack. Any pupils with special dietary needs should bring their own packed lunch on this occasion; from September, arrangements may be made with the school caterers, Pabulum, to meet these particular needs.

Friday: Pupils will need to bring in a packed lunch, water bottle and snack for break time.

We discourage pupils from bringing mobile phones to school. If brought, they must be switched off and out of sight during the day. Pupils are responsible for the safety of their possessions.



Tutor Groups

During the summer term, we will create the new tutor groups for Year 7. We group pupils to ensure a balance of gender, ability, behaviour, Special Educational Needs, and the particular gifts and talents of the pupils. We take advice from primary schools regarding the placement of pupils with Special Educational Needs and we ask the schools to advise of any pupils who should not be grouped together. The Year 6 teachers have no other input into the formation of tutor groups. We ensure that all pupils are placed in a tutor group where they will know at least one other pupil from their primary school, if possible. The pupils meet other members of their tutor group on the new intake days and quickly make new friends in September.

In Year 7, pupils are taught most lessons in their tutor groups for the first half term. During this time, teachers will be able to assess pupils, and ability sets for English and Maths are formed during the first and second terms. The PE department also regroups pupils; therefore, your child will not spend all of his or her time in the tutor group and will be with different combinations of children across lessons.

Languages at Cambourne Village College

All pupils study Spanish in Year 7 and from their second term, the most able linguists will be offered the opportunity to study French or German also. If you would like to express a strong preference for your son or daughter to study either French or German, if they are offered a second language, please inform Mrs M Collado-Canas (Head of Modern Foreign Languages) of your preference and we will attempt to take these preferences into account in placing your child in Year 7, although we cannot guarantee to do so.

IMPORTANT - We need to know preferences for languages as soon as possible, before tutor groups are created. Please email Mrs M Collado-Canas: MCollado-Canas@cambournevc.org

iPads at Cambourne Village College

At CamVC, we have a rolling programme to ensure that all pupils have access to a 1:1 iPad for learning. This is because we believe that iPads empower us to work together to open new avenues to learning, so that our students are flexible and creative, and better prepared for the future. Since September 2021, all of our students have been enrolled in this scheme. Your child's intake will be the latest year group to join the iPads for Learning programme and reap the benefits of this technology. To be able to move forward, we are reliant on parents and carers sharing our vision and supporting our plan with a monthly voluntary contribution towards their child's iPad.

We have been working with Albion, an Apple Solution Expert for Education: www.albion.co.uk/education/apple-in-education and an educational charity whose mission is to work with schools and their parents to provide devices to pupils so that they can use technology for learning, both in school and at home. We have thus been able to provide a scheme that is funded using voluntary parental donations; the College makes no profit from this arrangement. We now have substantial experience of the enhanced learning opportunities the iPad will give our pupils and we hope that parents/carers are able to make a voluntary donation of approximately £14.50 a month over 36 months, starting in September 2024. In return, your child will receive the newest version of iPad plus case, wall charger, full insurance against damage and theft, all software and applications needed and technical support during school hours.

The College has been able to secure funding to allow us to offer financial assistance to families who are experiencing financial difficulties. If you think your child may be eligible, please contact us via Reception (thecollege@cambournevc.org). The College has also tried to ensure the scheme is as cheap as possible and will continue to look at other possible solutions to ensure the benefits of the scheme are open to all. Full details will be within your registration pack and details of a separate parents' iPad information meeting will be sent separately.

Cycling to School

We expect all Cambourne-resident pupils, except for some of those with special educational or medical needs, to walk, cycle, or ride scooters to school - there is cycle and scooter accommodation on site. Pupils should provide a padlock and lock their bike or scooter securely each day. Pupils who cycle to school are advised to wear a correctly-fitting cycle helmet and to have completed Bikeability training. The following opportunities are available:



- **Level 2 Training** - for those who have not done this at primary school and wish to cycle to school in September:
Days: Monday 12th and Tuesday 13th August 2024
Maximum number of pupils: 12
- **Level 3 Training** - for those who wish to improve skills and confidence
Days: Wednesday 14th OR Thursday 15th August (1 day course)
Maximum number of pupils: 9 each day

Please ensure your child is correctly dressed for the weather conditions, including sun protection and bring plenty of water and a packed lunch. Please note that all bookings for these courses are managed by Outspoken Training directly. Please see our website for contact information: [Bikeability - Cambourne Village College \(cambournevc.org\)](http://Bikeability - Cambourne Village College (cambournevc.org))

Uniform Purchase

We believe that wearing uniform helps to create a sense of identity and community in school. Our uniform is smart, practical and comfortable and we expect pupils to wear it with pride. School-branded items should be purchased from our school supplier. Please purchase directly from their website <https://www.totalclothingshop.co.uk/camvc>. This should be done ideally before the beginning of August to allow for busy periods with our supplier and delivery times. They will also be holding a pop-up shop within the school on Monday 1st July between 3:30-5pm. Note, this is to try sizing, you will have to purchase online at home. Your child will be expected to be in full uniform on their first day at Cambourne Village College.

We have a range of second-hand uniform available to purchase. Please visit our school website and complete the Second-Hand Uniform Request form to enquire about items and sizes currently available [Uniform - Cambourne Village College \(cambournevc.org\)](http://Uniform - Cambourne Village College (cambournevc.org)) If you have difficulty in providing school uniform for your child, please contact Mrs Ecclestone in confidence (secclestone@cambournevc.org), so that a way forward can be found.

Registration Documents

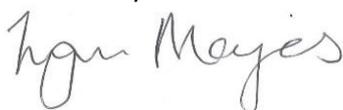
Ideally, we want to communicate all information to you electronically, therefore we have used the email address supplied to Cambridgeshire County Council Admissions at the time of your application to enrol you onto our systems. All information and Registration Documents will be sent out via email from May and these will need to be completed before the New Intake days in July, as they contain contact details, medical information, and consent details that we will require to allow your child on site for these 2 days. If you have any difficulty in completing these documents online, please contact our Admissions Team as below and we will be able to help.

IMPORTANT - If any of your contact details have changed since your secondary school application, or if you would rather receive a paper copy of the registration document, please contact our Admissions Team by email cam-admissions@cambournevc.org

This letter is intended to give you an outline of the events and processes that take place in the summer term, to help your child make a secure and happy move from primary to secondary school. Please also keep an eye on our website for further details of our transitional events and additional information for our new intake for September 2024 at [New Intake - Cambourne Village College \(cambournevc.org\)](http://New Intake - Cambourne Village College (cambournevc.org))

We look forward to welcoming you to the Parents' New Intake Evening on Monday 1st July 2024.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Lynn Mayes ,
Principal

