



5th September 2025

Newsletter



Dear Parents and carers,

I hope you all enjoyed a restful and enjoyable summer break. It has been wonderful to welcome our students back to school this week and to speak with them during our assemblies. Their energy, enthusiasm and readiness for the year ahead have been inspiring.

Over the holidays, we continued to invest in improving our school site. This included the extension of our Sixth Form café, the installation of a new security fence, the addition of new classrooms, and several refurbishments across the school. These enhancements ensure that our students have the very best environment in which to learn, socialise and grow.

At Coombe Wood School, our mission remains at the heart of everything we do: Unlocking Potential, Inspiring Growth, and Championing Wellbeing. This is brought to life through our core values of Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship, and guided by our **HABITS**. At CWS, we know that success is built through good habits. Therefore, we:

- are **H**ighly prepared
- show **A**ctive listening
- have a **B**etter mindset
- do **I**ndependent practice
- have **T**ime management
- use **S**uccessful communication

We are delighted to celebrate another year of strong academic performance and progress. Our Year 11 results have continued to improve across all subjects, contributing to a higher Attainment 8 score at GCSE, in addition to our comprehensive character education curriculum, ensures that our students are not only academically successful but also well-prepared, confident, and resilient young people ready to thrive in the next stage of their education and beyond. Special congratulations to our current Year 11 students - their RS and Statistics exams are truly impressive and have given them the foundation for a successful year ahead.

We are delighted to share that Post-16 outcomes have risen significantly this year, with a 40% increase in A*-B grades. In addition, 50% of our students in BTEC Sport achieved the top grade of Distinction-Distinction*.

Notably, 20% of our students progressed to Russell Group universities, as well as prestigious American college scholarships. These grades are well-deserved and demonstrate the effectiveness with which teachers have responded to the challenges of preparing students for public exams following the disruption of recent years.

As we look forward to the year ahead, I encourage our students to remember that great things never come from staying in comfort zones. By embracing challenges, showing resilience, and supporting one another, they will continue to achieve remarkable things.

Finally, I would like to thank all our parents and carers for your continued support. Together, we look forward to an exciting and successful academic year ahead.

Ms N Williams

Open Evening 2025

We look forward to welcoming families on Wednesday 17th September to our annual Open Evening for admission to Year 7 in September 2026.

Please note that the school will close at 12.00pm and students will be dismissed.

There will be a slightly later start on Thursday 18th September with school starting at **10.00am**.

Further details will be shared on how students can support the evening.

Pastoral Care Update

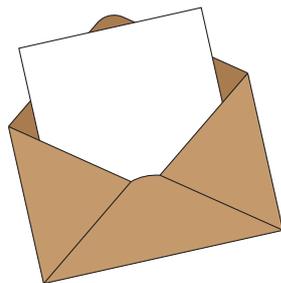
This is a timely opportunity to revisit our '**WHY**' — the purpose that drives everything we do.

- **Why** do we set and maintain such high expectations?
- **Why** do we emphasise respect, kindness, and positive working relationships?
- **Why** do we implement consequences that promote reflection and growth?
- **Why** do we encourage all students to consistently model our core values?

At Coombe Wood School, every decision, action, and pastoral process is grounded in one core intention - To create a school environment where all students can:

- Be and feel safe, both physically and psychologically
- Learn without distractions
- Become the very best version of themselves, both throughout their school journey and beyond

Please take a moment to read the letter from Mr Vass regarding CWS uniform expectations:



The School Day

School Doors will open at 8am each morning

8:30-8:40 - AM Tutor Time

08.40 - 09.30 - Period 1

09.30 - 10.20 - Period 2

10.20 - 10.40 - Break Time

10.40 - 11.30 - Period 3

11.30 - 12.20 - Period 4

12.20 - 13.00 - Lunch for Years 7, 8 & 11

12.20 - 13.00 - PM Tutor Time for Years 9, 10, 12 & 13

13.00 - 13.20 - Lunch for Years 9, 10, 12 & 13

13.00 - 13.20 - PM Tutor Time for Years 7, 8 & 11

13.20 - 14.10 - Period 5

14.10 - 15.00 - Period 6

Heads of Year	
HOY 7	Mr. R Jones - RJO (Teacher of Science)
HOY 8	Ms. P Yadave - PYA (Teacher of Evolve)
HOY 9	Mr S Gosling - SGO (Teacher of History)
HOY 10 / Head of KS3	Ms. D Kerk - DKE (Teacher of HRF & Dance)
HOY 11	Mr. A Blythman - ABL (Teacher of HRF & Geography)
HOY 12	Ms. C Kaye (Teacher of HRF)
HOY 13	Mr. N Boyd (Teacher of Social Sciences)

Coombe Wood School is a Nut Free School

Please remember that Coombe Wood School is a Nut Free School. Please refrain from sending your child in with nut based snacks as this may have serious repercussions for a fellow student. Many thanks for your consideration on this matter.



Curriculum Update

Year 11 Curriculum Evening - Thursday 4th September 2025

We were delighted to welcome our Year 11 families to our curriculum evening yesterday evening.

The evening started with a brief talk from Ms Donohue and Mr Blythman, where key information about the year ahead was shared, and our high academic and pastoral expectations were reiterated.

Following this talk, families visited departmental stalls in the atrium, where our Heads of Department shared vital revision tips and information.

We are excited about the year ahead for our GCSE students and wish them every success as they start this academic year.

Slides from the evening can be accessed [here](#).

Future Curriculum Events

Year 12 Information Evening - Thursday 11th September 5pm -5.45

Year 12 families are warmly invited to attend our Year 12 Information Evening, where key information, advice and guidance regarding KS5 will be shared.

The evening is designed to support students and families with the transition into Coombe Wood School 6th Form. This evening promises to be another successful event, where both new and returning students will be given vital information to ensure the best possible start to KS5.

Year 13 UCAS Evening - Thursday 11th September 6pm -6.45

We are excited to launch the 2025-26 UCAS process on Thursday 11th September.

Mr Brack and Mr Boyd will be providing crucial information, advice and guidance to our Year 13 students in order to ensure they fully understand the forthcoming UCAS process.

We look forward to supporting your son or daughter with their transition from 6th form to university, with this event marking the beginning of this journey!

Mr Brack will share powerpoints from the evening via the school website, if you are not able to attend.

Co-Curricular

Our co-curricular clubs will restart week commencing Monday 15th September.

More information about the exciting opportunities available to our students will be shared in next weeks newsletter.



Key Dates for September

Thursday 11th September 2025 - 17.00 - 20.00

UCAS Information Evening - Year 12 & 13

Friday 12th September 2025

School Photographs for Year 7, 10 & 12 - Please ensure your child is wearing their full and correct uniform

Wednesday 17th September 2025

Students will finish at 12pm

Open Evening for prospective parents will begin at 5pm.

Thursday 18th September 2025

Students to arrive for 10am

Key Dates for October

Wednesday 1st October 2025

Transition Parents Evening - Year 7

Thursday 9th October 2025

Transition Parents Evening -Year 7

Thursday 23rd October 2025

Year 12 Parents Evening (In person)

Half Term - Monday 27th October - Friday 7th November 2025

Key Dates for November

Monday 10th November 2025

First day of Term - School will reopen at 8am

Monday 10th November - Friday 21st November

Mock Exams Season for Year 11 & 13 Students

Thursday 13th November 2025

6th Form Open Evening

Mark your Calendar

Key Dates for December

Wednesday 10th December 2025

Flu Vaccinations

Thursday 11th December 2025

Year 11 Parents Evening (In Person)



Christmas Holidays

Monday 22nd December 2025- Friday 2nd January 2026
