

Newsletter

◆
6th March 2026



Dear Parents and carers

We hope everyone had a restful half-term break. It has been a busy and purposeful start to the term, and we are delighted to celebrate the many successes across our school community.

A huge well done to our Year 10, 11 and 13 students. Your hard work and dedication throughout the mock season continues to impress us. We look forward to Mock Results Day and following up with parents at Parents' Evening to discuss progress and next steps. Lessons will continue to celebrate successes and provide valuable feedback to support students to improve, close gaps and prepare for their forthcoming public exams.

Congratulations to Ms Knox for organising our second Careers Fair, which was a tremendous success. Our students embraced the opportunity to explore different career pathways and engage with visiting professionals. Thank you to the parents and carers who attended to support the event, your involvement makes a real difference.

At Coombe Wood School, we believe the curriculum is the foundation of student success. It develops the whole child, providing the opportunities and experiences needed to flourish.

Our curriculum is structured around three pathways:

- **Ambition:** Academic learning through subject pathways
- **Community:** Pastoral development through PSHEE, tutor time and assemblies
- **Culture:** Personal development and co-curricular opportunities, including careers exposure, trips and experiences

To support these pathways, you will recall that we have introduced Curriculum Enhancement Days, when the usual timetable is collapsed so each year group can take part in enriching activities. There is one day per term, plus three consecutive days in the summer term (Experiences Week), giving students six days of enrichment annually.

On Thursday 5th March, Curriculum Enhancement Day 2 was a fantastic success. Highlights included trips to the Natural History and Science Museums, further support and guidance for KS4 options, careers workshops in addition to lessons for examinations groups.

Following National Offer Day, we are preparing to welcome our new cohort of Year 7 students. It is a privilege to continue to be the school of choice for families in our community. Recent coverage in the [Croydon Guardian](#) highlighted Attainment 8 scores and the proportion of pupils achieving Grade 5 or above in English and Maths across local schools. We are proud to be recognised as the top-performing mixed comprehensive school in the borough.

This achievement does not happen by chance, it reflects the dedication of our students, the expertise and commitment of our staff, and the strength of our partnership with parents and carers.

Thank you for your continued trust and support as we continue to build on this success together.

With best wishes

Headteacher

Community Safety Update

Local police have asked schools to remind families to remain vigilant following the recent social media trend encouraging young people to meet and fight.

Thankfully, there have been no incidents directly linked to this in Croydon, and police have been actively removing online content and investigating those responsible, with several arrests made across London, including one in Croydon.

Police will maintain an enhanced presence in the area as a precaution and encourage anyone with concerns to report information via 101, 999 in an emergency, or anonymously through Crimestoppers. We also remind students to think carefully about the serious consequences of becoming involved in violence or carrying weapons.

Thank you to our families and the wider community for continuing to work with us to keep our young people safe.



Headteacher

Exams Season - GCSE & A LEVEL

Dear Parents and Carers,

Parent and carers are reminded of that the Year 10, 11 and 13 Mock Exam Window continues until Tuesday 10th March 2026. The students have shown impressive maturity and focus during the first period of exams.

[Spring Term Mock Timetable](#)
[JCQ Guidance Documents](#)

If you have any questions about the timetable or the exam season, please contact your child's Head of Year.

Kind regards



Ms Donohue
Deputy Headteacher - Curriculum

Communications Update - Bromcom/MCAS

Please note that **Bromcom** is our chosen platform and works hand in hand with **My Child At School (MCAS)**

We will use MCAS for all communication regarding behaviour, achievements, and detentions. Parents and carers should already have access to this platform, however please do not hesitate to contact the school office team if you are experiencing any issues.

Please take a moment to check all your details are correct on MCAS.

We will no longer be using SIMS / SIMS Parent or Classcharts as a method of communication.

This Newsletter will be sent out Bi-weekly on a Friday to all parents and carers. The next edition will be sent next **Friday 20th March 2026**

Parents Evenings - Dates for you diary.

Thursday 12th March 2026 - Year 9 Curriculum Evening - In Person - Details to follow

Thursday 19th March 2026 - Year 13 Parents Evening - In Person - Details to follow

Monday 23rd March 2026 - Year 11 Parents Evening - In Person - Details to follow

Thursday 23rd April 2026 - Year 8 Parents Evening - In Person - Details to follow

New Parent and Student Guide for 2025/26

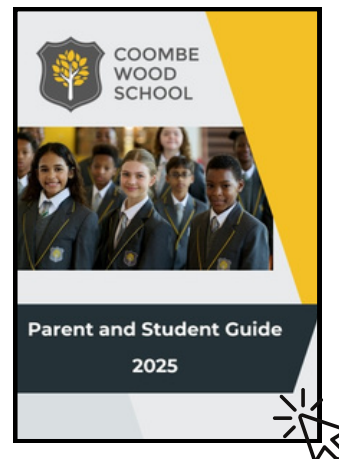
We are delighted to announce the launch of our new Parent and Student Guide for 2025/26. The aim of this document is to help you by having all our key information available in one place.

Please take a moment to review the document

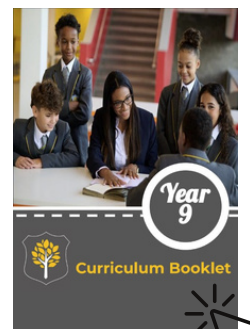
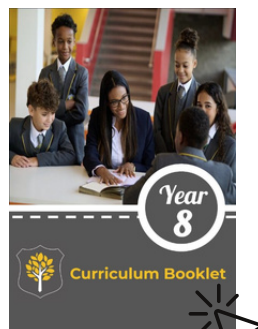
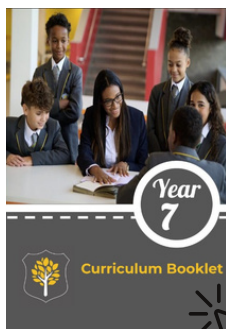
Kind regards

Mr Vass

Deputy Headteacher - Pastoral



Key Stage 3 - Curriculum Booklets



Kind regards

Mrs Kerk

Head of KS3

Iceland Trip – February 2026

23 students and 3 staff from CWS had the pleasure of visiting the wonderful country of snow and ice, Iceland, this half term. We met very early on Sunday 16th February and departed London Gatwick, excited to see what Iceland had in store- for all students it was going to be their first visit to Iceland. Upon arrival in Iceland we made our first 2 stops and experienced the bridge that connects 2 continents and experienced the first of the real volcanic landscape at the Hot springs, which despite the smell of sulphur in the air, was enjoyed thoroughly by all. Our coach then took us to our hotel for the first night in the capital of Reykjavik- students were given some down time in their rooms to unpack before we all headed off to a local burger restaurant and enjoyed some very well made burgers and chips. After our meal we had been told that there was a very high chance the Northern lights were going to make an appearance, so we headed down to the coastal area and joined many others who were waiting to see them. We were very fortunate and even though they did not fill the sky with their brightness they were there for all to see- a wonderful end to our first day.

Day 2, a very busy day, saw us travel many miles and head to the southern tip of Iceland and en route we stopped of at the famous Skogafoss waterfall and took in the delights of this wonderful spot where students enjoyed the walk up to waterfall and enjoyed getting up and close to the waterfall. Our next stop of the day was our walk on the Glacier, Solheimajokull- a once in a lifetime experience for so many of us. We put on our harnesses, crampons and held our ice picks in hand ready to explore the wonderful Glacier- our guide took us into and on top of the glacier and we were able to truly experience the stunning sights and appreciate the sheer size and wonder of this huge ice sheet. We made one more stop at Gullfoss waterfall on the way to our accommodation for the night which were some wonderful cabins in Hellisholar. After dinner in the main building we were again extremely fortunate to experience the Northern lights one more time and many of us were of the opinion that these were the best of the 2 nights- slightly brighter and filled more of the sky.

Day 3, was another busy day which took us to the famous Golden circle, where students could watch in awe and wonder at the natural Geysirs, an Icelandic dairy farm where we got to taste the very delicious locally made Icelandic ice cream and the famous small town of Vik and the south beach. Each stop was enjoyed by all and allowed the students to really see the uniqueness of this wonderful country. Our final night was spent in the capital again, after a walking tour and we enjoyed a pizza buffet before heading to our beds after a very busy day.

Day 4, our final day, saw us visit the wonderful Blue Lagoon- students were able to enjoy several hours in the hot baths with their volcanic face masks, sauna and steam room. I think a highlight of the trip for many of us. We then departed the Blue Lagoon and headed to the airport to make our return flight home. This was a truly wonderful Geography trip and many students have already asked us to run another trip there again in the future.


Head of Humanities

School Carpark

Our school carpark is operated by Creative Car Parks. You will have a 20 minute grace period when dropping off or collecting your child. Should you need to stay longer than this you will need to enter you registration number into the i-pads which can be found in the main school reception or for out of hours in the HRF reception.

Should you incur a PCN, you will need to deal directly with Creative Car Parks, unfortunately the school is not able to intervene on your behalf.

ADVICE FOR WHEN YOUR CAR PARK USERS RECEIVE A PCN

If one of your car park users receives a PCN they may ask you for guidance on what to do next, or ask you to cancel the PCN.

Please explain that you're not able to deal with PCN enquiries on site as the car park is managed by Civil Enforcement Ltd.

They have one of two options available:

OPTION 1
Pay the PCN
They visit the website address shown below and make the payment. Note: a discounted rate is available if paid within 14 days of the ticket being issued.
payments.ce-service.co.uk

OPTION 2
Submit an appeal
They visit the website address shown below and submit an appeal within 28 days of the ticket being issued. Note: drivers must attach relevant supporting evidence.
appeals.ce-service.co.uk

OR

Thank you for your help in supporting our PCN process, designed to deter misuse and improve space availability for genuine users.

CIVIL ENFORCEMENT LIMITED
Civil Enforcement Ltd
Horton House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool L2 3PF
www.ce-service.co.uk

PLEASE NOTE

We are not able to deal with Parking Charge Notice enquiries on site.

This car park is managed by Civil Enforcement Ltd.

Please follow the process outlined on the original Parking Charge Notice.

CIVIL ENFORCEMENT LIMITED
Civil Enforcement Ltd
Horton House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool L2 3PF
www.ce-service.co.uk

Year 7 'Evolve Showcase of Learning'

All Year 7 parents and carers are invited to our Evolve Showcase of Learning on Thursday 26th March, 5.30pm to 6.30pm.

This is a great chance to hear about the learning that Year 7 have done so far and about some of the upcoming learning as well. A letter requesting consent for this event, along with more details, has gone out this week.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on Thursday 26th March

Miss Mann

Uniform Expectations

A letter was sent out to all parents/carers recently regarding Uniform expectations at Coombe Wood School

[Click Here to Read the letter
from Mr Vass](#)



[Click Here to Access the
Uniform Statement](#)



Many Thanks

Mr Vass

Deputy Headteacher - Pastoral

Sports Update

Savannah (Y11) recently competed at an international cheerleading competition CHEERSPORT National All Star Cheerleading Championship in Atlanta Georgia.

Savannah was part of Unity Allstars Pearl, competing over two days in the highly competitive Senior Medium Coed 4 Division. Competing against the very best teams from across the United States.

After finishing day 1 in second place, Savannah & her team walked away National Champions in one of the most hotly contested divisions in the sport outside of cheerleading worlds. Well done Savannah and the team, great work!

Miss Potkins

Off the Record - Chill Space

Please see below a poster to OTR's new chill space which is running on Thursdays 5-7pm and Saturdays 1-3pm in March.

It is a safe space for young people aged 16-25 to come and chill, connect and speak to someone about their emotional wellbeing if they wish to do so.

Please do feel free to print out for notice boards and/or share them directly with young people that you feel might benefit from attending.

Croydon Mental Health Support Team (MHST)

Administrator



**chill
space**

**Snacks, Games
Mental Health**
For ages 16-25
LGBTQ+ and
Neurodivergence
affirming
Portland House
678 London Rd,
CR7 7HU

TALK TO US
OFF THE **RECORD**

Thu 5th Mar-5-7 pm
Sat 14th Mar-1-3 pm
Thu 19th Mar-5-7 pm
Sat 28th Mar-1-3 pm

Mark your Calendar

Key Dates for March

Monday 9th March 2026

Year 11 Art, Graphics & Textiles MOCK Exam

Tuesday 10th March

A Level - Art, Graphics & Photography MOCK Exam

Thursday 12th March 2026

Year 9 Curriculum Evening - More Details to Follow

Friday 13th March 2026

INSET DAY - School Closed for Students

Wednesday 18th March 2026

6th From Interviews - Volenti

Thursday 19th March 2026

Year 13 Parents Evening (In Person)

Monday 23rd March 2026

Year 11 Mock Results Assembly

Year 11 Parents Evening (In Person)

Friday 27th March 2026

Last Day of Term - Students finish at 3pm

Easter Holidays - Monday 30th March- Friday 10th April 2026



**HAPPY
EASTER**





Key Dates for April 2026

Monday 13th - Friday 17th April

MOCK MFL Speaking Exams

Thursday 16th April

Year 10 Curriculum Evening - From 16.00 - Details to follow

Monday 20th - Tuesday 21st April

GCSE Art, Graphics & Textiles Exam

MOCK MFL Speaking Exams

Thursday 23rd April

A LEVEL - Graphics Exam

Year 8 Parents Evening - In Person - Details to follow

Friday 24th April

A LEVEL - Graphics Exam

Monday 27th April

A LEVEL - Graphics Exam

Thursday 30th April - Friday 1st May

A LEVEL - Art and Photography Exam

In case you missed it!

MENU

Parent and Students
Handbook 2025

Curriculum
Booklets

Home Work Club
Monday - Thursday
3.05pm - 4pm
Years 7 -10

HOME
WORK

Co-Curricular Clubs
Autumn 25

13 Music Lessons

Year 12
Curriculum Evening
Slides

Year 13
UCAS Evening
Slides

