

Sixth Form Bulletin

For Parents and Carers



City of Norwich School Sixth Form
An Ormiston Academy – Excellence in all

Friday 26th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers of Sixth Form,

YR12 threw themselves wholeheartedly into our team building day recently. Their energy, enthusiasm, and willingness to take part made the day such a success. By stepping outside comfort zones and working together, they helped strengthen trust, improved communication, and discovered new skills in each other. These shared experiences not only create stronger bonds but also build a supportive and collaborative environment that benefits us all moving forward. The positivity, laughter, and teamwork shown will help them grow together as a community and set a great example of what can be achieved to the lower school. We also hope they made some new friends 😊

YR13s have had a slightly less fun time – We shared free treats in the café last week to say well done for making it through their End of Semester's!

They should be proud of the effort, focus, and resilience they've shown at this stressful time. Remember, these assessments are just one step on their learning journey, not the destination. There is plenty of time to reflect, strengthen areas they feel less confident, and build on what they already know.

Now they have an opportunity to recharge, celebrate their achievements, and approach future studies with confidence and determination. They smashed it. 🙌

Mrs B



The School Day

Reg	P1	P2	Break	P3	P4	Lunch	P5	P6
8:35am	9:00am	10:00am	11:00am	11:20am	12:20pm	1:20pm	2:05pm	3:05-4:05pm

Key Dates for the Year

Date			Event
Sep	29 th	M	Yr12 Baseline Assessment Week (in class - internal use ONLY)
Oct	2 nd	Th	Year 6 into 7 Open Evening – prefects needed please
Oct	9 th	Th	Yr13 End of Semester Grade Reports emailed home
Oct	9 th	Th	Yr13 Progress Evening 5-7pm, Sports hall
Oct	15 th	Th	University College London Road Show - Yr12 and 13 - AUDITORIUM
Oct	17 th	F	Staff Development Day – students not in school
Oct	24 th	F	Break up for Half Term
Nov	6 th	Th	Year 12 Open Eve 5:30-8pm – prefects and volunteers needed please
Dec	1 st	M	Year 12 Mid-Semester Exams - NO READING WEEK Sixth form Organisation Week
Dec	2 nd	Tu	Yr13 Revision and Pathways Evening
Dec	4 th	Th	Yr13 Pantomime
Dec	5 th	F	Staff Development Day – students not in school
Dec	19 th	F	Break up for Christmas, no P5 or 6 lessons for Sixth Form

Go4Schools – Attendance, Homework, timetables

All students should download the Go4Schools app onto their phones. All homework, timetables and attendance information can be found on here.



Absence

We need parent confirmation if a student is absent through illness. This is done by calling the Sixth Form Absence Line on 01603 274072 before 9am or by emailing c.king@cns-school.org

It is the student's responsibility to email teachers to ask for work.

If your child knows of an absence beforehand (uni visit, Drs etc), they must notify their teachers in advance and ideally collect the work before, and Ms. King to inform her of their absence. This will not be backdated and would therefore result in an unauthorised absence.

Morning Programme 2025-26

Students are expected in school at 8:35am each day for the morning programme as shown below. For all other days, students are only expected in when their own lessons begin.

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Yr12 Week 1	Tutor briefing	Form time			Tutor briefing Form time
Yr12 Week 2	Tutorials (invite)	Form time Routines			Assembly
Yr13 Week 1	Tutor briefing		Form time - Routines	Form time - Pathways	Tutor briefing
Yr13 Week 2	Tutorials (invite)		Form time	Assembly	

Tutors will invite students to Monday morning tutorials via email. This is a chance to meet their tutor in smaller groups.

Lanyards

STUDENTS MUST WEAR LANYARDS AT ALL TIMES IN SCHOOL (EXCEPTIONS ARE IN PE, DT AND SCIENCE PRACTICALS)

If students have lost their lanyards, they should go to Mrs Blake in the Elkins Study Centre to get a replacement. Dark blue temporary lanyards can be borrowed for the day. Students will be charged £5 to replace them. If students forget lanyards, they should go their year office for a temporary replacement.

Year 13 Pathways Timeline ^ > v < ^ > v < ^ > v

Deadline for Oxbridge Admissions Tests Entry	15th Oct 2025
Conservatoire Applications Due	2nd Oct 2025
UCAS Early Entry Deadline (Oxford and Cambridge, and for most courses in medicine, dentistry, and veterinary medicine/science)	15th Oct 2025
Oxbridge Admissions Tests - (Last Year Wednesday 18th October)	21st-27th Oct 2025
Internal deadline for full applications to be submitted on UCAS	21st November
Oxbridge Interviews	Dec 2025
(18:00 UK time) Equal consideration date for applications for most undergraduate courses	14th Jan 2026

UCAS tutorials – Year 13

Up until the 6th October your tutors will be inviting you to one of seven tutor time sessions. You do not need to attend all of them, they are invite only, but it is important that you do not miss or run late to the meeting your tutor books with you. This is your final chance to speak with your tutor about your reference which supports your whole UCAS application.

Possible one-to-one, invite only and collapsed form dates include:

Monday 22nd, Wednesday 24th, Thursday 26th, Monday 29th, Tuesday 30th September, or Monday 6th October.

Your first whole tutor group session will commence on Wednesday 8th October.

Please use the time when you have not been invited to meet with your tutor on your UCAS applications.

EPQ

If you were unable to attend (or simply forgot!) the EPQ briefing, but wish to know more, please can you email t.westwood@cns-school.org to express your interest.

EPQ Application forms are available from Mrs Blake's office and the deadline for submission is 4pm Monday 29th September.

Thank you, Mr Westwood

Yr13 Pastoral support

We look forward to Ms Tejada-Jiminez (Ms TJ) starting with us on the 6th October and we will introduce you formally when she does.

In the meantime, Ms Edwards (C.Edwards@cns-school.org), is available every day 10am-1pm in the sixth form office. Book and appointment or drop in.

Parents' Guide to UCAS - Tues 7th Oct 7-8pm

This online event, hosted by HAS but with contributions from our Higher Education partners, is aimed at Year 12/13 students and their parents and carers. It aims to debunk the myths and answer any questions that you or your parents have about Higher Education/University including:

- Is it right for me?
- Is it worth it worth the investment?
- How much is it going to cost? Are there grants and bursaries I can apply for?
- What are the different routes I can take?
- What about Apprenticeships?
- How and when do I apply?
- Where will I live?

SIGN UP [HERE](#)

Maths and English GCSE re-take exams

You will need to email Ms. Collison (Y13) or Mr. Etheridge (Y12) if you are expecting to retake either of these ASAP in order for you to be entered for this. If you are in Year 12, and you do not have a grade 4 in English or maths, you **must** retake.

Macmillan Coffee Morning Friday 26th September



£90.25 RAISED – Well done to all involved and may thanks for the delish donations.

Student Voice

Suggestion Box

There is a suggestion / feedback box in the study centre and on the Sixth Form Teams page – we always welcome ideas to make Sixth Form better for our students.



Sixth Form Council: Chair: Charlie Sheppard

Meeting weekly – We meet every Wednesday breacktime in room 97. Form tutors will help elect 2 representatives, who will share their opinions and feedback to their forms.

Lost Property:

Lost Property should be taken to Mrs Blake or your year office. The lost item will be placed on the lost property shelf on the large bookshelves outside Mrs Blake's office in the study centre (valuable items will be kept in offices.) Each week, we will publish the items and post pictures. Please go to the grey shelf to claim any lost items. Items lost elsewhere around school should make their way to Student Services.

KEY – FOUND NEAR 6TH FORM BIKE AREA. BLUE COAT in Study Centre.

Year 12 Team Building







Student Opportunities

Enrichment

Please see the Enrichment timetable below. As a reminder, taking part in opportunities outside of the classroom is a compulsory part of being a member of CNS Sixth Form.

A live copy of the Enrichment Timetable which will be updated as clubs are added can be found on the Sixth Form Teams page.

Club	Week	Day	Time	Location	Staff/ Student Contact
6F Council*	Both	Wed	Break	97	Ms Collison
6F Prefects	Both	Various	Various	Field / As needed	Natasha Simpkin/ Mr Etheridge
Advanced Saxophone Group	Both	Thu	Reg	202	Mr Cushion
Arts Council					Nina Murdoch
Badminton	Both	Mon	Lunch	Sports Hall	Mrs Blake
Brass Ensemble / Jazz Big Band (brass only)	Both	Thu	Lunch	203	Mr Cushion
CAFE (Current Affairs For Everyone)	Both	Fri	Lunch	23	Mr Barry/Mr Christopher
Charity Events Organisers	Various				Miss King
Choir	Both	Thu	8.15	203	Mr Cushion
Circus skills	Both	Tue	Lunch	Gym	Mr Atkins
Clarinet Choir	Both	Mon	Lunch	203	Mr Cushion
Classics Book Club	2	Mon	Lunch	47	Dr Farley & Mr Buisst
Cultural Celebration					We need someone to lead this – speak to Ms Nichols
Dance					Ms E Cook
Duke of Edinburgh's Award (Gold)	Both	Fri	Lunch	107	Mr Lee & Mr Sutton
Environmental Eco Club					We need someone to lead this – speak to Ms Nichols
EPQ	Timetabled				Mr Westwood
EXiA Magazine	Both	Fri	Lunch	81	Ms Macklin-Betteridge and Polly Jordison-Miller
Expect Respect					Alice Galley

Club	Week	Day	Time	Location	Staff/ Student Contact
Film Club KS4 & KS5	Both	Mon	Lunch	43	Mr Rootham
Flute Choir	Both	Tue	Lunch	203	Mr Cushion
French Conversation	2	Wed	Lunch	6	Mrs McCallum
Groove Band	Both	Thu	P6	204	Mr Cushion
Jazz Big Band	Both	Thu	Lunch	204	Mr Cushion
Colourful Collective (LGBTQ+ Safespace)	Both	Mon	Lunch	115	Mr Beasley / Mr Innes
Medics	Timetable Dependent				Mr Etheridge
Netball	Both	Wed	Lunch	Sports Hall	Mrs Clarke
Orchestra	Both	Fri	P6	Auditorium	Mr Cushion
Oxbridge	Timetabled				Mr Westwood
Percussion Group	Both	Fri	P6	203	Mr Cushion
Rugby - Boys	Both	Various	After School / Friday eve games	School rugby field or Crusaders rugby club	Mr O’Brien, Ben Cooper, Charlie Hawkins
Rugby - Girls					Mr O’Brien & Mae Dunn
Strings Ensemble	Both	Mon	P6	Auditorium	Mr Cushion
Subject Ambassadors	Various				Faculty Leaders
Training Saxophone Group	Both	Wed	Reg	203	Mr Cushion
Volleyball	Both	Mon	16:05-16:45	Sports Hall	Ms Collison
Volleyball		Wed			Mr Ferguson
Year 7 Tutoring	Various – during study periods				Ms Anderson and Rebecca Burrows
Yoga	Both	Mon	Lunch	213	Ms Whitehead
YSA: Youth STEMM Award					Miss Spinks
Clarinet Choir	Both	Mon	Lunch	203	Mr Cushion

If there's a club you would like to start – get in touch with the Sixth Form team

History of Totalitarianism's essay writing competition

[2025-26 The Holodomor - Foundation for the History of Totalitarianism](#)

The Foundation for the History of Totalitarianism's essay writing competition this year is on the subject of Holodomor.

"In the case of the Holodomor, this was the first genocide that was methodically planned out and perpetrated by depriving the very people who were producers of food of their nourishment (for survival). What is especially horrific is that the withholding of food was used as a weapon of genocide and that it was done in a region of the world known as the 'breadbasket of Europe'." – **Prof. Andrea Graziosi, University of Naples.**

First prize: £1,500, Second prize: £700, Third prize: £500!

The deadline for entries is 25th January 2026.

Cambridge Higher Aspirations Scheme (CHAS) – Gonville and Caius

Please note – this is entirely different to the Higher Aspirations Scheme you signed up for during your first weeks.

We are writing to invite Year 12 students to apply for the Cambridge Higher Aspirations Scheme (CHAS) 2025/26. Now in its sixth year, CHAS is an innovative outreach programme aimed at encouraging bright and ambitious students to set their sights on top universities, as well as providing a sustained academic programme of support and guidance throughout their time in sixth form/college.

Sessions involve 5 supervisions (Cambridge style small group teaching) led by a researcher from the University, and there is an additional 1 night residential in Cambridge that can be applied for.

For more information click this link: [CHAS 25-26 Guidance for Applicants.pdf](#)



Sign Up

Students in Year 12 wishing to apply for the CHAS Scheme should complete an online form by following the link below by 17th October.

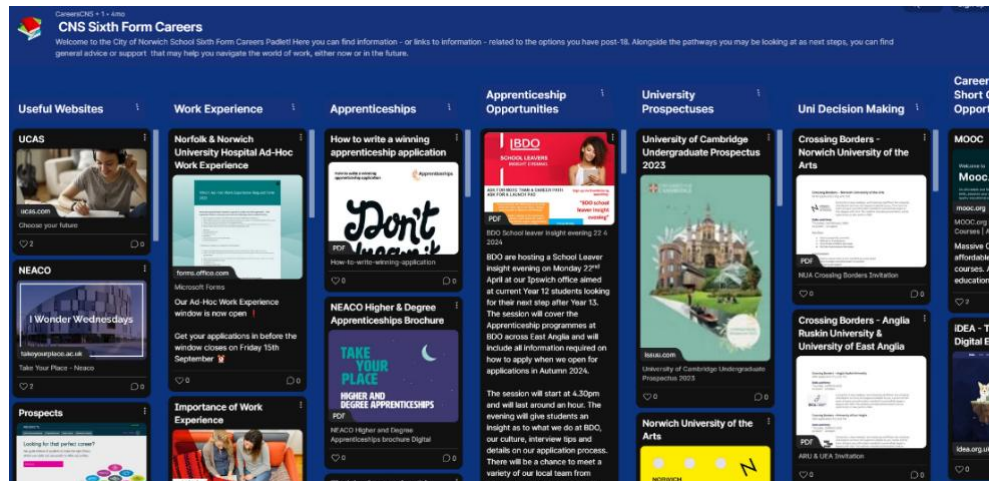
https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5zlsr0EjSVGD1dk

Careers Appointments

If you would like to meet with our Careers Advisor, please email Mrs Pentney at n.pentney@cns-school.org or click the link on the Teams Page.

The CNS Sixth Form Careers Padlet

CNS Sixth Form Careers



Work Experience – Compulsory for all Sixth Form Students

Over the course of your Sixth Form time, you are expected to take place in at least one meaningful work experience placement. This needs logging onto Unifrog with evidence of your placement under the placement tool.

In this section of the bulletin, you will constantly see many opportunities advertised. We implore you to try them out, seek experiences and be a yes person!

We authorise 5 days of absence linked to work experience. Please see Ms Pentney for more information.

Career Days

CareerDays.co.uk runs live, 1-day online Career Days across a wide range of subjects (Medicine, Law, Veterinary, Engineering, Psychology, Business, Architecture, Computer Science, Performing Arts, Midwifery and more). All with the aim of helping students decide what career paths they may be interested in.

Mornings focus on what the career is really like and how to apply to university; afternoons provide work-experience activities plus a live Q&A, and students receive a personalised certificate afterwards. All sessions are delivered online and are recorded for on-demand viewing.

Autumn 2025 dates: [CareerDays.co.uk](https://www.careerdays.co.uk)

October

- Sat 4 Oct – Midwifery
- Sat 11 Oct – Law
- Sat 18 Oct – Medicine
- Sun 19 Oct – Dentistry
- Sun 26 Oct – Performing Arts

- Sat 15 Nov – Vet
- Sat 29 Nov – Engineering

December

- Sat 6 Dec – Computer Science
- Sat 13 Dec – Business

November

- Sat 1 Nov – Psychology
- Sat 8 Nov – Architecture

Times: Sessions typically run 11:00–16:00 (UK); a few subjects vary slightly—please see the event page for details

Info & booking: www.careerdays.co.uk

E: info@careerdays.co.uk

W: www.careerdays.co.uk

Y13 Oxbridge Interview Workshop

Mon 13th Oct 1-4pm, County Hall, Norwich

Applying to Oxford /Cambridge or another highly competitive institution, and facing an academic interview? Sign up here for an intensive afternoon where you will meet Oxbridge Admissions tutors, find out more about the interview format and, critically, get to practice the key interview skill of responding on the spot to stimuli provided. We will have experts to help and guide you through developing this critical interview skill. Sign up [here](#) by Wed 24th Sept.

BFI Short Film Academy

October 27th-31st, Cinema City Norwich

Cinema City is hosting the British Film Institute's Short Film Academy in Norwich for the second year running. It will be a 5 day intensive filmmaking workshop for 16-19 years olds in the October half term holiday (Mon 27th - Fri 31st) this year.

It will take place at Cinema City in the Sir John Hurt Centre and is completely FREE for the young people to attend, and lunch is provided on each day.

Full information about the course, and a link to the application form can be found [HERE](#)

THE END