



Create, Aspire and Excel  
to 'Live life in all its fullness' (John 10:10)



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## Message from the Acting Principal

It has been a cold week at the Chiltern Hills Academy! The pipe burst in the kitchen has also made it a challenging week, but once again the school community has pulled together and made sure the atmosphere in the school has remained positive and focused throughout. Thank you for all your support. The burst pipe situation will be repaired by Friday, but at least we have been able to get all the ovens and hobs in the kitchen working and normal food service has continued unaffected.

We have had a busy week preparing students for various assessments and this is especially the case for Year 11s and Year 13s who are preparing for their second round of mock examinations which begin on Monday 29 January. This is such an important time for these students as they continue to get themselves ready for their examinations in the summer. Please do make sure that your child has all the necessary materials to help prepare them for revision and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email the subject teachers for more information or clarification. Preparation and hard work at home are really important in ensuring exam and assessment success and I would also encourage you to discuss this at home and communicate with us if there is anything we can do to help.

We are also planning a CHA Talent Show on Thursday 1 February 2024. We have about 20 different acts ready for the evening and many students are busy preparing themselves for this event. Once again this is a first at Chiltern Hills Academy and another example of the dedication of our staff in trying to make the school an enjoyable and exciting place to be.

Thank you for completing the behaviour survey towards the end of last term. We had 303 responses from parents and carers and the information is very helpful in guiding the school on its journey. The results show that the majority of students at Chiltern Hills are happy, that most of you are clear about our behaviour expectations and that we promote positive behaviour. It is also good to know that the majority of parents completing the survey feel that their child is safe at the school. We are aware that we need to ensure that we communicate effectively with you and make sure we are always dealing efficiently with behaviour issues. Your suggestions for how we could be even better have also been taken on board.

We have two events next week which you may want to attend. On Wednesday 24 January we have our third parent forum of the year. This will start at 6.00pm and

you are most welcome to attend to put forward your questions and ideas. On Thursday 25 January evening we are holding our Year 8 Options Evening from 6.00pm-7.30pm. This is the opportunity to find out about the Key Stage 4 Option process for our year 8 students and to begin choosing the option subjects students will study from Year 9 onwards. Again, this is a vital event as it will help to guide students' education for the next 3 years. Please do not hesitate to contact Mr Griffiths (Vice Principal - Quality of Education) if you have any questions about this event.

Once again can I take the opportunity to thank you for all your support and can I ask that if you have any questions, concerns or issues please do feel free to contact me on: [office@chacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@chacademy.co.uk)

Mr T Dobbs

## Dates for the Diary

Date	Event
23 January	Post 16 Choices, 9.00 to 10.00am
24 January	Parent Forum, 6.00 to 7.00pm
25 January	Y8 GCSE Options Evening, 6.00 to 7.30pm
23 and 26 January	Y12 Interviews, 9.00 to 11.00am
29 January to 9 February	Y11 and Y13 Mock Examinations
30 January	Barcelona Sports Tour – Parents meeting, 6.00 to 7.00pm
31 January	UCAS deadline for all courses
1 February	CHA Talent show, 7.00 to 8.00pm
6 February	Drama students – Splendid Theatre Co, 2.00 to 4.00pm
6 February	CHA-PTA meeting, 7.00 to 8.00pm
9 February	Last day of Spring term 1, school closes at 3.10pm

## PTA News

### Sunday 3 March

Definite date for your diary – the CHAPTA Spring Fayre. Perfect to sell your crafts or to buy gifts for Mother's Day, Easter, or something gorgeous for yourself. It's exciting that so many stalls have already confirmed their attendance, so come and join us on the day. Contact the PTA for a booking form and to secure your place.

### Bingo

We would really welcome a few more helpers for our weekly bingo rota, serving teas, coffees and treats. Regular help is only needed once every 6-8 weeks, from 7.00pm – approx. 8.30. A great way to help the community, and raise invaluable funds for the PTA. Contact us for further details.

### Tuesday 6 February

PTA Meeting 7.00pm in the atrium. Everyone is welcome

We look forward to hearing from you

Mrs S Webb

Chair

[chapta@chacademy.co.uk](mailto:chapta@chacademy.co.uk)

## Safeguarding

All parents worry about their children's mental health and wellbeing. Our children are good at hiding how they really feel at times and it is difficult to gauge how much something may be bothering them and impacting their wellbeing. Below is a link to a website which has lots of information for parents in need of support. There is an easy to navigate A-Z guide for mental health and also information on mental health services and advice on how to talk to your child about their mental health.

Information presented in the news can be a source of worry for our young people and there is a section on how to talk to your child if they have worries about conflict and war as well as lots of other advice and guidance.

[Parents Mental Health Support | Advice for Your Child | YoungMinds](#)

Roman Kemp recently produced a BBC Three documentary 'The Fight for Young Lives'. In his documentary he meets families whose lives have been devastated after their child took their own life. He spoke with CAMHS and also schools to see what is available to support children and try to prevent these tragic events.

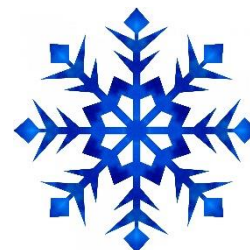
[Roman Kemp: The Fight for Young Lives - expert tips on promoting positive mental health in your child - BBC Bitesize](#)

If you are worried about your child or another child at the academy then please let us know by emailing [safeguarding@chacademy.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@chacademy.co.uk)

Mrs J Conway  
Vice Principal  
Executive Designated Safeguarding Lead

## Snow Day Closures

If the weather forecast indicates possible disruption, please check the Academy website. We will also endeavour to text parents to inform you if we are unable to open, so please ensure the Academy office has an up-to-date mobile contact number for you ([office@chacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@chacademy.co.uk)). Information about school closures across the county may be found on <https://closures.buckscs.gov.uk/>



## Flu - Immunisations

Flu catch up session will be taking place on Wednesday 31 January (Y7- 11)

If your child did not receive their Flu immunisation in December and you had completed the consent form. The school immunisation team will be coming into school for a catch-up session on Wednesday 31 January.

Mrs M Khurshid  
Medical Officer

## Talent Show

We are looking for a host of different talents to compete in our CHA talent show. We are looking for a variety of acts: gymnasts, musicians, comedians, actors, singers, artists, impersonations, mime, slapstick, juggling, beat boxing, lip syncing, martial arts, poetry or any other talent you would like to share! If you would like to be involved, please speak to a member of the performing arts department to register. There will be prizes awarded for the best acts! This show will take place on 1 February at 6.00pm in the hall. Tickets will be available for £5.00 via ParentPay closer to the date. Students go free!

Performing Arts Department

## Extra-Curricular Sport Timetable

Please see the extra-curricular sport timetable for this half term. We would love to see as many students at the clubs as possible. Don't forget your kit!

Day time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch time	KS3 Futsal GEM Y7 Dance EMB	All Years Cricket JCA	Y8 Dance EMB	All Years Badminton OLS	Y11/Y12/Y13 Basketball GEM
After School	Y9-Y11 Basketball GEM  Y9-Y10 Netball OLS and JEK  Y7-Y8 Handball JCA  KS3 Dance Co EMB		Y9-Y11 Handball GEM  Y7-Y8 Netball OLS and JEK  KS5 GBDO Rehearsal EMB	Y7 Basketball JCA  Y8 Basketball OLS  Y7 Boys' Football GEM  Y7-Y8 Girls Football OLH  KS5 GBDO Rehearsal EMB	
<b>All Dance Clubs in OF2</b>					

Mr G Muddiman  
Teacher of PE

## Library News

It has been a busy start to the year. With over 3,400 titles, the shelves are getting full, so the whole library is being rearranged. This means I have been able to create a brand new "Revision Corner". All the revision guides that we have for GCSE subjects (and some A-Level books) will be in one area. Please remember as the mocks and real exams draw closer, the library is open until 4.00pm every day for quiet study. All the books in Revision Corner can be borrowed and taken home.

There will also be a Diversity and Inclusion area, as well as a Comic and Graphic Novel area!

The Year 7 and 8 students have been enjoying the Bookbuzz reading Race Card challenge, this runs for a few more weeks. For every book they read, they get to tick off their race card and win merits. The donation of £3.30 for the cost of each book is still open on ParentPay, please do have a look.

Last week I bought 60 lovely new books for the library, many suggested and chosen by the children, it is really increasing the diversity we have in the library. While I would love to put all the new books out on display, I don't have the room, but all new titles will go on the shelves with a "Hello I'm New Here" bookmark in (see picture), so the students can quickly glance along the shelves to see what's new. If there is a title your child is interested in, please let me know.

Please don't forget our lovely wish list:

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/2SA7D39VE70IR?ref=abls\\_nvfly\\_yl](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/2SA7D39VE70IR?ref=abls_nvfly_yl)

Another great way to see all the updates and what's on in the library is to follow our Instagram page @libraryatcha. I post regularly to keep everyone updated.

"For last year's words belong to last year's language



And next year's words await another voice.  
And to make an end is to make a beginning." - from 'Little Gidding' by T. S. Eliot

Mrs K Davenport  
Librarian

## Volunteering Opportunity

The Interact Club is a group that meet weekly to support the school and local community through voluntary community projects. We are linked to the Rotary Club in Chesham and have support of adults from the community to help us progress the projects that we are working on. Currently we are working to enhance the biodiversity of the school through a sensory garden project, we did a collection of unused Winter coats in December, and we have been part of the Rotary led Santa's sleigh and blood pressure drive in Chesham Town Centre.



This term CHA is hosting the annual technology tournament, and the Interact Club will be supporting the organisation of this event.

This is the perfect opportunity to get some work experience, fulfil your Duke of Edinburgh's Award volunteering, or just get stuck in with hands on ways to improve our local area.

The Interact Club meets every week after school on Thursday's from 3:20-4pm in 0D2 (Mr Driscoll's Classroom). All are welcome!

Mr S Driscoll  
Interact Club Lead

## Duke of Edinburgh

Thank you to all who signed up to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme here at the school this year. We have had another record-breaking round of sign-ups for 2023-24 academic year with over 50 students in Year 9, nearly 25 in Year 10 and 3 Gold award participants.

The training day in school is a full day off-timetable where students in Year 9 and Year 10 will have a full day of training and preparation for the expedition. In advance of this, students should get started with their volunteering, physical activities and skill that they will use as their contributions towards the other sections of the award. Further information on activity ideas can be found here on the DofE website:  
<https://www.dofe.org/do/ideas/>

Duke of Edinburgh's Award log in details will be coming through to student email addresses over the next two weeks, so please ask students to keep an eye out in their school email accounts.

I will communicate more details through the newsletter and directly by email over the coming weeks. Please remember that the second payment (50% of the expedition cost) is coming up soon. This should be on ParentPay, please let me know if you have any issues with this: [sdriscoll@chacademy.co.uk](mailto:sdriscoll@chacademy.co.uk)

Finally, a reminder to those students in Year 10 and Year 11 who are still needing to complete sections of the award from previous years, please do get those sections signed off so we can award you with the certificate of completion and you can wear your blazer pin with pride!



Mr S Driscoll  
Duke of Edinburgh's Award Coordinator



# Consultation to Admission Arrangements

## **STATUTORY CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS**

**Statutory Consultation on proposed changes to the Admissions Arrangements for Chiltern Hills Academy** to take effect from the beginning of the academic year 2025-26

Each year the admission authority for all schools and academies are required to review their admission arrangements. The admission authority must consult on proposed changes to the admission arrangements and conduct a consultation on the policy every 7 years.

The admission authority for Chiltern Hills Academy is its Governing Body. The Governing Body has decided to consult on proposed changes to the school's admission arrangements which would take effect from the beginning of the academic year 2025-26.

The main change proposed are:

4 'Children of members of staff'

This has been moved above the rule for 'Children living in the catchment area of the school'.

This means that the over-subscription criteria in the event that there are more applicants than places available would be applied in the following order:

- 1 Looked-after children and children who were previously looked after, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside England, but ceased to be so as a result of being adopted.
- 2 Families who have exceptional medical or social needs that make it essential that their child attends Chiltern Hills Academy rather than any other. These needs must be fully supported by written evidence from the appropriate professional person involved with the family. (See Note
- 3 Children with a normal home address in the catchment area and with a sibling on roll at the school at the time of application or whose parent has accepted an offer of a place at the school and who is expected still to be in attendance at the time of entry to the school.
- 4 Children of members of staff
- 5 Children with a normal home address in the catchment area
- 6 Children with a normal home address outside the catchment area and with a sibling on roll at the school at the time of application or whose parent has accepted an offer of a place at the school and who is expected still to be in attendance at the time of entry to the school.
- 7 Other children.

The full admissions criteria including changes to catchment are available in the document on our website [www.chilternacademy.co.uk/admissions](http://www.chilternacademy.co.uk/admissions).

The consultation period for this policy will run from **Friday 1 December 2023 for 6 weeks until Friday 26 January 2024**.

The Governing Body welcomes any comments on the proposed change. Please email your comments to [office@chacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@chacademy.co.uk) or send via post to the school clearly marked 'Admissions Policy 2025 Consultation'.

Please note below other schools who have also published consultations on their admissions policy. Please do look out for other schools' admission policies consultancies in the area on their websites.

### **Aylesbury UTC**

Consultation on a proposal to admit Year 9 to Aylesbury UTC for the first time in September 2025 as well as amendments to Admission Policy

We want to hear your views on this proposal. The views of parents, pupils and the wider community will be considered by our Governing Board and Buckinghamshire County Council – when determining whether to publish a Statutory Notice to admit year 9 pupils to the UTC.

Please submit your feedback by completing the questions below or at the following link by Friday 26 January 2024 at 4.00pm. <https://forms.office.com/e/CNxa66wQhD>

### **Wycombe High School Admission Policy 2025**

In accordance with the School Admission Code, Wycombe High School Admissions Policy for 2025 is now available for public consultation. The policy is available on the school website here: [2025-Admissions-Policy-Wycombe-High-School.pdf \(whs.bucks.sch.uk\)](#)

The consultation period is from Wednesday 6 December 2023 to Wednesday 17 January 2024. The Trust Board welcomes any comments on the updated policy. Please email your comments to the Admissions Team at [admissions@whs.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:admissions@whs.bucks.sch.uk) any comments must be returned by Wednesday 17 January 2024.

Please find below information relating to the consultation for our Admissions Policy for entry in September 2025.

### **Brushwood Junior School Admission Policy 2025-26**

In accordance with the School Admission Code, Brushwood Junior School Admissions Policy for 2025-26 is now available for public consultation. The policy is available on the school website here: <https://www.brushwoodjunior.education/admissions/>

The consultation period is from Friday 5 January to Friday 16 February 2023. The Governors welcome any comments on the updated policy. Please email your comments to [office@brushwood.education](mailto:office@brushwood.education) . Any comments must be returned by Friday 16 February 2023.

*Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March*

# Spring Craft Fayre

**10:30 – 15:00 Free Admission**

**craft stalls      Easter raffle      refreshments**

## *at Chiltern Hills Academy*

Interested in holding a stall?  
Email [chapta@chacademy.co.uk](mailto:chapta@chacademy.co.uk) for further details

Acting Principal:  
Tim Dobbs BA (Hons), NPQH  
Chiltern Hills Academy  
Chartridge Lane, Chesham  
Buckinghamshire HP5 2RG

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[www.chilternhillsacademy.co.uk](http://www.chilternhillsacademy.co.uk)

 **DIOCESE OF OXFORD**  
A Church of England Academy







## Parent/Carer Autism Online Workshops

Whether your child is awaiting a diagnosis or has already been diagnosed, these workshops are a great opportunity to learn more about Autism & ask questions within a supportive group of other parents & carers.

- **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February - An introduction to Autism**  
An opportunity to explore what Autism is, the many strengths and the differences that make each child so wonderfully unique.
- **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February - Communication**  
Identifying what communication is and the different communication methods that may be helpful for Autistic children.
- **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February - Sensory Processing**  
Explaining the 8 sensory systems, how the environment can impact on a child with sensory processing differences/challenges and strategies to meet an individual's sensory needs.
- **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February - Pathological Demand Avoidance**  
A look into the interesting subject of PDA, how this may present and what is the best approach to take to avoid conflict.

**Workshops will be held 7:30-8:30pm via Zoom.**

£25 per workshop for each family.

**To book your place...**[Email enquiries@theautismtrainingnetwork.com](mailto:Email%20enquiries@theautismtrainingnetwork.com)

Or scan the QR code





Enjoy a walk in beautiful scenery and plant snowdrops in support of Child Bereavement UK, then join us for refreshments in West Wycombe village hall.

## West Wycombe Park, Bucks

SUN 4 FEB 2024, 10:30am - 4pm (last entry 3:30pm)

\*Only guide & hearing dogs permitted

*Advance tickets purchased from our website:*

£3 Adults, concessions £2 (under 16s)

*Tickets purchased on the gate:*

£5 Adults, concessions £3 (under 16s)



[childbereavementuk.org/snowdrop](http://childbereavementuk.org/snowdrop)

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