



COWLEY
ACADEMY

Head of School

Friday 20th September 2024

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

We have had another great week at Cowley Academy. The school has been calm and there has been an excellent working atmosphere.

Our Open Evening is nearly upon us as this is being held next week on Tuesday 24th September 2024. It is an important evening in the Cowley Academy calendar. We are expecting a large number of visitors from the local community. Many of our students have volunteered to help on the evening either as tour guides or within departments. Can I thank parents for supporting your child to help out at this very important event. In addition to this, please promote this event to any parent and child in Years 4-6 that may be interested in joining our fantastic school!



Prospective students in **years 4 to 6** and their parents/carers are invited to our

Open Evening

Tuesday 24th September 2024
5.30pm to 8.00pm

SAVE THE DATE



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Sports fixtures have started this week with football and netball fixtures against Giles Academy, and well done to all of the students who represented the school. The Year 10 netball students had an amazing game which they won 14 - 4. Special mention to Rubie Archbold who was awarded Players Player and Tilly Salmon who was awarded Umpires Player. The Year 8 netball students however knew that they were going to face a tough game as Giles' team are phenomenal. Unfortunately, they lost 21 - 3 but all the girls played incredibly well with Abbie-Rose Westbrook being awarded Players Player and Uliana Chapliuk who was awarded Umpires Player.



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We are continuing to increase the opportunities for our young people with our enrichment programme and opportunities, many of our clubs have started this week with staff promoting these in lessons. There is a wide variety of clubs to suit our students whatever their interests. I have also been impressed with the amount of Year 11 students that have already started to attend intervention sessions.

We have launched The Duke of Edinburgh's Award to our Year 10 students this week in a special assembly. A representative from the DofE visited school to explain the award and four of our students who completed the Bronze award last year also took part in the assembly to share their experiences.

Our new Year 7 students have been settling into school life really well. I am really pleased with their uniform, enthusiasm in lessons and their politeness. Our transition team have been working really hard to lead activities to support our new students. These sessions have included:

- House competitions
- Travelling safely to and from school
- Safeguarding
- Show My Homework Launch App

Well done to Year 7 on their resilience and courage during their first weeks with us.

This week students have had their first assembly with their Heads of House, going through some of the exciting competitions and aims for the academic year. I am really looking forward to seeing as many students representing their Houses.

From next week, we will be introducing handheld metal scanners, which is now a common approach in many local and national schools. The purpose of the handheld scanners are for detection and deterrent, and these additions will further support our Behaviour Policy, in line with creating a safe environment. This decision has been made to further ensure the safety and security of all students and staff.

Listed below are the key reasons for this initiative:

- Enhanced Security: The handheld scanners will help us detect and prevent the presence of any prohibited or dangerous items on school grounds.
- Preventive Measure: This proactive step aims to deter any potential banned items and ensure a safe learning environment for everyone.
- Student Safety: Our primary concern is for the well-being of our students. These scanners are part of our ongoing commitment to maintaining a secure and supportive school atmosphere.

This approach is supported by the Department for Education (DfE), as outlined in the [Searching, Screening and Confiscation document](#), where it states: *"A senior member of staff may use a metal detector/scanner to assist with a student search for any banned or prohibited items. Health and Safety legislation requires a school to be managed in a way which does not expose students or staff to risks to their safety. Therefore, the metal detector/scanner will be used at the discretion of the school when searching a student for any banned or prohibited items. Please note that if a student refuses to be screened, parents/carers will be contacted and this may result in the student being refused admission into the school building on the grounds of safety."*

We believe that these measures will contribute positively to our school community and enhance our school safety. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we implement this new safety procedure, as we believe that this measure will contribute positively to our school community. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at the school, via your Pastoral Year Lead.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kindest regards,



Mrs Kath Kilby
Head of School, Cowley Academy

Upcoming key dates



Years 10 & 11 from all schools in the local area are welcome to our

SLAT SIXTH FORM Open Evening

SAVE THE DATE

**BOURNE
ACADEMY**

Thursday 7th November 2024
5.30pm to 8.00pm

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For the latest news

You can follow Cowley Academy on our official social media platforms as follows:

- www.instagram.com/CowleyAcademy
- www.facebook.com/CowleyAcademy
- www.twitter.com/CowleySLAT