



Chenderit School

A VISUAL ARTS COLLEGE

Headteacher: Jane Cartwright BA (Hons), MA, NPQH

aim high



5th September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

On behalf of our staff and governors, I extend a very warm welcome to all students and their families for the new school year. I hope the summer holiday was a time to relax and undertake activities for which there is simply not enough time in a busy academic year and that all batteries have been fully charged in preparation for the challenges and opportunities that this year will bring.

Staffing News

I am delighted to inform you that, once again, we are fully staffed. I would like to offer a particularly heartfelt welcome to the following new teaching colleagues and trust they will be welcomed by our whole community:

Name	Role
Mrs Sophie Adams	Part Time Teacher of Design and Technology
Mr Jack Armstrong	Assistant Headteacher
Dr Jack Craddock	Teacher of Science
Mrs Heather Dawes	Teacher of Science
Ms Sophie Ellaway	Teacher of English/Media Studies
Mr Simon Hanna	Teacher of Science
Miss Amber Hendriksen	Teacher of English
Mr Joe Heyes	Teacher of Maths
Mr Jack Hillman	Teacher of English
Mr Tim Laczko-Schroeder	Teacher of English
Mr Nicholas Marshall	Teacher of Science
Mr Robbie Macrory	Head of Learning Y8/Teacher of History
Miss Rebecca Pilot	Teacher of Design & Technology
Ms Laura Wood	Teacher of English/Media Studies
Miss Elsbeth Wright	Teacher of MFL

Following the promotions and retirement of some colleagues at the end of the summer term, I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of who our current leaders and managers are in school:

Archery Road, Middleton Cheney, Banbury, Oxfordshire OX17 2QR
Telephone: 01295 711567 **E-mail:** enquiries@chenderit.northants.sch.uk
www.chenderit.northants.sch.uk

Chenderit School is the trading name of Chenderit School Academy Trust, a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales under company number 07900254 whose registered office is Chenderit School, Archery Road, Middleton Cheney, Banbury, Oxfordshire OX17 2QR



Team	Role	Name
Leadership Team	Headteacher	Mrs Jane Cartwright
	Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral, Behaviour for Learning)	Mr Roddy Lloyd-Jones
	Deputy Headteacher (Curriculum, Teaching and data)	Mr Andrew Williams
	Assistant Headteacher (Systems)	Mr Jack Armstrong
	Assistant Headteacher (and Head of Sixth form)	Mr Billy Belstone
	Assistant Headteacher (and Head of English)	Mrs Natalie Nowell
Guidance Team (Heads of Learning)	Head of Sixth Form	Mr Billy Belstone
	Head of Learning Year 11	Mr Toby Holland
	Head of Learning Year 10	Mr Terry Fitton
	Head of Learning Year 9	Miss Sophie Evans
	Head of Learning Year 8	Mr Robbie Macrory
	Head of Learning Year 7 and Primary Lead	Ms Lindsey Cramb
	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator (SENDCo)	Mrs Debbie Coleman
Curriculum Team (Heads of Department)	Head of Art, Design and Technology	Mr Tom Christy
	Head of Business, Enterprise and Media Studies	Ms Anna Willett
	Head of Drama	Ms Michelle Jackson-Pate
	Head of English	Mrs Natalie Nowell
	Head of Geography	Mrs Liz Taylor
	Head of History	Mr Will Gowers
	Head of Maths	Mr Martin Byford
	Head of MFL	Mr Chris Williamson
	Head of Performing Arts	Mr Mark Ledger
	Head of PE/PSHE	Mr Tony Vickers
	Head of RS	Mrs Holly Millan
	Head of Science	Dr Cathy Haycock
	Head of Social Sciences	Mr Chris Deakin
Key Support Staff	Headteacher's PA and Operations and Personnel Manager,	Mrs Joanne Davies
	Finance Manager	Mrs Bridget Wilkinson
	Site Manager	Mr Stephen Martin
	Data Manager	Mrs Nicola Barlow
	Exams Manager	Mrs Susan Files
	Safeguarding, Student Welfare and Parent Support Manager	Mrs Janet Hooper
	Deputy Safeguarding, Student Welfare & Parent Support Manager	Mrs Allison Smith
	Safeguarding and Welfare Assistant	Mrs Robi Brenchley
	Attendance Administrator	Mrs Julie Macarthur
	Admin Assistant/First Aider	Mrs Christina Duffy

Please note that details of all staff email addresses can be found on the school website at: <http://www.chenderit.northants.sch.uk/staff.asp>

Communicating with Chenderit's staff

Our relationship with you, our students' parents and carers, is crucially important to us because we know that positive parental engagement with schools can be a powerful lever for raising

students' achievement and improving their life chances. As general guidance, should you need to contact someone in school, your child's tutor or relevant class teacher is most likely to be your first point of contact. However, if you feel that this is not appropriate, please use the following guidance:

- A subject or curriculum query in one subject: contact the Head or Deputy Head of Department
- A pastoral enquiry or curriculum enquiry in two or more subjects: contact the Head of Learning for the relevant year group
- A Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities query: contact Mrs Debbie Coleman (SENDCo)
- A child protection or safeguarding concern: contact Mrs Hooper (Safeguarding, Student Welfare and Parent Support Manager) in the first instance, Mrs Smith (Deputy Safeguarding, Student Welfare and Parent Support Manager), Mr Lloyd-Jones or Mr Belstone.

If a matter remains unresolved following contact with staff, please be aware that Mr Williams, Mr Armstrong or Mrs Nowell can be contacted for curriculum and assessment related issues and Mr Lloyd-Jones or Mr Belstone can be contacted for pastoral related issues.

Emails and face to face meetings

We are always happy to receive emails or phone calls from parents and carers because we recognise the importance of clear and effective communications between home and school. Occasionally, parents may become exasperated if they feel that a message elicits no immediate reply and so we would like to ask for your understanding if you contact staff by email or telephone. For example, teachers may be teaching all day, on duty at break times and running intervention programmes or extra-curricular clubs after school. If you do not receive an immediate response, it is most likely to be the case that there has been no available opportunity for the member of staff to telephone or email you.

On receipt of your communication, staff will endeavour to contact you **within 3 working days**. However, communications sent at the weekend may not receive a response until the following working week and emails sent during the holiday may not receive a response until the new term begins. Should you not have received a response **within 5 working days**, please approach the relevant senior leader.

If you wish to meet face to face with a member of staff, please secure an appointment first, by telephone or via email. It is highly unlikely that we shall be able to meet with you in person unless you have a pre-arranged appointment.

Website updates

I would like to draw your attention to five areas of our website that have recently been updated:

1. The 2022-2023 parents' calendar: <http://www.chenderit.northants.sch.uk/parents-calendar.asp>
2. Policies: <http://www.chenderit.northants.sch.uk/school-policies.asp> including the Behaviour Policy

3. Attendance information: <http://www.chenderit.northants.sch.uk/attendance.asp>
4. School uniform: <http://www.chenderit.northants.sch.uk/school-uniform.asp>
5. What will my child be learning this year? <http://www.chenderit.northants.sch.uk/> → The school → The curriculum

Opportunities beyond Chenderit School

Last year, we successfully reintroduced many extra-curricular opportunities, educational visits, and other school organised events and we expect to be able to build on these again this year. Our extra-curricular offer begins again on Monday 12th September and can be found here: <http://www.chenderit.northants.sch.uk/extra-curricular-activities.asp>. Please encourage your children to participate in our extra-curricular programme and reinforce the message that through their participation, they are likely to have greater academic success, greater character development, especially in the areas of time management and leadership skills, more positive social development, and greater interest in community involvement.

As in previous years, please be aware and ensure that your child understands that 'beyond school' opportunities are most often rewards for students and should not be seen by students as a right or expectation. Good student behaviour will be of paramount importance when deciding upon who should be invited to attend such opportunities. Poor behaviours in school and high numbers of negative SIMs are likely to result in students missing, for example, the Extravaganza, the Y11 prom and other off-site activities.

Curriculum update

We returned to something resembling 'normality' over the last 12 months and our students in years 11 and 13 sat a full set of externally marked GCSE and A level exams for the first time since summer 2019. They also had to contend with the possibility that exams could have been cancelled and, as such, sat additional pre-public exams (PPE) throughout the year. The students in our school rose to every challenge we set and we were rightly proud of them.

Our year 13 students showed remarkable resilience throughout their study in our Sixth Form, and these students, who were unable to sit GCSEs in 2020, performed exceptionally well in this summer's exams. This year's overall pass rate is 100% with 61% of all results being graded A*, A or B and 29% of all results being graded A* or A. Our students exceeded the challenging targets we had set and we are delighted that 89% of our students have gained entry to their first choice university, with over 25% of students having gained places at incredibly competitive institutions such as the University of Cambridge and other Russell Group universities. We wish our former year 13 students success as they embark on their future plans.

Our year 11 students celebrated outstanding results this year too. Despite the disruption over the past two years, they also showed remarkable resilience and achieved brilliant grades which have now enabled them to go on to their destinations of choice, with the majority of our students opting to stay at our own flourishing sixth form. Overall, 75% of students achieved a standard pass in English and Maths, with 85% achieving a standard pass in English, 77% achieving a standard pass in maths and 74% achieving a standard pass in two sciences. This represents excellence in each of the core subjects with the optional subjects performing just as well. This year's results were better than in both 2021 and 2019 and we are thrilled for our former Y11 students.

This year, we are hopeful that there will be no additional contingency requirements, though please be reassured that we remain prepared to follow any guidance that is set out by the Department for Education and are committed to ensuring that our students are as supported as possible, no matter what happens.

Students in current years 11 and 13 sat all their PPEs last year under the exam conditions that mirror what they will experience in next summer's exams, ensuring they are already fully aware of what is required of them. All other year groups also had plentiful opportunities to recall what they had learned during 2021-2022 in their end of year exams.

This year, across all year groups, we shall continue to focus on:

- providing a broad and balance curriculum for all
- supporting all students, irrespective of their starting points
- encouraging all students to aspire to be their very best
- providing the very best teaching possible across all subjects
- carefully sequenced learning activities and recall tasks that prepare students well for future assessments.

We are looking forward to the year ahead and to working in partnership with you to ensure your child/ren receive the best possible education, and reach their full potential.

Pastoral Update

Mental Health and Well-being

Student well-being remains a priority at Chenderit and is addressed every day through the tutor and PSHE programmes, our assemblies, extra-curricular activities and core PE, all of which form our 'personal development curriculum'. From time to time, students need a little extra emotional support and staff are available in school to provide this. Posters are displayed in student areas with photographs of key staff '*who will listen*', such as heads of learning and the inclusion team. In addition, students can seek an inclusion team referral through their tutor and/or attend a drop-in service once a fortnight provided by the school nursing service. Mrs Jan Hooper, Mrs Allison Smith and Mrs Robi Brenchley in the Inclusion Centre are always happy to speak with parents about support and can signpost you to external agencies, if appropriate. For more information please visit <http://www.chenderit.northants.sch.uk/well-being.asp> and <http://www.chenderit.northants.sch.uk/safeguarding.asp>

Mobile Technology

We would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents and carers about the use of mobile technology in our school.

Although our policy is based around mobile phones **not being seen or heard at any time while on site** (i.e. they should be switched off and in students' bags), the actual policy includes student use of **personal technology**. For breaches of this policy, we confiscate the technology, which may include a mobile phone and/or wired or wireless 'AirPods' that are blue toothed to phones and/or smart watches. On the third confiscation, parents and carers have to come into school to collect their child's device, which we know is usually inconvenient to you as well as to the school. Please discuss this with your child in order that confiscations and the ensuing inconveniences for us all can be avoided.

School Uniform

A great deal of work has been undertaken to ensure that students and their families are clear about our school uniform expectations, particularly in relation to the wearing of jackets, coats and/or hoodies, as well as school footwear. As stated in our policy:

- No hoodie, sweatshirt, cardigan, jacket or other similar clothing should be worn in the place of an outdoor coat.
- All students (in years 7-11) must own a school sweatshirt. These must be worn at all times during terms 2, 3 and 4 unless a student has gained permission to remove it. During terms 1, 5 and 6, sweatshirts are optional.
- Shoes must be black and a plain, sensible style (e.g. no sling backs, high heels, boots, black or other trainers, trainer style shoes, canvas shoes etc.)

We make every effort to ensure that the cost of our uniform is reasonable, but if you are in severe difficulties, please contact the school: any such approach will be treated in strictest confidence. Please also note that we have some second hand and nearly new uniform available for students. Please e-mail uniform@chenderit.net with your requirements and sizes. We will be pleased to advise you about current availability and condition, and a suggested donation.

Please ensure your children are following the uniform policy in order to avoid being sent home to resolve any issues and, consequently, missing learning.

Child to Child relationships

Our school's motto is 'Aim High, Work Hard and Be Nice' and, for the most part, our students conduct themselves in accordance with it. Occasionally, students use unkind words and derogatory language, or show intolerance towards others, perhaps because they see others as 'different' than themselves. If your child is subjected to unkind words or actions, please do not hesitate to bring this to the attention of your child's tutor or Head of Learning. We cannot begin to resolve something that we have not been informed about. Please do not forget that you child can also report issues that may affect them through the on-line reporting link:

<http://www.chenderit.northants.sch.uk/report-a-concern.asp>

Transport Update

There have been some timetable changes to the 500 bus service, including that they will run hourly in the middle of the day which is unlikely to affect our students.

Morning:

- Banbury Bus Station - 0800 - arriving Middleton Cheney Co-op - 0826.
- Brackley Market Place - 0739 - arriving Middleton Cheney Co-op - 0818.

Afternoon:

- Middleton Cheney Co-op - 15.31 - arriving Brackley Market Place - 15.49.
- Middleton Cheney Co-op - 15.23 - arriving Banbury Bus Station - 15.50.

Full timetables can be found on the Stagecoach website:

<https://www.stagecoachbus.com/service-updates/serviceupdatesarticle?SituationId=ID-09/08/2022-11:30:34:000>

The Knife Angel



The Knife Angel is a contemporary sculpture formed of 100,000 knives created by artist Alfie Bradley. Completed in 2018, the structure of the angel stands over 8m tall.

It has been on tour around the UK since 2018. At Chenderit we support the campaign to raise awareness for turning the tide on violent and aggressive behaviour, and as a poignant memorial for the countless lives lost to knife crime.

Northamptonshire Police will be visiting our school this academic year to promote awareness of the problems surrounding knife crime in Northamptonshire. This will include a knife arch as part of their initiative.

We acknowledge that this may not currently be a serious problem at Chenderit School, but we feel it is our responsibility to educate our students about the potential impact knife crime can have on young people's lives.

And finally, I wish all students a successful and enjoyable academic year that is centred around our motto: Aim High. Work Hard. Be Nice. Parents and carers, I look forward to welcoming you to Chenderit throughout the coming year in the full belief that it is when we work in partnership, in support of your child/ren, that we achieve the very best possible.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Jane Cartwright'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jane Cartwright
Headteacher