



County Upper School



Year 9 Information Booklet

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Summary

General guidance for who to contact:

Who to contact:	Examples might include:
1. Form Tutor	Lost items, friendship issues within the form, changes in personal circumstances.
2. Class/Subject Teacher	Questions or issues that relate to events that happen in the classroom or matters relating to a specific lesson or task, e.g. homework, behaviour sanctions etc.
3. Head of Subject or Head of Faculty	Matters relating to curriculum provision or longer term concerns about content of lessons, or behaviour in a particular subject.
4. Head of Year	More serious concerns: e.g. the general progress of a child across a number of subjects, behaviour matters that are not specific to one subject area, to make the school aware of problems/situations arising out of school which may affect your child's learning etc.
5. Senior Leadership Team	If your query or concern has not been addressed by the staff member you have contacted (see 1-4 above) or you continue to have concern.

Use the email office@countyupper.org and include the member of staff you want to contact in the subject line. The Front Office will forward the email to the relevant member of staff and will also cc the line manager of the area. Telephone: 01284 754857.

Term Dates 2022-23

Autumn Term 2022

Term Begins: Monday 5 September 2022
Half Term: Week commencing 24 October 2022
Term Ends: Friday 16 December 2022

Spring Term 2023

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Half Term: Week commencing 13 February 2023
Term Ends: Friday 31 March 2023

Summer Term 2023

Term Begins: Monday 17 April 2023
Half Term: Week commencing 29 May 2023
Term Ends: Friday 21 July 2023

PD Days

Thursday 1 September & Friday 2 September 2022
Friday 30 June 2023 (tbc)
Three further PD days will be confirmed once agreed

Uniform Sale

Tuesday 19th July 2022, 4.00pm - 7.00pm at
County Upper

Welcome

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

On behalf of everyone at County Upper, I warmly welcome you. We look forward to working with you as you settle in, but also as you progress through the years.

We hope that the information given here will help you to settle in quickly and so you are encouraged to read it carefully before you come and to bring it with you to help you through your first few weeks. We are confident that you will soon begin to enjoy a full, exciting and rewarding life here at County.

Make the most of your new start!



Our Values

County Upper is very much a community and every student here is important to us and valued equally. We hope that you will embrace all the opportunities that will be offered. We believe that everyone is an individual and we only ask students to work to 'be the best version of yourself'.

Our work is underpinned by Key Aspirations:

- We motivate students towards autonomy where they are able to make informed decisions.
- We treat everyone equally and fairly and students develop respect for all.
- We empower students to take opportunities within and beyond the curriculum.
- We celebrate excellence and achievement.
- We are a community: in all that we do we value kindness, consideration, pride and hard work.

Introduction to key staff



Headteacher
Ms Kennedy



Deputy Heads

Mr Stevenson (Teaching and Learning)
Mrs Thuell (Pastoral also Head of Safeguarding)

Assistant Heads

Mr Benson (Inclusion & SENDCo)
Mr Coleman (Teaching and Learning)
Mr Marshall (Aspiration beyond the Curriculum)
Mrs Middleditch (Aspiration within the Curriculum)



The Pastoral Team

A huge welcome to County Upper School from your Pastoral Team. We are looking forward to meeting you and getting to know you to help your time here be as successful as possible. The people you will get to know best are your Year Tutor and your Form Tutor. They are responsible for the day-to-day welfare of students.

The tutors will remain with the year group for the whole of the three year period in the main school. This will enable them to get to know each student well and to have a continuing link with parents of the year group. We will encourage students to become fully involved in the busy life of our school and we will support them in every way we can both inside and out of the classroom.



Head of Year 9 (September 2022)
Mrs Taylor

Pastoral Support

County Upper has a dedicated pastoral team that work to support students in a variety of ways. This includes working with families on attendance, providing one-to-one, small group work and well-being projects.



Deputy DSL:
Mrs Cooper

Pastoral/Inclusion

Coordinators:

Mr Karbouch
Mrs Broomfield
Mrs McKie
Mr Collins



Pastoral Support

Officers - Attendance:

Mrs Scallen and Ms Parnell





General Information

Home School Communications

A strong and supportive partnership between the home and the school is fundamental to the success of any child. There are a variety of reasons why you may wish to contact the school. In the first instance, you should do this via the school office, who can pass any queries to the appropriate person. The school office is open from 8.30am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday either by email or telephone.

Email: office@countyupper.org

Telephone: 01284 754857



Our main receptionist is Mrs Brinkley.

We use Parentmail and Go4Schools to stay in regular contact with home.

Parentmail allows us to communicate information with you and collect information from you as well as allowing you to pay for trips, resources and school meals.

Go4 schools allows parent/carers to receive up-to-date information about the progress of their child. You can access your child's timetable, attendance information, homework that has been set as well as school reports. It also allows you to see any achievement points they have earned through the day and notifies you of any behavioural issues and if after-school detentions have been issued.

Absence

Please telephone the main school office 01284 754857 between 7.00 am and 8.00 am on the first day of absence, where you can leave a message. If we do not receive a call, a member of staff will contact you to ensure the safety of your child.

Regular attendance at school is crucial in a young person fulfilling their academic potential, therefore, please support your child's education by booking appointments in the school holidays, late afternoons or at weekends. If your child does need to be absent for an appointment, please ensure that they bring the appointment card/letter into school.

Parents are urged not to take term time holidays during their children's time with us when all the work is in modules leading to public examinations. It is illegal to take holiday in term time and head teachers can no longer authorise.

If a student's attendance falls below 95% contact will be made with parent/carers to identify any areas of support that may be needed. Missing just 9.5 days in an academic year will place attendance below this threshold of concern. Persistent absence (PA) is defined as an attendance rate of 90% or below.

Punctuality

Arriving late at school and in lessons is very disruptive for the teacher and other class members. It also means that late students themselves miss important input from teachers. The school day begins with form time and registration. Students should be at their form for 9.00am to meet their teacher. Any student who is late will have to sign in at the Student Services/Late Gate . If a student arrives late three times, to school and/or to lesson, then they will be issued with an after-school detention.



Uniform Guidance and Expectations

Clothing

- Plain mid grey school skirt, full-length trousers or tailored shorts (not black).
- “County Upper” polo shirt
Shirts to be worn tucked in.
- “County Upper” pullover (compulsory from September to Easter).
- Students can wear any item under their shirt (white, if visible) for additional warmth and/or a coat (not sweatshirt) over their jumper to, from and around school and at break and lunchtimes. Coats are not to be worn in tutor time or lesson times.
- *Hoodies are not to be worn on site at any time - they will be confiscated if worn and returned to the student at the end of the half term.*
- *Hats may not be worn inside the buildings.*

Footwear

- Black, sensible, safe, suitable school shoes (not trainers or trainer style).
- Shoes with sports branding such as ‘Nike’ or ‘Adidas’ are not permitted.
- Canvas shoes and plimsolls (including leather style kicker plimsolls) may not be worn.
- *The school holds a stock of shoes to be issued to students as an interim measure when students are unable to wear their school shoes (eg shoe is broken or lost).*
- Guidance from Suffolk Podiatry Service is that orthotics can be worn with supportive lace up shoes and indeed that the wearing of lace up supportive shoes are appropriate for the majority of foot conditions to help rectify the temporary condition. Therefore, any requests to wear trainers for medical reasons must be accompanied by a medical letter from the practice that has identified that shoes *are not suitable* for the condition, this should also include a review date. Clarkes also produce a ‘cushion soft’ range with memory foam base to support conditions.

PE Kit

- Bury Sports Trust navy shorts or skort.
- Bury Sports Trust navy polo shirt.
- Bury Sports Trust navy socks.
- Correct footwear (trainers/studs).
- Students are permitted to wear navy or black base layers. If girls wear leggings alone however they **MUST** be the County Upper Navy Leggings. It is recommended students have the County Upper navy long sleeve top (cold weather lessons), as no other type/branding of kit is permitted.

Jewellery rules

- Students are permitted to wear one pair of plain studs - one stud per ear.
- *No other jewellery is permitted (no necklaces/bracelets/rings/nose studs/tongue studs and other body piercings are not allowed).*
- *Smart watches are not permitted.*
- *If jewellery is worn that is not permitted, it will be confiscated and can be collected at the end of the half term from the Head of Year.*

Make-up and Hair

- Any make-up must be discrete and hair must be a natural colour.
- Nail extensions/gel nails or elongated nails are not allowed; coloured nail varnish is not permitted.
- False eye lashes/eye lash extensions are not permitted.
- Hair shaved to a “number 0” is not allowed and ‘extravagant’ styles will be referred to the Head of Year.

These expectations for the wearing of uniform apply throughout the school day, including lunchtime. If students or parents/carers are in any doubt, they should seek advice from the Head of Year before items are purchased.

Uniform Sale

On 19th July 4-7pm you are welcome into school to meet with the uniform suppliers at County Upper School. This means you can check on uniform sizes and purchase uniform in person. Alternatively, branded uniform items can be purchased from:
www.yourschoolwear.co.uk/county-upper-school-bury-st-edmund-260-c.asp

For online purchases of County Upper Polo Shirt, Jumper and PE Kits

Uniform Supplier: www.yourschoolwear.co.uk/county-upper-school-bury-st-edmunds-260-c.asp



School Photos

Please also note that all year 9 students will be photographed individually on the 13th September.

Mobile Phones

You are permitted to carry a mobile phone in your bag if it is switched off.

Our school policy is “not seen and not heard”.

If your mobile phone is seen or heard it will be confiscated by a member of staff. On the first occasion, the confiscation will be recorded and the student can collect the phone at the end of the school day from the front office. If the phone is confiscated for a second time, a parent is required to collect the phone at their convenience.

Earphones and smart watches are not allowed and will be confiscated if seen or heard. These will be returned following the same rules as phone confiscations.

Medical Support

If a student feels unwell they should inform their subject teacher who will get someone to collect you and take you to first aid at Student Services. At lunchtime, you should alert a member of duty staff, or go straight to Student Services.

Staff will decide with your Year Tutor whether to telephone your parent to collect you if you are too ill to remain in school. You must never leave school without permission or ring your parent yourself.

If a student has regular, or temporary medication that they need to take on site, this must be brought to reception where it can be kept. Please ensure it is clearly labelled.



Forgotten PE KIT

The PE department do keep a stock of spare clothing that can be borrowed if a student forgets theirs.

Lost Property

Students are not advised to bring any valuables to school, as we are not liable for loss or damage. If a student loses an item they should ask at Student Services.

Free School Meals

Your child may be eligible for free school meals if parents/carers receive any of the following:

- Income Support.
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance.
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance.
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit.
- Child Tax Credit but not Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenues and Customs) that does not exceed £16,190.
- If you are supported under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after your employment finishes or after you start to work less hours per week.
- Universal Credit.

It's quick and easy to apply for free school meals in Suffolk online at www.suffolk.gov.uk*

To check if your child is eligible call:
01284 758883 (Bury St Edmunds and surrounding area).

Children who receive any of the above benefits in their own right (ie they get benefit payments directly, instead of through a parent or carer) can also get free school meals. We strongly advise you, even though your child may not wish to claim their free school meal, you still apply as this can help to access additional funds to support your child's learning, including trips and events. If your child already receives Free School Meals there is no need to reapply. Please contact the school if we can support you with this.



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Friday 30 June 2023 (tbc)

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Home School Agreement

County Upper Home School Agreement

Our Home School Agreement encapsulates the aims and values of County Upper School, and makes clear the expectations of both the school, its parents and the pupils themselves, working together in partnership to ensure that all young people are successful. Parents, students and the school will all be asked to sign to acknowledge this shared starting point to school at County Upper.

Aims and Values:

County Upper School wishes to be a place where students flourish and feel safe and happy; where innate curiosity is fostered and challenged by a curriculum that motivates, involves and inspires. We promote a collegiate ethos which fosters healthy friendships and ensures the well-being of all, with a positive peer group culture in which achievement and dedication are celebrated along with the values of empathy, kindness and moral responsibility.

The school will:

- Care for your child's safety, happiness and welfare.
- Ensure that your child achieves their potential as a valued member of the school community.
- Provide a curriculum that challenges, motivates and meets the needs of your child.
- Encourage high standards of work and behaviour, building good relationships and fostering a sense of personal responsibility.
- Keep you and your child informed of their progress and other school matters.
- Be open and welcoming at all times, offering opportunities for you to voice your concerns and support the daily life of the school.

Parent(s)/Carer(s) will:

- Support the school, its aims, ethos, policies and guidelines.
- Support school sanctions where they are incurred.
- See that their child maintains good attendance, arriving on time for school.
- Ensure students attend school in the correct uniform and with the correct equipment for the school day.
- Let the school know of concerns or problems that may affect my child's work or behaviour.
- Inform the school on the first day of any absence before 9am.
- Agree planned absence in advance (term time holidays may not be authorised).
- Work with school and outside agencies to support progress and well-being.
- Encourage their child to participate in extra-curricular opportunities offered by the school.
- Communicate concerns through the appropriate channels.

Students will:

- Attend school regularly and on time, and be punctual to lessons.
- Bringing all the equipment I need everyday.
- Wear correct school uniform at all times.
- Undertake all class and homework tasks as well as I can, and hand them in on time.
- Be courteous, helpful and respectful to all members of our school community.
- Be committed to school life and participate in its activities inside and outside the classroom.
- Respect and care for the school environment, its rules and community.
- Inform an appropriate staff member of any concerns or worries.

Acceptable Use of ICT Policy

Students understand that the rules which follow are designed to keep them safe, and that where they are not followed school sanctions will be applied and parents and carers will be contacted.

All students will:

- Only use school/college ICT systems for school/ educational purposes, whether in school or not.
- Not engage in any form of cyber bullying.
- Report any instances of cyber bullying that they become aware of.
- Only log on to the school network/ learning platform with their school username and password.
- Never share a school username or password with anyone else.
- Always log off properly when finished using school systems/platforms.
- Not download or install software on school technologies or use USB flash drives/memory sticks on school hardware.
- Use only their school e-mail address for school matters including contacting teachers.
- Not attempt to access confidential or restricted information on the school network.
- Not try to bypass the internet filtering systems.
- Make sure that all electronic communications are responsible, respectful and sensible.
- Not browse, download, upload or forward material that could be considered offensive, upsetting to others or illegal. (If such material is come across accidentally, report it immediately to your teacher).
- Respect the privacy and ownership of others' work on-line at all times.
- Understand that in school, all use of the internet, (including keystrokes on school devices and other related technologies), may be filtered, monitored, logged and made available to teachers in order to protect students, along with the integrity of school systems.



Getting Ready for Learning

The School Day

08.55: Go to registration

09.00: Form Time

09.25: Lesson 1

10.15: Lesson 2

11.05: BREAK

11.25: Go to lesson

11.30: Lesson 3

12.20: Lesson 4

13.10: LUNCH

13.55: Go to lesson 5

14:00 Lesson 5

14.50: Lesson 6

15.40: End of school day

Break and Lunchtime

Students are expected to be outside at break-time and lunchtime unless they are visiting the coffee shop where they are allowed to stay and eat. Students are allowed inside if they are attending an extra-curricular activity supervised by a member of staff, if they are attending the library or they are visiting the toilet facilities.

Break Time

During break you must stay on the school site. Food is available in the coffee shop – please also eat it in this area. Please remember to put your litter in the bin.

Lunch time

During lunch time you must stay on site. Self-service lunch is served in the coffee shop. There is a queuing system and year group entrance to the coffee shop is rotated so that each year group has a term of being first in line.

All food is to be eaten in the coffee shop or outside. It is expected that people will treat the facilities with respect and ensure the areas are left as they are found, with litter placed in bins.

Lunchtime also offers various interesting opportunities. There are a range of lunchtime clubs that cater for a wide variety of needs and interests. There are also quieter options, such as our learning space, computer access as well as the use of the library facilities.

If it is raining the following are designated spaces:

Year 9: Gym

Year 10: Hall

Year 11: Coffee Shop

Tutor Time

Every morning students meet with their form class and teacher. The tutor's role is to support Students as they work to become the best version of themselves. They monitor the progress both academically and socially of the student as they progress through their time at County. This also means carrying out reviews of progress, checking planners, encouraging involvement in extra-curricular, as well as a commitment to high standards of work and behaviour.

During form times students will undertake some beliefs and values activities, engage in debates, complete form quizzes and attend year group assemblies.

Assemblies

MON: Year 11

TUE: Year 9

WED: Sixth Form

THU: Year 10

FRI: Year 9

Library

County Upper Library has a wide selection of fiction and non-fiction for all ages. Regular communication with teaching staff means that Revision Guides for GCSE and A Level plus extra class textbooks can be found here. The Recommended Reads from our English department are all held, along with a regularly updated selection of popular Young Adult titles. Suggestions from students for new titles are always welcomed.



Mrs Cox



Mrs Harvey

Curriculum

Our curriculum is built to be challenging, motivational and inspirational. We operate on a two-weekly timetable and students should ensure that they are organised for the correct week.

The study of German in addition to French in Year 9 is facilitated by having less literacy support and less PE than the single language classes.



Expectations of Students

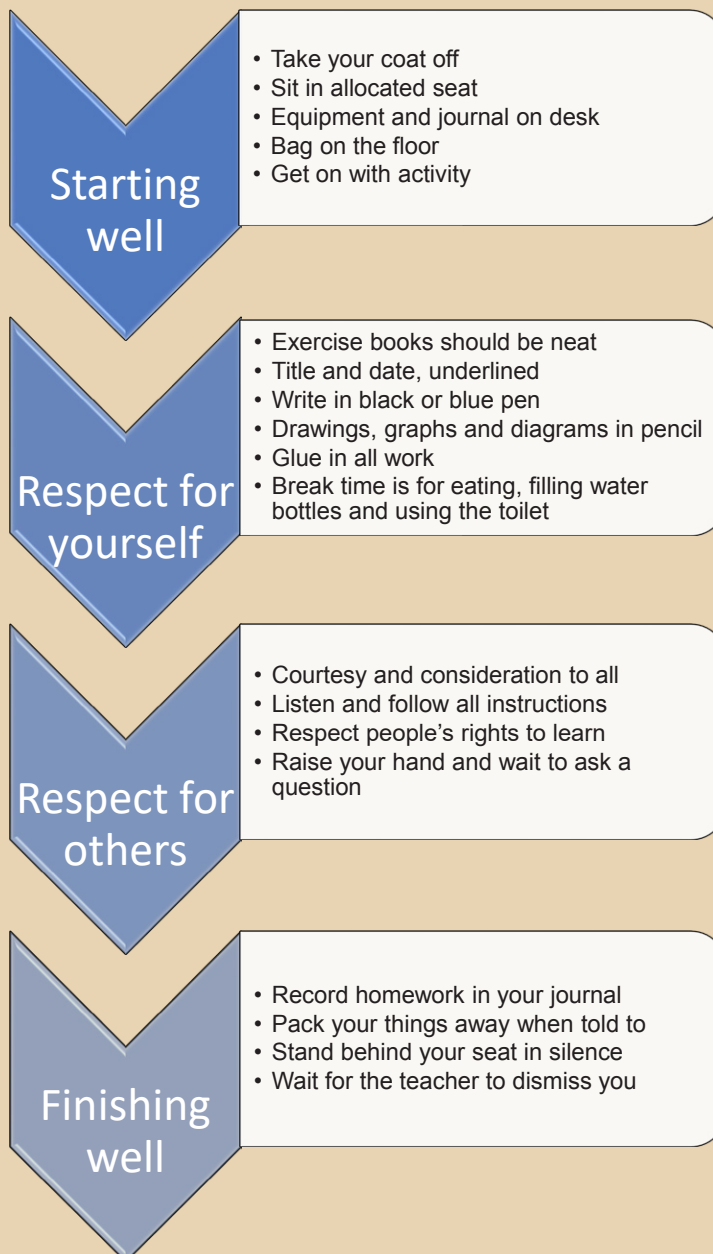
Around the school

Always be respectful to all other members of the County community. As you walk around the school site you should move calmly and quietly. To support movement at lesson changeover always try to walk on the left-hand side of corridors and on the stairs.

The school site is a space shared by many students and staff, and therefore we hope that all facilities are of a good standard. We ask that students report any concerns about facilities to Student Services as soon as possible, so they can be sorted before the next user.

Classroom behaviour for learning routines

Staff provide clear instructions on what is expected in class. This is so that students have a clear understanding of how to meet those expectations and focus in their learning.



Be the Best Version of Yourself

The School Day	
8.55:	Go to registration
9.00:	Registration
9.25:	Lesson 1
10.15:	Lesson 2
11.05:	BREAK
11.25:	Go to lesson
11.30:	Lesson 3
12.20:	Lesson 4
13.10:	LUNCH
13.55:	Go to lesson 5
14.00:	Lesson 5
14.50:	Lesson 6
15.40:	End of school day

Assemblies	
MON:	Year 11
TUE:	Year 9
WED:	Sixth Form
THU:	Year 10
FRI:	Year 9

Lunch Times	
Summer Term 1	
13.15:	Year 11
13.25:	Year 9
13.35:	Year 10
Summer Term 2	
13.15:	Year 10
13.25:	Year 9

If it is raining the following are designated spaces:	
Year 9:	Gym
Year 10:	Hall
Year 11:	Canteen

Rewards

We believe in a school culture that has success at it's centre. We aim for all our students to be aspirational and we encourage them to: 'Be the Best Version of Yourself'.

We want to celebrate students' achievements as much as possible. We do this through various means:

- Praise
- Achievement Points Certificates
- Praise Cards
- Attendance Awards
- End of year Subject Awards

Behaviour Expectations

Students will be expected to follow the routines for learning. If a student struggles to meet these they will be clearly reminded of the behaviour we wish to see. If behaviour is not adjusted students will face our system of consequences which include:

- Warning
- After school detention (30 minutes)
- Removal from class and after school detention (60 minutes)

Classroom Behaviour for learning routines

Clear Aspirations

At County Upper School you can be the best version of yourself. Achievements will be celebrated. Achievement Points recognise your positive attitude to learning. Once you gain a set number of Achievement Points over the year (25,50,100,150, etc.) you will earn Achievement Certificates.

Recognition

Teachers will recognise and acknowledge that you are working at expectations.

A1 Achievement

Students who demonstrate excellent attitude to learning, classwork or homework will be awarded an A1 Achievement. This will be recorded on Go4Schools by the teacher as an Achievement Point.

A2 Praise

Students who demonstrate exceptional attitude to learning, behaviour, effort or achievement will be awarded an A2 'Praise'. This will be recorded on Go4Schools by the teacher and a Subject Praise Card will be sent home.

Classroom Behaviour for learning routines

Clear Expectations

To ensure that all students are able to make good progress and learn in a calm environment free from disruption, we have high expectations of the standards of behaviour for all our students.

Teachers will give you clear and explicit instructions so everybody knows what they are expected to do, and how they are expected to do it. It is important to listen to these instructions so you know what is expected of you.

Warning

Students who do not meet the expectations that have been set out will be given a 'Warning'. This warning serves as a reminder that you will need to change your behaviour.

D1 Sanction

Students who do not improve their behaviour following a Warning will be given a D1 Sanction. This will be recorded on Go4Schools by the teacher and will include an **after-school detention for 30 minutes** the next day.

D2 Removal

Students who continue to disrupt the learning of other students following a D1 Sanction will be removed from the classroom and taken to an On Call room. They will attend an **after-school detention for 60 minutes** the next day.

Equipment

In order to maximize the learning opportunities at County Upper School students need to be organised and ready to learn. Students should bring the following equipment to school.

- Correct uniform, named
- Planner
- Black pen (biro, ink pens or thin fibre tips)
- Purple pen (for self assessment)
- Pencils and sharpener
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Scientific calculator (we would recommend Casio FX83GT or FX85GT for ease of use)
- Geometry set
- Glue stick
- Highlighters – at least two colours
- A pencil case to keep them in!
- Water bottle
- PE Kit, named

If you have forgotten any equipment, please see student services before school or at break and lunch to purchase items you may need.

Student Planners

All students are issued with a student planner. The first section contains key information about the expectations and routines of the school. They also have a section for students to write down their homework in. If you lose your student planner, you must buy a new one. The final section includes helpful topic sheets for different subjects and a mini whiteboard that can be used in class.

Students should use their planner as much as possible to organise their working habits. They should always have it with them. They can check it each evening to ensure they do not forget to do any homework.

We also ask that parent/carers look at and sign the journal each week, as it is an effective way of ensuring that your child remains organised and focused on their studies.

Homework

Homework has many benefits as an independent consolidation and extension of learning.

- Key Stage 3 students should expect to be set up to 45 minutes per subject each week
- Key Stage 4 students should expect to be set up to 60 minutes per subject each week

It is important to engage students with a variety of homework experiences. Activities can vary from:

- Completion of classwork
- Revising material
- Watching and making notes on GCSEPod
- Practical work
- Carrying out surveys
- Engaging in research
- Essay and report writing
- Watching educational programmes
- Preparing for talks, speech, plays, etc.
- Field work

Your work

- Students should write homework into their planner and tick it off once complete
- Homework needs to be handed in on time: meeting deadlines is an important focus.
- The computer centre and the library are available at lunchtime to support students in their homework.
- If you find a piece of homework too difficult to complete, ask your subject teacher for support, before the lesson.

Take working in your **STRIDE**

Space

Create a clear, well lighted space to work in, away from distractions and the noise of others in the house



Remove distractions

Electronic devices can alert you to all sorts of things, put them out of sight and hearing

Do

Be active in your revision, watch a clip and make a revision card, test yourself, do online quizzes, re-write notes, then highlight them, make drawings to summarise what you have learnt, dictate your ideas and listen back, plan essays and then put them onto flash cards

Time

Create a routine for when you are doing homework. Make sure that you are also not spending too much time on one piece of work and are getting time in for relaxation and rest



IT

You may need to use a computer for research or to do quizzes or find information, but be sure not to get distracted



Engage in discussion

Sometimes telling people about what you have been learning can help you retain information

Personal Development

Careers

We are extremely proud to introduce to you 'County Upper Directions': our exciting approach to delivering an outstanding careers programme to our students.

CU Directions is being delivered by staff and many external partners in line with the Gatsby Benchmarks and the careers development framework requirements. We have successfully launched further careers guidance through our pastoral programme. Students focus on many elements, including reflecting on 'personal qualities', 'the world of work; what employers want' and 'the changing job market'. We have been very fortunate to have

worked with 'Multiverse', promoting apprenticeships with multi-national companies. In addition to this, pupils receive details on current labour market information through assemblies and weekly email updates.

We are very fortunate to have a Level 6 Careers Adviser. Mrs Walton conducts 1-1 interviews with students across all year groups. As we continue to develop, further opportunities for employer encounters are being planned through our reintroduction of work experience. Our students and parents have access to our chosen online platform; Unifrog. Our 'Oxbridge' programme continues to be successful, and we are immensely proud to start preparing students as soon as they join County Upper. Further details about our careers programme and opportunities to provide feedback can be found at <https://www.countyupper.org/curriculum/ceiag/>

- we look forward to hearing from you.

Beliefs and Values

Through a broad and balanced curriculum (including Personal, Social, Health and Careers Education (PSHEE), assemblies, academic tutoring) we aim to create an atmosphere in which everyone, regardless of race, creed, gender, culture or ability, is aware of their right to be valued, respected, listened to and believed. We wish all students to know that they do not have to accept the actions of others towards them without question and that they are entitled to share their concerns within or outside the campus community.

Beliefs and Values incorporates Healthy Relationships, Sex and Education (HRSE), Religious Studies, Careers and Citizenship.

Our curriculum builds on the learning that has taken place in the middle phase. It builds on their knowledge and provides a learning programme that will reflect age appropriate content and discussion. Our course is designed to not only meet the statutory requirements, but also to encourage students to appreciate a wide range of religions, philosophies and viewpoints which will enable them to make informed choices and decisions. Please see the school website for the full programme of study.

If in a term we are covering some sensitive topics we inform parent/carers in advance, as you may want to discuss with students at home. If any extra support is required as we explore these areas you can contact the school office who will direct your enquiry to the B&V or Tutor Team

SEND

Here at County Upper we look to support our students pastorally and academically to “be the very best version of themselves”. We look to do this by using Quality First Teaching in the classroom, that looks to make learning accessible to all students. However, we also appreciate that at times students may need additional support. This support may be temporary, or it may be on a more permanent basis.

We work closely with our feeder schools to ensure a smooth transition for all students, but even more so for those who have any additional identified needs. We welcome open communication with parents and encourage you to contact us with any concerns. We look to support students dependent on need and adopt an “Assess, Plan, Do, Review” provision.

Gathering information from you is immensely helpful in providing the best provision for your child and therefore we look to work with you to understand what works best.

Our SEND team may work alongside teachers in the classroom to support students in their learning or students may be withdrawn from certain lessons to provide additional precision teaching or further additional support.

Our team:

Mr Benson (Assistant Headteacher & SENDCo)
Mrs Howell
Mrs Earle
Mrs Davey
Mrs Woolton

Support

At County Upper School we consider safeguarding to be everyone's responsibility and as such our aim is to create an environment within which every student has the opportunity to be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution and achieve economic well-being. We promote positive messages surrounding safeguarding through our work with students; through our pastoral programme and through our curriculum.

We understand our duty to safeguard and promote the welfare and wellbeing of children and young people in our care and those who work here. Through our work we aim to ensure a safe learning and working environment for pupils, staff and visitors alike. We take our responsibilities in relation to safeguarding and child protection very seriously.

If you have any worries or concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing please contact us and speak to a member of the Safeguarding Team.

However, if you feel that a child is in immediate danger you can call the Suffolk Safeguarding team directly at Customer First on: 0808 8004005.

School Nurses 0345 607 8866

Suffolk Wellbeing Hub 0345 6002090

NSPCC 0808 800 5000

Childline - www.childline.org.uk - 0800 1111

CEOP www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre

The Source www.thesource.me.uk

Kooth - online counselling service - www.kooth.com

Safeguarding cu.safeguarding@countyupper.org

Report cu.report@countyupper.org

Samaritans - emotional support and suicide prevention charity - www.Samaritans.org - 116 123

Think Ninja App - skills to build your resilience

Emotional Wellbeing Hub - 0345 600 2090

Papyrus - suicide and prevention charity for young people - 0800 068 4141

Domestic Violence - 080 820 00247

NHS - non emergency advice line 111

Police - non emergency line 101

Report abuse in education - sexual harassment or abuse in schools, colleges and universities 0800 136 663

Our designated safeguarding staff



Mrs Thuell

DSL-Designated Safeguarding Lead and Designated Teacher for looked-after children
Deputy Head Teacher
jthuell@countyupper.org



Mr Marshall

Assistant Head Teacher
ADSL
nmarshall@countyupper.org



Ms Kennedy

Head Teacher
skennedy@countyupper.org



Mrs Cooper

Deputy DSL
rcoper@countyupper.org



Mr Froy

Executive Director of Education (Secondary) Unity Schools Partnership
nfroy@unitysp.co.uk



Mr Benson

SENDCO Assistant Head Teacher
mbenson@countyupper.org

Any safeguarding concern email: cu.safeguarding@countyupper.org



County Upper School



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