



Every Student Thriving

15 November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

OFSTED

After what seems like an eternity our most recent Ofsted report is now available. You can read it [here](#).

The headline is that we remain a very securely GOOD school. This is fantastic news and reflects the support that you show for the school, the brilliant conduct of our students and the passionate and relentless commitment that the staff demonstrate on a daily basis. Three inspectors visited and were in and out of every 'nook and cranny' of the school. It was very evident at an early stage that we continue to meet good standards and it was delightful to have conversations about steps that could be taken to 'level up'.

The inspectors were impressed with our new vision: 'Every Student Thriving' and could see that this has already rooted itself in our daily practice. It was also a delight to see parents commenting on this. They also commented on how well our new fundamentals have been established by the staff and this could be seen consistently in lessons.

The parent view was also very positive. You can check this out by visiting the parent view website. SEN satisfaction has increased significantly since the last inspection and the percentage of children experiencing some form of bullying has reduced.

I think the opening lines in the section entitled 'What is this school like to attend?' sum up everything that is fundamental to our ethos:



"Pupils are happy here and are welcoming to visitors. The behaviour and relationships are very positive, both in lessons and in social time. The school has a family feel and its vision of 'every student thriving' underpins all its work. Its work with vulnerable pupils is extremely well coordinated and valued by pupils and parents alike. This contributes to the school's highly inclusive and supportive culture."

These lines make me very proud indeed and they should make YOU proud as well. Schools were built to serve their immediate and local communities. John Colet has fiercely maintained its independence and as a result we have retained our uniqueness and progressive spirit. Your support as parents and carers is crucial to our position in the educational landscape and we thank you for this continued support (even during the difficult times!).

Like all institutions we can always improve and as we look into the future we feel that we now have three to four years where we can challenge ourselves to raise the bar further. This may involve some transformative thinking but I am now in a position, after just over a year, where I can consult on a much grander scale when formulating the next three year plan. The work on getting to great will start in the summer.

Take care - Mr Brierly

Ready - Respectful - Responsible



Every Student Thriving

REMINDERS & NOTICES

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 12 Consultation evening	-	Thursday 21 November
Year 11 Mocks begin	-	Wednesday 27 November
Year 13 Mocks begin	-	Thursday 12 December
Xmas Concert	-	Thursday 19 December

CURRENT VACANCIES

- Learning Support Assistants
- Business Studies Teacher

Please check our website for further details [here](#).

PARKING - REMINDER

A PLEA : Please could you ensure that you do not park in or block access to the Wendover Health Centre. IT IS NOT A DROP OFF ZONE and car issues are beginning to impact significantly on the centre's ability to operate effectively. Thank you.

SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

SEXTORTION

Young people are more vulnerable than ever due to the amount of time they typically spend online. With this in mind, the National Crime Agency (NCA) has, earlier this week sent an alert out to all schools nationally regarding "sextortion" and its prevalence. [Please see this link](#) for further information.

SAFEGUARDING LEADS & INFORMATION



Mr Crawford
Deputy Headteacher
DSL



**Be Safe,
Be Kind**



Mrs Rowland
*Operational Safeguarding Lead
DDSL

If parents have any concerns about this practice or, believe that any young person at John Colet School might be at risk, then please do contact one of the members of our Safeguarding Team via

safeguarding@johncolet.co.uk

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SAFEGUARDING ADVICE FOR PARENTS : Click [HERE](#) for practical tips

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel ..." or "I think ..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each another.

9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/choose-respect>



Every Student Thriving

ROAD SAFETY WEEK



Monday 18th November to Friday 22nd November is

National Road Safety week

Six children are killed or seriously injured on UK roads every day and road traffic injuries are the main cause of death among young people across the world.

Every educational provider on our school campus is committed to keeping the roads on and around our buildings as safe as possible. We have noted more and more near misses on our campus and we fear it is only a matter of time before there is a serious accident if unauthorised vehicles continue to gain access. We regularly note irresponsible driving and inconsiderate parking and this puts all campus users in danger.

We believe that every young person has the right to take a safe and healthy route to and from their place of education each day. During the week commencing 18th November there will be a greater staff presence at the barriers and on the campus road in our attempt to challenge those who are gaining unauthorised access. We hope to be joined by representatives from Buckinghamshire Council as well as parking enforcement officers to help us reinforce this message.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you:

- Only authorised vehicles and delivery vehicles are permitted to drive onto the campus
- Vehicles should not be parked on double yellow lines, hatched areas or footpaths **at any time** – any vehicle must be parked in a marked bay
- Vehicles must not tailgate at barriers in an attempt to gain access
- There is a strict 10 mph speed limit in force on campus and that vehicles must be driven with care, giving way to pedestrians

By working together, we aim to make the campus a safer place for all children and young people.

If you would like to get involved, please contact the appropriate educational provider directly.



*Buds that Blossom
Day Nursery*



Wendover Swimming Pool

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CHRISTMAS DINNER

**A
VERY**
*Merry
Christmas*
MENU

*Celebrate with Culinera
this December!*

Christmas turkey
with all the trimmings
or
Butternut squash red onion
and feta Wellington
with all the trimmings
to finish
Black forest chocolate brownie
Fresh fruit salad
Winter ripple meringue
with mixed berries

£4.40
by **culinera**



Every Student Thriving



Opening Hours

Every day 8.15am - 8.45am

We have a good selection of second hand uniform items all at **no charge!**

blazers

jumpers

trousers

skirts

white shirts

PE kit items

If you **need** an item or want to **borrow** or **swap** something for a different size please visit the shop during opening hours. For more information or to request an item please email [**uniformshop@johncolet.co.uk**](mailto:uniformshop@johncolet.co.uk)

We rely on donations so can't guarantee we will have all items in stock.

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COMMUNITY SUPPORT

STAY TRUE TO YOU

**Free online training sessions
for parents, carers and wider family
or community members**

Tuesday 12 November, 6.30pm–8.30pm (online) → [register in advance](#)
Thursday 21 November, 6.30pm–8.30pm (online) → [register in advance](#)

Course content:

Everyone is worried about the levels of violence in our community, particularly knife crime involving young people.

The Stay True to You campaign aims to prevent violence by taking a positive approach to supporting young people to help them build confidence and make the right decisions.

Open to all parents, carers and wider family members, these sessions are an opportunity to better understand the facts, including:

- Risk factors to crime and violence
- Exploitation and county drug lines
- Online harm
- How fear drives weapon carrying
- Legal consequences
- How to have those difficult conversations and create trusted relationships
- Sources of help and support

Tuesday 12 November 6.30pm–8.30pm (online)

Register in advance at bit.ly/stty-12nov2024

Thursday 21 November 6.30pm–8.30pm (online)

Register in advance at bit.ly/stty-21nov2024

Or visit the training page on the website:
staytrueto you.co.uk/upcoming-training-dates-parents/

Contact

info@staytrueto you.co.uk



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FREE ON-LINE YOUTH SUPPORT FROM BUCKS



How to deal with... **Stress, Anxiety and Low Mood** Online course for young people

Would you like to feel better about life? Do you feel stuck and need some tips on how to move on?

If you're in school years 7 and above then our 5-week, online course could be for you!

5 sessions cover:

- What stress, anxiety and low mood actually are
- Strategies to feel better
- How to deal with setbacks
- Planning for a brighter future

For more information or to secure your place, scan or click the QR code.

If you need help please email familyinfo@buckinghamshire.gov.uk



Thursdays
26 September to
24 October
6pm to 7pm



Tuesdays
12 November to
10 December
6pm to 7pm



SCAN OR
CLICK ME



How to build **Confidence and Self-Esteem** Online course for young people

Want to feel better about yourself? Want to feel more confident around other people?

If you're in school year 7 or above, then our interactive online course could be for you.

6 sessions cover:

- Why the media affects how we see ourselves
- How to cope better with setbacks
- How to deal with peer pressure
- How to feel better about ourselves

To secure your place or for more information, scan or click the QR code.

If you need help email familyinfo@buckinghamshire.gov.uk



Thursdays
19 September to
24 October
6pm to 7pm



Tuesdays
12 November to
10 December
6pm to 7pm



SCAN OR
CLICK ME