



Caroline Chisholm School

Ambition Confidence Success
Everyone Every Lesson Every Opportunity



Welcome

Welcome to Caroline Chisholm School. We are a high-achieving school, and we develop children to be high performing, empathetic and happy young adults who are equipped for life beyond school.

Our curriculum is challenging, and our pastoral system is supportive. We have an outstanding extra-curricular programme that is designed to grow and nurture the strengths and talents of our students.

At Caroline Chisholm School, we build strong, lasting relationships with both parents and students to ensure that all those involved feel proud to be a part of our shared community.

Our values - Ambition, Confidence and Success - underpin learning and all aspects of school life. We strive for excellence in all areas of learning so our students can also achieve success.

Our vision is that all students should be fully prepared for the next step in their journey, wherever that may take them. We recognise this requires great commitment from all staff, students and families.

By choosing Caroline Chisholm School, you can be assured that your child's success will be our highest priority. We look forward to shaping your child's unique learning journey and having the opportunity to develop a rewarding partnership with your family.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D James', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

David James
Principal

Our Vision

Caroline Chisholm School is a safe, secure and inspirational learning environment at the heart of our community where everyone is equally valued and respected; a community built on:

Ambition by developing the school culture, where everyone:

- strives to be the best they can become
- aspires to ambitious goals
- nurtures and supports

Confidence where everyone develops self-belief by:

- overcoming challenges
- taking calculated risks
- upholding our shared values

Success where everyone is inspired to:

- become a high performing learner
- embrace a range of rich and diverse opportunities
- celebrate achievement in all its forms



Our School

Caroline Chisholm School is at the heart of the local community. It is a very successful, oversubscribed “all through” school serving students from the ages of 4 to 19. We have an impressive track record of academic success, as well as providing a caring and supportive environment for students. We are keen to ensure that this is a happy school, where expectations and standards are high, and students are challenged to achieve the best outcomes.

Students joining Year 7

Caroline Chisholm School is an academy trust and West Northamptonshire Council coordinates our admissions. Our approach to admissions is founded upon three principles:

- **Community cohesion** – schools can have a powerful positive influence in fostering a sense of community and bringing together diverse groups within the community.
- **Family cohesion** – it is important for families, and supports good relationships between siblings, if children from the same family can attend the same school.
- **Continuity of learning** – our all through school enables us to provide a clear curriculum progression from the

Tutor Groups

All students are allocated a tutor group, in which they will spend 15 minutes at the beginning of each day. All students in KS3, KS4 and KS5 use this time for reflection, assembly, development of cultural capital and pastoral issues.



The School Day

Students can arrive from 8.15 am onwards. We expect students to arrive at school **before 8.40 am** as school starts **promptly at 8.45 am**. The school day includes flexible lunchtime arrangements so that all students have time for a proper break with appropriate access to our dining facilities. Secondary phase timings of the school day are:

	08:45	09:00	09:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:20	11:50	12:20	12:50	13:20	13:50	14:20	14:50	15:20
Year 7	Tutor time	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Lesson 3	Lesson 4	Break	Lesson 5	DEAR	Lunch	Lesson 8	Lesson 9	Lesson 10	Lesson 11	Lesson 12	
Year 8/9	Tutor time	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Lesson 3	Lesson 4	Break	Lesson 5	Lesson 6	Lesson 7	Lunch	Lesson 9	Lesson 10	Lesson 11	Lesson 12	
Year 10/11	Tutor time	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Lesson 3	Lesson 4	Break	Lesson 5	Lesson 6	Lesson 7	Lesson 8	Lunch	Lesson 10	Lesson 11	Lesson 12	

The House System

We embrace opportunities for cross phase learning and interaction between our three phases: primary, secondary and sixth form. Our house system is designed to embody the values and ethos of our school and is an integral part of our school community. We want students to be proud of their school and their house and work with peers of all ages. Our house system provides each student with:

- A sense of belonging/identity within the school community
- Opportunities to develop social, intellectual, physical and practical skills
- A sense of achievement both inside and outside of the classroom
- Fun and excitement through competition
- Opportunities for leadership
- An awareness of individual and collective responsibility



Digital devices

Our digital device strategy allows teachers to plan more interactive lessons for students and increasingly enhances their online learning skills. We provide every student in Year 7-11 with access to a WinBook to use on a daily basis in school.

With many months of digital learning during lockdown, our students have become accustomed to and taken full advantage of their devices and they appreciate the key benefits to their learning. Each Year 7-11 student is also provided with their own locker to store and charge their device when it is not in use.



Keeping in Touch with Parents and Carers

Information about your child's performance is reported electronically. We have at least one Parents' Evening per year group each year. We also hold information evenings for our parents to explain new courses or key changes to the curriculum throughout the year.

We want parents to feel in touch with the school. Parents have access to a round-the-clock database of their child's timetables, curriculum overview, attendance, reports, homework, exams information and an online booking service for parents' evenings via Edulink One. Other communication systems include phone calls home, text messages and email services to parents.

At the point when students transition from primary to secondary education, our transitional arrangements ensure that all children become familiar with life in Key Stage 3 before the new school term starts. The transition team prioritise visiting students in their primary settings and invite all students to a full transition day in July. We have been fortunate enough to run very successful summer school programmes for incoming students, which help settle them into their new surroundings while meeting new students transitioning with them. The first few days of September are also dedicated to helping students settle and develop confidence.



Facilities

Our school site is in an innovative modern building which is home to not only traditional teaching classrooms, but also an extensive Design & Technology department which includes a wood workshop, textile and state of the art cookery rooms, and an electronics studio, IT suites, a bespoke visual arts gallery, and Sixth Form centre with its own cafe.



Pastoral Care

Your child's welfare is our priority. Their form tutor is the first point of contact for both parents and students and is responsible for helping with any problems or concerns, support and personal development. They are available to answer any concerns, offer advice and will facilitate discussions with any other relevant members of staff.

The overall welfare of your child is monitored and overseen by our Performance Leaders who are responsible for monitoring academic progress. We understand that every child is different and we believe in responding to emerging areas of need for each child as an individual.

Curriculum

The curriculum at Caroline Chisholm School is rooted in our belief that every student is capable of achieving strong academic success while also developing ambition and confidence through carefully planned and challenging learning experiences.

We ensure that all students have equal access to a broad and balanced curriculum at Key Stage 3 which builds on their previous primary phase learning. We offer a wide range of options at Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5. These give students the skills and aptitudes they require to be successful beyond school in their future careers. We believe that rich experiences are essential in giving students the ambition and confidence to be successful in their lives. Our curriculum is enriched through educational visits, inspirational speakers and extra-curricular activities to ensure that every student's educational experience is engaging, motivating and positive.

In Key Stage 3, all students study a curriculum that is based around a core of English, maths and science but also the humanities, technology, computing, languages, arts, physical education, music, drama and PSHE (Personal, Social and Health and Education). With a large modern foreign languages faculty students study Spanish from Year 3 all-through to Year 9 with the option to take it as GCSE. In Year 7, students are required to pick up a second language of French or German additionally. At Key Stage 4, students have the chance to follow a range of additional subject choices such as child development, finance and business studies.

Our careers education runs throughout the curriculum and all year groups have regular opportunities to engage in careers planning, which can then be put into practice with work experience in Year 10 and Year 12.



Enrichment

We believe that a rich and well-rounded education shouldn't stop in the classroom. We have high expectations of students' progress, but also offer opportunities to provide a holistic approach to education.

Attendance and Punctuality

Ensuring good, punctual attendance is key to success and is an essential work skill. Consequently, we expect a high level of attendance (above 97%) and punctuality from all students.

The school does not authorise any family holiday during term-time and if a child is absent through illness for an extended period, we may agree with parents to send work home.



Careers guidance

We believe that it is vital that students gain knowledge and skills that prepare them for higher education and work life. At our school, students benefit from a work experience programme in Year 10, and we offer our Year 12 students independent advice and practical assistance in preparation for post-16 education or training.

The benefits of an all-through school

Being an all-through school has so many incredible advantages for students, parents and staff, including:

- The school can work together across all phases to **track children's progress** from age 4 to 18.
- **Children staying settled**, creating long-lasting friendships and sense of community.
- Opportunities for staff to **share best practice**, working cross-phase to develop a built-on curriculum.



High Performance Learning

At Caroline Chisholm School, we adopt a High Performance Learning (HPL) approach throughout the entire school experience – in lessons, extra-curricular activities, form time and in home study tasks. We are accredited with being an HPL World Class School where students are encouraged to be the best learners they can be and develop the behaviours for learning they will need for success in school and life.

HPL is a research-based, pedagogy-led philosophy developed by Professor Deborah Eyre. This approach sees all students as high performers who are not limited by ability, and this reflects our own ethos of “everyone, every lesson, every opportunity”.

HPL makes the ambition of high performance the expectation for all students in the school and uses a teaching and learning framework to systematically grow minds and develop the cognitive skills, values, attitudes and attributes needed to reach success. Our students are encouraged to use their thinking skills to build on existing knowledge, generate their own ideas and opinions and to solve problems effectively, both individually and in collaboration with their peers.

We have made connections with schools across the globe. A school where students gain the thinking skills and learning behaviours to equip them with the knowledge and independence to be global citizens, enterprising learners and advanced performers.



World Class School 2021



Discover

We understand that experiences beyond the formal curriculum enhance students' learning and development. We are proud to offer our students the opportunity to travel, which has included residential ski trips to Italy and exchange visits to Spain, Germany and France. Students have also experienced travel further afield to Namibia and the USA. We also operate excursions to galleries in accordance with subject areas. Conversely, we also welcome a strong variety of external speakers and visitors to our school to enhance the students' experience.



Connect

As part of their education journey, we develop students' interpersonal skills by encouraging them to form positive and beneficial relationships with others. We do this by promoting participation in educational programmes and activities provided by our dedicated and enthusiastic staff at lunchtimes and after school. We offer a range of clubs and activities from music to technology, theatre to sport, as well as our newly established Combined Cadet Force (CCF).

“Pupils are well supported for their next steps in education and training. Opportunities for extra-curricular activity are highly regarded. These include a wide range of sports, dance, drama and visual arts.”



- Ofsted report, 2020

Leadership

Leadership is at the heart of our school, students are encouraged to build their teamwork and organisational skills in a range of leadership activities and programmes, including Duke of Edinburgh and extra-curricular HPL clubs. We believe students should have a voice and they are offered the opportunity to join our Student Council, who work together with staff in contributing to decision making within our school.





Sports

We are very proud of our sporting achievements. We compete in both county and national level competitions in a variety of sports. We have had numerous successes in the past in a variety of sports and activities and are well respected amongst local and national schools for our sporting achievements. Our school boasts excellent sporting facilities, including a four-court sports hall, a gymnasium, eight tennis courts, six netball courts, full-sized sand based astro field, two grass football pitches, two grass rugby pitches, a full-size grass athletics track, an all-weather cricket wicket and four outdoor cricket nets, as well as a fully equipped multi gym. An extensive range of extra-curricular sports clubs take place during lunchtime, as well as after school. All of our students are encouraged to take up at least one club per term.

STEAM

A wide range of opportunities are offered in our science, technology, engineering, art and maths departments, through the use of extra-curricular clubs, programmes and projects. Our STEAM club, enables students to take part in a number of exciting experiments linking technology and maths as well as several coding, online security and gaming clubs. We have also placed additional emphasis on our female students with the purpose of exploring and engaging them within computing and technology.



Performing Arts

Our Performing Arts department is equipped with two drama studios and two specialist music classrooms and 5 music practice rooms. In Performing Arts, we offer a wide variety of extra-curricular activities; Musical Theatre Club, Key Stage 3 Drama club, Senior Drama, Jazz band, Choir and Orchestra, and boys dance club. We also run our annual school show. Previous shows have included, 'Nativity! The Musical', 'We Will Rock You', 'Our Day Out', 'School of Rock', 'Return to the Forbidden Planet' and 'Bugsy Malone'.



Uniform

We have high expectations of all our students, and we provide them with clear guidelines to follow. All students up to Year 11 must wear the appropriate school uniform. Further information can be obtained on our website and will be reviewed each year to keep current with the government guidelines.

Our expectation is that all students dress smartly for school. School uniform policy for 2022/23 is:



Girls

- Caroline Chisholm School blazer
- White revere collar blouse
- Conventionally cut black trousers or skirt
- Black school shoes
- Black socks
- Black tights

Boys

- Caroline Chisholm School blazer
- Caroline Chisholm School tie
- White shirt
- Black trousers
- Black school shoes
- Black socks

PE Uniform Requirements:

Essentials

- Black & Gold CCS Logo Polo Shirt
- Black Shadow Stripe Shorts
- Black & Gold Socks
- Trainers with non-marking soles

Warmer layers/ Optional extras

- Black & Gold CCS Logo Jacket Full Zip or ¼ Zip
- Black & Gold CCS Logo Track Pants
- Black CCS Logo Leggings
- Plain Black Skort (absolutely no branding or logos allowed)
- Football Boots (recommended for winter months when on the field)
- Base Layer to wear underneath their polo top (any colour)
- CCS logo'd hoodie (non-school logo'd hoodies are not acceptable)



Home School Agreement

A student's best potential is achieved when home and school work together in a supportive partnership. Our home school agreement encourages this vital partnership. As part of our relationship, we set out our expectations of each party central to your child's education.

The school will:

- Provide a happy, caring and secure learning environment for all students
- Establish an ethos and moral framework founded on equality of opportunity, mutual respect, valuing the community and respecting the law
- Encourage the highest standards of achievement and behaviour
- Provide a broad and innovative curriculum which meets the needs of all individuals
- Provide a varied and exciting programme of sport, music, drama and dance and educational visits
- Communicate regularly with parents, giving information about students' achievement and progress



Parents will:

- Ensure their child's punctual arrival to school and regular attendance, taking all possible steps to ensure that school days are not missed
- Encourage their child to play a full and active part in school life
- Communicate promptly with the school with regards to well-being and academic progress
- Support our school's uniform policy and ensure that correct equipment is brought to all lessons
- Support our school's policies for behaviour and responsibilities and home learning
- Address any concerns about the school or its policies directly with the school

Students will:

- Treat all members of the school and local community with kindness, respect and honesty
- Have regular and punctual attendance
- Follow our school's behaviour and responsibilities code, wear correct school uniform and bring correct equipment
- Aim to achieve high standards and make the most of the opportunities offered
- Be responsible for taking good care of school's equipment, facilities and environment
- Be responsible and caring towards younger children at Caroline Chisholm School



Together we will:

Support the home school agreement and foster relationships based on mutual respect, courtesy and trust in pursuit of encouraging every student to reach their full potential.



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Principal: Mr David James

Vice Principals: Mr Andrew Fisher, Mrs Katherine Patterson,
Mr Gary Wakefield

 @CarolineChisholmSchool |  @CCS_UK