



Caroline
Chisholm
School



Secondary Prospectus

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Welcome

Our mission is clear: to inspire every student through the delivery of an innovative, world-class education. We are proud to be a beacon of excellence in our community; a place where every individual feels safe, valued, included, and proud to belong.

We believe passionately in nurturing the natural curiosity of every learner. Our curriculum and wider opportunities are designed to enrich lives, fostering not just academic success, but also social development, moral integrity, and personal growth.

At the heart of our school are the values that shape everything we do: ambition, confidence, and success. These are not just words but the lived experience of every student, in every lesson, and at every opportunity. Our learners leave us as confident, resilient individuals with deep respect for others and a life-long love of learning, ready to contribute positively to their communities and to thrive on both national and global stages.

Caroline Chisholm School is proud to be a recognised World Class School for High Performance Learning (HPL). This accreditation not only reflects our commitment to the highest educational standards but also empowers us to support and develop teachers across the region. Through collaborative networks and action-based research, we continually refine our practice to ensure that every teacher is the very best they can be... because great teaching transforms lives.

I look forward to welcoming you to our school community. Together, we will continue to create an inspiring learning environment, one where our young people enjoy exceptional teaching, supported by a 'no excuses' culture, and leave us fully prepared for life and the world of work.

Chris Bishop
Principal

“

Caroline Chisholm School is a world class school.

— Russel Ellicott, High Performance Learning

”

Secondary Leadership Team



Vice Principal – Mrs Liz Husband



Vice Principal – Mr Gary Wakefield



**Assistant Principal –
Mr Adrian Colman
Oversight of KS3**



**Assistant Principal –
Mrs Kathryn Wittich-Jackson
Oversight of KS4**



**Assistant Principal –
Miss Lisa West
Oversight of SEND**



**Assistant Principal – Mrs
Georgina Hodgson
Oversight of Science & STEM**



**Assistant Principal –
Miss Alessandra Cambio
Oversight of Teaching & Learning**



**Assistant Principal –
Porsha McTaggart
Oversight of Digital**

Extra-Curricular

Beyond the classroom, into the fun

Extra-curricular activities are an important part of everyday school life, offering students the chance to learn new skills, discover new passions and build confidence beyond the classroom. From sports, photography, cadets, Lego club, choir, to Dungeons and Dragons, there is something for everyone to enjoy.



Combined Cadet Force

Our Combined Cadet Force (CCF) provides a unique opportunity to develop positive values such as courage, self-discipline, respect and loyalty. The CCF experience helps young people build communication skills, confidence and resilience while fostering pride, commitment and a strong team spirit—qualities that will serve them well throughout their lives.





School trips

Bringing Learning to Life, One Trip at a Time

We are proud to offer a rich variety of trips and visits that broaden horizons, spark curiosity, and create lifelong memories.

Within the UK, our students benefit from a range of educational visits, including theatre productions, museum exhibitions, and trips that support and enrich the curriculum.

Our international opportunities are equally extensive. We are proud to offer long-standing German and Spanish exchange programmes, which allow students to develop their language skills and cultural understanding through immersion in everyday life abroad. Additional overseas visits include tours of the Belgium Battlefields, cultural experiences in Paris, as well as to New York and more.

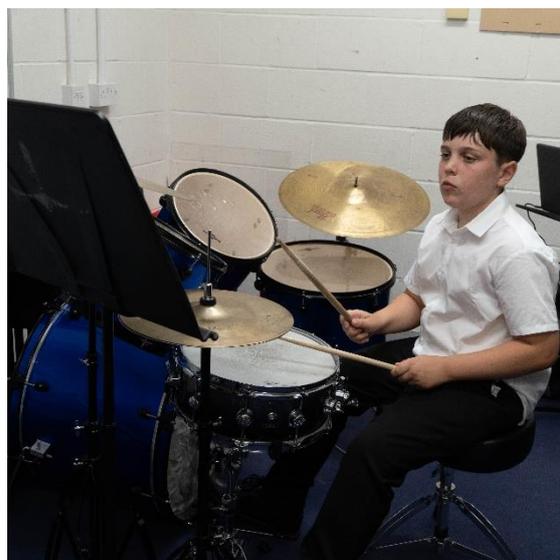
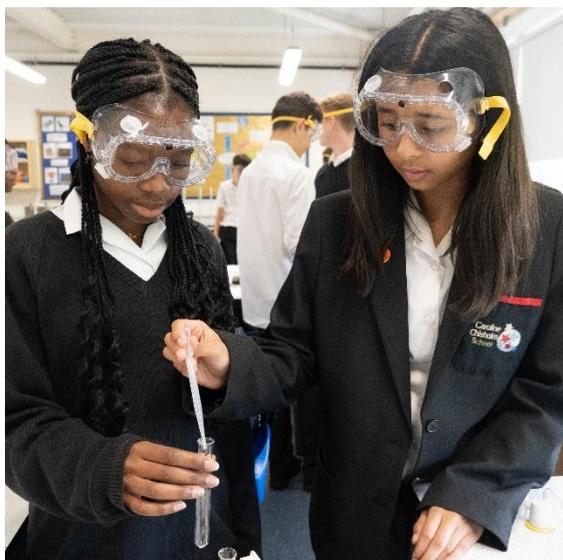
This year, we are especially proud to launch our first ever expedition to Kenya with Camps International. Over four unforgettable weeks, students will immerse themselves in Kenyan culture, take part in thrilling adventures, and make a real difference through impactful community projects.

Secondary Education at CCS

Our secondary curriculum is based around a core of English, maths and science, but also the humanities, technology, computing, languages, arts, physical education, music, drama and Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE).

We enrich this with educational visits, inspirational speakers and extra-curricular activities to ensure that every student's experience is engaging, motivating and positive.

We have a large modern foreign languages department and in Year 7, students are required to study either French or German, as well as Spanish.



By Year 10, our students have the opportunity to take a range of additional subjects at GCSE, including photography, business studies and child development.

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.



Pastoral Care

In the secondary phase, our Pastoral Leaders play a vital role in supporting students and their families across all aspects of school life. Their work focuses particularly on behaviour and attendance, while also helping to implement strategies that enable students to make the best possible progress.

Our pastoral care team is made up of Heads of Year, an Assistant Principal linked to each key stage, Form Tutors, and our School Counsellors. Together, they ensure that every student is known, supported, and guided throughout their school journey.

The Role of the Head of Year

The Head of Year is central to the day-to-day running of the school. They act as the key point of contact for both students and parents, working closely with the wider pastoral team to provide consistent support. Heads of Year play a crucial role in maintaining high standards of wellbeing, behaviour, and achievement across their year group.

The Role of the Form Tutor

Form Tutors provide daily, consistent contact for students. This relationship offers stability and the reassurance of a familiar face. Wherever possible, Form Tutors remain with their form group throughout their secondary journey until Year 11, providing continuity and a strong link between home and school.

School attendance

Lateness

As a school, our expectation is that all students Years 7- 11 are in their classrooms, sat down and ready to learn by 08:45am. Where this is not the case and children arrive on-site after the gates close at 08:40am, the student will be expected to sign in at Main Reception and they will then be recorded as late and will be expected to attend a 30-minute after school detention.

Parents and carers will be notified of this late detention via Edulink. If there are extenuating circumstances such as medical appointments or illness, we ask that you ensure communication is sent to the school as early as possible to ensure absences are authorised if appropriate.

School organisation

Lesson structure

Please see below our structure of the school day:

08:45	09:05	09:55	10:45	11:05	11:55	12:45	13:40	14:30	15:20
Tutor time	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Break	Lesson 3	Lesson 4	Lunch	Lesson 5	Lesson 6	

Canteen service

Students can purchase food at break and lunchtime from our school canteen, or via the Grab 'N Go in A block. All food is prepared fresh on-site by Chartwells Catering. Please note that Chartwells Money use a cashless systems and money can be added to students' accounts to purchase food via the following methods:

- Parents and carers can load money on to their child's account via a Chartwells ParentPay account. This service is separate from the CCS ParentPay account you use to pay for trips and other school services. The Chartwells ParentPay account is solely to load funds for your child to purchase food from our canteen. This service means students can get served faster by not having to handle or load cash, and parents can view online the purchases being made on the account. If for any reason you have not received your login details for this account, please contact Clare, Chartwells Catering Manager via u96254@compass-group.co.uk.
- Students can physically add money to their account using the loaders which are situated within the dining room.

Our Secondary Phase lunch menu is available to access via Chartwells Catering's webpage on our school website: <https://www.ccs.northants.sch.uk/parents-and-carers/chartwells-catering>

Digital device strategy

Students in Years 7-11 are provided with refurbished WinBooks to use during lessons. Primary Phase pupils also have access to these devices, with each year group sharing a class allocation of WinBooks. Additionally, when students join us in Year 7, parents have the option to purchase a brand-new WinBook through a one-time payment or a 12-month instalment plan.

Students are responsible for properly caring for their loaned digital devices. They must collect their devices from their lockers at the start of lessons and return them when not in use, such as during breaks, lunch, or PE lessons. Each Secondary Phase student is assigned a locker key, which they must bring daily to avoid disrupting lessons. Replacement keys are available at a fixed cost if lost.



Mobile phone policy

Students are discouraged from bringing mobile phones to school. If a phone is brought, it must be switched off and stored out of sight in the student's bag throughout the school day, including break and lunchtime. Our "See it, Hear it, Take it" rule strictly applies: phones must not be used for any purpose, including calls, texts, browsing, checking the time, or using any apps.

Mobile phones and other personal items remain the responsibility of the student and their family. Students will be reminded to store their phones as soon as they enter the school grounds. It's important to note that possession of a mobile phone during public exams, such as GCSEs or A-Levels, results in automatic disqualification from the exam.

During PE lessons, we recommend students place valuables in their lockers or hand them to a PE staff member for secure storage in a valuables box. **The school cannot be held responsible for any items left unattended in pockets or elsewhere on school grounds.**

Term Dates - Academic Year 2025/26

Term 1 [38 days]	Training day 1	Monday 1 September 2025
	Training day 2	Tuesday 2 September 2025
	School re-opens	Wednesday 3 September 2025
	School closes	Friday 24 October 2025
Term 2 [34 days]	School re-opens	Monday 3 November 2025
	Training day 3	Friday 28 November 2025
	School re-opens	Monday 1 December 2025
	School closes	Friday 19 December 2025
Term 3 [29 days]	Training day 4	Monday 5 January 2026
	School re-opens	Tuesday 6 January 2026
	School closes	Friday 13 February 2026
Term 4 [25 days]	School re-opens	Monday 23 February 2026
	School closes	Friday 27 March 2026
Term 5 [28 days]	Training day 5	Monday 13 April 2026
	School re-opens	Tuesday 14 April 2026
	Bank holiday	Monday 4 May 2025
	School closes	Friday 22 May 2026
Term 6 [35 days]	School re-opens	Monday 1 June 2026
	School closes	Friday 17 July 2026
	Training Day 6	Monday 20 July 2026

Enforcement of Uniform

The vast majority of students value the uniform and wear it with significant pride. It is the responsibility of all staff to work together to ensure that uniform is consistently worn to the requirements specified in this document.

A student's failure to adhere to the school uniform policy is a clear breach of the school behaviour code. Persistent failure to adhere to the uniform guidance will be seen as persistent poor behaviour and will result in a substantial consequence that may include a fixed term exclusion from the school. We will stock a supply of uniform items at school which the students will be asked to change into if not wearing proper uniform.

The school also reserves the right to ask students who are not wearing proper school uniform to go home and change. In this instance, parents will be contacted prior to any student leaving the school premises.

Approval for any student not to wear full uniform must be sought, by parents, in writing, directly to the Principal or in his absence, one of the Vice Principals. This will only be accepted when there is an exceptional justification for the student not to wear uniform. If a decision is made to not accept the parental explanation, parents will be contacted directly to help them find an alternative.

In situations where, for whatever reason, there are financial issues which are hindering a parent's ability to provide school uniform, parents are advised to contact the Principal's office directly. Any assistance that the school may be able to provide will be at the discretion of the school. All enquiries regarding financial support will be dealt with sensitively and confidentially and will not be shared with classroom staff or form tutors.

Our School Uniform Supplier - (Available online or in-store):

Stevensons – Northampton

40 – 42 Abington Square, Northampton, NN1 4AA

Opening hours 9 am – 5 pm Mon to Sat (closed on
Wednesdays)

Telephone: 01604 635828

<https://www.stevensons.co.uk/>

Uniform checklist



EVERY DAY ESSENTIALS:

Blazer

Black school blazer with school logo and coloured house strip must be attached to blazer top pocket. Both items can be purchased from Stevensons.

Older style blue blazers are not permitted.

Shirts

White, collared shirt, long enough to tuck into trousers or skirts.

Trousers

Black school trousers. Polyester blend, must be ankle length or longer. Skinny style of trousers, chinos, trousers of any denim material, and trousers which are 'stuck to' the leg, are not permitted.

Skirts

Black skirts only, **jersey / stretchy material are not permitted.** Length requirement: when the student places their hands down to the side of their thigh, the skirt must be 5cm below the middle fingertip.

Tights and socks

Black tights and socks only.

Shoes

Formal school shoes and laces must be black – discreet buckles or fastening on school shoes will be accepted. **Canvas shoes, sandals, boots, trainers; or any shoes with coloured logos, edging, or different coloured soles are not permitted.**

Pullover jumper (optional)

Plain unbranded black V neck jumper only.



PE:

Black logoed polo shirt

Purchased from Stevensons

Plain unbranded black fleece

Full zip or ¾ zip

Plain unbranded black opaque leggings

Plain unbranded black shorts

Plain unbranded black joggers

Plain black socks

Base Layer of any colour for extra warmth

Trainers

SCAN ME

CCS Friends are pleased to offer for sale pre-loved uniform in good, used condition.





Primary • Secondary • Sixth Form

*Where children grow, thrive, and belong
– every step of the way.*