

CASTLE HALL ACADEMY MAGAZINE



Reasoning



Resilience



Responsibility



Respect



Reflection





Vision

To achieve academic excellence, develop character, and raise aspirations for all at Castle Hall Academy



Academic
Excellence



Developing
Character



Raising
Aspiration

Curriculum

At Castle Hall Academy, we challenge social inequality by providing a broad, balanced and sequenced curriculum, which values knowledge retention and application building upon individual starting points that enables ambitious endpoints for all



Promotes a love of learning and provides an environment for all students to succeed in, whatever they aspire to do



Places high value on the breadth, acquisition, retention and application of knowledge



Enriches and bridges gaps in cultural knowledge

Mission

To become an academy

‘where hearts and minds connect’



Dear Parents/Carers,

We enjoyed a morning of celebrations with ex Y11 students and their parents on 22nd August as students collected their GCSE results. Their success was very much deserved following their hard work, commitment and dedication, expertly supported by our devoted staff. We look forward to hearing about their continued achievements over the coming years.

Current Y11 students are already part way through their mock examinations and Y7-Y10 are also halfway through their assessment fortnight. Students should be proud of the excellent attendance and commitment they are showing.

Both Y11 mock examinations and Y7-10 assessment weeks continue to run from Monday 4th November to Friday 8th November 2024. We encourage all students to take advantage of the revision material provided by their teachers and plan some revision time over October half-term to ensure they perform to the best of their ability.

I would like to thank students that helped at our recent Open Evening, feedback from prospective families was extremely positive and we received many comments on how polite, friendly and welcoming our students were. We certainly couldn't run Open Evening without them.

We would like to pass on our appreciation for your support of the academy routines and procedures. Another academy year, has begun extremely well and students look extremely smart in their uniform and PE kit.

We are pleased to share this magazine with you that celebrates a small part of what has taken place over the last few weeks and other useful information.

Should parents have any concerns please contact your child's Head of Year in the first instance, a reminder of contact details are within this magazine.

Kindest regards,

Mr Brook, Headteacher

Miss Rankin, Head of School



THINK BEFORE YOU PARK!

Dear Parents / Carers,

Unfortunately, we are having to write to you about some dangerous and inconsiderate parking around school. Cars are being parked across local residents' driveways, on pavements, junctions, double yellow lines and on the zigzag lines. This is obviously both very dangerous and illegal.

We know pick up and drop off times are difficult and very busy due to large amounts of children, but safety must take priority.

Dangerous and illegal parking can pose a safety risk to our students and others. Please consider:

- ✓ parking further away from school, advising your child where you will be
- ✓ park further away and walk up to meet your child
- ✓ encourage children to walk home where possible
- ✓ use public transport

Help us to keep everybody safe.

Castle Hall Academy



! SCHOOL SAFETY REMINDER !
KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE
"Please show you care - think before you park/manoeuvre."



YEAR 7



Year 7 students have made a fantastic start to their journey at Castle Hall Academy. Transitioning from primary to secondary school can be a daunting experience, but our newest cohort has embraced the change with enthusiasm and resilience.



From the very first day, the Years 7s have shown remarkable responsibility and eagerness to learn. Teachers and staff have been impressed by their positive attitudes and respect of academy culture. The induction program, which included team-building exercises and orientation sessions, played a crucial role in helping them feel at home.



As we move forward, we are confident that our Year 7 students will continue to thrive and contribute positively to our school community. Here's to a successful and enjoyable year ahead!



Y11 KINGSWOOD RESIDENTIAL

Year 11 students attended an educational revision residential at Kingswood in September.

The residential provided invaluable experience combining intensive lessons, study skills along with team building and problem-solving exercises.



Students had an amazing time.

A huge thank you to our amazing staff who gave up their own and family time.



OPEN EVENING 2024

On the 26th September we hosted our annual Open Evening with hundreds of local families attending to get a taste of school life at the Academy. We had a record turnout!

Lovely warm welcome!

Very impressed!

Excellent open evening. All students were very polite and helpful. A credit to the school.

Excellent access and conversations with all the staff.

Shout louder about how amazing you are!

The passion shown by Mr Brook has convinced me as a parent this is the school for my child.

The evening left staff and students with a sense of pride and excitement for a continuing bright future for our community.



SPAIN TRIP 2024



SPAIN TRIP 2024

At 2:30am on Monday 23rd September, 47 students in years 8-10 and 5 bleary eyed staff set off for our CHA trip to Spain.

The early start was worth it as we landed before 9:30am and we were already on the coach heading to Montserrat by 10am. After a trip in the cable car up to the monastery, we had lunch in the Spanish sunshine followed by a scenic drive to Camp Nou, the home of Barcelona Football Club. After another drive down the coast, our students settled into their rooms and then we explored the town, Callafel before a lovely (phone free!) dinner followed by more exploring and time on the beach.

The following morning, we tried traditional Churros for breakfast - some much-needed energy for the jam-packed day ahead; an historical trip to Tarragona followed by a thrill-seeking trip to Port Aventura Theme Park. The BBQ for dinner was followed by more time on the beach and ice creams to thank all students for being such great company.

On Thursday we explored Barcelona on foot. Students used their language skills to order food in the famous market off Las Ramblas as well as shopping in the Port Vell. Having learnt about Gaudi in their art lessons, it was great for students to see the amazing Sagrada Familia in person. Students were told about the meanings behind the outside facades and the interior colours and remained interested and respectful throughout. Our traditional tapas meal for dinner was the perfect end to a wonderful few days.

We flew home the next day with new friends, new memories and new experiences.

For some students it was their first trip abroad, for many it was their first without their parents.

All students were a joy to be with and we, at CHA, are incredibly proud of them. The trip was a resounding success so much so that next year's is already booked!





ANTI BULLYING AMBASSADORS

Year 8 Antibullying Ambassadors have completed their training. Their role is to support others and are upstanders against bullying behaviour and a support network for their peers. They stand to shape attitudes and change behaviours. They are a pillar of support, look out for others and are a strong voice for the academy community.



My Child At School - MCAS

Thank you to parents who have activated their accounts!

New Accounts

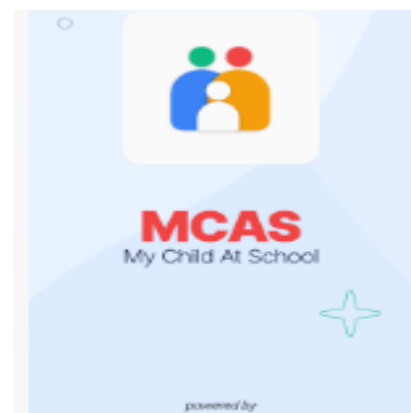
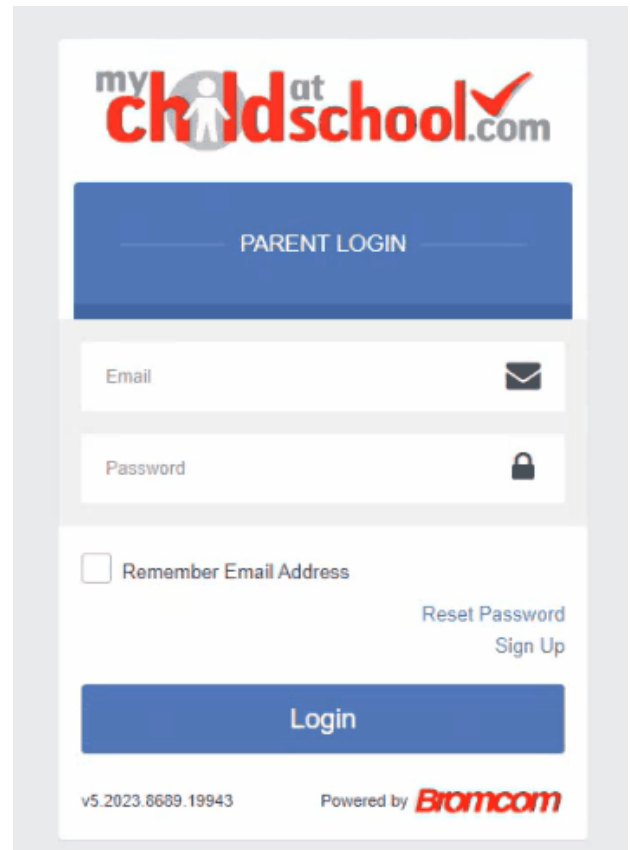
Parents were sent an email with a link to the Parent Login screen, then parents will click **Here** to open the Create Your Password screen. Parents then **enter password** and **confirm password** then click **create password**.

Logging in to MCAS New and Existing accounts

- From within the web browser type www.mychildatschool.com or access the MCAS mobile phone app, this will open the Parent Login screen.
- Enter your Email Address and Password. Use the Email Address registered to the MCAS account and the Password to Login.
- Click on the Login button.
- Login to the MCAS account and see all Students linked to that Email Address.

Re-send Email and Link

If you require a link to your user account re-sending please contact office@castlehall.com





COMMUNICATION

It is important that we have up to date information for your child. Please inform the Academy of any changes to your contact details.

Your main point of contact is your child's Head of Year. The Head of Year team spend the day with their year groups in lessons, at break and lunch, they also supervise after-school detentions and support extra-curricular.

Please bear with them when making contact. Below is a reminder of their details:

Staff	Email - allow 24hrs for response	Mobile - urgent
Mr Pearson, Head of Year 7	jpearson@castlehall.com	07895 746870
Mr Johnson, Head of Year 8	djohnson@castlehall.com	07708 795466
Mrs Bonham, Head of Year 9	lbongham@castlehall.com	07708 795385
Mrs Ennis, Head of Year 10	cennis@castlehall.com	07565 399941
Miss Clarkson, Head of Year 11	rclarkson@castlehall.com	07708 796626

Student Absence

Parent/carer must notify the Academy on the first day of absence, to explain the reason for the absence via:

Staff	Email	Telephone
Mrs Toth, Attendance Officer	StudentAbsence@castlehall.com	01924 523232 from 7:00am





REWARDS

Students will receive reward points by demonstrating the 5Rs,

Respect, Resilience, Reasoning, Responsibility and Reflection

By the end of Y7 students should achieve their **Bronze** award which is 800 points

By the end of Y8 students should achieve their **Silver** award which is 1500 points

By the end of Y9 students should achieve their **Gold** award which is 2200 points

By the end of Y10 students should achieve their **Platinum** award which is 3000 points

Positive phone calls will be made home

Positive post cards will be sent home

Students who have **100% weekly attendance and punctuality, 100% home learning completion and positive behaviour for learning** have completed the CHA Hat-trick and will earn 15 achievement points

The top two students in each year group who achieve the most achievement points in a week will receive a **queue jump pass** for the following week.

Semester 1 Bowling: Students need to have **97% attendance, 100% home learning and positive behaviour for learning.**

Semester 2 Theme Park: Students need to have **97% attendance, 100% home learning and positive behaviour for learning** between specified dates.

Students are rewarded for their progress and attainment through certificates and prizes at the end of semesters.



MAGAZINE

REWARDS ROADMAP



GCSE Awards Evening

Prom



Attendance sprints



Bowling Celebration post Mock Exams



Year 11

Positive phone calls



Attendance sprints x3



Progress and attainment certificates



3000

Semester 2: Theme Park



2200

Progress and attainment certificates



Platinum x3 books and reviews written



Attendance sprints x3



Semester 1: Bowling



Positive phone calls



1.5 million words read in literacy



Attendance sprints x3



2 million words read in literacy

Year 9

1500

Year 8

Positive phone calls



1.5 million words read in literacy



Attendance sprints x3



Progress and attainment certificates



800

Progress and attainment certificates



Attendance sprints x3



500,000 words read in literacy



Positive post cards



Year 7





EXTRA CURRICULAR



	Lunch Time	After School - 3:30 to 4:20		
Monday	Table Tennis (FPL) KS4	Girls Football (MLT + EMS) Back field Last training week 8	Darts (GLR) Hall 01	3D Design (LHY + CHS) C102
		Boys Fitness club (PPH Staff Rota) Fitness Suite	Sparx (Maths Staff Rota) A105	Game Creation + Coding Club (HAD + PGS) B202
			Memrise (MFL) A104	Science Club (RAD or ULT) C202
Tuesday	Choir (HWD) KS3 A112	Girls Fitness club (PPH Staff Rota) Fitness Suite	Boys Football (ANP + MLY + CJN) Front field Last training week 8	Basketball (Boys) From Week 9 Hall 01
		Drama club (HMY + GBN) A113	Creative Writing (JTS) A109	
Wednesday		Boys Fitness club (PPH Staff Rota) Fitness Suite	Y9 & Y10 Rugby (DCP) Front Field	Mandarin (JWN) A103
		Netball (MGS + MLT) Yard/Hall 01	Sparx (Maths Staff Rota) A105	
Thursday	Musical Theatre (HMY) A113	Gymnastics (EMS + MGS) Hall 01	Read to Travel a Mile (NMN) Library	Music Club (HWD) A112
	Choir (HWD) KS4 A112	Pokémon Club (IFL) Compass	Lexia Catch-Up (BNN) A111	LGTBQ (HMY + LHY) A113
Friday				

Duke of
Edinburgh
(CJN/DJN/DPK)



DEAR TIME

DEAR Time

- Drop Everything And Read is your opportunity to take some quiet time within the school day to read a book of your own choice!

Why is reading so important?

- Reading is incredibly important – not just to English teachers, but to everyone!
- Reading helps to build up your literacy skills, making all subjects easier for you to access and succeed in.
- Reading for pleasure brings calm to your life and can improve mental wellbeing.
- Reading can help you build empathy, understanding, and other important life skills.
- Reading can help you learn about new places, people, and time periods – all from just sitting in your classroom!



I do believe
something very
magical can happen
when you read
a good book.

—
J.K. Rowling

Students enjoyed some well-deserved
DEAR Time this half-term.

LET JUNE CHARITY

Let June's focus is to help children and young people aged up to 17 through the provision of grants to improve their quality of life.

The hope is that this financial support will enable local children and young people to participate in experiences and opportunities that would otherwise be denied to them. Let June acts purely on the basis of referrals from local professionals such as teachers, faith leaders and social workers.

I was lucky enough to receive some funding from "Let June", a local charity to buy some books to help me relax and learn my English. I also got books in Ukrainian language to help me feel connected to my home country! School helped me get the books and I would like to say thank you, it has helped me feel more comfortable reading and improving my English!

Nika Yr11

LET JUNE



Let June has also contributed to the overall cost for several students to take part in residential trips over the years.

The latest experience, visiting Spain was of huge benefit in preparation for studying GCSE Spanish.



thank you

RESTART A HEART

On October 16th, Year 7 students at Castle Hall Academy and across the UK participated in Restart a Heart Day, a vital initiative aimed at teaching young people the life-saving skill of CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation). This annual event, organised by the Resuscitation Council UK in collaboration with local ambulance services, seeks to empower the next generation with the knowledge and confidence to act in the event of a cardiac emergency.

The impact of Restart a Heart Day extends beyond the classroom. By equipping young people with CPR skills, to assist in emergencies.





ATTENDANCE



Department for Education

The Department of Education suggests good attendance is 95%, this is what every student's target is at Castle Hall Academy, this allows for necessary life events i.e. illness, personal circumstances, appointments which cannot be made around school etc.

In a school year of 190 days this is around 10 day's absence. Attendance that falls below 95% becomes a concern, because it can easily slip to 90%, just another 9 days absence. This is the equivalent to 1 day in every 2 weeks.

We have had plenty of successes so far this year, with year 7 having an average attendance of 96.6%. It is vital for new students to have the resilience to attend every day to get used to a new environment, so well done to the year group.

We will be running attendance incentives after half-term with prizes and rewards to be won for:

- 100% attendance
- Hat-trick – 100% attendance and punctuality, no missed home learning and no behaviour sanctions

We thank you for all your support and help in ensuring your child has the resilience to attend every day.

Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....





KEY DATES 2024-25

TRAINING/REVIEW DAYS

(staff only)

Friday 22 November 2024
Thursday 30 January 2025
Friday 31 January 2025
Friday 14 March 2025
Thursday 03 July 2025
Friday 04 July 2025

2024-25 TERM 1

Wednesday 4 September 2024 to Friday 25 October 2024

Holiday: Saturday 26 October 2024 to Sunday 03 November 2024

2024-25 TERM 2

Monday 4 November 2024 to Friday 20 December 2024

Holiday: Saturday 21 December 2024 to Sunday 05 January 2025

2024-25 TERM 3

Monday 6 January 2025 to Friday 14 February 2025

Holiday: Saturday 15 February 2025 to Sunday 23 February 2025

2024-25 TERM 4

Monday 24 February 2025 to Friday 4 April 2025

Holiday: Saturday 5 April 2025 to Sunday 20 April 2025

2024-25 TERM 5

Tuesday 22 April 2025 to Friday 23 May 2025

Holiday: Saturday 24 May 2025 to Sunday 1 June 2025

2024-25 TERM 6

Monday 2 June 2025 to Friday 18 July 2025

Holiday: Saturday 19 July 2025 onwards

BANK HOLIDAYS

Monday 21 April 2025

Monday 05 May 2025

PARENTS' EVENING DATES

Year 11	Thursday 05 December 2024
Year 7	Thursday 06 February 2025
Year 10	Thursday 13 February 2025
Year 11	Thursday 20 March 2025
Year 9	Thursday 03 April 2025
Year 8	Thursday 01 May 2025
Year 10	Thursday 10 July 2025





DEMOCRACY



Y7 School Council election took place earlier this half-term. Y7 candidates gave their speeches and their peers voted.

The candidates explained why they should be elected, their speeches included personal anecdotes, promises of what they aim to achieve, and persuasive arguments to win over their year group. After the speeches, the year group voted for their preferred candidate, making a democratic and engaging process.



This was a fantastic opportunity to develop their public speaking and leadership skills. Well done to all candidates, you did a fantastic job!

P.E.A.K PROJECT

Students have taken part in the Positive Action Against Knives project (P.E.A.K) in collaboration with West Yorkshire Police. The project is aimed at helping to improve communities. All the students below achieved their emergency first aid certification.

A special well done to Riley for winning the special recognition award.



SAFER SCHOOLS APP

As we are aware the online world can be a bit overwhelming at times, but it is important, we understand what our children are doing online so we can help make them safer. The Safer Schools App aims to help with this.

We are delighted to invite you to download our new Safer Schools App provided by our school insurance provider Zurich Municipal.

The App is designed to support and protect children by educating and empowering them both at school and at home. Through their/your log-in, your children and you will get access to information that is relevant to them, and you will receive tips and advice on how to keep them safer online.

There is an app for both the child and parent to download to their individual device. Please follow the instructions on how to download and log on to the Safer Schools App.

Make sure to enable push notifications to keep up-to-date with our tips, advice and guidance on how to make your children safer.



Login to your App

1. Select your school **Castle Hall Academy** from the dropdown menu and click '**continue**'.
2. Enter the **four-digit entry code** provided from the table below for your unique role.

User Role	Login Code
Pupils Year 7 and 8	3447
All Parent/Carers – Secondary Pupils Year 9, 10, 11	7675

COMPETITION TIME!



KS3 Christmas Card Competition

Open to all KS3 students. Students, to submit one piece of art, or photography, the winning image will appear on the Academy's 2024 Christmas card.

In addition, the winner will receive a £10 Amazon gift voucher.

Miss Rankin and Mrs Norton will be the judges!

Please submit your entry to your Head of Year or email office@castlehall.com by 12 November 2024.



UNIFORM EXCHANGE

Uniform Exchange offers free uniform to families in Kirklees. You can support them and the environment, by donating uniform you no longer need, or you can contact them if you need support via <https://www.uniform-exchange.org/>

A large, stylized orange graphic consisting of a rounded rectangle with a thick border. Inside the rectangle, a circular arrow loops around the text. The text "UNIFORM EXCHANGE" is written in large, bold, white capital letters.

**UNIFORM
EXCHANGE**





SUPPORT

Worried About Daily Life?



Got a mobile? Great!
Access our information
on your smartphone



Keeping Your Home Warm



Money Worries



Looking After Yourself



Housing



Damp and Mould



Digital Access

www.wyhealthiertogether.nhs.uk



Characteristics of Exceptional Learners



Reasoning

I ask questions about my learning and independently work things out for myself.



Resilience

When things get challenging, I never give up and learn from my mistakes.



Responsibility

I choose to do the right thing even when nobody is watching.



Respect

My behaviour is exceptional. I show respect for all in my community.



Reflection

I take every opportunity to review and develop my learning and behaviour.

Work hard, be kind and follow staff instructions - everybody, everyday