

## Care and Guidance Report June 2021

### Assistant Headteacher (Pastoral): Miss Fiona Harrison

#### **Year 11**

Year 11 students completed their final assessments. MCH will say more. To celebrate MCH planned a lovely series of events to enable them to have some fun following a period of intense work. On Thursday they competed against each other – completing some ‘House’ style events. Then, on Friday afternoon the students enjoyed an extended lunchtime with picnic provided. There was an ice cream van and the students entertained each other with singing and comedy. The Year 11 tutor team even made an appearance – showcasing their dance skills. A fabulous time was had by everyone. We look forward to welcoming them back in September.

#### **Counselling and School Nurse Provision**

We continue to use Renew Counselling service. 10 hours of counselling a week. This is constantly under review to ensure that we get the best value for money. We also use CARA (Centre for Action on Rape and Abuse) and EWMHS (Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Service) by appointment. The School Nurse continues to run her drop-in sessions. Tina has been great at involving other agencies. We have a ‘Year 8 Anxiety Group’ running from 9<sup>th</sup> June for 6 weeks. We have identified students in Year 8 that will benefit from these sessions. We also have a Year 11 and Year 10 student accessing other outside sessions online which they have been referred to be the School Nurse. The School Nurse provision is available to us at no charge, as part of our Healthy Schools Awards provision. Domestic Violence incidents are brought to our attention through the school nurse. She also helps us with referrals to other services.

#### **Safeguarding**

We underwent a half day safeguarding review by ECC following the Everyone’s Invited situation. We invited two colleagues from Essex in to review our safeguarding practices. This was a positive experience and gave us a couple of things to think about. For example, looking at our PSHE/RSE provision, making our safeguarding systems clearer to students and review policies. This will help us when OFSTED arrive – as it followed a similar format. CMA and LHI have attended the Two-Day Mental Health First Aid Training Course. They support both the Main School and Sixth Form Pastoral Teams. From September we will have converted Room 3 into a Pastoral Hub – so CMA will use the skills from the course to support this area. All staff continue to be vigilant and inform me if they have any concerns. These are then recorded on MyConcern. I run a weekly Pastoral Briefing for Year Leaders and MPA – these are invaluable as it gives the team the opportunity to share good practice. It also gives us a chance to discuss if anything needs addressing before the weekend. We are currently doing ‘Wellbeing Checks’ with Year 11 – tutors, MCH and FHR are calling the students to check in on them. This is a requirement until 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021. If we do not get a reply – we will do a home visit. Should any Year 11 student need further support – they will be invited into school.

I now attend a half-termly MESH DSL group. This gives all DSL’s in the area the chance to support each other and work together. The first session was fabulous. We will also receive extra training in these sessions. We have asked to talk about eating and OFSTED to start off with.

#### **MyConcern**

[MyConcern](#) continues to be a great investment and is used effectively by all staff. **All staff are aware** how to report a concern on the **electronic system**. The DSL, Fiona Harrison and DDSL, Stephen Lawlor, Emma Ledwidge, Jo Cross, Michael Palmer and Katharine Adams can also see all concerns raised on

the system, which also analyses referrals and the nature of concern. **All concerns are** logged electronically and reviewed and timely and appropriate referrals are made to Social Care or Family Support. Child in Need, MARACs, TAFs and Child Protection Case Conferences are always attended by School. Marion Chumbley and Nina Lewis will be doing their Level 3 Safeguarding Training – this will mean we have a DDSL trained in each Key Stage of the pastoral team.

### **PSHE Programme**

Sabin Buckley, Clair Maslin and I met with Essex about our PSHE/RSE provision. We are keen to work with KEGS and other local schools to ensure we are all teaching similar things and speaking the same language. Especially when it comes to RSE and consent. We are reviewing the way we teach RTP and the content in line with advice from Essex. We are also seeking student voice – so we can respond to the need of the students. We will be involved in a pilot peer led programme in the new academic year.

### **Free School Meals**

Parents are reminded, via every school newsletter, of the path to apply for Free School Meal as follows:

*If you are in receipt of a qualifying benefit: Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance-Income Based, Child Tax Credit (Working Tax Credit is not a qualifying benefit. There are some non-qualifying benefits) If your taxable annual household income is less than £16, 190.*

*If the above apply you may qualify for free school lunches.*

*HOW TO APPLY: Go online to [www.essex.gov.uk/educationawards](http://www.essex.gov.uk/educationawards)*

*Or request an application form from the Education and Awards enquiry line on 0845 603 2200.*

This information is also on the school website and will also go on the Pastoral Twitter feed.

### **Year Leaders**

All Year Leaders deal with individual pastoral problems as they arise, including extended illnesses, family and friendship issues, accusations of bullying, misuse of the internet and occasions of suspected theft. They liaise with students and parents to resolve issues and ensure that all of their girls are working to the best of their ability. They continue to monitor the progress and attainment of the students in their year group to ensure that appropriate support is in place to enable them to address issues as early as possible. They provide an action plan for those students who need support after each round of TA Data. Year Leaders also play an active role in their Meet the Tutor Evening and their relevant Parents' Evening. Year Leaders meet regularly and are confident in their support of their cohort. They have been particularly busy this term dealing with the aftermath of the national lockdowns and the impact COVID is having on our community.

#### **Year 7 – Mrs Nina Lewis**

Year 7 are extremely happy to be back in school. As predicted, since returning to school the corridors have been buzzing with their positive energy. Witnessing their excitement about being back with their classmates and teachers has been an absolute joy.

Despite the poor weather the students have grabbed the opportunity to sign up to sports clubs at lunchtime where they've been able to enjoy fresh air and exercise. The swim and tennis teams have been selected and we look forward to cheering the Year 7s on in their first competitive matches.

We've celebrated more Year 7 Jack Petchey winners and there has been success with external competitions too. Nidhi Marishetty (7F) has been named as the regional winner for the East of England for her Step into the NHS entry. She is one of ten students who have made it to the grand finale where she will present to a panel of judges.

Year 7 have lots more to look forward to over the coming weeks. They finally get to enjoy World Book Day and are busy planning their costumes as we speak. They will be taking part in an Academic Resilience Workshop at the end of June to learn techniques and strategies on how to positively manage critique, and to top it all off at the end of term the whole year group will be spending a full day at Stubbers Adventure Centre to take part in a series of team building activities.

The end of their first academic year is set to be a busy one where we will see them make memories and solidify friendship bonds ready for their next step into Year 8.

### **Year 8 – Miss Hayley Busby**

This term has seen the return of Year 8 to spending the whole term so far in school. They have absolutely relished being back in school and getting to learn together with their friends. The mood around the year 8 corridors this week has been that of happy exhaustion, with minimal disruption due to COVID this half term, the girls are happy for school life to start its return to normal routine.

Class assemblies have been a real highlight of form-time activities. The students have been given the opportunity to speak out again and practice their oratory skills. Some were anxious after a break from not public speaking, but this has not hindered them. Gracie Parker gave a great assembly on swimming, and Mr Bradford even joined forces with 8F to discuss the importance of music in our lives. Winning Wednesday has also continued to be a roaring success of the week. I have been striving to make the quizzes even harder as they have been too good at answering my questions! 8H have led an underdog victory to become the leaders of the first half term of summer.

House events have continued this term. We saw some fabulous entries for house cake activities. There were some very on the nose entries of cakes replicated to look like home testing kits and Team's logos, a fair representation of learning this year! Joely Lee even managed to produce some beautiful purple piping that would make any bake-off contestant jealous.

As we transition into the end of year 9, the students are starting to realise they are soon to be in year 9, with new responsibilities and a further progression of their life here at CCHS. Half of the year group have signed up to participate in the arts award, which is amazing to see so many of our pupils value the importance of arts in our lives. They are also starting to think about the upcoming year being their last opportunity to learn some subjects. I know they will relish the upcoming year and all it has to offer.

### **Year 9 – Miss Charlotte Burnham**

Year 9 have come back to school and hit the ground running. Whether it be joining in with an extra-curricular club or making sure they have caught up on all the work, their attitude has been outstanding.

We have continued with the form timetable we had both before the lockdown and during, however them being able to interact more easily with their form tutors and each other, has made form time even more meaningful. When they first returned to school it was like Christmas all over again with presents and cards for everyone, the 'buzz' from their form rooms was incredible to be witness to.

Moreover they have been part of house rounders during their PE lessons. It is wonderful to see their competitive streak coming out and whole teams then coming out to rounders extra-curricular club, 'to get the practice in'. The determination they show is second to none and is a real credit to them as a year group. They have also taken part in house cakes where we saw some brilliant creations, a lot of them relating to either the building work or the ongoing debate with Colin the caterpillar!

Year 9 have now all made their final GCSE options choices with only a few adjustments being made, I know they are really excited for the prospect of getting started with these.

### **Year 10 – Miss Georgie Sales**

Year 10 have thrived being back in school and could not wait to say ‘goodbye’ to remote schooling. I have been very impressed with how they have returned to school and how they have conducted themselves. Form times have continued to be full of energy and activities; I introduced some mindful colouring in on ‘Thoughtful Tuesdays’, to help the students relax and to also show them different ways of de-stressing.

A highlight of this term had to be the new event: ‘No-bench bench ball’. It was highly anticipated and it had a full turn out of teams. For the first time, it saw 10F take victory, by winning their first House event!

Year 10 are currently preparing for their Year 10 exams; something they are working very hard towards, and I know they will perform to the best of their ability.

### **Year 11– Mrs Marion Chumbley**

The year 11 have worked extremely hard this last term and prepared as well as possible for all of their assessments. The form tutors worked relentlessly to support and encourage their tutees, offering a calm and reliable sounding board. We were fortunate enough to have many Renew slots and school nurse appointments available for year 11 in the lead up to these assessments. The week before half term was a celebration of all their hard work and offered activities to relax and enjoy themselves. The year 11 have entered their extended Summer leave reassured that their grades are in the safest of hands. I have very much enjoyed working with this cohort this year and look forward to seeing them flourish in the sixth form.

## **Care & Guidance Report – Sixth Form**

Dr Michael Palmer – Assistant Headteacher; Head of Sixth Form

Mrs Hayley Ellen - Assistant Head of Sixth Form; Year 13 Leader

Mrs Amy Hopkins – Acting Assistant Head of Sixth Form; Year 12 Leader, Higher Education Adviser

### **Sixth Form General – Dr Michael Palmer**

Despite the constraints imposed by Covid regulations students and staff have worked hard to keep the extra-curricular life of the school flourishing. Whilst the summer term does see something of a lull in such activities as examinations take priority we are much looking forward to a number of events in June and July and to a considerable return to the normal life of the school in September.

The Sixth Form team is continuing to work on the yearly cycle of planning and managing the successful transition of students from Year 11 into Year 12. This year the Sixth Form Induction Day for prospective Year 12s from this school and from other schools will again be replaced by some high-quality online provision. The experience of staff over the past year has made us more confident in the way we can use technology to best get our messages across and continue to make the best possible use of the enthusiasm and commitment of our current students to convince both our own Year 11s and applicants from other schools that this school is the best option for their Sixth Form studies. We look forward to returning to an ‘in person’ induction process when circumstances allow. However, we remain confident that the excellent teaching and wider educational experience on offer in this school will again produce a healthy number of Year 12 students in September.

### **Year 12 – Mrs Amy Hopkins**

Year 12 threw themselves into their Prefect roles on their return to school in March, leading on charitable events, running clubs and supporting the younger students. Where they were unable to meet in person, they also ran these on Teams.

In Languages, Alex Cheesewright and Daisy Byford achieved highly in the UK Linguistics Olympiad, with Alex achieving a Bronze Award, and Daisy finishing in the top 5% of all entrants. A significant achievement. Rachel Burton, Madeleine Hawley and Sherlin Mohammed Shihabdeen were also

awarded Arkwright Engineering Scholarships. This is fantastic, especially considering the challenges that the COVID pandemic has created for this year group in particular.

Year 12 are currently on study leave, while sitting their Mock Examinations. They have done an excellent job, and their positive attitude during this time and in fact, during the whole academic is appreciated by all. This is an incredibly important process, especially as they did not sit their GCSEs, and therefore the Sixth Form Team, and the Exams Office have worked hard to provide students with a true facsimile of what they will experience in their final A Levels.

After half term we will move into the next phase of their Sixth Form life- researching and applying to University. To support students, they will have dedicated lessons during RTP in which to explore their options and start their applications. As many of the year group will be aiming for jobs in Medicine and Dentistry we have also arranged for those students to have preparation days in school, in July for the UCAT and BMAT pre-admission assessments. The students have already completed a survey outlining the areas that they wish to study and research to ensure that the tutor team can give the students highly specialised guidance and support.

### **Year 13 – Mrs Hayley Ellen**

A very challenging period of assessment has just come to an end for Year 13 and they have risen to the challenges of this admirably. Whilst a very different half term to the final half term of most previous Year 13 they have remained focussed and on the whole cheerful throughout. Tutors have provided excellent support to the students throughout this time with a focus on relaxation and fun activities in form time in order to support students to manage any challenges that they face personally over this period as well as providing study support and advice when needed. Similarly, Year 13 have really appreciated the support that they have been given by subject staff and valued the clarity given by the school as to how the internal assessments would be conducted as this enabled them to focus their revision plans.

Having come to the end of the assessment period we are looking forward to celebrating their final week with them in a modified way. Whilst the celebrations cannot be held as they traditionally would students are still able to enjoy and make happy memories of their final week at the school. Events this week will include continuing the tradition of daily themed dressing up, a lunch buffet on Wednesday (funded by Mehzabeen Hakim using the Jack Petchey money she was awarded), Year Group rounders on Wednesday afternoon, Year Group Photographs on Thursday and culminating in a Leavers' Assembly on the Friday.

As a Sixth Form Team we are very proud of how this cohort have managed their A Level experience given the unprecedented disruptions that they have faced and we look forward to celebrating their results with them in the future and hope, via our Alumnae networks, to hear of their future endeavours.