



Clacton County High School Sigma Sixth Tending Weekly News



www.countyhigh.org.uk

[Sigma Sixth](#)

admin@cchs.school

parentnews@cchs.school

[The CCHS Blog](#)

Autumn Term 2023 | Issue 4 | Friday 29th September

Annual CCHS Open Evening



Last Thursday, we opened our doors for our annual Open Evening. It is always exciting to welcome Year 6 prospective students and their parents to the school to give an insight into life at CCHS; once again the evening was amazing, with over 1500 people attending to enjoy the CCHS experience! On the evening, we were able to demonstrate examples of the great teaching and learning that happens at our school each and every day, and to showcase the fantastic resources and opportunities available to all our students.



During the evening, there were a multitude of activities, demonstrations and displays, especially laid on for the visitors by each of our faculties and their teaching departments. A great deal of effort and attention to detail was evident to ensure the visitors gained a realistic feel of CCHS school life.



Numerous parents commented on our outstanding facilities, enthusiastic staff and students. Many wished they were back at school and able to experience school life with the range of amenities and amazing opportunities that perhaps they did not have when they were at school. Parents of Year 6 students now have to decide their preferred secondary school and the Open Evening enabled them to visit our school prior to making their final choice. We look forward to welcoming many of our Year 6 visitors back, as Year 7 students, next September. The deadline for applications is the 31st October 2023.



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A Quest to Eradicate the Anger that People Carry

Last week we welcomed Barry and Margaret Mizen, founders of the Mizen Foundation, who were in school to talk to students about how all our joint positive actions can help our communities; in school, out in the community or at home. They spoke about how five minutes of madness, by one angry individual, over 15 years ago changed their lives forever. Their sixteen-year-old son, Jimmy, lost his life one Saturday morning in an unprovoked attack in a south east London bakery. The attacker grabbed a glass baking dish from the counter in the shop and threw it in Jimmy's face, where it shattered and a shard hit vital blood vessels. The couple spoke about the events surrounding that tragic day and their feelings towards their son's attacker, whom they forgave for his actions. They explained that their need to forgive, was not for the benefit of Jimmy's attacker, but for themselves to channel their anger into a force for good. Mr and Mrs Mizen keep their son's name alive through their quest to eradicate the anger that many people carry with them daily. They believe that the issues of anger and violence in our communities will not be altered by ever harsher punishments for perpetrators. Change cannot happen by itself nor solely by the interventions of the government or the police; the only way to change the thinking and attitude of our next generation, is by early intervention and education.



CCHS Sixth Form in Focus

September is always an incredibly busy time of year, with plans being made for the coming months and new students settling into their environment in Year 7 and 12. It is always a cheerful experience to welcome all our new students and those returning after the summer. Although a large proportion of our new Year 12 students will have progressed directly from CCHS to our sixth form provision, Sigma Sixth Tendring, there is also a large number of students from other local secondary schools that bring a new diversity to our sixth form college.



With the Year 12 students, priority falls to making sure that they are happy with the subjects that they have chosen to study, and that those subjects will be the most appropriate to serve their future plans. It is always our hope that, with the careers and 'Post-16' discussions that take place during Year 10 and 11, students feel comfortable that they have made the right choices to ensure they progress to the education or training that suits them best. Over the next few weeks, our Careers Team will conclude the interviews they have been conducting with every Year 11 student. These started back in Year 10 and carried on throughout the summer term, where they have discussed their future study plans after their GCSE exams next summer. These interviews have helped focus students on the exam grades that they need to achieve, so that they can help realise their post-16 study plans and career aspirations. Any Year 11 student who would like a follow-up interview can contact our Careers Team; they are always happy to discuss students' plans and offer the appropriate careers advice. Please email any requests to admin@cchs.school and mark for the attention of our Careers Team.

Our Year 13 students now turn their attention to the serious subject of their future plans, once sixth form is over. Many will be completing [university UCAS applications](#), while others will be researching options for [apprenticeships](#) or employment. We encourage students to start their research early as not only will this give them peace of mind in an intense year, but will help to motivate them in the final few months of formal education.

In today's competitive employment world, work experience has become ever more important and beneficial to enhance applications and CVs. There is a wealth of information available on the school website's [Careers Hub](#), where any opportunities that we hear of are posted. Many companies and agencies run ongoing programmes of in-person and online work experience, which is often accessible to students in all Year groups.

Year 11 – Sigma Sixth Open Evening

Looking further forward, our Sigma Sixth Tendring open evening takes place on **Thursday, 12th October, 5pm – 7.30pm**. Representatives of the college, student ambassadors and teachers will be on hand to provide information and guidance to prospective students, as well as the opportunity to view the college and its surroundings. We look forward to welcoming Year 11 students from across the district to this important post-16 study event.

A poster for the Sigma Sixth Tendring Campus Open Evening. It features the college logo and text: "SIGMA SIXTH TENDRING CAMPUS", "Discover Yourself, Define Your Future", "Open Evening 5.00-7.30pm Thursday 12th October", "We look forward to welcoming you!", "Tendring Education Centre - Jaywick Lane, Clacton-on-Sea CO15 8BE", and "countyhigh.org.uk/sixthform". A photo of a young woman holding a book is on the right side of the poster.





Clacton County High School Sigma Sixth Tending Notices and Letters



Autumn Term 2023 | Issue 3 | Friday 29th September

The Weekly Notices is a 'one-stop shop' for home/school written communications and information.

Please take the time to check through the mailing particularly for your child's individual year group: there could be some very important information for you to be aware of.

The second equinox of the year occurred last week on 23rd September. Equinox means exactly the same amount of daylight and night-time hours. As it was the autumn equinox this marks the end of the summer. The days begin to get shorter and we are officially now in autumn!

Whole School Notices

[Letter from Head of School - Respect for others; use of foul and abusive language](#)

School Lockers

Lockers are ready for allocation, starting with Year 7 from next week (from Monday 2nd October). Students can arrange a locker by visiting the Attendance Office at break time. **They will need a £2 cash deposit - If a student loses the locker key, they will lose their deposit and need to return to Attendance for assistance.**

Information for other year groups will follow in due course.

Free School Meal Vouchers

Please read if your child is in receipt of Free School Meals

[Click here for important information](#)

Clouds Restaurant

Clouds offers a range of main meals, snacks and drinks to keep everyone energised for the school day. Clouds is open at break time and lunch time. Before school (from 8:15am) toast is also available for those students who need breakfast. Please note that Chicken and Chips are a "special" rather than a meal deal served on Fridays at £3.03.

Attention Military Service Families

The Department for Education (DfE) introduced the Service pupil premium (SPP) in April 2011 in recognition of the specific challenges children from service families face and as part of the commitment to delivering the armed forces covenant. State schools, academies and free schools in England, which have children of service families in school years reception to year 11, can receive the SPP funding. It is designed to assist the school in providing the additional support that these children may need.

Therefore, if your child is eligible, please can you confirm your service status by contacting us on 01255 424266 or emailing admin@cchs.school

Colder weather and uniform

Now it is cooling down, you may wish your child to wear a jumper to school: Only the school jumper/cardigan OR plain navy (not black) V neck knitted jumpers are permitted. Outside, students may have coats or similar, worn on top of blazers, but not underneath blazers.

Outside garments - which are not part of school uniform - must not be worn when inside the school building under any circumstance. On entering the school premises at the start of the day and following social times, garments should be removed straight away.

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Bringing forgotten items to school

CCHS is a very large school with over 1,700 students across an extensive site. Unfortunately, from the start of this academic year, reception colleagues have been inundated with deliveries of forgotten items and this means they are often away from their desks and unable to take calls or to attend to visitors. It is difficult to deliver to your child their forgotten item such as a lunch or PE kit, especially as promptly as you may wish.

Please can we ask parents to check with their child before leaving home each morning, or perhaps the evening before, that they have everything they need for the school day and if anything is forgotten, advise them to go to reception at break or lunchtimes, or lesson change-over, to personally collect their property.

Autumn Term date reminders

- Thursday, 12th October – Year 7 Parents Evening
- Thursday, 12th October – Sigma Sixth Open Evening
- October Half-Term – Monday 23rd – Friday 27th

Year 7

Tutor Evening for Year 7 Parents and Carers

Thursday, 12th October will be our Year 7 Tutor Evening, more information will follow



Year 7 Halloween Party - Monday, 30th October

The fancy dress disco will take place in the main hall from 4.00pm – 5.30pm. Tickets can be purchased for £2.50 from form tutors or Arbor pay (under trips)

Year 9

Tuesday, 17th October - Year 9 School Photographs with Carmel Jane Photography. More information to follow

Year 11

Year 11 - The Year Ahead

Yesterday we held our Year 11 Information Evening which parents and students were invited to attend. There was an impressive number of people who attended and we were able to show what the year ahead looked like For Year 11 students, in terms of what happens and when, what interventions and support could be available and highlighted the importance of attending each and every lesson.

If you were unable to attend you can [access all of the slides shown on the evening](#).

If you would like any additional information please email Mrs Loosley via admin@cchs.school

Important: Year 11 Revision books are available on Arbor pay in School Shop.

Year 11 - Careers Interviews

This week saw the start of personalised careers interviews with our Year 11 students, these will continue until each student has met with a careers advisor. For Year 11's this year will pass by very quickly. They are already preparing for their mock exams which begin in November and these will let them know how they are doing and identify any areas that they need to focus on as we progress through to the summer 2024 GCSE's.

They will also begin to think about next steps beyond the CCHS main school, which courses they would be best suited to which will support their future aspirations. Below are links to the different types of qualifications that Year 11 students will be able to consider for post-16, and which are available at further education providers, including Sigma Sixth College. Also below is information on the Sigma Sixth Open Evening on 12th October, which Year 11 students and their parents are invited to attend.

- A levels [What are A-Levels?](#)
- BTECs - [Peter Jones CBE - I chose BTEC's](#)
- T Levels - [What are T-Levels?](#)



Year 11 Sigma Sixth Open Evening - Thursday, 12th October

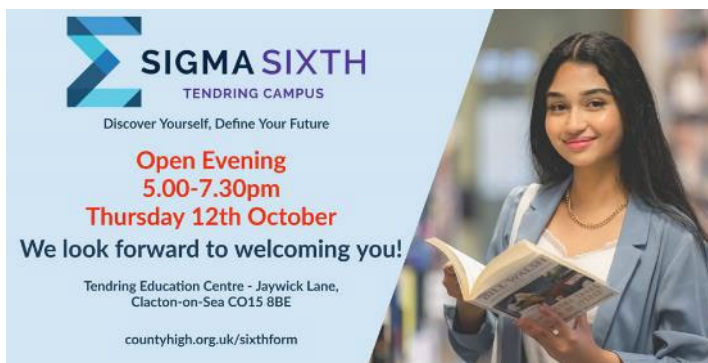
Sigma Sixth (the CCHS Sixth Form College) will be holding an Open Evening 2023 on Thursday, 12th October 17.00-19.30.

CCHS Year 11 students and other students from across the Tendring area, considering sixth form as their next step, are invited to tour the site in Jaywick Lane, with their families, to get a real flavour of the 'college life' available within our sixth form. Students, teachers and sixth form staff will all be on hand to provide information about subjects and facilities and answer any questions that you may have.

There will also be the opportunity to have a look around and get a 'feel' for the environment, as well as sample food choices from our cafeteria. More information will follow over the next few weeks but please save this date in your diaries.

Applications open for Sigma Sixth on Monday 9th October and while students may feel that they would like to attend the open evening before making their application, we welcome applications from those students who are confident in their decision and would like to 'get it done'. They would be more than welcome to attend the open evening on 12th October to speak to teachers about their chosen subjects.

For those students who will be looking for a more vocational route into a career, we plan a number of activities over the coming months to provide experiences and opportunities. As always, our Careers Hub remains the focus for all information, whether to explore choices, search for apprenticeship opportunities, or to see what's on in the local area or online. Any opportunity that we hear about that we feel will be beneficial to our students is displayed on here, however if you know of, or hear about anything that we may have missed, please let us know by emailing admin@cchs.school



Careers

Essex Careers have published a very informative and interesting brochure on a guide to local employment and skills and we encourage all students and their parents to take a look. The summer 2023 edition has a sector spotlight on Health & Social Care, Engineering and Finance, but there is much, much more within to help and inform.

To access your copy follow this <https://www.essexopportunities.co.uk/essex-careers-magazine/>

Safeguarding, SEND and Wellbeing

Lads Need Dads - Parent /Carer WORKSHOPS

[Click here for more information](#)

YOUNGMiNDS

Parenting isn't always easy. Although it's often amazing and rewarding to watch your children grow up, and to help them learn to be independent, it can also be really hard work. It can feel especially hard if your child's mood and behaviour seem different and you're not sure why, or what you can do to help.

Young Minds has lots of practical advice and tips on supporting your child - from how to encourage your child to open up about their feelings to dealing with mental health services. No matter what you and your child are going through, things can get better. They also have our Parents Helpline who can provide advice and support if you're worried about a child or young person. [Click here for the YOUNGMiNDS website](#)

For all students - how to report a concern or issue

CCHS is pleased to announce that they have partnered with [tootoot](#) –tootoot is a safe, secure and diverse web-based safeguarding tool, which allows young people of all age ranges to report any concerns or issues that may be worrying them in an anonymous, confidential and discreet manner. [Click here for more information](#)

Youth Enquiry Service (YES)

Is your child or teenager receiving counselling? Are you finding life a challenge while waiting for counselling support to begin? Youth Enquiry Service (YES) offer a safe space to share please [click here](#) for more information.

Essex Child & Family Wellbeing Service

The following workshops are available for parent/carers in the local area - [Click here to view](#)

Community Notices

What's on at Colchester Museums/ Castle

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