



COMING TO CHURCHILL

Information for Students, Parents and Carers 2020/2021



Excellence in all we do



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Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

In choosing Churchill Community College, you are choosing a fantastic school for your child'

They now become part of our 'Class of 2027', and we now look forward to getting to know them - and you - over the course of the 7-year journey that we will shortly be embarking on together. Throughout that time we will work very closely with you to make sure your child is:

- **Safe**
- **Happy**
- **Making friends**
- **Enjoying their learning**
- **Making good progress in all subjects ready for GCSEs and A levels**
- **Getting involved in activities outside the classroom e.g. educational visits, field trips, sports clubs, music performances**
- **Developing the best possible character traits, helping them to form strong, healthy relationships, and achieve success in their future studies and career**

Ofsted told us that children are safe and happy at Churchill and we know they are. We ask them often to tell us what they like about the college and what they would like to see improve and we act on that where we can.

We take bullying very seriously. All schools experience some level of bullying. Ours is exceptionally low and dealt with very effectively. The children told Ofsted they felt safe and comfortable to be themselves.

There are a wide range of opportunities for involvement in activities outside of lessons: art, photography, cooking, creative writing, and sports are just a few examples. Students also take part in visits to theatres, art galleries, universities, and sports competitions, some as far as London or even abroad.

Our priorities are happy children and outstanding achievement. That is our commitment and we will work with you closely to make sure that is what happens.

Thank you for choosing us and we look forward to welcoming your child in September.

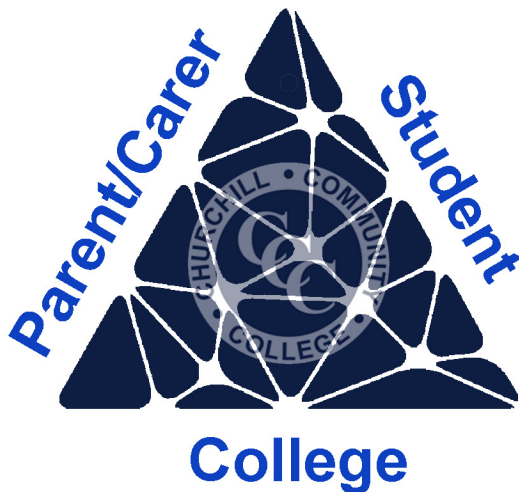
David Baldwin
Headteacher

Paul Johnson
Headteacher from September 2020

Vision & values

Our vision is to maximise the achievement of everyone. We take this very seriously and expect you to support us in this vision. We continually look for ways to help your child make good progress, feel happy and safe and be successful. We provide a wealth of opportunities outside lessons to broaden your child's experience.

Expectations of students, parents/carers and the college



OUR COLLEGE RULES

YOU SHOULD ALWAYS...

Do as you are asked
by a member of staff
first time, no fuss

Be KIND and RESPECTFUL

Try your hardest and
NEVER GIVE UP

The college will:

- Provide a safe environment
- Provide teaching to ensure good learning
- Set regular home learning using Google Classroom
- Communicate regularly with both students and parents/carers
- Effectively resolve any worries, issues or problems raised

Parents/carers will:

- Encourage their child to work hard, behave well and be kind and respectful
- Make sure their child attends every day, on time, in the correct uniform, and with the right equipment
- Encourage and support their child to complete their home learning to the best of their ability
- Attend all parents' evenings
- Keep in regular contact with the college and inform them immediately about changes to any contact details
- Talk to the college about any worries, issues or problems, and work with and support the college to resolve them effectively

Students will:

- Do as they are asked by a member of staff - first time, no fuss; be kind and respectful, try their hardest and never give up
- Attend and arrive at college on time, in the correct uniform, and with the right equipment - every day
- Complete home learning on time and to the best of their ability
- Pass on any notes or letters sent between the college and their parents/carers
- Attend and participate in extra-curricular activities
- Talk to a teacher or another member of staff about any worries, issues or problems they have



Welcome to our new Year 7

Dear Class of 2027,

We are delighted you have chosen to come to Churchill Community College – we hope you are as excited as we are. We are very much looking forward to you joining us and for us having the opportunity to get to know you.

We want you to **enjoy** your time with us, to make lots of **new friends**, and **be proud** to be a member of Churchill Community College. We also want you to build on the learning you have already done at your primary school, growing your knowledge and abilities so that you can **achieve success** in your exams and qualifications, and be fully prepared for your future beyond school. Most of all, though, we want you to develop and grow as a person: **to be kind, respectful, and resilient.**

Whilst we think it is important that you try your hardest and do well in lessons, there are also lots of opportunities for you to get involved in a range of other activities. We hope you will try something you have never done before e.g. take up musical instrument lessons, join a sports club or learn to play chess!

A positive attitude to learning and fantastic behaviour is really important, and we will **recognise and reward** you when you do well. This could be anything from being awarded SIMS points, having positive comments and messages sent home to your parents/carers, or being named on our website and our social media pages as 'student of the week', to certificates and special prizes for those who have shown exceptional behaviour and attitudes.

Every member of our community is **responsible** for helping to make our college a safe, happy and productive place to be. Our college rules are there to allow that to happen. We keep them very simple but we will expect you, along with every other student, to follow them all the time.

Once you join us, you will very quickly get to know your teachers and the many other staff who you will meet each day, but perhaps the most important people you need to know are your form tutor and your Learning Coordinator. You will be seeing your form tutor every day, and they will usually be the best person to answer your questions, solve your problems, and sort out any worries you have. Your **Learning Coordinator** will be **Miss Driver**, and you will see her each week during assembly as well as in registration. You will also see her regularly during social times and in your lessons, and she is the **best person to help you if you need anything or have any questions before term starts in September.**

Miss Driver can be contacted on **0191 234 7211** or by emailing **kelly.driver@churchillcc.org**

We can't wait to see you in September and welcome you into our college in person. In the meantime, we look forward to seeing you get involved with some of the transition activities that will be taking place, and if you have any questions at all, please get in touch.



David Baldwin
Headteacher



Paul Johnson
Headteacher
from September 2020

Communication with parents and carers

Contacting your child during the college day

If you need to get a message to your child during the college day, **please do this via the college reception on 0191 234 7200**. Please **do not** contact them on their mobile phone as this will need to be in their bag and switched off during the entire college day.

College website:

The college website contains a wealth of information and is regularly updated. This is where you will find:

- News and updates about upcoming events and activities
- A dedicated section for parents – including information about transition and term dates
- Other information such as policies and contact details

www.churchillcommunitycollege.org

Social media

We use social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to share information and good news stories about activities students have been involved in, as well as highlights about their achievements. We also use social media to pass on important messages and updates. Currently, our Facebook page has over 2500 followers! Most subject departments also have their own Facebook, Instagram or Twitter accounts. Links to college social media pages are below:



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ChurchillCommunityCollege/>



Twitter: <https://twitter.com/EducatingCCC/>



Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/churchillcommunitycollege/>

College Newsletter

Newsletters are sent out each term to update you about successes over the last term as well as to remind you of important news and dates for the coming term. They also appear on the college website.



Google Classroom

Classroom helps classes communicate, save time, and stay organised.
Learn more

Google Classroom

We use the Google Classroom platform to set home learning for students. Your child will be issued with their own login details and can use these to log in to their account through the college website. Once logged in they can open a classroom page for each subject they study. Home learning assignments and support material can be accessed here, and it is also the place where your child can communicate remotely with their teachers. A Google Classroom app is also available to download from the Android and iOS app stores.

Whilst we would encourage you to ask your child to show you what Google Classroom looks like, we do not provide parents/carers with their own account. Instead, you will receive weekly email summaries which include information about:

- Missing work - work that is late at the time the email was sent
- Upcoming work - work that is due the following week
- Class activity - announcements, assignments, and questions recently posted by your child's teachers

School Gateway

School Gateway is a secure platform which we use to share information with parents/carers via email, text and the School Gateway smartphone app or website. Using School Gateway you can access up-to-date information and receive alerts about your child's attendance, achievements, upcoming activities and behaviour. It also includes a text message service which allows you to send and receive text messages to the college for free. Please be aware that whilst you are able to download the app at anytime, information about your child will only appear on it from September 2020.

To activate your School Gateway account, download the app from the Android/iOS app store or go to <https://login.schoolgateway.com/> select 'New User', and enter the email address and mobile number that the college holds on record for you.

Parents, welcome to:
Schoolgateway

Keeping you informed of what's going on at school.

Download the app
Android and iPhone

or visit the website:
www.schoolgateway.com

Activate your account today!

If you do not have access to a smartphone, we also use a text service.

Please ensure that you inform the college immediately (0191 234 7200) about any changes to your mobile phone number or email address. It is vitally important that we are always able to contact a parent/carer in an emergency, as well as ensuring you are able to receive home learning updates and access to School Gateway.

Important information

Uniform expectations

All students should wear the full college uniform. Our uniform supplier is Emblematic. All uniform is ordered **online** at:

<https://emblematic.co.uk/longbenton-store/ccc/>

Emblematic are offering FREE delivery on all orders until 1st July 2020

General uniform:

- Navy blue sweater (with Churchill logo).
- Plain white polo shirt
- Dark grey or black trousers or skirt (approximately knee length)
- Black tights/black or white socks
- Sensible plain black shoes (with a low heel and completely polishable all over, with no areas of mesh) - these should be entirely black, including the soles, laces and any logos
- Dark coloured school bag - rucksack preferred - to carry books, equipment and planner throughout the day



The following items will be required as a minimum for all PE lessons:

- Navy blue college polo shirt or t-shirt
- Navy jumper / hoodie
- Navy shorts, tracksuit bottoms or sports leggings (plain navy - no brand logo)
- Suitable sports trainers (not plimsolls)

In addition to the above the following may be required for outdoor lessons:

- Football boots (grass activities)
- Gum shield (rugby)
- Rugby shirt (in order to avoid damage to t-shirts when playing rugby)



All PE kit should avoid having obviously visible, branded logos.

We understand that, due to the disruption caused by COVID-19, it is possible you may experience difficulty acquiring one or two items of uniform for the start of term. In the event that this is the case, please contact reception or Miss Driver before term begins.

We do NOT allow:

- Jeans, leggings, footless tights, joggers, combat trousers, ski pants, tracksuit bottoms or other leisurewear, including fashion belts or scarves
- Short (significantly above knee length) or tightly fitting skirts
- Hats to be worn inside the college
- Hairstyles which follow extremes or fashion such as shaved heads, patterns or dyed hair. Only simple plain headbands or hair clips are allowed for girls. Hair must be a natural colour - e.g. blue, green, pink, red, etc are not acceptable
- Excessive amounts of makeup (students will be asked to wash it off if necessary)

Jewellery:

- Students in Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 may wear one simple ring on only one of their hands, a maximum of two earrings, one in each earlobe (simple studs or sleepers) and a watch
- Any other earrings/studs/bars used in face, mouth, ear or body piercing are not allowed in college (for health and safety reasons)
- Ear expanders must not be worn
- All jewellery must be removed for PE/Games
- Necklaces, anklets and bracelets should not be worn

Equipment:

Students learn more effectively when they have the right equipment, and it is therefore essential that your child has access to the right equipment both in college and at home. Bringing in the right equipment every day means they are always ready to learn and valuable time is not wasted searching for or having to borrow equipment.

The following equipment is essential for your child to bring with them to college each day:

- Pens, pencils - at least two of each
- Ruler, rubber, highlighter, coloured pencils, pencil sharpener, protractor, pair of compasses, calculator
- Pencil case to hold all of the above equipment
- Planner
- Reading book and bookmark (both provided by the college)

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Your child will be provided with a pack containing the equipment listed above on their first day in school, but you will then need to replace any items which become lost or worn out.

Remember - your child will also need a dark-coloured sturdy bag to carry their books and equipment in.



Attendance

It is vital that your child attends college each day they are able to. Our college target is for every student to have an attendance as close to **100%** as possible.

If your child is ill, you should contact the college before 8.55am to let us know on each day of absence. If you ring **0191 234 7226**, you will be able to speak to a member of the attendance team.

Under normal circumstances, the government classes young people as 'Persistent Absentees' if their attendance is less than 90%. Whilst it is important that you and your child carefully follow all government guidance about self-isolation, we know that sometimes young people can develop the skill of looking 'under the weather' and try to persuade parents/carers that a day off does not really matter. In these unusual times, we understand that this may be difficult to identify, and we would of course ask and expect you to err on the side of caution. However, once the situation returns to normal, it is important that you take a firmer line and insist that your child attends, as missed days soon add up and become a bad habit that is hard to break. Please also try to arrange medical appointments outside of the college day where possible.

Research shows that, in normal circumstances, just 3 weeks of absence during a year (roughly 93% attendance) is likely to result in students achieving a whole grade/level less in their GCSE results. Your child's attendance is therefore of vital importance.

PLEASE NOTE: The college does **NOT** authorise holidays during term time and parents will be fined.

The Curriculum

We have a broad and balanced curriculum.

In Year 7 this is designed to help students to make rapid progress, improve their literacy and numeracy skills and develop a love of learning

Students will study:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| • Art | • iLearn |
| • Computer Science | • Maths |
| • English | • Music |
| • French | • PE |
| • Geography | • Technology (Food, Textiles and Resistant Materials) |
| • History | • Science |

Timings of the college day

Students should be on site by 8.50am, and must be ready in their tutor rooms for registration to begin promptly at 8.55am.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 8.55am - 3.15pm

Tuesday: 8.55am - 2.25pm

(the early finish for students is to allow time for staff professional development to take place)

The site will be open outside these hours **only** for breakfast club, homework club, and extra-curricular activities.

Breakfast club will be available from 8am, and students will be able to access the rest of the school site from 8.30am.

Mobile phones and digital devices

If a student chooses to bring a mobile phone to college **it must remain switched off and out of sight** in their bag/pocket at all times until the end of the day. If a mobile phone is seen it will be confiscated until the end of the day. iPads and other larger electronic devices should also not be brought into college as if required in lessons they will be provided by the college.

However, **students will need to have access to a computer or internet-enabled device (such as a Chromebook or iPad) at home** in order to access, and in some cases complete, their home learning.

Food and Drink



Food and drinks are available to buy at breaktime and lunchtime, or your child can bring in their own packed lunch if they wish.

Our chef produces a daily menu offering a choice of traditional, international and vegetarian dishes accompanied by salad or fresh vegetables. The menu also offers a selection of sandwiches, salads, jacket potatoes, pasta, chilled drinks, cakes, biscuits and fruit. All dietary requirements are catered for e.g. vegetarian, vegan and others.

The cost of a two course lunch is currently £2.30. Payments for food are made by cash at the till.



Food and drink may only be consumed in designated areas around the college, and only during social times. Plain water is the only exception to this, and we would encourage your child to stay hydrated at all times by carrying with them and using their own water bottle, which may be refilled during social times.

Caffeinated drinks and chewing gum are strictly not allowed at any time and should not be brought onto the site.



Independent study

Home learning

We believe that home learning is vital to students becoming independent learners. We want your child to use the time they spend at home improving their learning. This means much of what they will do will involve revising and trying to remember the knowledge and concepts they have been taught in lessons.

Home learning will be regular and spread across the week. We expect your child to be spending **on average one hour every day on their home learning**. This will increase as they get older.

We use Google Classroom and Hegarty Maths to set home learning so, as previously mentioned, **your child will therefore need to have access to a computer or internet-enabled device (such as a Chromebook, iPad or computer) at home** in order to access their tasks.

Your child will, however, have the option to complete some or all of their home learning in college. The **Learning Resource Centre (LRC)** opens each day at 8am and is available at break and lunchtime and after 3.15pm each day too. The Learning Resource Centre provides access to the internet and quiet spaces for students to study or read independently.

Reading

Reading is important for children's development and their future lives. Being a confident reader means students can access work in lessons, build knowledge and understanding and therefore be successful. Reading also improves the functioning of the brain, increases vocabulary, sharpens memory and can reduce stress and anxiety too. It is a vital life skill.

Reading is one of our highest priorities. We want to make sure that every student enjoys reading for pleasure throughout their life, therefore all Year 7 students are part of our Accelerated Reader programme. The programme involves students reading regularly in school and at home, therefore **we expect your child to read for at least thirty five minutes per day, in addition to their home learning**. This is how we improve and develop successful reading habits.



Throughout the year there are some fantastic opportunities for your child to achieve points and prizes within the programme. We also have several reading groups, where we shadow local and national book awards.

Supporting your child

Support from home is vital in ensuring your child completes their independent study. Sometimes they will be set home learning which involves them speaking to or having a discussion with someone at home. Most of the time, though, you can support them by:

- Ensuring we have an up-to-date email address for you and checking this regularly. You will receive a list of your child's home learning each Friday so you can see what is due and when
- Spending time helping your child develop good independent study habits such as switching off mobile phones or computer games to avoid distractions
- Testing your child on any work they are trying to memorise - you don't need to know or understand it yourself, just ask them for the answers!
- Making sure your child is following the instructions when completing Hegarty Maths and that they are taking notes when watching the videos
- Asking questions about what your child is reading and what they predict will happen next
- Looking at your child's Accelerated Reader account together, and sometimes watching as your child takes quizzes, or looking at the next available book choices and discussing the options
- Making sure they have their current reading book in their bag every day

Summary

- Your child will need to be able to access Google Classroom, Accelerated Reader and Hegarty Maths as part of their independent study. These are all available online or as apps
- Your child will spend on average one hour per day on home learning and thirty five minutes reading
- The LRC is available for students to carry out their independent study outside of lesson time



Extra-curricular opportunities

At Churchill Community College we offer our students a broad range of activities both in and out of lessons to develop our young people into well rounded individuals.

Activities run before and after school and over lunchtime.

Our young people also have the opportunity to participate in a range of educational trips and visits.

Some examples of activities offered are:

- Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme
- Sewing Bee
- Instrument lessons
- Singing/choir
- Rehearsals for college productions
- Drama Club
- Reading group
- Art Club
- Dance Club
- Science Club
- Food Club
- Sports Clubs - basketball, cricket, rugby league, rugby union, tennis, golf, running, football, dance, futsal

We also organise trips and sports tours, for example:

- Spanish trip to Barcelona
- Sports tour to Amsterdam
- Music trip to see a show in London.



There are many opportunities for our students to develop their leadership skills by getting involved in a range of activities, for example:

- Student Council
- Sports Leaders
- Library Monitors
- Transition Buddies

We also arrange a number of activities to support students to make informed choices about their Key Stage 4 and post-16 options as well as their future career. Other activities enable students to get involved in charitable work, sometimes for national or international causes, but more often to support our local community or to raise money for charities which have directly impacted the lives of one or more of our students and their families.

Additional educational needs

Churchill Community College is committed to equality of opportunity and provides full access to the National Curriculum for all students. We ensure that we support students where necessary so they can access the curriculum and their progress is not impaired.

Examples of support are:

- Learning Support Assistant in class
- Small group or 1 to1 withdrawal
- Literacy or numeracy intervention
- Use of access arrangements in internal and external assessments and examinations

Our Special Educational Needs Coordinator - SENCO, Mrs Sarah Dunston, works with parents, students, primary schools, outside agency professionals and our own staff to fully support all young people joining our college.

Her contact details are as follows:

Telephone: 0191 2347200

Email: sarah.dunston@churchillcc.org



Frequently asked questions

Who do I contact if I have a question?

Miss Driver will be your Learning Coordinator (Tel 0191 234 7211, kelly.driver@churchillcc.org)
Mrs Dunston is the SENCO (sarah.dunston@churchillcc.org)
They can also be contacted through reception on 0191 2347200.

Can I have a water bottle?

We encourage students to bring a water bottle to college with them every day. These can be used in all lessons and in corridors. They need to be filled up in the hall during break or at lunchtime.

What do I do on the first day?

You need to arrive at college by 8.50am for an assembly in the hall starting at 8.55am. You will sit in a row with the rest of your tutor group and meet your tutor. If these arrangements need to change, we will get in touch to let you know.

Who are my teachers and what will my timetable be like?

Lessons are usually one hour, and you can find a list of the subjects you will study on page 12.

When you come to Churchill in September, you will be given your timetable by your tutor in the morning and they will explain who all of the teachers are and where all the rooms are. There will be helpers with your tutor group to help you find your way around the building so you do not get lost.

Will I get bullied?

Bullying is rare at Churchill but sometimes people are unkind to others. We do not think that is acceptable. If anyone says or does anything that upsets you, let your form tutor or Learning Coordinator know and we will sort out the problem.

I don't know my way around - what if I get lost?

For the first few days, Year 7 will be the only students in the college, so there will be lots of staff around to help you find your way around the building. Just ask for help if you are not sure where to go - everyone at Churchill is very friendly and will want to help you.

What happens if I am not very well?

You need to tell your teacher and they will send you to reception. We will then talk to one of your parents or carers and make a decision about whether you need to go home.

How will you make sure it is safe in school following COVID-19?

We will continue to follow government guidelines as they are updated. We don't know yet what the advice will be for September 2020, but once we do we will make sure we follow it so that we are doing all we can to keep you safe.

When will clubs start after school?

We will let you know in September when the different clubs will start. This information will also be shared on School Gateway, our website and on social media so your parents/carers will know as well.

Further information

Due to the impact of COVID-19, at the time of printing we are not in a position to provide you with a detailed timeline for your child's first few days and weeks at college. We will contact parents/carers directly as soon as we are able to provide firm information. In the meantime, you can keep up to date with developments via the college website, particularly the 'transition' section, as well our social media pages.

Key contacts:



Mrs Lucy Roderick
Assistant Headteacher/
Transition Coordinator
lucy.roderick@churchillcc.org



Miss Kelly Driver
Year 7 Learning Coordinator
kelly.driver@churchillcc.org



Mrs Sarah Dunston
SENCO
sarah.dunston@churchillcc.org



Churchill Community College

Churchill Street, Wallsend, Tyne & Wear, NE28 7TN
 Tel: 0191 2347200 Attendance Hotline - 0191 2347226
 Email: info@churchillcc.org
 Website: www.churchillcommunitycollege.org



David Baldwin - Headteacher
Paul Johnson - Headteacher (from September 2020)
Deputy Headteacher - Jill Huxtable
Chair of Governors - Tracey Booth MBE

