



HAT TRICK OF WINS AT THE NODA AWARDS

Cowley International College is delighted to have won three awards at this year's National Operatic and Dramatic Association (NODA) North West District Awards for their whole college musical production, *Evita*.

The college's production of *Evita*, which saw participation from students from each year group, ran for five nights and six performances during October 2023 and was a huge hit with sold out audiences. The college received some fantastic feedback.

Nominated in seven categories at the awards ceremony, which took place at the DW Stadium in Wigan, Cowley achieved the prizes for Best Leading Male Character in a Youth Musical (Sam Smith), Best Leading Female Character in a Youth Musical (Isla Graham) and Best Director of a Youth Musical & Best Artistic Director of a Youth Musical (Mr Watkins).

Assistant Headteacher and Strategic Lead of Performing Arts, Mr Watkins, said: "It is wonderful to receive these awards as recognition of the hard work put in by both students and staff to make our whole college musical as good as it could be.

"We have some wonderfully talented students and a really dedicated Performing Arts staff, so it's lovely for their talent to be acknowledged in this way; I couldn't be more proud of them."

We take enormous pride in our Performing Arts offering. Cowley Sixth Form College runs a popular BTEC Professional Musical Theatre course, as well as the equally popular BTEC Music Performance, with a number of students progressing into impressive careers within the Arts.

Mr Cormack, Principal, added: "Cowley has a fantastic tradition of superb Performing Arts productions and this year's performances of *Evita* were, again, exceptional.

"To win a hat trick of awards is a tremendous achievement and I'm extremely proud of the Performing Arts students and staff.

"The whole college production is always a highlight of the college calendar and I'm delighted that this has been recognised by NODA with these awards."



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COWLEY

SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

MEET OUR HEAD BOY AND HEAD GIRL

2023 - 2024



The staff at Cowley Sixth Form College are incredibly kind and helpful, and you are treated like a young adult.

There are many opportunities for enrichment outside of the classroom, and this is a really great way to meet new people with the same interests as you.

Jack Swift
Head Boy

I chose Cowley Sixth Form College as I found all the teachers really enthusiastic about their subjects at the open evenings.

The staff go above and beyond to make sure everyone is supported and that all students enjoy the subjects they study.

Outside of lessons, there are so many activities for students to get involved with from sports to chess. There is something for everyone here at Cowley Sixth Form College.

Holly Bullen
Head Girl

DATES FOR THE DIARY

What's happening soon at Cowley...

Thursday, 23rd May & Friday, 24th May
KS3 Musical (5pm)

Thursday, 13th June
Y8 & Y10 Team Tutor Parents' Evening (4-7pm)

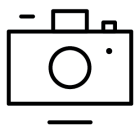
Thursday, 27th June
Y7 & Y9 Team Tutor Parents' Evening (4-7pm)

Wednesday, 10th July
Summer Concert (6-8pm)



Principal's Award

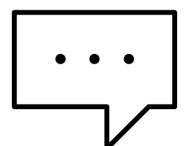
Each week, two students from each year group are nominated by their Head of Achievement to receive the Principal's Award. This award recognises and rewards students who have gone above and beyond to really set themselves apart. Here is a selection of photos from some of our most recent winners.



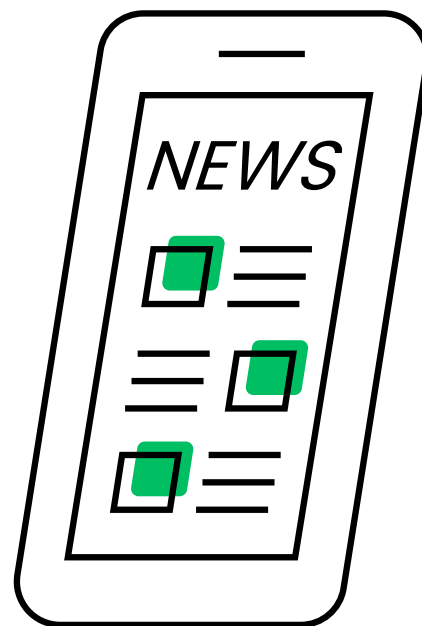
ENRICHMENT

We are incredibly proud of the huge number of extracurricular activities that are available to students here at Cowley.

[View Timetable](#)



News in brief



RECENT NEWS AND EVENTS

Student Leaders

We have high aspirations for our students and believe that developing them as leaders will play a key role in allowing them to make positive changes in the college and local community.

Student Leaders form an integral part of the Student Voice process and have the opportunity to meet regularly with Governors and Pastoral and Leadership Teams to effect real change in the college.

Our new Student Leadership team, that includes students from across all year groups, has been announced this half term after the application and interview process. The Student Leaders each have different areas of responsibility, covering key factors such as attendance, behaviour, literacy, curriculum, enrichment, finance, wellbeing and diversity.

Holocaust assembly

Y9s and Sixth Form students had a special assembly delivered by Mr Hunt and Holocaust survivor, Harry Kessler, as part of a visit organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust (HET).

Harry spoke about his experiences fleeing persecution in both Austria and Czechoslovakia during Nazi occupation, and told his inspiring story of adapting to life in England as a refugee. Harry's overall message to the pupils was that they should be tolerant and accept those around them, despite any differences.

Trip to Poland

On Saturday, 10th February, 55 students from Year 10 to Year 13 and staff travelled to Krakow, Poland and spent four days immersing themselves in the history and culture of the city.

During the short stay, the group visited Krakow Old Town, the Wieliczka Salt Mine, Schindler's Factory, the Gestapo & Polish Resistance Museum, Kazimierz Jewish district and Heroes Square. The square, which is situated in the Podgórze district, commemorates the Jewish victims of the war, both through its name and also with an artistic chair installation that can be found there, representing the formation of the Krakow ghetto.

The group made an emotional visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau Concentration Camp where the students took part in a guided tour, before showing their respects by laying a tribute from Cowley. All pupils were very respectful and moved by the experience.

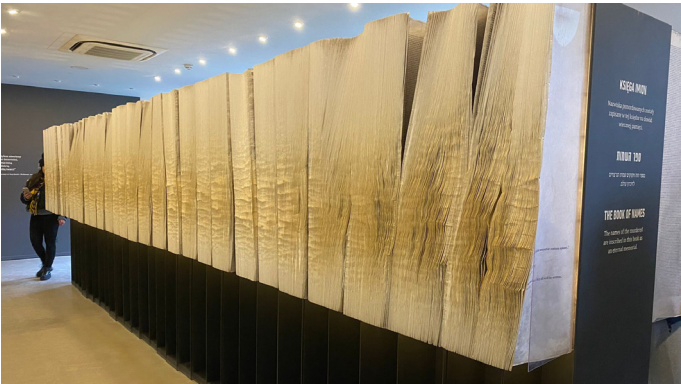
The trip was an enriching, educational experience for the students. Please see the photos from the trip on the next page.

Voices of the future

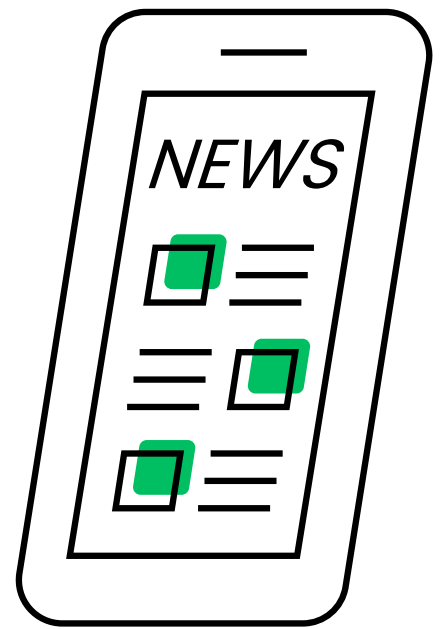
The college recently welcomed researchers from Manchester Metropolitan University and Mersey Forest who are working on a 'Voices of the Future' project that involves collaborating with children and young people to re-imagine treescapes.

The researchers met with a group of Y7 students to gain their valuable contribution on what trees mean to them and to examine how trees and society can benefit each other. This project is part of a wider Future of UK Treescapes programme, which has also involved the creation of our outdoor classroom in Cowley Woods.

Cowley in Poland



News in brief



RECENT NEWS AND EVENTS

Y8 Careers Carousel



As part of National Careers Week, a group of Y8 students thoroughly enjoyed their morning at an Interactive Careers Carousel event organised by St Helens Chamber.

The students engaged in a range of activities from businesses in different industries, learning more about different jobs and the skills needed to do those roles.

It was a fantastic event, and we'd like to thank St Helens Chamber for the kind invitation and all the businesses in attendance for their great engagement with the students.

World Book Day



On World Book Day, celebrations took place in the Library at lunch time with plenty of students enjoying a good book.

The Library was packed as students gathered to enjoy a hot chocolate while members of staff read extracts from some of their favourite books.

In addition, to mark World Book Day, we recorded our first ever Reading Podcast with three fantastic students talking about their experience of books and reading at Cowley.

Please have a listen here:
<https://www.cowley.st-helens.sch.uk/whats-happening/podcasts/>

Girls football



Congratulations to the Y9/10 girls' football team who won a nail-biting semi-final against Hope Academy.

The game was nip and tuck all the way through and finished 0-0, meaning it went to a penalty shoot-out, with the girls winning through with some great penalties scored and some fantastic saves by the goalkeeper!

The girls will now go on to play in the St Helens Town Cup Final against Rainford High in April.

A-Level Psychology and Sociology Grade Booster Workshops



Y13 A-Level Psychology and Sociology students recently attended Grade Booster Workshops at the Trafford Centre in Manchester.

The students took part in a number of fast paced and interactive sessions which were aimed at how to learn tricky content and improving exam skills.

It was a really good and useful experience for the students.

Ethics and Philosophy students attend lecture by world renowned Peter Vardy



A-Level Ethics and Philosophy students recently attended a conference in Manchester, led by one of Britain's best-known philosophers, Peter Vardy.

The students got a taster of what university lectures are like based on topics they have studied or will study on their A-Level course.

They had a fabulous day and even joined in with a debate on the value of individual conscience at the end.

International Women's Day



To mark International Women's Day, all of our sixth form students welcomed Detective Chief Inspector, Leanne Hobin, who delivered an assembly about her career in the Police Force and women's role within the force.

It was a really insightful and interesting talk and we'd like to thank the Detective Chief Inspector for coming in to speak with the students.

Student Ambassadors



Some of our Student Ambassadors were on hand at Y10 and Y11 Parents' Evenings to offer information about the sixth form.

The students shared their experience of life at Cowley Sixth Form College and offered advice and information to the younger students and their parents and carers.

Careers in the Canteen


The Careers department launched some additional careers education support this half term with bi-weekly drop in sessions with employers and universities in the busy canteen.

Students have been able to speak to Bethell, John Moores University and Bluebird Care since the initiative launched, enabling students to learn more about some of the progression opportunities available to them after college.


Moments Matter, Attendance Counts



MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.



COWLEY
INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE



YEAR GROUP ATTENDANCE WINNERS
(WC 26TH FEBRUARY)

✦✦ YEAR 7 ✦✦


YEAR 8

2


1

YEAR 9

3



COWLEY
INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE



TEAM ATTENDANCE WINNERS
(WC 26TH FEBRUARY)

9V


11MA2

2


1

8R

3



COWLEY
INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE



YEAR GROUP ATTENDANCE WINNERS
(WC 4TH MARCH)

✦✦ YEAR 7 ✦✦


YEAR 8

2


1

YEAR 11

3



COWLEY
INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE



TEAM ATTENDANCE WINNERS
(WC 4TH MARCH)

11MA3


7H

2


1

11G

3



COWLEY
INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE



YEAR GROUP ATTENDANCE WINNERS
(WC 11TH MARCH)

✦✦ YEAR 7 ✦✦


YEAR 8

2


1

YEAR 11

3



COWLEY
INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE



TEAM ATTENDANCE WINNERS
(WC 11TH MARCH)

8P

7Q

2

1

11MA2

3

What is **your** attendance?



100%

Perfect - well done!

You're giving yourself the best opportunity for success.



97%

Impressive!

Up to **6** days
absent from school

**30 missed
lessons!**

High attendance leads to improved and high achievement.



**96.9%
- 93%**

Worrying!

Up to **14** days
absent from school

**70 missed
lessons!**

Too many missed school days. Less chance of success.



92%

Concern!

Up to **16** days
absent from school

**80 missed
lessons!**

Reduced chance of success. Possible court action.



90%

Serious!

Considerable absence
from school

**Over 100
missed lessons!**

Lowest chance of success. Possible court action.

WHY IS GOOD ATTENDANCE IMPORTANT?

We place great emphasis on excellent attendance. To be successful at school and to take advantage of all the amazing opportunities and enrichment that the school can offer, your child should aim for 100% attendance.

In order to support your child in achieving 100% attendance, we request that whenever possible, medical appointments are made outside of the school day, as losing time during the school day will impact upon their overall attendance figure and also hinder their progress.

Attendance to school is vital in achieving true potential. 1/2 a missed day per week equates to one grade lower at GCSE across all subjects –this is a proven fact.



It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, when they're unwell.

[Take a look at the advice from the NHS here.](#)

If your child is refusing to attend school, this is known as 'school refusal' or 'school phobia' and is often caused by fear and anxious feelings.

Take a read of our 2-page document about school refusal and some advice for parents/carers, plus the support that we, and external agencies, can offer.

[Open Document](#)



**“THIS MORNING,
SHE WAS WORRIED
ABOUT SCHOOL...
BUT LOOK AT HER
NOW!”**

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



HM Government

Search the Education Hub to find out more

