



NODA AWARD NOMINATIONS!

Cowley International College is delighted to have received seven nominations for the National Operatic and Dramatic Association (NODA) North West District Awards 2023 for their whole school 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 as the College received fantastic feedback.

Representatives from NODA were invited into the rehearsal room before attending one of the evening performances to give them a full insight into the hard work that all the students and staff put into making the show.

This has led to the College receiving nominations in the following categories:

- Best Leading Male Character in a Youth Musical & Best Leading Male Character in a Youth Drama
- Best Leading Female Character in a Youth Musical & Best Leading Female Character in a Youth Drama
- Best Supporting Female Character in a Youth Musical
- Best Musical Director of a Youth Production
- Best Director of a Youth Musical & Best Director of a Youth Drama
- Best Youth Ensemble
- Best Youth Musical & Best Youth Drama.

Assistant Headteacher and Strategic Lead of Performing

Arts at Cowley, Mr Watkins, said: "It is wonderful to receive such recognition from NODA as a lot of hard work was put in by both students and staff to make Evita as good a show as we could possibly put on.

"We have some fantastically talented students and staff at Cowley and it's lovely for their talent and hard work to be acknowledged in this way. I'm extremely proud of them all."

Cowley prides itself on its Performing Arts offering, with Cowley Sixth Form College running a BTEC Professional Musical Theatre course which is extremely popular amongst students, as well as their equally popular BTEC Music Performance course.

The NODA Awards ceremony is due to take place in April 2024 with Cowley competing against the best youth amateur dramatic productions from across the North West region.

Principal, Mr Cormack, added: "I am extremely proud of all the students and staff involved and for the College to receive these nominations.

"It is brilliant news and well-deserved recognition for all the hard work that went into making such a professional-looking show.

"The whole school musical production is one of the highlights of the College calendar and I am always overwhelmed at how well our students perform with a live orchestra and in front of large audiences."



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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 during the next half term at Cowley...

Thursday 22nd February
Y10 Parents' Evening (4-7pm)

Thursday 29th February
Y11 Parents' Evening (4-7pm)

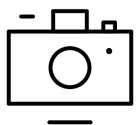
Thursday 7th March
Y8 Parents' Evening (4-7pm)

Thursday 21st March
Cowley's Got Talent (5-8pm)



Principal's Award

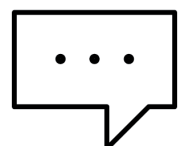
Each week, two students from each year group are nominated by their Head of Achievement to receive the Principal's Award. This award recognises and rewards students who have gone above and beyond to really set themselves apart. Here is a selection of photos from some of our most recent winners.



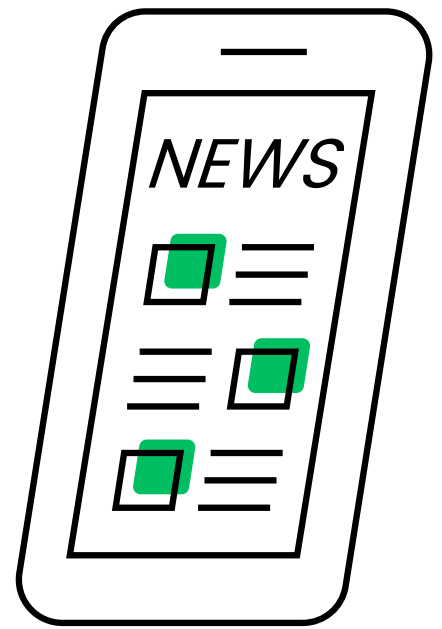
ENRICHMENT

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

Presentation Evening

We had our annual Presentation Evening at the beginning of January and it was a superb event celebrating all the many successes from the 2022-2023 academic year.

It is one of the highlights of the College calendar and it was fantastic to see so many students collecting prizes for their hard work.

Our special guest speaker, England international and current Leicester City footballer Conor Coady, gave a fantastic and inspirational speech before handing out all the prizes to our winners.

Congratulations to everyone who picked up an award! Please check out our photo gallery on the next page.

Charity fundraising

During the final week before the Christmas break, the College had a number of initiatives going on to help raise money for some good causes.

Staff held a Christmas quiz raising £322 which will be split between Cancer Research UK

and Teardrops.

Over on the sixth form, students donated in return for wearing their Christmas jumpers or PJs on the final day of term and collected £130 for Willowbrook Hospice.

This is absolutely fantastic and we'd like to thank everyone involved for contributing to these good causes.

Y11 1:1 meetings

Over the first few weeks of this half term, it was fantastic to see Y11 parents/carers and their children planning what needs to happen over the next few months in the lead up to the final assessments at the end of the academic year.

It was wonderful to hear how parents and carers are supporting with self-study at home and their child's academic success.

Y11 Mock Exam Results

This half term saw our Y11 students receive their mock exam results.

It is always a powerful day and we try to create a situation to

help the students feel what it will be like in August and then plan how to make August a celebration. Keep up the good work!

Sixth Form Exams

Our Y12 and Y13 students have been in exam mode this half term with external and internal assessments taking place in College.

It has been excellent to see the focus and academic aspiration shown by the students. Well done.

Photography visitor

The Art department were delighted to welcome award-winning photographer, Terry Donnelly, to Cowley Sixth Form College to speak with our Y13 A-Level Art & Photography students and talk through some of his work and to offer advice.

Terry presented the students with a beautiful book that is a collection of approximately 140 photos by some of the best photographers in Europe.

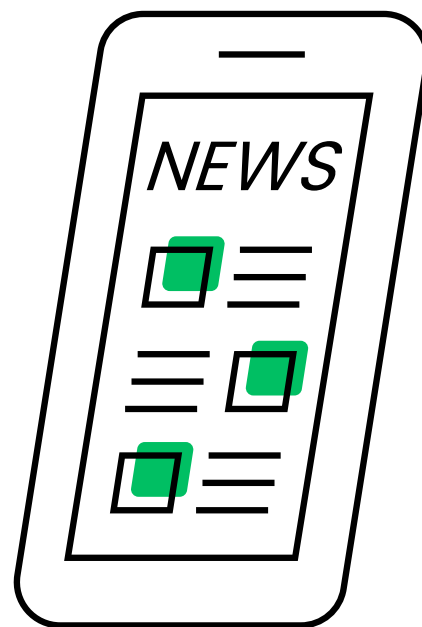
We'd like to thank Terry for his generous donation.

Presentation Evening gallery

Please visit our website to view all photos from the Presentation Evening



News in brief



RECENT NEWS AND EVENTS

Cowley Sixth Form College - Course Discussion Meetings

The first set of Cowley Sixth Form College Course Discussion meetings have been taking place this half term.

It has been great to see the first groups of Y11s, from Cowley and other schools from across the borough and beyond, deciding on which courses they want to study and visualising coming to Cowley Sixth Form College in September.

There are further dates in March for future meetings and applicants have been emailed the link to book their appointments online.

Attendance review

A Local Authority officer spent the day with us earlier this half term to look at our attendance routines.

It was a very positive day and helped to highlight our commitment in supporting all students to attend College and helping parents to ensure their children have good attendance.

Y8 & Y9 Chemistry at Work Session

The Science department took 90 students from Y8 and Y9 to the Catalyst Museum in Widnes to take part in the Chemistry at Work event.

This event provided an amazing opportunity for our students to put classroom science into an everyday context.

Our students got to meet and engage with six local scientific industries and found out about the different careers available, what a typical day looks like in one of these jobs and the pathways to getting a similar job before taking part in a practical science activity related to that company. It was an excellent day.

France trip

The Y8 MFL trip to France took place shortly before the Christmas break.

The students returned safely after having an amazing adventure with lots of opportunities to speak the language and immerse themselves in the culture.

We've heard lots of excited

students speaking very fondly of the memories they've made from the trip, which has been fantastic to hear.

Christmas Concert



In the final week before the Christmas break, we staged our Christmas Concert in Cowley Hall.

We have some incredibly talented students, who gave exceptional performances in music, dance and drama.

It was a fantastic night which had great support from parents, carers and staff supporting the students and enjoying the superb entertainment.

We must thank the Performing Arts department for putting on such a great event.

Moments Matter, Attendance Counts





YEAR GROUP ATTENDANCE WINNERS FOR LAST WEEK (WC 15TH JAN)

✦✦ **YEAR 7** ✦✦

YEAR 8 YEAR 9


2 1 3



TEAM ATTENDANCE WINNERS FOR LAST WEEK (WC 15TH JAN)

11MA1 11EN1 8R

2 1 3





YEAR GROUP ATTENDANCE WINNERS FOR LAST WEEK (WC 22ND JAN)

✦✦ **YEAR 7** ✦✦

YEAR 8 YEAR 11

2 1 3



TEAM ATTENDANCE WINNERS FOR LAST WEEK (WC 22ND JAN)

8P 11MA2 11MA1

2 1 3



**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Attendance Prize Draw

We have another special Attendance Prize Draw taking place this term.

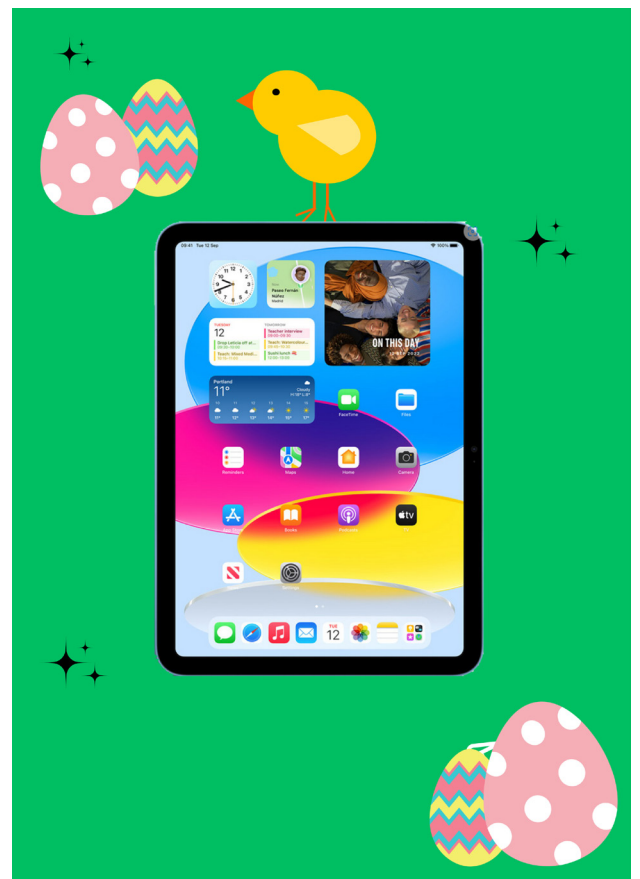
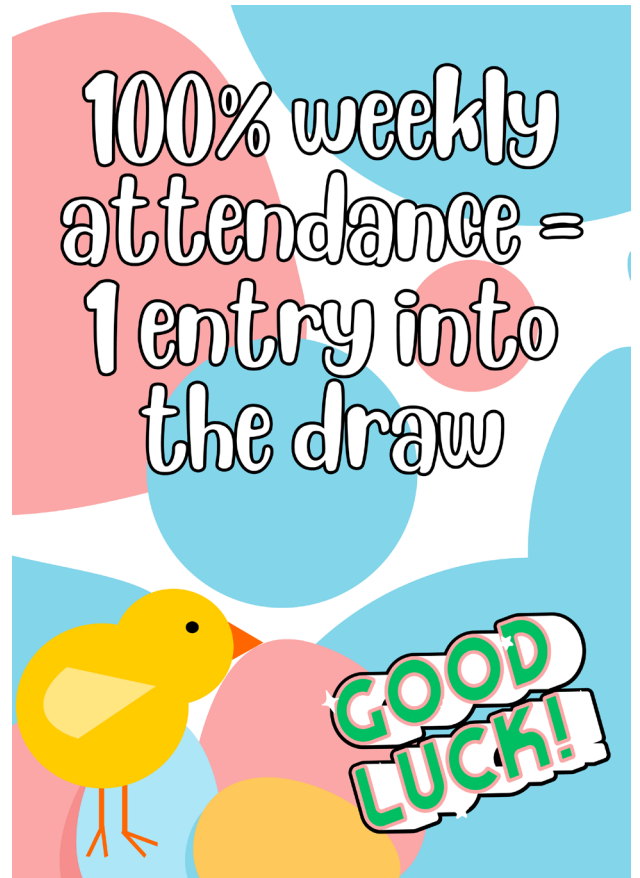
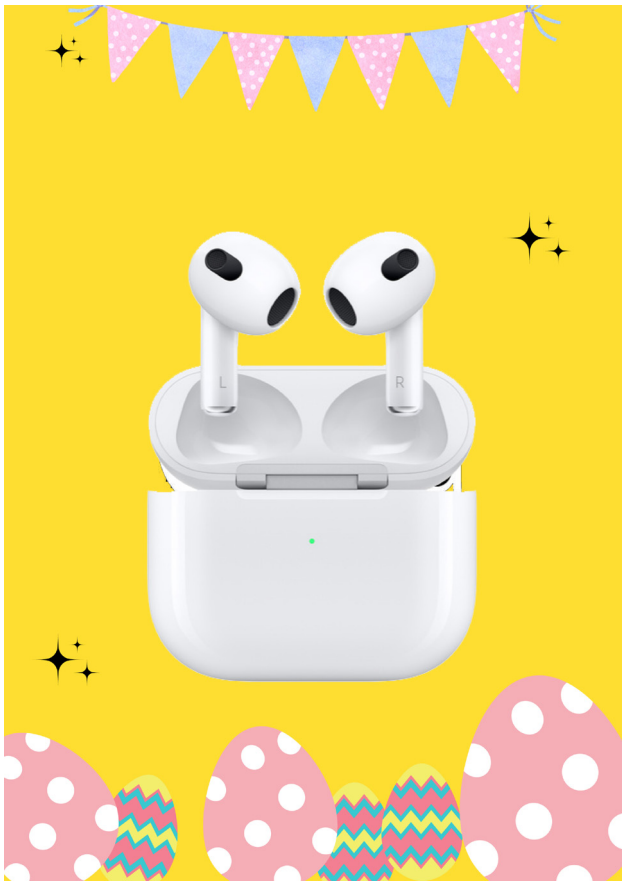
Every student who attends college for a full week will receive an attendance slip that they complete and post into our collection box.

Every week a student is in = more chances to win!

At the end of the term, the prize draw will be made and up for grabs are:

- A pair of Apple AirPods
- An Apple iPad

Be in for the chance to win, students!



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.

Our school target is 97% which mean to achieve this, all pupils must have an attendance of at least 97%.



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

