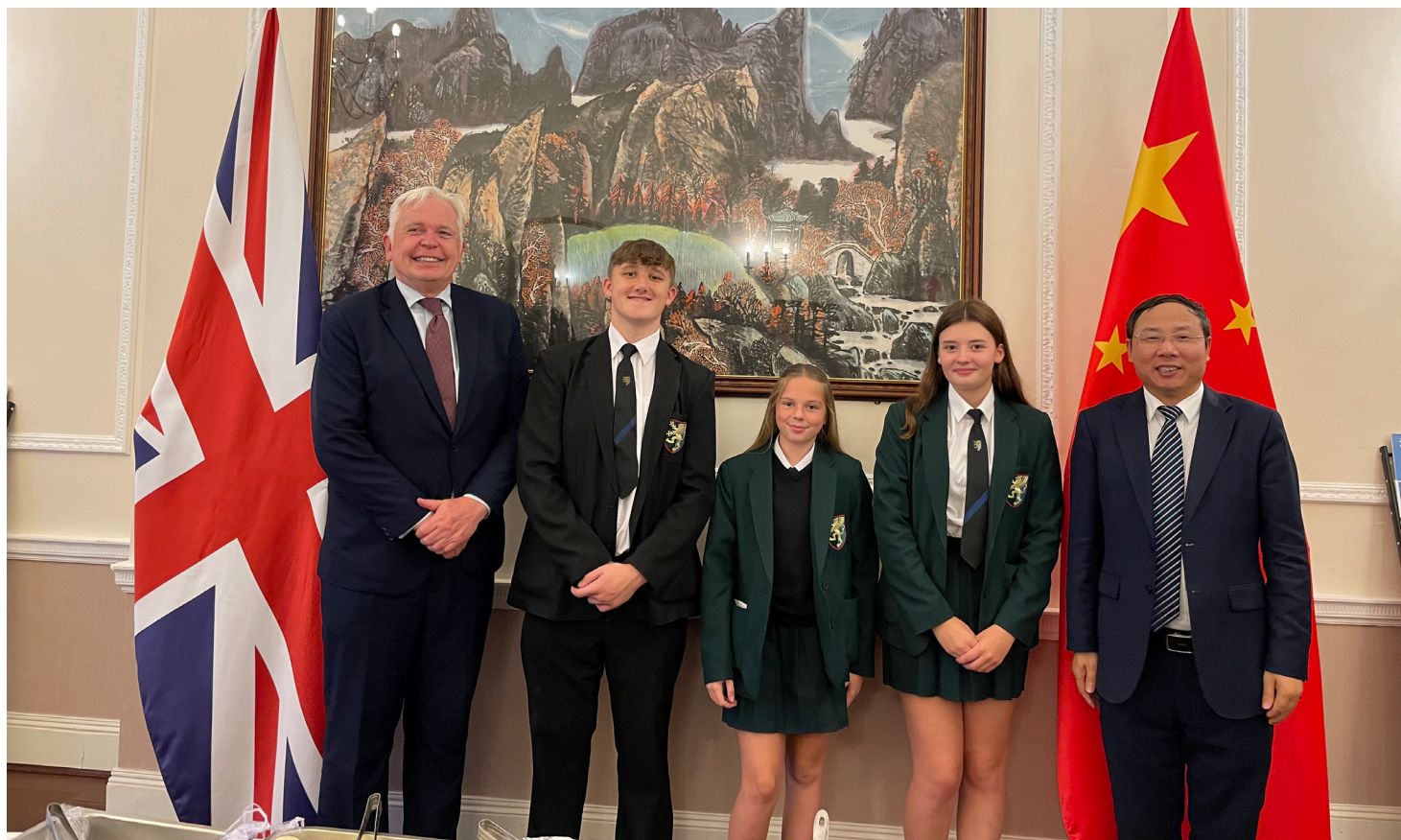




CHINESE EMBASSY VISIT



We are incredibly proud that three of our students were recently invited to represent our school at the prestigious Mandarin Excellence Programme (MEP) event, hosted at the Chinese Embassy in London.

Accompanied by Mr Sheeran, our students had the opportunity to share their experiences of learning Mandarin and their memorable trip to China last year. Cowley was one of only ten schools chosen from 61 participating schools across the UK to speak at this event – a remarkable honour!

The Mandarin Excellence Programme is a flagship initiative to boost language skills in the UK. It's a rigorous and immersive programme,

and Cowley has been a proud participant since 2017. The event at the Chinese Embassy was a celebration of the successes of schools and students engaged in this programme, providing an important platform for pupils to share their experiences and demonstrate their progress.

Our students took to the stage at the Chinese Embassy to share their journey of learning Mandarin, a language that has challenged and inspired them, as well as their experience of spending time in China on a once-in-a-lifetime visit last year. Mr Sheeran also gave a speech on the life-changing opportunity this programme brings to our students.

Our students represented the school magnificently and we are extremely proud of them.

The event concluded with an inspiring message from the Chinese Ambassador, who commended all participating schools for fostering closer ties between the UK and China through language and cultural exchange.

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- Principal's Award winners
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COWLEY

SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

MEET OUR HEAD BOY AND HEAD GIRL

2024 - 2025



"At Cowley Sixth Form, everyone strives for you to be your best and will go above and beyond to give you every opportunity to do so.

"The opportunities to better yourself, both inside and outside the classroom, are endless and every single staff member wants to make sure that you succeed at everything you do.

"It has remained the fantastic learning environment that drew me towards it in the first place."

Daniel
Head Boy

"I chose Cowley Sixth Form because of the small class sizes, as I feel that the subject teachers can take time to make sure all students are reaching their full potential.

"I also think there is a great support system of staff, so I am comfortable to voice any concerns.

"The opportunities they provide here are great ways for students to grow as individuals, teaching us skills to utilise in our future."

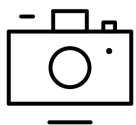
Abigail
Head Girl



A view from Cowley, 4th October 2024

Principal's Award

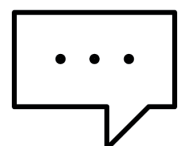
Each week, two students from each year group are nominated by their Head of Achievement to receive the Principal's Award. This award recognises and rewards students who have gone above and beyond to really set themselves apart. Here is a selection of photos from some of our most recent winners.



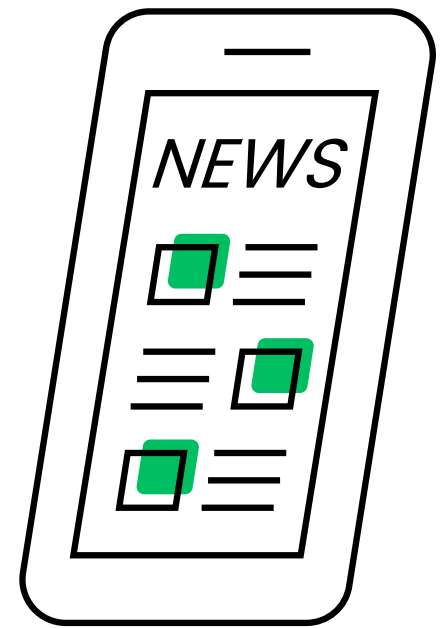
ENRICHMENT

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

Open Evening



We held our Open Evening during the second week of September and what a busy night it was!

It was wonderful to meet all the prospective Cowleians and to showcase the College to those students and their families.

Well done to our Student Leaders who did a fantastic job of presenting to parents and talking about their experience at Cowley in the Hall alongside Mr Cormack. They spoke with great confidence and did themselves and the college proud.

All Star Awards

Congratulations to our four students who have been shortlisted at the first St Helens Secondary Schools All Star Awards.

This new event has been set up for the secondary schools

across the borough to recognise the exceptional talents and contributions of students in St Helens.

These students are up for awards in the following categories:

- Leadership award
- Creative Performing Arts award
- Resilience award
- Environment award

Visit from the Global School Alliance



We were delighted to receive a visit from the Global School Alliance after Cowley was recognised for our international work.

We have received a certificate as recognition of all the opportunities we offer to our students to broaden their

horizons, develop new skills and values, and gain a global perspective.

Merseyside Hockey Champions

Congratulations to our U14 girls' hockey team who won the Merseyside Schools Hockey tournament earlier this half term.

The girls played some fantastic hockey to beat Liverpool College and Merchant Taylors and draw with Greenbank to become champions of the region.

Well done, girls!

Y7 Rugby winners

Our Y7 boys' rugby team braved torrential rain to take part in the regional qualifiers for the North West Counties competition against the other high schools in St. Helens.

In their first competition as Cowleians, they overcame the poor weather conditions and were outstanding, finishing the group stages unbeaten and qualifying for the next stage of the competition.

Well done, lads!

World Mental Health Day walk



To support World Mental Health Day, Cowley Sixth Form College took part in the annual #EmpowerHalfHour mental health walk to Victoria Park.

All students from both Y12 and Y13 took part, alongside the sixth form teaching and support staff.

Careers Fairs galore



Cowley Sixth Form College has been out and about at local secondary schools' careers events and assemblies to inform students of the Post-16 opportunities available at Cowley.

Head of Sixth Form, Mr Watkins, has been busy alongside the Head Boy and Head Girl, have been doing sterling work, speaking to students and sharing their experience of life at Sixth Form.

Construction Fair



Our Y12 Construction students recently visited the Home Builders Careers Fair which was held

at Haydock Park Racecourse.

They got to speak to a number of industry leaders, build up some contacts and had a go on the Construction simulator in what was a really engaging event.

Deindustrialisation of St Helens



Our Y13 Sociology class had a visit from local writer, Jennifer White, who conducted a workshop with the group to obtain some opinions from young people about the deindustrialisation of St Helens.

It was a really interesting session, with the students articulately sharing their views which will form part of an article to appear in a major publication.

We'd like to thank Jennifer for coming into college and speaking to the students about this topic.

Enrichment Fair



The first Cowley Sixth Form Freshers Fair took place at the beginning of term, promoting some of the many enrichment opportunities available to students.

Students from both Y12 and Y13 were able to find out more about opportunities such as Content Creators, LGBTQ Club, Chinese Culture and many more, as well as signing up to get involved.

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](#)



COWLEY INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE PRESENTS

LITTLE SHOP OF

HORRORS

22ND - 26TH
OCTOBER

COWLEY INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE
EMERALD THEATRE

TO PURCHASE TICKETS
[TICKETS@COWLEYSTHELENS.ORG.UK](mailto:tickets@cowleysthelens.org.uk)

Open Dress Rehearsal: Tuesday, 22nd October, 7:30pm
Matinee: Saturday, 26th October, 2:30pm