

From: [CCC Education](#)
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Cambridgeshire Schools Newsletter

Summer HAF Programme - Go Live 8 June



The Summer Holiday HAF Programme will go live on 8 June. Eligible families in receipt of benefits-related FSM will receive an e-voucher by email or text, which will include their booking code.

Schools will also be sent a letter in the week before launch to share with parents and promote the programme.

Children can attend a registered holiday scheme for up to 64 fully funded hours, with a daily meal and a range of enriching activities provided.

For more information, please visit the [Parents HAF webpage](#).

Questions?

Email: HAF@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Cybersecurity alert - Staff action required

Cyber-attacks targeting schools continue to increase, with email remaining the one of the most common methods used to gain unauthorised access to systems and data.

At present, threat actors are actively exploiting a recently identified zero-day vulnerability in Adobe Acrobat Reader, using malicious PDF attachments. These files are designed to appear legitimate (e.g. invoices, reports, safeguarding documents, or shared resources) and may compromise a device simply by being opened.

To help protect your school, staff and pupils, all users must follow this guidance:

- Do not open email attachments or click links unless you were expecting them, even if the message appears urgent.
- Treat PDF attachments with caution, particularly those from external or unknown senders.
- Check sender email addresses carefully – attackers often mimic legitimate organisations.

- Do not enable macros or advanced document features unless you are confident the file is safe and expected.
- Report suspicious emails immediately using your school's agreed reporting process.
- If in doubt, do not open the email or attachment – seek advice from your IT support provider or contact The ICT Service for guidance.

We strongly encourage all schools to reinforce this message regularly with staff and ensure reporting processes are clearly understood.

Thank you for your continued vigilance.

The Royal Ballet and Opera Schools programme



Royal Ballet and Opera free CPD Opportunity – Cultural Champions (Royal Ballet & Opera)

Teachers across Cambridgeshire are invited to take part in Cultural Champions, a fully funded CPD programme from the Royal Ballet & Opera, running from September to April. This accredited course includes six leadership modules exploring creative and cultural learning, delivered through a mix of in-person and online sessions. Participants will also complete a school-based project linked to their setting's priorities. In-person sessions will be held at a cultural venue. Watch the trailer [RBO Cultural Champions Trailer - YouTube](#)

All places are fully funded. Please contact karla.harris@roh.org.uk for further details or to express interest.

SAFETY ALERT - Asbestos in some play sand products - immediate action required

Recall notices have been issued for a range of products which contain play sand that may contain trace levels of **asbestos**, and the Government's Office for Product Safety and Standards has published new guidance.

Please check the following guidance document and the safety recall notices for the affected products. If you have some of the affected play sand, follow the instructions for what to do if the sand has been opened and in use, and for if the sand is still in its packaging.

If the sand has been used, please contact [CCC Health and Safety Team](#)

[CCC Asbestos in sand safety alert \(May 2026\)](#)

Adobe Express for Education - Free for schools



Adobe Express for Education:

- is the tool that can replace Microsoft Publisher which is going end of life in October 2026. Allow for a simple transition with features such as PDF editor, Mail Merge and bulk creation tools.

- can enhance teaching and learning with simple, powerful digital creativity tools.
- comes with Copyright licensed content that you are free to use and publish as your own.
- can be a great tool to introduce and frame conversations around the use of Generative AI and Copyright.

Nicole O'Connor, Education Community Lead (Europe) and Kevin Sait, Tech Evangelist (Europe) joined The ICT Service for a webinar to highlight what and how you can make the most of Adobe Express.

Watch the webinar here: [Classroom Creations with Adobe Express](#) with chapters to allow you to jump to any specific topics and links to follow-up information. [Publisher to Adobe Express Helpfile](#)

Public Health funded offer for schools to support health and wellbeing

We are very pleased to announce the following free opportunities for Cambs Primary, Secondary and 6th forms.

We are able to support you in the following areas:

- Training on Childhood Anxiety and EEBSA
- Training for Midday supervisors on resolving conflict and healthy lunchtimes.
- Support for individual schools to develop approaches to healthy relationships and anti-bullying, including training
- Support for individual schools to develop their RSE provision and access to RSE briefings.
- Network for secondary PSHE leaders.

To sign up for in-school provision [please complete this form by 19th June](#).

To sign up for courses please use [Booking Bug](#)

Starting Reception - updated webpage

Find a range of resources, guidance and handouts to support families to strengthen their home learning environment, to ensure children have opportunities to practice the skills for starting reception, on this webpage: [Starting Reception](#)

Resources are organised, to aid navigation:

[Ready Steady Reception](#)

Parent and practitioner handouts for supporting skills for starting reception with the Ready Steady Reception project, featuring 50 Things To Do Before You're 5

[Starting Reception Guides and Posters](#)

Parent handouts and posters showcasing key skills to practice before starting reception

Supporting skills for [Growing independence](#), [Building relationships and communicating](#), [Physical development](#) and [Healthy routines](#).

Parent and practitioner handouts and links

Keep an eye on these pages as they continue to develop.

Ready, Steady, Reception!



A new suite of resources is available, designed to support practitioners to enhance their transition offer, by strengthening the home learning environment.

Ready Steady Reception Booklet for Families

Featuring 7 specially selected **50 Things activities** with ideas of low or no cost play-based activities to enjoy over the summer holidays, strengthening skills for starting reception. The booklet includes links to supporting services (including, Cambridgeshire's free online parenting offer, NHS and Cambridgeshire Libraries).

A Guide for Parents

A family facing handout to strengthen parent's understanding of the resources, including resources and signposting.

A Guide for Schools

A practitioner facing handout to strengthen understanding of the resources, including resources and signposting. Information on how to support parent engagement, and partnerships with feeders, is also included.

A Guide to Enhancing the Offer

A practitioner facing handout with ideas to strengthen schools ready steady reception offer.

Stage and Screen: Summer Showcase Course 2026 - with pit band

Shine on stage or in the pit this summer with our high-energy Stage & Screen Summer Showcase for ages 11–18. From 10–14 August, 10am–3pm daily, young performers will explore iconic musical theatre numbers, learn choreography, develop scenes, and help create sets, culminating in a spectacular performance for family and friends.

Advanced musicians (Grade 5+) can join the exclusive Pit Band Programme, performing alongside professionals and gaining real musical theatre pit experience.

Places are limited – secure your spot now at cm@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or 0345 045 1371.

Water safety through fun activities - FREE Open day for families at Grafham Water Centre

Grafham Water Centre requests your help in promoting its open day to children, young people and families.

The free event on **Friday 29 May 2026** (10am to 4pm) will offer families the opportunity to explore, take part in activities and learn important water safety messages.

As the warmer months approach, it is especially important that children, young people and adults understand how to stay safe around water. Through a range of supervised activities and demonstrations, attendees will learn how to recognise risks, make safe choices, and build confidence in and around water.

Who can attend? Children, young people, and families

What to Expect:

- A variety of engaging outdoor and water-based activities
- Opportunities to explore the Grafham Water Centre facilities
- Practical water safety advice and demonstrations
- A welcoming, family-friendly atmosphere
- BBQ refreshments available

Please share this opportunity through your networks, newsletters, or directly with the families you support. If you would like any additional information or promotional materials, contact [Grafham Water Centre](#)

New Education Case Management System update

The Early Years Education System (**EYES**) programme is introducing a new, modern system to support education services across Cambridgeshire. It will provide a more joined-up view of information, helping the council, schools and partners work together more effectively to support children and young people.

The changes are designed to improve data quality, streamline processes and strengthen reporting, while ensuring a more consistent and reliable service for schools and families.

The new education system for CCC will go live on **Monday 8 June**. A demonstration will be provided to all schools.

If you have any questions regarding the new system please contact ccceducationandtargetedsystems@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Music Live 2026 - Additional performances available to schools across Cambridgeshire

Music Live 2026 now has additional school performance slots across Cambridgeshire. Schools can host a professional 1-hour live music concert for just £150, subsidised by the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Music Education Hub. Explore available ensembles in the brochure and apply online for suitable dates and times. Places are limited; therefore applications will be reviewed on a first come, first served basis. Booking closes Friday 5th June at 12pm.

Find the brochure and application form here: [Music Live 2026 | Cambridgeshire Music](#)

Private Fostering training for safeguarding professionals in Cambridgeshire

This online training is particularly relevant to staff working in schools, children's social care, housing and health and will:

- Explore the definition of private fostering and its legal framework

- Consider the needs of children who are privately fostered
- Learn about the respective responsibilities of parents, private foster carers and local authorities
- Explore assessment practice for private fostering
- Consider dilemmas and challenges
- Explore the support needs of private foster carers and review requirements
- Explore practice advice around Ukrainian children not living with a parent or legal guardian.'

Spaces are available on:

- 7 July 2026
- 3 September 2026
- 2 November 2026
- 12 January 2027
- 15 March 2027

Book via the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Me Learning workspace. If you don't have a Me Learning account, please create one at the following link:

<https://app.melearning.co.uk/> If you have any difficulty registering please email:

[Safeguarding Board](#)

Training and events

Training provider: CCC

Early Years Briefing for Schools.

For Early years foundation stage (EYFS) teachers, leaders, and senior leaders. Wednesday 17 June 2026, 3.30 – 5.15pm, Online or Thursday 18 June 2026, 1.30 – 4pm, Sunley House, Papworth Everard. EY silver membership qualifies for one free place per term. EY Gold, and Platinum memberships qualify for two free places per term. Non-Members £45 (face to face) or £21 (online).

Understanding Children's Behaviours and Interactions.

For all practitioners working with early years children who would like to develop a therapeutic approach to understanding children's behaviours and interactions and would like to refresh their knowledge on strategies to support positive interactions. Monday 8 June 2026, 1.30 – 4.30pm. Online. Free.

Promoting Physical Development and Activity in Children Under Five

For Early years practitioners in PVI and school settings. Wednesday, 10 June, 2026, 9.30am to 12.30pm, Sunley House, Papworth Everard. EY Members £32.40. Non members £54

Cambridgeshire Music: Creative Music Scheme Training

For all staff delivering music who want to know more about Charanga's new SoW. Tuesday 9 June 4pm - 5.30pm at Cambridgeshire Music, New School Road, Histon, CB24 9LL.

FREE

Cambridgeshire Music: Primary Music Network meeting

Join us for a discussion on assessment and music technology in the primary classroom. Monday 22 June, 4pm to 5pm on Microsoft Teams. For your FREE place please contact **Simon Randall** to sign up.

Training provider: CCC Health and Safety Team

Control of Substances Hazardous to health (COSHH) (booking)

COSHH Awareness (free to LA maintained schools and other schools which have an SLA with CCC Health and Safety). Please book at the link above if you have a login to the Thinqi training portal. If you do not have access, please contact [Health and Safety Team](#)

Quick links

[SEND Information Hub \(Local Offer\)](#)

[SEND OAP toolkits - Learn Together](#)

[Cambridgeshire Learn Together](#)

[Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

[Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Teaching School Hub](#)

[Early Years, Childcare, and School Readiness Service](#)

[Knowledge Hub](#)

[Cambridgeshire Schools Newsletter – Learn Together](#)

[Grafham Water Centre](#)

[Burwell House](#)

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