

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

Health and Safety - Heat checklist for schools

Please refer to the following heat checklist for guidance during this extremely hot weather. The checklist also includes relevant contact details for your school, and guidance on where to go with any questions you may have:

[Heat checklist for schools \(2026\)](#)

2026 Summer Reading Challenge - 'Read to the Beat' launches Saturday 4 July!



The Summer Reading Challenge launches in libraries on **Saturday 4th July** when children are invited to sign up and choose their first library book(s) to read. The first Read to the Beat sticker will be available from Saturday 18th July.

If they read and review at least six books over the holidays, and collect all six stickers, they will be awarded a certificate and medal. If you could offer a special autumn assembly, or house points, for all your children who complete the Challenge that would be a brilliant incentive for them to finish.

[Summer Reading Challenge | Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

Have your say on the proposed GCSE Natural History

The Department for Education has launched a public consultation on the proposed subject content for a new GCSE in Natural History. This new qualification aims to give young people a deeper understanding of the natural world, including the relationships between people, nature and climate, and to build skills in observation, investigation and environmental stewardship.

The consultation seeks views on the draft subject content, including:

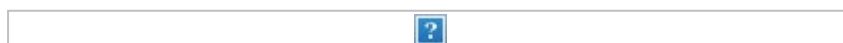
- Core knowledge and understanding of natural systems
- Fieldwork and practical investigation skills
- How the subject could inspire engagement with nature and environmental careers

This is an important opportunity for educators, environmental organisations, local authorities, parents and young people to help shape a qualification that reflects real-world environmental challenges and opportunities. Responses from schools, education partners, and young people are welcomed. Please share this consultation wherever you consider appropriate.

Consultation now open: **Closing date 4 September 2026**

Have your say: [Consultation GCSE Natural History](#)

Learn the magic of Tree Net Weaving for free!



School staff are invited to book free places on the Learn the Magic of Tree Net Weaving course, 6 July, 10am–3pm, at Hinchbrook Country Park.

Led by Dan the Tree Net Man, this hands-on day will teach you how to build durable TreeNets for play, adventure, and outdoor learning. Inspired by his recent sold-out workshops in Selfoss, Iceland, the session promises a practical and memorable experience you can bring back to your school.

The course is funded by the HAF programme, with no requirement to be a HAF provider. To book, [click here](#), select the HAF Programme tab. Contact HAF@cambridgeshire.gov.uk with any queries.

Second meeting of St Ives Youth Network Meeting

The second meeting of the St Ives Youth Network will take place on **Monday 6 July** at Burleigh Hill Community Centre from 4 - 6 pm. Discussions will include beginning a Youth Council in St Ives for 11 - 18 year olds, and open discussion about local youth projects and services.

If you would like to attend please contact Charlotte Fincham (Youth Engagement Participation Coordinator) at youth@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk by **Wednesday 1 July**.

Sustaining Healthy and Effective Leadership - for headteachers

The Sustaining Healthy and Effective Leadership Programme provides an opportunity for Headteachers to continue to develop their leadership knowledge, skills and effectiveness to make their schools the best learning environment possible for children and staff alike. The programme is designed to support wellbeing and resilience in challenging times, considering those aspects of leadership that are about personal and organisational effectiveness.

Please see the flyer below for more detailed information.

[Sustaining Healthy and Effective Leadership flyer 2026 2027](#)

Previous participants have given the following feedback:

‘ A safe space to explore leadership and talk with like-minded professionals.’
‘The groups provide inspirational support for school leaders in the form of six opportunities across a busy year to carve out time just for them.. With supportive peers and a skilled facilitator, Karin, the groups offer a moment to pause, work with peers and reflect on your own leadership journey. My hugely positive experience of my group has resulted in personal development, enhanced wellbeing and moments of real strategic clarity thanks to the collaboration, active learning and reflection on the delivered leadership content.’
Laura Penrose, Headteacher, Petersfield CofE Primary School

Karin Horowitz facilitates the programme. Karin works with schools across the Eastern Region, the Southeast, and Midlands, also running Senior Leader and Aspiring Heads Development programmes; and providing coaching and supervision for school leaders and staff. Please contact [Karin Horowitz](#) for more information

Arthur Rank Hospice Charity Bridge the Gap walk

The charity's annual Bridge the Gap walk will take place on Sunday 13 September 2026. It will feature a brand new route for 2026, walking around the Cambridge colleges. Up to three under 16's can come along for free with each paying adult. More information here: [Bridge the Gap charity walk](#)

Training and events

[Early Support Pathway and early years SEND information for schools.](#)

For School SENCo's, early years leaders, and headteachers. Thursday 5 February 2026, 1.30 – 2.30. Members £7.20, Non-Members £12.

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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