From:	CCC Education
To:	Cambs Schools News
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Cambridgeshire Schools Newsletter

Christmas HAF Programme Professional Referrals

Families in receipt of expanded Free School Meals (FSM) are eligible for a funded HAF place by professional referral if they are just managing financially. School staff can submit referrals here: Professional Code Request Form

Families receiving targeted FSM are automatically eligible, vouchers were sent to parents/carers by email and text on 9 November.

The **Christmas HAF Programme** offers eligible children up to 16 hours of funded holiday activities and family experiences. Children and young people have opportunities to enjoy enriching activities and experiences and food at each session.

Please contact the HAF Team with any questions: **HAF@cambridgeshire.gov.uk**

Updated Net Capacity Assessments Guidance

Over the last several years the Department for Education (DfE) has been reviewing Net Capacity Assessments (NCA) for all state schools, including academies and free schools. This process involves DfE representatives visiting schools and assessing the number of children a school can accommodate, based on the size and use of spaces available. A schedule of upcoming visits is viewable via: **Net capacity assessment programme for primary schools**

The DfE has recently published updated guidance, viewable at their webpage: **Net capacity assessment: programme guidance - GOV.UK** It is recommended that the guidance is reviewed by all schools, particularly those who have not yet received their assessment visit.

Year 6 English Challenge 2027

The Cambs English Team is pleased to announce that schools can now book a team of four Y6 pupils onto this year's Year 6 English Challenge. Heats will be held after school at venues across the county during the spring term. Children will take part in rounds that test their knowledge of books, grammar, spelling and different text types. If you are interested in entering a team, please follow the booking bug link and click on the English Challenge tab to find a heat close to you. We look forward to seeing you at one of the heats. **School Improvement Service online calendar**

Moderation and Monitoring Service Level Agreements 2027

At the end of September, a copy of the 2026 / 2027 Cambridgeshire Service Level Agreement (SLA) for Moderation and Monitoring was sent to academies. To those of you who have already returned the SLA - thank you. If you are intending to have Cambridgeshire provide these services again this year, please sign and return the SLA to the **primary assessment** email address (which is on the SLA) by **Friday 11th December**.

If in your trust there are out of county academies who will be using Cambridgeshire as your service provider, please remember that they also need to log into the NCA Portal and let STA know they are moving from their geographical LA to Cambridgeshire. Please do not hesitate to get in contact if you have any questions using the **primary assessment** email address.

Exciting residential opportunities for Cambridgeshire students at Burwell House and Grafham Water Centre

Learning outside the classroom gives so many benefits to children, with many thriving outside the classroom environment. Please follow the links below to see the latest opportunities available at Cambridgeshire Outdoors:

Burwell House

Grafham Water Centre

New monthly PE and School Sport Newsletter

This will be an exciting year for Physical Education and school sport, with some quite significant changes to the landscape imminent. Find out more by downloading the new monthly PE and School Sport Newsletter below.

PE and School Sport Newsletter - November 2026

Cultivating Musical Excellence. From curriculum to culture: building exceptional musical experiences for all

A one-day conference for music specialists and non-specialists, focused on achieving musical excellence through curriculum design and a strong musical culture. Includes

keynote speakers, tailored workshops for primary, secondary and SEND settings, and discussion of the forthcoming changes to the National Curriculum.
The conference will take place on **Tuesday 29 June 2027** between 9.30 and 3.30 at Cambridgeshire Music, New School Rd, Histon, CB24 9LL.
Early bird tickets now on sale for **£75** per attendee. For more information on how to book a ticket, please visit **CPD Conference 2027 / Cambridgeshire Music**

Physical Education and Outdoor Learning Conference 2027

This year's PE and Outdoor Learning Conference promises to be the best one yet.

Wednesday 3 February 2027, Grafham Water Centre
£99 for Cambridgeshire Schools and Settings / £110 for out of county schools

This conference will empower schools with practical, inclusive strategies to foster lifelong physical literacy, student wellbeing, and environmental awareness through PE and outdoor learning. Through a dynamic mix of keynote addresses, and hands-on practical workshops, delegates will gain actionable ideas to take PE beyond the conventional experience. Whether you are looking to enrich school-ground physical activity, embed Outdoor education into your PE timetable, or build stronger links with your community, this event offers fresh inspiration to empower teachers of all abilities.

For more information and to book your place, please go to **`PE and Outdoor Learning Conference 2027'**
(Numbers may be capped – please book early)

Ian Roberts

Training and events

Training provider: CCC

SIS – Leading Assessment – Core training offer tab
For Headteachers, deputy headteachers, assistant headteachers and assessment leads. Thursday 26 November 9.30am until 12pm at Sunley House (Papworth) Or Friday 27 November 9.30am until 12pm online. No charge for up to two people from schools that have purchased Element 2 of the Primary Offer. £78 per person for Cambridgeshire LA maintained schools £88 per person for out of county, Cambridgeshire academy and independent schools

SIS – Unpicking the End of KS2 teacher assessment framework for writing – English tab
For Year 6 teachers and English subject leaders. Session 4 of 4 – Focus on spelling. Monday 7 December 2026 3.45pm until 5.15pm online. £65 per school for LA schools and £75 per school for Cambridgeshire academies, out of county schools or independent schools.

SIS – Developing Practice in maths for ECTs – Maths tab
For ECTs in KS1 and KS2. Session 2 of 4 – Focus on verbal and written reasoning. Tuesday 8 December 2026. 3.30pm until 5.30pm. £55 per school for LA schools and £65 per school for Cambridgeshire academies, out of county schools or independent schools.

New to working in Early Years Foundation Stage for teachers and teaching

assistants
School-based teaching assistants in reception and teachers new to EYFS. Tuesday, 26 January 2027 (Sunley House, Papworth Everard), and Wednesday, 24 March 2027 (Online) 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm. Members £32.40, Non-members £54

Understanding Children's Behaviours and Interactions
All practitioners working with early years children who would like to develop a therapeutic approach to understanding children's behaviours and interactions. Monday, 18 January 2027, 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm. Online. Free

Supervision in the EYFS
Those with supervision responsibilities in EYFS provision. Tuesday, 26 January 2027, 6 pm to 8 pm. Online. Members £14.40, Non-members £24

Inclusive Schools: Race & Ethnicity for Primary, Special & Secondary Schools
26th November 2026, 1.30pm-3pm OR 15th June 2027 3.30pm - 5pm Online
Cost £40 for Subscribers/Licence holders of the Primary Personal Development Programme, £55 for non-licence holders
Audience: PSHE teachers/leads

Resolving Conflicts at Playtimes for Midday Supervisors
1st December 2026, 1.45pm-2.45pm. Online
Cambridgeshire Schools can attend for free. Schools from Peterborough and other counties may also attend. Cost £40 for Licence holders of the Primary Personal Development Programme, £55 for non-licence holders
Audience: Midday supervisors and any staff supporting children at lunchtimes

RSE Short webinars: Online Relationships
8th December 2026 (Primary Schools) 3.45pm-4.45pm. Online
3rd December 2026 (Secondary/Special Schools) 3.45pm-4.45pm. Online
Cambridgeshire Schools can attend for free. Schools from Peterborough and other counties may also attend. Cost £40 for Licence holders of the Primary Personal Development Programme, £55 for non-licence holders
Audience: Primary and Special leaders, PSHE leaders, classroom teachers, support staff or governors

Inspiring leadership in PE programme
Audience: This package is ideal for Primary, and Special School teachers who lead Physical Education
02/12/26,27/01/27, 24/02/27, 41/03/27 & 05/05/27. All online - 1.30pm-3.30pm.
£54 for Cambs maintained schools, £60 for Cambs Academies and all non-Cambs schools (£270 (LA) or £300 Non-LA) if booked 'en bloc'

The Enrichment Framework – You cannot celebrate what you cannot see [Online]
The session will help schools understand and share ideas about responding strategically to the new DfE Enrichment Framework. This workshop will encourage schools to think strategically about why enrichment matters, who it is for, and how its wider impact can be captured.
07 December 2026 3:45pm-5:00pm online
Free for Cambs maintained schools, £20 for Cambs Academies and non-Cambs schools

Developing an inspirational PE curriculum for the 21st century
Audience- This course is ideal for Primary, Special and Secondary School teachers who teach Physical Education.
13 January 2027 – 1.30pm-3.30pm, online
£60 for Cambs maintained schools, £54 Cambs Academies and non-Cambs schools

CCC Health and Safety Team: courses free to maintained and other schools who have an SLA with H&S Team (except for IOSH Managing Safely course). Courses include: Risk Assessment, Manual Handling, Working at Height, COSHH Awareness, H&S for School Site staff, H&S for School Heads. For more information 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 Togethe r
Grafham Water Centre
Burwell House

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