



— The Cooper School —

# Parent Bulletin

NO 27- FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2026

**Next week w/c - Monday 27th April 2026 - Week A**

**Headteacher Update - Nathan Thomas - CEO**

**Dear Parents and Carers**

**It has been another positive week at The Cooper School and I have been really pleased to see the continued focus and engagement from our students. During my time in lessons, I have seen strong improvements in behaviour for learning, particularly in the way students are engaging with staff and with each other. Yesterday staff from Icknield Community College were in delivering the next session to develop our staff coaches, this work is focused on the quality of teaching and learning and having a really positive impact, we are very grateful Dr Miller and Mr Hunters support and inspiration.**

**We were also delighted to receive very positive feedback from our recent External safeguarding review. Our work was recognised as a strength of the school, with clear systems in place and a shared understanding that keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility. There are a small number of areas we will continue to develop, but overall this reflects the strong culture we are building together.**

**Looking ahead, this is a busy period in school. Year 10 students are completing their GCSE Drama assessments this week, and we also have GCSE Photography and Art exams taking place. Year 12 parents are invited to attend the Progress Consultation Evening on Thursday 30th April, and assessments for Years 7 and 8 will take place in early May. We are also continuing to focus on attendance and ensuring that all students are in school and ready to learn each day, as this remains one of the most important factors in student success.**

**Also on Thursday we have a staff bake off to raise money for Year 11 Revision breakfast. This will be held in the Sports Hall and costs £1.**

**Finally, we are continuing our work to support all students, particularly those who need additional support, and to strengthen communication and consistency across the school. If you have a child who is on the SEND register expect more information after half term but please do reach out if you want to talk to the team.**

**Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. It makes a real difference.**

**Best wishes**

**Nathan**

**DREAM BIG.WORK HARD.BE KIND.**



# Key Dates and Upcoming Events

Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Y10 GCSE drama devising practical exam</li></ul>
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Y10 GCSE drama devising practical exam</li><li>• Photography GCSE Exam</li></ul>
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Y10 GCSE drama devising practical exam</li><li>• Photography GCSE Exam</li><li>• Junior Maths Challenge - Years 7 &amp; 8</li></ul>
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Art GCSE Exam</li><li>• Year 12 Progress Consultation Evening</li><li>• Staff Sugar Showdown</li></ul>
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Art GCSE Exam</li><li>• PE Moderation (external)</li></ul>

## End of year assessments

A reminder that these are coming up in May and June.  
Year 7 & 8 5th-14th May, revision advice on these links

[Year 7 Assessment Week 3 Preparation advice - April 2026](#)

[Year 8 Assessment Week 3 Preparation advice - April 2026](#)

Yr 9 and 10 revision advice to follow shortly.

**DREAM BIG.WORK HARD.BE KIND.**

We would like to inform parents and carers that, as part of our ongoing efforts to improve attendance for all students, we are now using A Star Attendance to send communications.

These messages may include updates, reminders, and important information regarding your child's attendance. Please be assured that any emails or messages received through A Star Attendance are legitimate and sent directly by the school, they are not scams. If you have any questions or concerns about these communications, please do not hesitate to contact the Attendance Team on [absence@thecooperschool.co.uk](mailto:absence@thecooperschool.co.uk).



## DRAMA

Yesterday the year 10 Drama pupils took a trip to the Wycombe Swan Theatre to see a production of Blood Brothers. It was a wonderful afternoon enjoyed by all and the production was fantastic. The trip gave out pupils the chance to see their set text live in action on stage and to see professional performers live on stage. Thank you to all the pupils who came along, they were all brilliant. We are already looking forward to our next theatre visit.



**DREAM BIG.WORK HARD.BE KIND.**

## **Coventry University Parent & Guardian Information Session** **Thursday 14th of May 2026- 6pm**

Get ready for an insightful and engaging session designed to help you navigate the exciting yet sometimes overwhelming process leading up to university. This session covers everything you need to know, from UCAS deadlines and student finance to making friends and settling into student life. You'll leave with clear answers to your questions and a better understanding of how to support your child every step of the way.

### **Agenda:**

**What's Next Between Now and September: UCAS, Clearing, and key deadlines (5 mins)**

**Understanding Student Finance: How to navigate funding and fees (5 mins)**

**A Typical Term: What your child can expect throughout the year (5 mins)**

**Accommodation Options: Choosing the best place to live (5 mins)**

**Student Support & Success Coaches: Helping your child thrive at university (5 mins)**

**Making Friends and Socialising: Tips for building a social life on campus (5 mins)**

**Q&A Panel: Pre-submit your questions to have them answered by our team (15 mins)**

If you are indeed interested in attending this virtual information session, please book on using the link below and you will be sent further information including the teams joining link:

**Registration Form:**

**<https://app.geckoform.com/public/#/modern/21FO00shtddz5f00duq5s3lrtr>**



**DREAM BIG.WORK HARD.BE KIND.**

## NOTICE

### Public Exams

- EARLY LUNCHES FROM WEDS 6TH MAY - FRI 26TH JUNE -

To accommodate nationally set exam start times for yr 11 and yr 13 exams, lunch will be 12:35-1.10pm for all students between these dates. Students will then have two lessons after lunch, finishing at the usual time of 3.10pm

---



After school revision sessions are still running for all year 11s every day! We would welcome any donations of biscuits, fruit, pastries/ cereal bars, bread, tea bags, hot chocolate, honey, marmite etc  
Also any raffle prizes (eg chocolate, sweets etc)

---

### FREE SCHOOL MEALS

We want to ensure all our students stay nourished, even when they aren't feeling well enough to be in the classroom.

If your child is currently eligible for Free School Meals and is at home unwell, you are welcome to arrange a packed lunch for collection from the school office.

Please call or email the school office by 10:00 am  
Lunches will be ready for pickup at a designated time (usually during the standard lunch break).



**DREAM BIG.WORK HARD.BE KIND.**

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# YOUTUBE

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows about YouTube. The Google-owned platform allows users to upload and share videos globally, making it a readily accessible resource with free content on almost any topic. However, with over 20 million videos uploaded each day, not all material is suitable for younger audiences.

## INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed across multiple device types, even without an account. While some videos are marked as 'age restricted', this relies on uploader honesty and automated moderation, meaning children and young people may still encounter unsuitable content if these measures aren't taken.



## CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

YouTube includes social features such as comments and direct messaging. This means young users can interact with people they don't know, potentially exposing them to inappropriate language, cyberbullying, or unwanted contact. Young content creators may be especially vulnerable.



## TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

Popular trends and challenges can be entertaining and widely shared. While many are harmless, some can be risky or harmful if copied. For example, the 'salt and ice challenge' has caused injuries when imitated.



## SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos based on what a user has previously watched. While this can enhance the experience, it may also encourage binge-watching and excessive screen time, particularly when Autoplay is enabled. Without an account, users are shown trending videos, which are not always age appropriate.



## EXPOSURE TO EXTREME CONTENT

The platform's algorithm often promotes content that attracts high engagement, which can sometimes include videos containing extreme viewpoints, misinformation, or risky behaviour. As children and young people watch more of this content, similar videos are likely to be recommended by YouTube's algorithm, therefore reinforcing the exposure.



## SHORT-FORM CONTENT IMPACT

YouTube Shorts – short, fast-paced videos – are designed for continuous viewing. This style of content can be highly engaging but may also contribute to increased screen time and difficulties with maintaining focus over longer periods.



## Advice for Parents & Educators

### CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS

YouTube Kids can help reduce young users' exposure to unsuitable content by filtering videos into age groups, such as preschool, younger, and older children. However, as moderation is automated, it should be used alongside active supervision.



### CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

If a child in your care uploads content, consider setting videos to Private or Unlisted so they are only shared with trusted viewers. Disabling comments can also help reduce unwanted interaction from strangers.



### USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Google Family Link allows adults to filter content, monitor usage, and manage younger users' screen time. Supervised Accounts offer a gradual step up from YouTube Kids, enabling children to explore the platform with appropriate safeguards.



### WATCH TOGETHER

Spending time watching YouTube with the children and young people in your care can help you understand what they enjoy and guide your conversations about content. Tools like Downtime in Family Link can also help limit unsupervised viewing.



### Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for publications including Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



See full reference list on our website



The National College

## Contact Details:

Telephone Number: 01869 242121

Office/Reception Email: [office@thecooperschool.co.uk](mailto:office@thecooperschool.co.uk)

Absence/Appointments Email: [absence@thecooperschool.co.uk](mailto:absence@thecooperschool.co.uk)

For any safeguarding concerns: [safeguarding@thecooperschool.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@thecooperschool.co.uk)

IF YOU HAVE ANY SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS OUT OF SCHOOL

HOURS PLEASE CONTACT MASH TEAM ON 0345 050 7666

DREAM BIG.WORK HARD.BE KIND.