



5th December 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

December Updates

November was another busy and productive month at The Collegiate. From field trips in Science, PE and DT, as well as French and Spanish plays, theatre performances, and Year 7 train safety talks—to name just a few—it has been fantastic to see our provision continue to grow and strengthen. Earlier this week, we also welcomed the Local Governing Committee for their engagement day. I am grateful for their time and the valuable contributions they made throughout a full programme of activities, including meetings with leaders, lesson visits, discussions with students and staff and visits to assemblies, clubs, societies and tutor sessions. Their insights and feedback are an important part of our ongoing improvement and development.

Thank You for Attending our Year 11 Parents' Evening

A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our Year 11 Parents' Evening on Wednesday—our first on-site event of this kind in five years. It was wonderful to welcome so many families into the Collegiate and to speak with you in person. We hope you found your conversations with teachers helpful and informative. It is now important to use the guidance and feedback shared throughout the evening to support your child at home, so that together we can ensure they are fully prepared for their NEAs and exams next summer. This week, we have also enjoyed meeting many Year 11 students for their College VI Guidance Interviews. College VI remains the best place for our young people to learn, develop, and achieve, and these discussions are an important part of helping students plan their next steps. Please continue to speak with your child about their course choices, the entry requirements for each course, and what they need to do over the coming months to secure their progression. Thank you again for your ongoing support.

Attendance

In this week's newsletter, we wanted to share the poster at the end of this letter regarding the new Attendance Drop-In Service from the Attendance and Inclusion officer in Croydon, which is in partnership with the Family Hubs. The purpose of this service is to offer parents and carers help and guidance regarding any questions or concerns you may have about your child's school attendance.

Thank You from the Croydon BME Forum

We were delighted to receive a letter of thanks from the Croydon BME Forum this week, recognising the generosity of the entire Riddlesdown Collegiate community in supporting the Hurricane Melissa Jamaica Relief Effort. The Forum expressed deep appreciation to our staff, students, parents and carers for the donations collected, as well as the beautifully wrapped gifts prepared by our students. They shared how these contributions are already making a meaningful difference to families in Jamaica recovering from the impact of Hurricane Melissa. A special thank-you was also extended to Mrs Philippa Robinson, Pastoral Assistant for College VI, and her team for personally delivering the donated items on behalf of the Collegiate. The Croydon BME Forum highlighted how the



compassion and humanity shown by our community have had a genuine impact on those facing hardship, and they asked us to pass on their heartfelt thanks to everyone involved. Thank you once again to all who contributed to this important cause.

Senior Theatre Company – First Ever Performance

Last night we were treated to the first ever performance by our Senior Theatre Company, and it was nothing short of outstanding. The talent on display was remarkable, and it was clear just how much hard work and commitment had gone into every performance. The evening featured a brilliant variety of monologues, duologues and group pieces from students in Years 10 to 13, showcasing extracts from well-known plays alongside an original script written by Lucy Leggatt. Each piece was performed with confidence, creativity and real passion. A huge thank you to Mr Kirk and Miss Hollands for their dedication and for putting together such an exceptional production. We are already looking forward to the next one!

Book Sale!

In the final week of term, we will be holding a Book Sale with all books priced at less than £1. This is a great opportunity for students to pick up some fantastic books perfect for holiday reading or stocking fillers. The sale will run throughout the last week of term, and we encourage all students to come along and browse the selection before it's gone. Happy reading!

Christmas Jumper Day

We are excited to hold our annual Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 12th December to raise money for Save the Children. Students may wear a festive Christmas jumper, but all other uniform must remain as normal. We ask that students bring in a £1 donation or make their contribution via ParentPay. Thank you in advance for supporting this fantastic cause and helping us spread a little festive cheer!

End of Autumn Term and Start of Spring Term

End of term will be at 12.00pm on Friday 19th December. On this day, there will be no lunch service but break service will be as normal so that students can be sure to get food while they are with us. Students should be ready to attend their Period 1, 2 and 3 lessons. They will complete the term with their Tutor, who along with their College Senior Teams will dismiss them. Students are invited to come to school on this day in 'mufti' (school uniform not required), and donations (which can be made on the day in cash or via Parent Pay). Students should ensure they dress appropriately for school, avoiding clothing that is revealing or with inappropriate slogans.

Our first day back will be on Monday 5th January 2025. Students will begin registration and have tutor time at 10.20 am, as staff will have training and an extended briefing in the morning. Gates will open for students to come onto site at 10.00 am. Students should not arrive earlier than that time.

Yours sincerely

Daniel Osborne
Principal



Safeguarding Briefing

If you have a safeguarding concern about a young person during the weekend or school holiday, please note that school staff are often not available to respond to emails during those times.

In the event of an emergency/ or if someone is at immediate risk of harm, please call the Police on 999

Contact Croydon Children Services MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) on 0208 255 2888.

External support for students all year round can be accessed through the services below:

KOOTH - Kooth is a great text-based service (you will have to download the app) and usually there is someone able to message back within an hour. <https://www.kooth.com/>

SHOUT are a text based service <https://www.giveusashout.org/> Text 85258

NSPCC offer a phone call service. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/> or call 08001111

The Mix - <https://www.themix.org.uk/> Call **0808 808 4994**

Croydon Drop in - <http://croydondropin.org.uk/contact> - Charity counselling service; Call **020 8680 0404**

Off the Record - <https://www.talkofftherecord.org/croydon/> - open Monday (including Bank Holidays) to Friday from 3 - 6pm and Saturdays, 10am - 1pm. Call 0800 980 7475.

NHS 111, Call 111, Staffed by nurses who offer medical advice and information.

Or click here for the NHS 111 website. <<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/nhs-services/urgent-and-emergency-care/nhs-111/>>

CROYDON CAMHS: <https://slam.nhs.uk/service-detail/service/croydon-camhs-crisis-care-service-200/> Call 020 3228 0000; *out of hours call us on 0800 731 2864*

The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub : Open from 9am - 5pm, Monday - Friday. Outside of these hours the emergency duty team can be contacted on 0208 726 6400.



CROYDON
www.croydon.gov.uk

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DROP-IN SERVICE
THURSDAYS 1-4PM
AT WOODLANDS FAMILY HUB (GREEN ROOM)

Dates:
16th October, 30th October,
13th November, 27th November,
11th December
22nd January 2026,
5th February
5th March, 19th March.



**WE ARE HERE
TO HELP.
PLEASE COME IN
& TALK TO US!**



Service