



CoDA Chronicles



Attendance update

This term's whole school attendance is currently **88.72%**.

The highest attended year group is **Year 9** at **90.39%**.

The highest attended form group is **8A2** at **95.21%**.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Mr Sandor and the Attendance team.

SEND Support:



Derby City Council's Specialist Teaching Service are running some useful sessions for parents and carers of students with additional needs at their family hubs (FH) across the city.

For information on what is being offered after the Easter Holiday's, please contact the following places:

Family Hub Contact information:

- Becket Family Hub
35 Stockbrook Street, Derby, DE22 3WR 01332 640250
BecketFamilyHub@derby.gov.uk
- Osmaston/Allenton Family Hub
60 Cockayne Street North Allenton, Derby, DE24 8XB 01332 956850
OsmastonAllentonFamilyHub@derby.gov.uk
- Rosehill Family Hub
17-19 Lower Dale Road Derby, DE23 6WY 01332 641315
RosehillFamilyHub@derby.gov.uk
- Mackworth Morley Family Hub
Reigate Drive, Mackworth, Derby, DE22 4EQ 01332 208175
MackworthMorleyFamilyHub@derby.gov.uk
- Derwent Family Hub
Monmouth Street Derby, DE21 6BD 01332 641010
DerwentFamilyHub@derby.gov.uk



- Rosehill Family Hub
17-19 Lower Dale Road Derby, DE23 6WY 01332 641315
RosehillFamilyHub@derby.gov.uk

- Sinfin Family Hub
345 Sinfin Lane, Sinfin Moor Derby, DE24 9SF 01332 956967
SinfinFamilyHub@derby.gov.uk

Did you know at CODA??



We have pink boxes full of sanitary products that are available for students to use, they can be accessed in offices or at student services.

We also have a wide range of uniform that students can borrow when they need it. Students can go to F01 during form time and swap a bus ticket, house keys or mobile phone for anything they need to borrow for the day.

Year 11 GCSE Exams:

The Year 11 external written exams are now in full swing.

Our Year 11's are currently working hard in school, making their final preparations for these exams.

Parents and Carer's can support their children by ensuring the following:

- Their child is attending school every day.
- They are attending revision sessions put on by the school.
- Their child is revising at home (and has a revision timetable).
- Their child is getting enough sleep.
- Their child is eating a healthy, balanced diet of food.

If parents/pupils would like any support with anything mentioned above, please contact the school.



CoDA Cadets CIS success:

The City of Derby Academy Combined Cadet Force (CODA CCF) Army Section has once again celebrated a highly successful training weekend, with cadets demonstrating exceptional focus and dedication while undertaking a Communication and Information Systems (CIS) course.

Throughout the weekend, cadets developed vital communication skills, learning how to operate equipment effectively and apply their knowledge in both practical and classroom-based settings. As part of their training, cadets became qualified in the use of British Army communication systems, including the **710 and 715 radios**, as well as the deployment and use of the **4.5 metre mast** to extend communication capability in the field. They also gained experience using the **BATCO encryption system**, enabling them to send and receive messages securely—an essential skill in both military and modern communication environments. Their enthusiasm, discipline, and commitment to mastering these technical skills were evident throughout.

This hard work resulted in a fantastic set of achievements. Five cadets were awarded their 2-Star CIS qualification, while an impressive fifteen cadets achieved their 3-Star CIS qualification. These results reflect the high standards consistently upheld within the CCF and the determination of cadets to challenge themselves and succeed.

In addition, fourteen cadets successfully completed the Cyber Adventurers Award. This nationally recognised programme, supported by the **National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC)**, introduces young people to key aspects of cyber security, digital safety, and problem-solving in a modern technological environment. By engaging with this programme, cadets are not only gaining valuable insight into the digital world but are also developing skills

that are increasingly important for future education and career pathways.

The Cyber Adventurers Award plays a crucial role in preparing cadets for the future, equipping them with an understanding of online threats, secure digital practices, and the ability to think critically in a rapidly evolving technological landscape. These skills are highly transferable and support cadets in becoming informed, capable, and responsible digital citizens, ready to meet the demands of both further study and employment.

Staff were particularly impressed with the maturity, resilience, and positive attitude shown by all cadets across the weekend. Their willingness to learn and strive for excellence continues to make the Army Section a strong and thriving part of the academy community. This successful weekend marks another significant milestone for the CODA CCF, and the academy looks forward to seeing cadets continue to build on these achievements as they progress through future training opportunities.

Congratulations to all involved on an outstanding performance and a weekend that truly highlights the strength and potential of our cadets.

Mr Timmins







Spotlight on Departments:

This week's department - PE:

All groups in PE are currently working on either Athletics, Cricket/Rounders, Basketball or Orienteering/Team Building.

These sports give our students a varied curriculum in the summer months which gives them chance to develop new skills and work on different 'Heart' words such as Collaboration, Respect etc which they will need in everyday life.

The PE department is continuing to offer students the opportunity to attend after school clubs and the timetable for the summer months is included in this Blog.

They are also planning for Sports Day which is an annual event that the whole school participates in. This is a chance for friendly competition in a variety of activities that are accessible for everyone.

PSHE News:

We are excited to be teaching CODA student's our PSHE curriculum, the skills and knowledge are vital to improving the life chances of our students.

We are about to start the next topics within PSHE for Summer 2:
Year 7 - Describe and explain how to make safe financial choices, including saving, spending, and budgeting.

Year 8 - - Identify safe online communication and social networking sites and explain how to make responsible decisions about online presence, including assessing media sources to identify biased or misleading information.

Year 9 - Show understanding of young people's employment rights and responsibilities, and how to develop essential skills for enterprise and employability.

Year 10 - Assess strengths and interests for career development, identify opportunities in learning and work, and employ strategies to overcome challenges or adversity.

Year 11 - Year 11 will revise for their GCSE exams.

Upcoming drop-down sessions.

09.06.26 - Year 11 girls will participate in a drop-down session on pregnancy health; this has been rescheduled from before half term.

09.06.26 - Year 7 will be participating in a drop-down session on financial planning and budgeting from the money charity during p2.

If anyone has any questions, please email Miss McQuilton the lead teacher of PSHE - mmcquilton@cityofderbyacademy.org

Miss McQuilton

Year 6-7 Transition:

Mr Bult is currently planning the Year 6-7 transition days which will take place on the 7th, 8th and 9th July.

Mr Bult is currently visiting our feeder Primary Schools and will be sending out more documents/correspondence to Year 6 students who will be attending CoDA from September shortly.

If you have a child, brother or sister who is due to come up to CoDA in September, we cannot wait to see them!

Mr Bult

The surprising chemistry of Football:

The **Science department** are looking forward to the Football World Cup and would like to share with you **the surprising chemistry of football**. The following information has been taken from a longer article in *Everyday Chemistry* by Kit Chapman.

If you have ever watched a football match, you've probably been too focused on the game to wonder about the sports science on display. But a surprising amount of **chemistry** helps the skills of modern players like **Elliot Anderson, Leah Williamson and Jacob Zetterstrom**.

Let's start with the ball itself.



Originally, manufacturers made balls from leather, with a vulcanised rubber interior bladder filled with air. Leather balls were very heavy. Researchers have shown that if players repeatedly head these older balls, they may get brain damage.

Today's topflight balls are very different. They still have a rubber bladder, but the rest of the ball is made from **synthetic fibres**. These are not single substances, but a wide range of lightweight **hydrocarbons** that can give the balls the exact properties you need. By changing the blend of the synthetic fibres used, you can make the ball **bouncier, firmer or affect the amount it deforms when kicked**. This controls everything from how much a player can bend the ball in flight, to the **velocity** the ball will reach as it heads towards the goal.



You don't just see **chemistry** in action in the outfield. Modern **goalkeeping gloves** allow the ball to almost stick to their hands. This is thanks to **latex**, a naturally occurring long chain of **hydrogen molecules**, which deforms around an object and becomes sticky thanks to the increased surface area and **friction**. Goalies don't just have 1 pair of gloves; they use different types of latex for different conditions. **Contact latex** is great for dry conditions, while **Giga Grip** latex is better in the wet.

Synthetic fabric called **neoprene** cushions the gloves. The **structure of neoprene** is not only water resistant but is also spongy and flexible allowing the gloves to soak up the shock of a ball hitting the keeper's hand at more than **70 mph** and preventing any broken bones.



One of the latest advances we can see in football is the spray referees use to mark out distance, creating a painted white line for players to stand behind.

This isn't paint at all. The spray is about 80% **water** and 17% **butane** gas; other ingredients, such as surfactants, make up the remainder. When the referee sprays it from the can, the **butane expands rapidly**, resulting in bubbles in the water as they squirt it on to the pitch. Normally, this would vanish instantly, but the surfactants inside the spray allow those bubbles temporary stability, forming a foam.

Good luck to whichever team you are supporting in the 2026 World Cup.

Modern Foreign Languages Trip 2027:

Mr Milner and the MFL team are providing an amazing opportunity for our students to visit Cologne in Germany in March next year.

The trip will be open to students in Year's 7-10.

For more information about the trip, see the poster below or see your MFL teacher in school.



Student Librarian Trip:

Before half term Mr Smithson and Miss Baker took our lovely student librarians to the Creative Learning Services library and museum. The students were tasked with picking out some new books for the school library, what was really special to see was the amount of care and consideration they took in choosing the books! We also had a small tour around the accompanying museum. Their behaviour and conduct were exemplary, an incredible opportunity at representing the school.



Tutor Time programme:

Below is an example of our tutor time programme for this academic year. We deliver this programme from 8.40am - 9.00am every morning with the structure of the day's dependent on what year group students are in. **Parents**, please support the school in ensuring that your child is on time in the morning and maximising their learning opportunities. **Pupils**, please make every effort to improve the life skill of getting to school on-time.

Outline for the week –

Monday: Assembly

Tuesday: Thought for the week/Discussion Topics

Wednesday: Tutor Reads

Thursday: Ready to Learn/Tutor Reads

Friday: Debate

Don't see the book you want in the library? Request it here

https://forms.microsoft.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=_GMHcaHDbUudILON2z5-IfXGySaXui9Nk8SKr6WlonBUNVdVSFhLTEU4NERFTU9GUUNPMTVCMThUNy4u

At CoDA, we feel that reading is vital to the progress of our students, viewing it as an important life skill.



National
Year of
Reading
2026

PE Department news:






This half-terms PE extra-curricular timetable is pictured below. All students are welcome! We look forward to seeing as many students at these clubs as possible.

PE After School Clubs			
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Basketball JPE	Badminton KJU / JEV	Football (All Years) JEV	Year 11 GCSE PE ABU
Dance SSI	Cricket JPE	Volleyball KJU	Year 11 Sports Studies SSI
		Inter House Competitions ABU	

Music lessons/clubs

Our Music department work tirelessly to give students every opportunity to develop their skills, knowledge and experiences in Music. Please see the timetable below and encourage your son/daughter to attend one of the clubs:

Music Instrumental Lessons and Clubs

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Violin lessons (10.30am – 1.30pm) 	Guitar & Drum lessons (all day) 		Singing lessons (all day) 	Piano lessons (9am – 2pm) 
Strings Group (Break B)	Woodwind lessons (10.30am – 11:30am) Brass lessons (9am – 10:30 am)		CoDA Chromatics (Break B) 	
	Enrichment: Music Production (3:10pm – 4:10pm)	Enrichment: GCSE Revision (3:10pm – 4:10pm)	Enrichment: CoDA Choir (3:10pm – 4:10pm)	

Instrumental lessons

We still have available spaces on the following instruments:

Brass
Violin
Piano

If interested, please see Mrs Powell.

Inter-House Competition

On a two-weekly basis, our four Houses (**Courage**, **Determination**, **Optimism** & **Ambition**) compete against each other to see which one has the best attendance and Class Charts ratios. The winning House at the end of each halfterm is awarded with a non-uniform day and 100 Class Charts points will be retrospectively awarded to each pupil in that House.

