



PARENT/CARER NOTICES

Spring 1 Monday 9th March 2026

Upcoming Events

- Tuesday 10th March – GCSE PE Moderation
- Tuesday 10th March – EHCP Review Evening 4.30pm to 6.30pm
- Wednesday 11th March – Ski Trip Information Evening
- Thursday 12th March – Yr 11 and Yr 13 Information and Support Evening 5.15pm to 6pm
- Thursday 12th to Saturday 14th March – D of E Silver Practice Expedition
- Friday 13th March – Red Nose Day – Non-Uniform
- Monday 16th March – Year 12 Practical Food Exams
- Thursday 19th March – Year 9 Guided Pathways Evening
- Monday 23rd to Friday 27th March – Year 11 Music Performance Exams
- Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th March – Drama Evening Performance
- Tuesday 24th, Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th March – Year 11 Post 16 Interviews
- Friday 27th March – House Cup Winner Non-Uniform Day
- Saturday 28th March to Friday 3rd April – Ski Trip to Italy
- Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April - EASTER BREAK
- Monday 13th April – Students Return
- Wednesday 15th April – Year 11 Prefect Trip to Thorpe Park

Safeguarding Information

How to Support your child to manage exam stress

Join [Kooth](#) for a free 45 minute webinar and you'll hear from one of our community engagement team, alongside a clinician from Kooth:

[Book 9th March, 6:00pm](#)

[Book 16th March, 7:00pm](#)

They will offer expert tips on:

- When to take action
- Share practical ideas to help children manage their anxiety
- Discuss how Kooth can provide extra support.





The content has been written predominantly for families with secondary and higher aged children sitting GCSEs, A- Levels or Nationals and Highers in Scotland. *Well worth a look!*
Thankyou, Safeguarding Team.

General Notices

World Book Day

Thank you to staff for their amazing efforts on World Book Day!



Red Nose Day

The academy will be supporting Red Nose Day on Friday 13th March. A £1 donation is recommended to wear non-uniform for that day. Please can you make payments on Scopay. We will be encouraging as much red to be worn as possible!

Cashless Catering System - How Your Child's Biometric Data Is Protected

As part of our cashless catering system, pupils can opt in to using a biometric fingerprint reader to identify themselves quickly and securely at the dining hall tills. We know that biometric data is a sensitive topic, so we want to assure you that the system we use



(provided by CRB Cunninghams) has been designed with strong security and data protection measures.

How Your Child's Biometric Data Is Protecte

Your child's actual fingerprint image is *not* store. Instead, when a pupil is registered, the system converts the fingerprint into a set of **mathematical data points**, sometimes called a *template*. This template:

- **Cannot be turned back into a fingerprint**, even by the system provider
- **Cannot be used for identification by the police or any other organisation**
- **Does not include any image of the fingerprint**

(Independent sources confirm that iDStore stores only mathematical fingerprint templates, which cannot be reconstructed into an image.) [\[crbcunninghams.co.uk\]](http://crbcunninghams.co.uk)

The data is encrypted to a very high standard, using the same class of encryption used to protect highly sensitive government information.

The biometric template is used only to identify pupils at the school's catering till.

It cannot be used for any other purpose, and it is not shared with anyone else.

If you withdraw consent, your child's biometric data is deleted.

The system will no longer recognise their fingerprint, and the data is fully removed from the database.

(CRB Cunninghams' DPIA documentation confirms automatic deletion of biometric data when pupils leave or consent is withdrawn.) [\[applytosup...ice.gov.uk\]](http://applytosup...ice.gov.uk)

Below is the full technical explanation of how the fingerprint templates are stored and protected:

Biometric Data* Biometric data (fingerprints) are stored as a series of data points, converted from images by a mathematical algorithm. These data points cannot be used to reconstruct a usable fingerprint even with the algorithm available. The level of detail stored in these data points is well below the level of detail needed for forensic identification of someone and would be completely inadmissible, both in terms of quality and legality, in court. The data points are encrypted before being stored.

The encryption standard used for encrypting the data points is **AES-256** with the symmetric key being stored using **RSA-2048** encryption. AES-256 is used for storing *top secret* designated data by organisations such as the US military and the NSA. Both AES and RSA are well-established and widely trusted encryption standards that cannot be broken by brute force in any reasonable time.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the system further, please feel free to contact us. We are committed to ensuring that all data is handled safely, responsibly, and transparently.

Your child can still elect to use a PIN if you would prefer. This is not a compulsory opt in.
Thankyou, Chris Leach

Consultation for Increasing the Capacity of MCA

Please see the attached consultation information for increasing the student capacity of MCA and the new build extension. Construction should be commencing very soon. Further details relating to the building process will be shared in due course but please be assured that build works are to be carried out to minimise disruption and access to the Academy. We expect to carry on with business as usual throughout the build. *Mr Oxley*

Suffolk County Council Funded School Travel

If your child is eligible for SCC funded school travel, you will need to opt-in (apply) by **31 May 2026** to receive travel for the start of the 2026/2027 school year.

If your child already receives SCC funded school travel to a mainstream school, you still need to opt-in every year.

If your child is starting secondary school in September 2026 and they are eligible for SCC funded school travel, you will be contacted by Thursday 2 April 2026. You will need to opt-in (apply) if you would like your child to use this service.

For more information on the SCC school travel policy and getting your child to school please visit; [School travel information - Suffolkonboard](#)

Fantastic Young Artists

I wanted to share the work of four fantastic young artists from the Academy. The **Young Artists' Summer Show** at the Royal Academy is a national exhibition where young people can submit artwork in any material and on any theme.

I'm incredibly proud that these four students rose to the challenge and submitted their own unique pieces, along with a short artist statement explaining their inspiration.

- Hope Arlow — *Pour Your Heart Out* (Sculpture)



- Abigail Roe — *Appreciation Will Never Be Too Far*



- Lacey Amena — *The One I'll Always Drift To*



- Jewel Jijo — *The Moonflower*





It will be a little while before work from across the country is selected to be exhibited at the Royal Academy in London, so we'll have to wait and see. Regardless of the outcome, these students have shown real creativity and confidence in putting their work forward. *Miss Mole-Smith*

Sports Fixture Results

Weekly results

U14 basketball- **second round of National Cup: MCA 60 - 90 Ormiston Park Academy**

Star performers: Riley Warren and Sean Doyle

The boys done themselves so proud to get to where they got to. Winners of the Suffolk County championships and coming through the first round of the National Cup, playing some tremendous basketball along the way. This is just a learning curve and they will comeback stronger next year.



U18 Football: MCA 2 - 5 **Hartismere**

Star performers: Charlie Butler, Lewis Morley

The boys never gave up and should be proud of their achievements in this epic cup run. We wish Hartismere all the very best in the next round.

U12 girls basketball: **MCA 4 - 2 County, MCA 12 - 6 Castle Manor, MCA 8 - 4 Stour Valley**

Star performers: Nell Pearce, Jasmine Gee, Evelyn Howard, Martha Harwood and Rachel Groves

With three wins from three games, MCA finished first overall. **Winning the West Suffolk Finals**. This achievement reflects the teamwork, determination and togetherness shown by





every player. For many of the girls, these were their first competitive basketball games, making their success even more impressive. Well done to the whole team, you were fantastic from start to finish.



U13 Rugby: MCA 2 - 4 **Castle Manor**, MCA 2 - 5 **Holbrook**, MCA 3 - 1 **Stowupland**
Star players: Maxwell Manns, Mustafa Kaya, Michael West

Overall, the afternoon was a great example of the boys developing their rugby skills while living out the values of the MCA Traits. The players improved with each match, supported one another as a team, and showed excellent determination throughout the fixture and came home feeling accomplished.

U12 girls football: MCA 2 - 0 **Ormiston Sudbury**, MCA 1 - 0 **St Benedicts**

Star Players: Brooke Spink, Grace Satterley, Martha Harwood

MCA learnt throughout both games and have shown great charisma throughout the competition. We look forward to building on this momentum in our future fixtures! Well done.





Upcoming Fixtures

Monday: U15 girls handball: Suffolk finals at Thurston **A**

Tuesday: U12 basketball: Cluster **H**

Wednesday: U12 rugby tournament at Ipswich **A**
U14 football: MCA vs Samuel Ward **H**

Thursday: U16 football: Cluster **H**
U13 girls basketball: MCA vs Ixworth **H**

