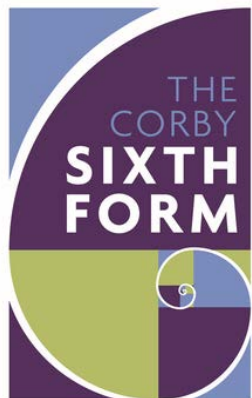


# Corby Sixth Form Bulletin

18TH DECEMBER 2025

**NOT IN SIXTH FORM TODAY? LET US KNOW! - C6FABSENCES@CORBYSIXTHFORM.AC.UK**



## DIARY DATES

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January** - Open Evening 5-7pm

**\*Please note that these dates may be subject to change**

## Message From The Head

As we reach the final week of the calendar year, I want to take this opportunity to reflect on what has been a truly outstanding and splendiferous end to the term for all at The Corby Sixth Form.

Our Christmas Fair was a wonderful success, filled with generosity, creativity, and a real sense of community. Alongside this, our Jólabókaflóð reading events to the four local primary schools, our visits to Pen Green and Kinetics Film Studio, and the many other festive initiatives have showcased the enthusiasm, kindness, and compassion of our amazing students. These opportunities simply would not have been possible without the willingness of students and staff to give their time and energy so generously.

We have also been incredibly proud of how students have responded academically. Year 13 have shown real maturity and resilience following their mock examinations, engaging thoughtfully with feedback and already beginning to plan next steps. Similarly, Year 12 students approached their Parents' Evening with confidence and openness, setting a strong foundation for continued progress in the new year.

I will be writing in more detail in an end-of-term letter shortly, reflecting on the term and looking ahead to what promises to be an exciting Spring term. For now, I would like to thank students, families, and staff for their continued support and commitment.

Wishing everyone a happy, peaceful, and well-deserved Christmas break. We look forward to welcoming you back in the new year.

Stay spiffy,  
Ben

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Regular attendance and high standards of behaviour are central to student success. We expect students to attend all lessons, mentoring sessions, and directed independent study periods. Where attendance falls below expectations, parents will be contacted promptly. Behaviour that does not meet the standards of respect and responsibility we expect will also be addressed swiftly in line with our policy.

If a student is absent for a full or part of a day, the student or someone on their behalf should email the Sixth Form to inform us. This can be done through the absence email address which is [C6FAbsences@corbysixthform.ac.uk](mailto:C6FAbsences@corbysixthform.ac.uk). Upon receipt of the email, they will automatically be sent a link to our absence form which must be completed with any additional details so that we may code our register accordingly.

We expect students to notify us of an absence before 9:00am of each and every day of their absence. The absence form must be completed before 4:00pm of each day.

### **Attendance Texts**

We are working on improving our attendance levels here at The Corby Sixth Form.

When we receive an email informing us of your absence or late arrival, a text will be sent home to further confirm this.

If you do not inform us of your absence, a text will be sent home explaining that a reason for absence is required.

Please remember that all absence or late arrival emails should be sent **BEFORE 9AM** to

[C6FAbsences@corbysixthform.ac.uk](mailto:C6FAbsences@corbysixthform.ac.uk)

## REPLACEMENT ID CARDS

As you may know, as part of our safeguarding procedures at the Sixth Form, we have issued all staff and students with an ID card and lanyard which must be worn at all times. Replacement cards will be charged at a rate of £2 for a replacement card and can be ordered through this link

<https://buytickets.at/treshamcollege/797473>



## **Year 13 Health & Social Care Students Spread Christmas Cheer at The Grange Primary**

On Monday 1st December, Helen's Year 13 Health and Social Care students delivered a fantastic Christmas Activity Workshop for pupils in Years 3 and 4 at The Grange Primary School.

The event was filled with festive fun, creativity, and teamwork, as our sixth formers planned and led engaging activities designed to bring joy and excitement to the younger students. From crafting decorations to teaching students Christmas carols in British Sign Language, the workshop showcased the skills and dedication of our Health and Social Care learners.

The Grange Primary's Headteacher, Mr Latimer, was full of praise for the group, commenting that they had "done The Corby Sixth Form proud." He was impressed not only by the quality of the activities but also by the professionalism and conduct of our students throughout the day. A huge well done to everyone involved for representing the sixth form so brilliantly and spreading festive spirit in the community!

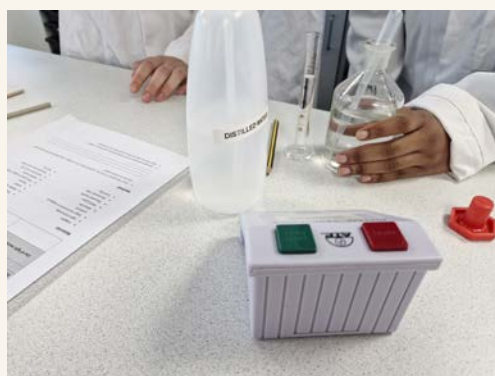
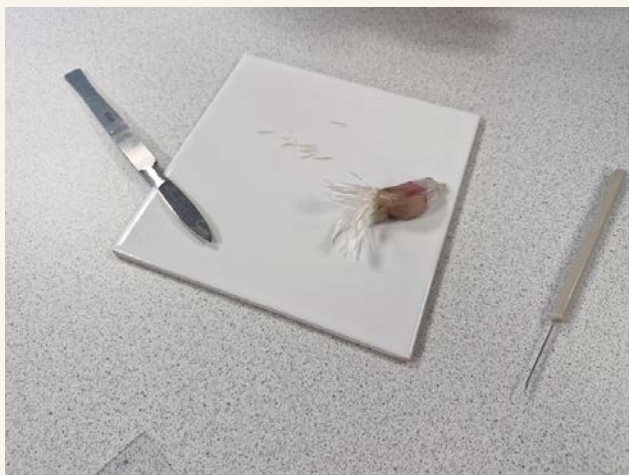


## Student Voice - Biology Practical

Hello, I am Iasmina, a year 12 student. The second required practical in Biology was "Root Tip Squash" where we analyse how cells divide through mitosis.

Initially, it was easy, as we only needed to prepare the garlic root tips to observe them under the microscope. However, when searching for cells undergoing mitosis, it can be somewhat challenging, since sometimes pressing too hard or too lightly can affect how visible the chromosomes are, or simply one of the stages of mitosis (prophase, metaphase, anaphase, or telophase) may not be observable in the cells.

It was an enjoyable experience, reflecting on the idea that something similar to these cells (a cell so small) forms human beings. We can deduce the complexity of the human body. In general, it is an honour to be able to analyse cells so closely, as we did in this experiment, I also enjoyed observing the steps my classmates followed; not only did we investigate mitosis, but we also strengthened the friendships among us, the Biology students.





## Band Society

On Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December the Band Society held a bake sale and music quiz in the Performance Area to raise funds for the two bands that we are forming at the college.

The students organised everything themselves and some came in fancy dress to show off their favourite artists.

After Christmas the students will begin rehearsing each week in the studio underneath the college.

## Christmas Fayre

We are so pleased to announce that after a wonderful Christmas Fayre put on by The Impact Makers Society here at The Corby Sixth Form, we raised over £200 for Lakelands Hospice!

By wearing our Christmas Jumpers on the day we also raised over £50 for Save the Children.

A huge thank you to all involved.





## VACANCY DETAILS



We are currently seeking an Associate Exam Invigilator to join our Examinations department at The Bedford College Group.

If you or someone you know would be interested, please follow the link for more details:

[Exam Invigilator Vacancy](#)

# Handy Hints to Improve Your Independent Study

## DUAL CODING

When reviewing something you have learnt, combining words and pictures can be powerful. Research suggests that combining words and images increase your learning by visually representing information in two different ways. Examples of this include creating a:



### Timelines

These can show the events that happen in a sequence, and the links between these events.



### Mind Maps

These allow you to group information in branches from a central theme



### Diagrams

Diagrams to annotate key information e.g. biological features about the body.



### Story Boards

These can help you remember the key parts in a story or event



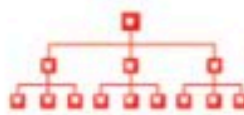
### Flow Diagrams

Use flow diagrams to highlight cause and effect, input/output and processes



### Venn Diagrams

Useful to compare change/continuity in history or characters in English



### Graphic Organiser

These can chunk any aspect of a topic; hierarchy, process, cause/effect etc.



### Concept Maps

Use to highlights links between themes, concepts and ideas.



INFOGRAPHIC



DIAGRAM



CARTOON STRIP



GRAPHIC ORGANIZER



TIMELINE

## INEFFECTIVE INDEPENDENT LEARNING STRATEGIES – WHAT DOESN'T WORK

With the above in mind, it is vitally important to think about strategies that students may employ that have a limited or no real benefit on learning or memory. These include:

- Simply writing out notes or copying from a textbook/exercise book.
- Cramming revision to the 'final minute' overloads your working memory so you can't learn at all. It can also cause stress/anxiety before exams.
- Re-reading and doing nothing with the information. Trying to focus on 'too much information' on a single page and cramming revision.
- Highlighting information for the sake of it.
- Not enough silent work or attention to a given task. Attempting to revise while multitasking and doing other things.
- Comfort zone revision of easy material that pupils have already mastered because it makes you 'feel good'.



# Handy Hints to Improve Your Independent Study

## DEVELOPING INDEPENDENT LEARNING ROUTINES AND HABITS

Within your independent learning, it is vitally important to establish a strong routine. Having goals are good for setting a direction. What do you want to achieve in *this* revision session? Habits are incredibly powerful in helping you to succeed. If you have the mindset of wanting to be a better student and build the habits to become the person you want, the results will come. Getting one percent better every day counts for a lot in the long-run.

In order to support the forming of good revision habits, there are a number of areas to consider:

- **Make it obvious** – revise in one area, leave your materials out ready to support organisation and ensure routines are stuck to. Ensure your environment is clear, uncluttered and comfortable.
- **Start small and build up** – reduce distractions where and when you revise and get your family to encourage the creation of a revision timetable and placing it somewhere visual in your house. Ensure someone else is knowledgeable of this timetable to enable accountability and aid support. Start revising for a short amount of time and build up over time.
- **Make it attractive** – collaborative focused revision (with friends) is beneficial (alongside attending interventions or revision sessions) but you could also ensure there is a ‘reward’ at the end of a revision session. *If I complete this, I can do this.* Write a revision contract.
- **Make it satisfying and rewarding** – challenge yourself, track your own revision progress and ensure you stick to your revision timetable. Small steps build success and motivation. Use PLCs or checklists to support. Focus on ‘I’m a hard worker’ than ‘I want a Grade A\*’.

## CREATING AN EFFECTIVE REVISION ENVIRONMENT

Goals are good for setting a direction but systems are best for making progress. We know that working memory can only hold a small amount of information at once. Therefore, in order to revise and learn effectively, you should use techniques which free up your working memory and stop it from being overwhelmed. One way is working in an environment which is free from distractions.

Find a quiet, tidy room with minimal distractions – your bedroom, library or classroom.

Put your revision timetable, exam timetable and other documents visible on your wall

Make sure you have a drink and snack with you, staying hydrated and full is important



Put your phone in another room, it is too much of a distraction -

Loud music is a distraction, if you must listen, it needs to be low tempo, without lyrics

Have all your revision materials and stationary on your desk ready to go - make it obvious

Whilst **phones** are a brilliant intervention, research has found that they have a negative impact on revision and learning. It can reduce concentration, impacting working memory, impact your sleep due to the bright lights and distractions, reduce your motivation to reduce and through listening to music, you are more likely to remember the lyrics to the song than the material you are revising



# Handy Hints to Improve Your Independent Study.

## CREATING AN INDEPENDENT LEARNING TIMETABLE

1. Collate all your topics and determine where you need to focus your time. Which subjects and topics do you need to target?
2. Create a table for a week with 30-minute revision slots and breaks built in.
3. Write the subjects in the table, leaving yourself at least two days between each.
4. Type it up so you re-use it and edit it. Ensure it is easy to check and find.
5. Put it somewhere visible and tick off completed sessions = see the success! Ensure someone at home also has ownership of it. It will support motivation.

For an example timetable, see below. *This involves only English, Maths, Science and PPD to show how a timetable may look but please ensure all subjects are included depending on the focus at a given moment.*

Subjects				English	Maths	Science	PPD
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
30 mins	Reactions	Research university courses	Listen to educational podcast	Features of theatre texts	Atoms, electrons and protons	Experiences of an author	Properties
30 mins	The late romance plays	Expansion	Features of compounds	Partial fractions	Explore Degree Apprenticeships	Partial fractions	Features of theatre texts
Break							
30 mins	Equations	Act One character and plot	Research student finance	Properties	Features of compounds	Theme of Power and Control	Experiences of an author
30 mins	Properties	Read personal statement examples	Theme of Power and Control	Act One character and plot	Draft 1 paragraph of personal statement	Update Unifrog of events	Update LinkedIn profile

# Sixth Form Societies Launch!



We're delighted to introduce our brand-new Sixth Form Societies — a series of student-led groups created to share passions, build communities, and enrich life beyond the classroom.

From academic enrichment to creative collaboration, these societies are a fantastic opportunity for students to take the lead, explore their interests, and connect with others across the Sixth Form.

Each society is organised and run by students, demonstrating the initiative, leadership, and teamwork that define our Corby Sixth Form community. Meeting dates and times will be advertised internally — keep an eye out and get involved!

A huge thank you to all the students whose energy and enthusiasm have brought these societies to life.

# Book Club

Always got your head in a book?  
Join the club!



Scan the code to join the Teams channel.