



Countdown to Cranbourne

Transition Newsletter

Edition #1 - May 2026

Hello Year 6! My name is Ms Corrigan, I am the Year 6 Transition Coordinator here at Cranbourne. I am also a teacher of French and Spanish and I look after pupils who speak lots of different languages across the school. I'm a proud member of Austen House!

Have you already thought about which House you would like to be in? In this edition of Countdown to Cranbourne, I would like to introduce you to some of our wonderful Young Interpreters who want to explain everything you need to know about our House system at Cranbourne.

Mrs Ellis and I have already been fortunate enough to meet some of you in your primary schools and we will continue our visits after half term. When we come to meet with you, we would like you to tell us about your hobbies and interests, what your favourite subjects are and any areas in which you might need some help. If you have a very strong preference for which language you would like to study when you come to Cranbourne, please let me know when I visit.

You can also tell us about any friends you would like to be with. These could be friends you have in your current school or who you know from other schools.

Some of you are coming from primary schools without many, or sometimes any, of your friends from Year 6. Please don't worry! We will be especially mindful about placing you in a House with other pupils who have similar interests to you.

We hope that you can join us for our online taster lessons which start on Tuesday 19 May with our wonderful Heads of House. Each lesson lasts for just 30 minutes and is a great opportunity for you to meet your teachers and to get to know each other.

Our Induction Days are fast approaching! Information will be coming shortly.

We are looking forward to talking with you all soon and welcoming you to our Cranbourne family. We hope your SATs exams have gone well this week!

Very best wishes,
Ms Corrigan

In this edition...

- **Advice from our Student Ambassadors**
- **Year 6 online lessons**

What advice would you give to a new student starting at Cranbourne?

“ Try not to worry too much! Don't be scared to speak up and ask for help, everyone will be happy to help you. ”

“ Don't be scared about being bullied. We have Anti-Bullying Ambassadors who look out for everyone and all the teachers are lovely and always willing to help. ”

Be yourself and be proud of your nationality and background, we celebrate everyone here!

“ Explore the school and get used to the layout but don't worry about getting lost, everyone will be happy to point you in the right direction. ”

“ Make sure you memorise your PE days and don't forget your kit! ”

“ Try to stay on top of your homework by doing it as soon as you get it. ”

“ Never give up! Try out different after-school clubs, there are so many to choose from and there will be something for everyone. Just go for it and make the most of what's on offer. You also get House Points for attending clubs! ”

“ Always listen as best as you can so you will understand what is being asked of you. ”

“ Don't forget your blazer and remember it must be worn around school. You can take it off once you're in lessons. ”

“ Be kind! Try to find good friends. They don't need to be smart or funny, just people who you like to be with and who you feel comfortable with. ”

What do you like about being part of the Cranbourne Community?

“ I like our cultural and ethnic diversity and how we celebrate our uniqueness. ”

We are a very close community. All beliefs, languages and cultural backgrounds are welcomed and celebrated here! ”

“ I really feel like I am part of a community and I am grateful for that. ”

“ The teachers are very supportive and are always there to help. Everyone is very warm and friendly and there is lots to get involved in. ”

“ I love our Cultural Diversity Evening! It's such fun and a great celebration of all the cultures in our school and local community. ”

“ The variety of after-school clubs is great as you can try so many different things you wouldn't normally. ”

“ I have made some really amazing friends and Cranbourne is like a second home. It feels like I have a big family at school! ”

“ I like Day of Sport! It's the best! The different Houses compete against each other and it's very competitive and so much fun. ”

What happens during PDL (tutor time) in the morning?

“ During PDL we are told about what is going to happen that week in our pastoral presentation. Also, we explore our Ethos Curriculum and go to Assembly. We read together, do fun quizzes and compete in House Competitions. ”



Austen House



Challenge

When you think about your House, what comes to mind?

- "In Austen we love languages and creative writing!"
- "We are encouraged to challenge ourselves in all areas of school life."
- "We are learning to love to read and to understand the power of words."
- "I think about all of my lovely friends in Austen House, my Tutor who is very kind and also our Head of House, Miss Alner. She is also very kind and understanding."

What do you like about being in your House?

"I like how it includes my favourite subject which is English. I have a lot of supportive friends in Austen House."

"It was so exciting when we won the House Sports Day Cup last year!"



Andrew Lloyd Webber House



Creativity

When you think about your House, what comes to mind?

- "Andrew Lloyd Webber House is all about creativity and expressing ourselves as individuals. We celebrate the creative arts, such as Drama, Art, Textiles, Hair and Beauty and Design Technology."
- "I love the Drama Department and that we are always supported. We're like a big family and don't tolerate any bullying. We are loud, vibrant, confident and we encourage kindness!"

What do you like about being in your House?

- "I can meet most of my friends before Tutor time and the tie is a nice colour which is a bonus! I like purple!"
- "Our Andrew Lloyd Webber teachers are very nice. I have a great Tutor and most of my friends are in my House. Andrew Lloyd Webber House brings people together."



Thomson House



Community

When you think about your House, what comes to mind?

- “We are inclusive and diverse and we take care of the whole school community. We are champions of democracy!”
- “We are curious about the world and we are kind and welcoming to others.”
- “We help to organise the vote for our Student Leader team and we organise the Union of Cranbourne Students.”

What do you like about being in your House?

- “I love all the different subjects in our House and the teachers of History, Geography, Religious Studies and Philosophy. I have great friends in my House!”



White House



Care

When you think about your House, what comes to mind?

- “White House is all about caring for the world and people around us. It is about the power of nature and creating a sustainable future for all by protecting our world.”
- “We believe in the power of numbers and we are very involved in Green Cranbourne!”

What do you like about being in your House?

- “I am so lucky to have an amazing tutor and I have great friends in my House! We are very competitive and it was great when we won the House Cup at the end of the year!”

Online Taster Sessions

We are pleased to be able to offer online taster sessions for our new Year 7 students to meet some staff members and experience what lessons will be like at Cranbourne.

Cameras must be turned off and microphones muted while attending these sessions. Please do not worry if it is not possible to join any of the lessons as they will be recorded and can be viewed at another time if this is easier.

Mr Dinsey, our IT Manager has set everyone up with their Cranbourne email accounts. These are hosted on Outlook and can be accessed at <https://outlook.office.com>

When you log in, you will find the link to join the sessions via Microsoft Teams.

The details needed to log in will follow the format below:

Username	31Surname.First Initial	31Dinsey.G
Email Address	username@cranbourne.hants.sch.uk	31Dinsey.G@cranbourne.hants.sch.uk
Password	Cranbourne26	Cranbourne26

If you need any help logging in or accessing the sessions, please email g.dinsey@cranbourne.hants.sch.uk



Online Taster Sessions Timetable

Sessions will start at 6pm and last for approximately 30 minutes.

2026 Timetable	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
WEEK A W/C MONDAY 18 MAY		The Head of House Team 6PM Mrs Simpson and Miss Alner		The English Team 6PM Miss Seirlis and Mr Williams
<i>HALF TERM – Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May</i>				
WEEK B W/C MONDAY 1 JUNE	The Geography Team 6PM Mr Girling		The Compass Team – Studying at Cranbourne 6PM Mrs Horimoto and Mrs Ellis	
WEEK A W/C MONDAY 8 JUNE		The Lighthouse Team 6PM Mrs Ryan and Mrs Millett		The History Team 6PM Miss Wood
WEEK A W/C MONDAY 15 JUNE	The Science Team 6PM Mr Searby		The Modern Foreign Languages Team 6PM Ms Corrigan and Ms Ramirez-Martínez	

Dates for your diary

Online Taster Sessions begin: Tuesday 19 May

Transition Days: Thursday 25 & Friday 26 June

First Day of Term: Wednesday 2 September



Contact Cranbourne

Cranbourne
Wessex Close
Basingstoke
RG21 3NP

tel: 01256 868600

email: 2026year7@cranbourne.hants.sch.uk

website: www.cranbourne.hants.sch.uk

Follow us on social media!



Facebook
[/Cranbourneinfo](https://www.facebook.com/Cranbourneinfo)



Twitter
[@Cranbourne_info](https://twitter.com/Cranbourne_info)

EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING