

CASE STUDY: TUTOR DOCTOR & BOTTISHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE



**tutor
doctor**

El aprendizaje llega a tu puerta.



Bottisham Village College is an ambitious school serving the rural communities of East Cambridgeshire, with a clear vision "to inspire, to care for and to enrich the lives of every student." Having reached its full capacity of 1,500 students, the College places well-being at the heart of everything it does, believing students thrive when they feel happy, supported and cared for.

While pupils benefit from a broad curriculum and strong academic outcomes, recent Ofsted feedback highlighted the need for more consistent support for students with SEND. This has since become a strategic priority, driving the College to seek flexible, targeted external support to ensure vulnerable learners can build confidence and make meaningful progress.

"The school sets high expectations for pupils' success. Many pupils do well in examinations and develop an impressive range of skills and attributes. However, support in class for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) is not always as good as it should be. A new approach to the organisation of the school day is still settling in. Some classes are varied and interesting, but in others, time is not used as effectively. A wide range of popular clubs and trips are provided. These include sporting and artistic activities. A variety of opportunities is provided for pupils to show and develop leadership qualities."

- (Ofsted Report 2024)

TUTOR DOCTOR AND BOTTISHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE: A TRUSTED PARTNERSHIP SINCE 2018

Tutor Doctor first began working with Bottisham Village College in 2018 as an approved Alternative Provision provider through Cambridgeshire County Council. Since then, the partnership has grown steadily in both scale and impact. Over the past seven years, Tutor Doctor has delivered almost 3,000 hours of tuition to more than 50 students, working closely with key staff across the school, particularly the Alternative Provision and SEND teams.

Support has been provided for students in Year 7 through to Year 11, with tuition delivered in school, at home, and online to meet individual needs arising from illness, anxiety, exclusion, suspension and special educational needs. Provision has focused primarily on core subjects including English, Maths and Science, with recent programmes concentrating on Year 11 students with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) to support exam preparation and confidence at this critical stage.

The partnership expanded significantly in 2021 through the National Tutoring Programme, where Tutor Doctor was accredited as a National Tuition Partner and supported disadvantaged students post-COVID. Although government funding has since reduced, Bottisham has continued to invest in Tutor Doctor's provision, recognising the value of targeted, flexible tuition for its most vulnerable learners.

“ Tutor Doctor has engaged some of our more difficult to reach students with an enthusiastic and warm approach that the students have found very positive. They have encouraged and gained the trust of students who have struggled with mainstream education and produced great results not only academically but also with students’ self-esteem and their positive outlook on completing the work and improving their grades. Tutors have been flexible and adaptable in their approach with these students maintaining their professionalism throughout. I would highly recommend Tutor Doctor. ”

- LISA DAMANT

AP Coordinator, Bottisham Village College

EFFICIENT, ACCOUNTABLE AND HUMAN: A TRUE EXTENSION OF THE SCHOOL TEAM

Tutor Doctor operates as an extension of the school team, combining robust systems with a genuinely human approach. Every programme is designed to deliver the right outcomes for students while working efficiently within the realities of a busy school environment.



Each programme begins with detailed input from the school’s lead contact to ensure a clear understanding of student needs, objectives and constraints. At Bottisham Village College, this work is overseen by Belinda Davidson, Tutor Doctor’s dedicated Schools Coordinator.

Acting as a single point of accountability, Belinda manages each programme end-to-end, ensuring tutors are carefully matched, fully briefed and effectively timetabled. This level of coordination is particularly valuable at Bottisham Village College, where a fortnightly timetable adds additional complexity. Tutor Doctor works most closely with the SEN and Alternative Provision teams and provides comprehensive student briefs and tutor biographies, giving the school confidence that each tutor is the right fit academically and personally.

Safeguarding and compliance are embedded into every aspect of delivery. All tutors who work with Tutor Doctor hold an up-to-date DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) certificate and complete regular Safeguarding and Prevent training, working in line with the latest “Keeping Children Safe in Education” (KCSiE) guidance. Clear internal protocols ensure that any safeguarding concerns are logged and managed by Tutor Doctor’s Designated Safeguarding Lead, with appropriate communication involving the school and local authority where required. This rigorous framework allows schools to work with Tutor Doctor with confidence, knowing that both student well-being and operational standards are fully protected.

FLEXIBLE DELIVERY, BUILT AROUND STUDENT NEEDS

Tutor Doctor works flexibly across both in-person and online delivery, selecting the approach that best meets each student’s needs rather than applying a one-size-fits-all model. At Bottisham Village College, this flexibility has been essential in supporting students with varying levels of need, attendance patterns and timetabling constraints, while maintaining consistency, safeguarding and quality across all provision.

In-Person Tuition at Bottisham Village College

In recent years, the majority of Tutor Doctor’s work at Bottisham Village College has been delivered in person, either on site or in students’ homes locally. This reflects both the needs of the students and the school’s preference for face-to-face support where possible.

To meet this demand, Tutor Doctor carried out a dedicated recruitment drive in the east of Cambridge, building a strong local team of tutors who regularly support students at the school. In-person tuition is primarily delivered in English, Maths and Science, with tutors experienced in working with students with special educational needs.



This local and consistent in-person presence has enabled continuity, stronger relationships and effective collaboration with school staff.

Online Tuition with Bottisham Village College via Tutor Doctor and LessonSpace

In some cases, online tuition provides the most effective solution, particularly where timetabling is complex or when a student's needs require a highly specific tutor match. Tutor Doctor delivers virtual tuition through LessonSpace, a secure one-to-one platform that allows tutors to pre-load materials and tailor sessions precisely to each student's goals.

Sessions typically last one hour, with a full timetable agreed in advance with all parties. Tuition remains fully personalised, supporting subject knowledge, exam skills and broader study skills. Every session is recorded, providing clear safeguarding oversight and allowing students to revisit learning over time. Recordings also enable Tutor Doctor's Schools Coordinator and Bottisham staff to review engagement, content coverage and overall progress, strengthening transparency and accountability.

MEASURABLE IMPACT THROUGH CONSISTENT, WELL-COORDINATED SUPPORT

During the 2024/25 academic year, Tutor Doctor supported 28 students at Bottisham Village College through a combination of in-person and online tuition. The cohort reflected a range of needs, with a strong focus on GCSE students with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs).

Programmes were led on the school side by Claire Stanyer, SENCo, who prioritised students lacking confidence going into GCSE examinations and working below expected grades.

Attendance was a key focus for both Bottisham Village College and Tutor Doctor, particularly for students not regularly attending school. Tutor Doctor's online portal enabled daily attendance to be recorded and shared, ensuring the School Attendance Officer had clear, up-to-date information.

Claire and her team were provided with secure log-ins to the Tutor Doctor portal, allowing them to monitor attendance and review detailed session reports. Tutors completed a report after every session using Tutor Doctor's **ABCD** framework, covering **A**ttendance, **B**eing Engaged, **C**ontent and **D**o Next. This structured reporting supported transparency, accountability and informed ongoing support.


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Our students engaged well and commented that the tutors were friendly and understood their needs.

- CLAIRE STANYER
SEnCo, Bottisham Village College


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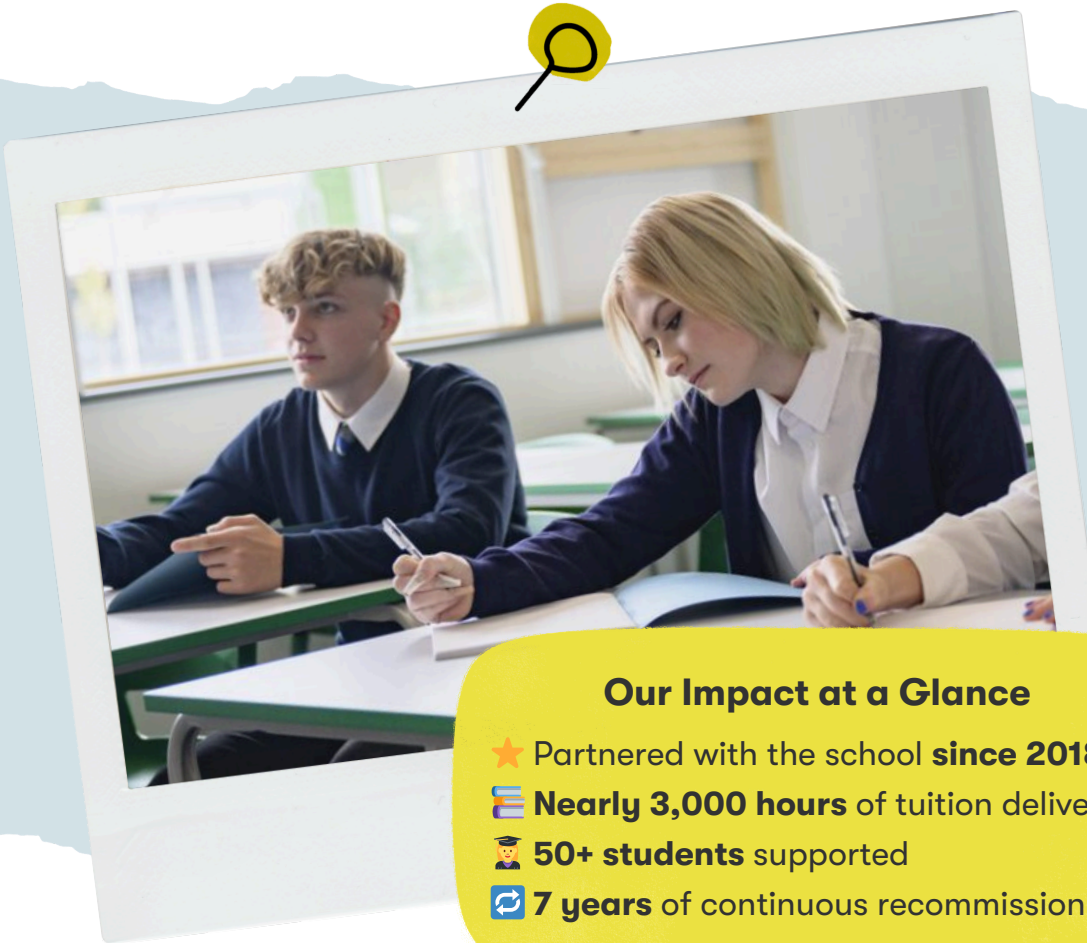
BUILDING ON SUCCESS: CONTINUING TO SUPPORT BOTTISHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE'S MOST VULNERABLE LEARNERS



As our trusted partnership continues into the 2025/26 academic year, Bottisham Village College remains a close and valued partner for Tutor Doctor in Cambridge. The school continues to commission both in-person and online tuition for students with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and those requiring alternative provision.

While the core focus remains on Maths, English and Science, Tutor Doctor has also supported students in subjects including Physical Education, History and Music, reflecting the breadth and flexibility of the provision. Further programmes are planned that focus on developing students' wider study skills, with Tutor Doctor supporting homework routines, revision strategies and exam preparation.





Our Impact at a Glance

- ★ Partnered with the school **since 2018**
- 📖 **Nearly 3,000 hours** of tuition delivered
- 👤 **50+ students** supported
- 🔄 **7 years** of continuous recommissioning

Tutor Doctor is proud to work in such a valued partnership with Bottisham Village College, supporting a broad range of learners and contributing to outcomes that extend beyond academic attainment. The trust placed in Tutor Doctor to deliver across multiple programmes is a testament to the strength, consistency and collaborative nature of the relationship. As our partnership with Bottisham Village College proved, schools seeking a tuition partner that combines rigour, safeguarding and genuine collaboration, Tutor Doctor offers a proven and scalable solution to help students thrive.



tutor doctor

How learning hits home.



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