



Aspire



Belong



Care

9th October 2026

Issue #3

A message from our Principal, Mrs Postlethwaite...

What a wonderful start we have had to the autumn term at The King's.

One of the real highlights was our Open Evening, when we welcomed prospective students and their families into school. I was incredibly proud of our students, who gave up their time to help, guide visitors and talk so confidently about their school. Our staff, as always, were welcoming, enthusiastic and passionate about what they do. The atmosphere throughout the evening captured exactly what makes The King's such a special community.

It has also been lovely to see so many students enjoying our rewards trips. Recognising students who consistently make positive choices, work hard and contribute to school life is incredibly important to us. These opportunities are a chance to celebrate those young people who live out our values of Aspire, Belong and Care every day.

We have also enjoyed welcoming younger pupils into The King's for our Primary Days. Seeing our school full of excited future secondary students is always a joy, and I am grateful to the staff and students who helped make their visits so positive and memorable.

As we move further into autumn, we have also taken time to mark Harvest, reflecting on gratitude, generosity and our responsibility to care for others. It is a particularly fitting message at this time of year and one that sits at the heart of who we are as a Church of England school.

The autumn term is always busy, but it is also one of my favourite times of the school year. New beginnings gradually become routines, relationships grow stronger and our school community settles into its rhythm. There is already so much to celebrate, and I am incredibly proud of the way our students and staff have begun this academic year!

- 15 October- Y11 Shrewsbury trip
- 21 October- Y8 Trade Game
- 21 October - Sixth form University visit
- 23 October- INSET (Staff only)
- 24 October - Sixth form Rewards Trip
- 26-30 October- Half Term
- 2 November- INSET (Staff only)



Drop off and Pick Up

There is very limited space within our visitor car park and insufficient room for vehicles to turn around safely, particularly at the beginning and end of the school day. Please do not drive down Fourth Avenue to drop off or collect your child at the front of school.

The Leisure Centre has also asked that parents and carers do not use their car park for school drop-off or collection. Once a vehicle turns down Fourth Avenue, drivers are effectively forced to enter either the school visitor car park or the Leisure Centre car park, neither of which should be used for this purpose.

We therefore ask parents and carers to use the lower car park on Fifth Avenue for drop-off and collection. Alternatively, please park safely elsewhere, being considerate of local residents, and allow your child to walk the short distance into or out of school.

If your child has a physical disability or Special Educational Need that means they need to be dropped off or collected directly from school, you will need to apply to the school for a permit if you haven't done so already. Details of how to apply can be found on our school website.



Key Contacts

Heads of Year



Mrs Goldstraw - Head of Year 7

JGoldstraw@thekingscofeacademy.org

Mr Barber - Head of Year 8

BBarber@thekingscofeacademy.org

Miss Stanyer - Head of Year 9

OStanyer@thekingscofeacademy.org

Miss Richardson - Maternity Cover Head of Year 9

LRichardson@thekingscofeacademy.org

Mrs Kirk - Head of Year 10

JKirk@thekingscofeacademy.org

Miss Stevens - Head of Year 11

ESTevens@thekingscofeacademy.org

Mrs Finnemore - Head of Sixth Form

LFinnemore@thekingscofeacademy.org

For any further support requests or enquiries please contact the below and your email will be forwarded to the appropriate contact.

enquiries@thekingscofeacademy.org

School Support

Safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Z Holdcroft

zholdcroft@thekingscofeacademy.org

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs S Harrison

sharrison@thekingscofeacademy.org

Attendance & Welfare Officer

Mrs S Beswick-Pepper

sbeswick-pepper@thekingscofeacademy.org

Home School Support Worker

Mrs N Thorne

nthorne@thekingscofeacademy.org

General Enquiries

enquiries@thekingscofeacademy.org

Attendance Team



MEET THE ATTENDANCE TEAM

MR WORTHINGTON
ATTENDANCE CHAMPION

“Working together to remove barriers and support your success.”

Every Day Counts

- SUPPORTING STUDENTS**
In school and at home
- LISTENING AND GUIDING**
Working with students and families
- HELPING YOU THRIVE**
Building brighter futures together

Aspire **Belong** **Care**



MEET THE ATTENDANCE TEAM

MRS BESWICK-PEPPER
ATTENDANCE & WELFARE OFFICER

“Working together to remove barriers and support your success.”

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Attendance

Mr Worthington
mworthington@thekingscofeacademy.org

Mrs Beswick-Pepper
sbeswick-pepper@thekingscofeacademy.org

Mrs Thorne
nthorne@thekingscofeacademy.org



MEET THE ATTENDANCE TEAM

MRS THORNE
HOME SCHOOL LINK WORKER

“Working together to remove barriers and support your success.”

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How to report your child's absence on Arbor

It only takes a few minutes!



Please report your child's absence on the day they are absent.

This helps us keep our records up to date and ensures your child's absence is authorised as quickly as possible.

1

Open Arbor

Log in to the Arbor Parent App or Parent Portal.



2

Select "Quick Actions"

From the home screen, tap Quick Actions.



3

Select "Attendance"

Tap Attendance.



4

Select "Log Absence"

Tap the green Log Absence button.

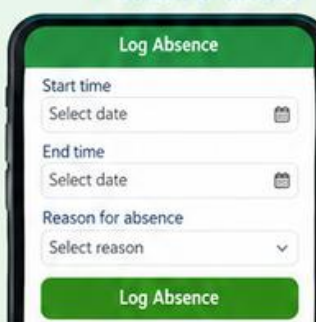


5

Enter the details

Enter:

- Start and end time of the absence
- Reason for absence



6

Submit the absence

Tap Log Absence to send the request to school.



Absence request sent!

Your child's absence request will then be sent to the school for approval.



PLEASE NOTE:

Arbor currently allows parents to submit **same-day absences**.

For future or extended absences, please contact the school directly.



Need help?

If you experience any problems with Arbor, please get in touch with the school office.

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SIAMS FEEDBACK

The SIAMS inspectors challenged The King's CofE Academy to make social advocates for change, tackling social injustice.

SOCIAL ACTION

We have risen to the challenge and in Year 7 and 8, we have an exciting **curriculum** programme where our children are involved in a social action project.

Through this, our students are learning about how social action can change the lives of others and how each individual has the potential to do good in the world.



Real change starts with people like us

Our Year 7 & 8 Curriculum helps students:

- ✓ Explore real-world issues and social injustice.
- ✓ Develop empathy, leadership and confidence.
- ✓ Work together on meaningful projects.
- ✓ Understand how social action creates positive change.
- ✓ Recognise their own voice and potential to make a difference.



Using his voice to fight child poverty and create opportunities.



Standing up for a healthier planet and a sustainable future.

Are we creating the next Marcus Rashford and Greta Thunberg?

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Mrs. Holdcroft

Safeguarding

Making a referral for children and young people's mental health and emotional wellbeing support in Staffordshire

Here in Staffordshire, we have **Single Points of Access**, these are central hubs for children and young people's mental health services (CYPMHS), providing a streamlined referral process making it easier for families and professionals.

Support and guidance are provided through the Single Points of Access, they will triage information provided to understand the needs of the child, young person, and their families. Simplifying the way children, young people, their families or carers access support.



North Staffordshire

- Child and young people's mental health services are accessed via the **Single Point of Access (SPA)**, bringing together children and young people's mental health services including Stay Well.
- The **SPA** can take telephone calls / referral forms from self-referral or from professionals.

Telephone: 0800 0 328 728
Online referrals: <https://combinedwellbeing.org.uk/da-our-services/>

Where does this service cover?





South Staffordshire

- Child and young people's mental health services are accessed via the **Children and Families Single Point of Access (CaFSPA)**, bringing together children and young people's mental health services including Stay Well.
- The **CaFSPA** can take telephone calls / referral forms from self-referral or from professionals.

Telephone: 0808 164 6022
Email: SouthStaffsCAMHSandND@mph.nhs.uk
Online referrals: [CaFSPA How to make a referral](#)

Where does this service cover?





Mental Health and Wellbeing Support

The NHS has recently introduced a new referral pathway to support the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people. We would also like to remind parents and carers that additional support is available through our school, including access to the School Nurse who is in school weekly and the Mental Health Support Team (MHST) who are available every Tuesday. If you have any concerns about your child's emotional wellbeing or mental health and would like to discuss the support available, please contact your child's Head of Year, a member of the Safeguarding Team, or our Care Plan Lead, who will be happy to help and discuss the most appropriate support options.

Let's HAF fun this half term!

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme enables local authorities in England to deliver inclusive, enriching activities including a hot meal (where possible) over the school holidays. Eligible children and young people can book one free session during October half term. The Staffordshire HAF programme will run at various locations in local areas starting from Monday 26 October until Friday 30 October 2026.

It is funded for children and young people aged 5 – 16 years who receive targeted free school meals.

How do parents/carers book?

Parents and carers of eligible children will receive an email or letter from Staffordshire County Council containing their child's individual HAF code and the number of sessions they are eligible for. For October half term, this is one session lasting up to four hours.

HOLIDAY
ACTIVITIES
AND
FOOD

HAF fun this half term

Holiday Activities and Food is funded for children and young people aged 5-16 who get targeted free school meals. Paid places also available.

SCAN ME!



Bookings open on Monday 5 October at 4pm

staffordshire.gov.uk/haf



SEND Support



SEND COFFEE MORNING

Year 6



19th October



9:30–10:30am

**For prospective SEND parents and carers
whose children start secondary school in September 2027**



Meet members of our SEND team



Discover the support we offer



Discuss your child's individual needs



Share any questions or concerns

Join us for a coffee and a chat



Register interest via:

enquiries@thekingscofeacademy.org

Christian Distinctiveness



HARVEST COLLECTION

Over the next couple of weeks, we will be collecting donations for Kidsgrove Foodbank

Our local community needs your help, there are many people struggling to feed themselves and their families, these may be people that you know and love, but you are not aware.

You Can Help! Start Collecting!

Bring in some non-perishable food, even one tin will mean one person doesn't go hungry.

Tutor challenge: I challenge your tutor group to collect as much food for Kidsgrove foodbank as possible! Last year we donated the equivalent of 661 meals for the people of Kidsgrove, this year, **LETS BEAT THAT!**

Deadline: Bring all donations into school by **Monday 19th October** and we will deliver to Kidsgrove Foodbank

Together we can make a massive difference to those who really need it



Dear God,

Thank you for the harvest and the food we enjoy each day.

Thank you for the sunshine, rain and rich soil that help it grow, and for the hands that work to bring it to our tables.

Help us to appreciate your gifts and remember those who face hunger or hardship.

Open our hearts to share generously, offer kindness and care for one another.

Teach us to protect your creation, waste less and recognise the difference our small acts of care can make.

May our Harvest donations bring comfort and hope to people in our community, reminding them that they are valued and loved.

Bless our school family and guide us to live with grateful hearts, putting our faith into action each day.

Amen.

KS3 Enrichment



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Enrichment Timetables KS3

Sports Enrichment Timetable

Club	Year Group	Day	Time	Location	Teacher
Boxing	KS3	Monday	Lunch	Dance Studio	Mr Furnival
Girls Football	Whole School	Monday	3:05-4:05pm	Sports Hall / Astro	Miss Kaminskas
Netball	Whole School	Wednesday	3:05-4:05pm	Sports Hall	Mrs Berrisford
Boys Football	Year 9	Wednesday	3:05-4:05pm	Astro	Mr Griffiths
Football	KS3	Friday	Lunch	Astro	Miss Kaminskas
Basketball	Whole School	Friday	3:05-4:05pm	Sports Hall	Mr Kolita
Boys Football	KS3	Starting after October half term	3:05-4:05pm	Astro	TBC

Other Enrichment Clubs Timetable

Club	Year Group	Day	Time	Location	Teacher
Homework Club	Year 9	Monday & Thursday / Tuesday & Friday	Monday & Thursday lunch time; Tuesday & Friday 3:05-4pm	Library	Mrs Little
Homework Club	Years 7-8	Tuesday & Friday / Monday & Wednesday	Tuesday & Friday lunch time; Monday & Wednesday 3:05-4pm	Library	Mrs Little
Warhammer	Whole School	Monday	Lunch	1.6	Mr Collis
India Trip Drop In	Trip Students	Monday	3:05-4pm	2.5	Mrs Danks
The Musical Drama Group	Whole School	Monday	3:05-4pm	Drama Studio	Miss Richardson
Duke of Edinburgh	Whole School	Tuesday	3:05-4:05pm	Canteen	Mr Butcher
Pokemon	Years 7-9	Wednesday	Lunch	2.13	Mrs Perry / Miss Dawson
Choir	Whole School	Wednesday	3:05-4:05pm	3.7	Mr Austerberry
School Biodiversity Club	Whole School	Wednesday	Lunch	2.5	Mrs Danks
Mindfulness Colouring	Whole School	Wednesday	Lunch	1.4	Mrs Davis
Board Games	Whole School	Friday	Lunch	2.17	Mr Haworth
Creative Writing	Whole School	Friday	Lunch	2.12	Mr Asplin
Humanities Games & Support Club	Whole School	Friday	3:05-4pm	2.5	Mrs Danks

KS4 Enrichment



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Enrichment Timetables KS4

Masterclass Timetable

Masterclass	Year Group / Class	Day	Time	Location	Teacher
Maths	Year 11	Monday (Week A - Priority)	3:05-4pm	Maths Classrooms	Maths Teaching Staff
Exam Clinic	Year 10	Monday	Lunch	3.14	Mrs Kirk
RE	Year 11 Full Course	Monday	Lunch	2.7	Mrs Keay
Science Masterclass	Years 10-11	Monday (Week B - Priority)	3:15-4pm	3.11	Mrs Wilson
Science Drop In	Years 10-11	Monday (Week A only)	Lunch	3.11	Mrs Wilson
Sport	Years 10-11	Tuesday	Lunch	1.5	Miss Kaminskis / Mr Griffiths
Health & Social Care	Years 10-11	Tuesday	Lunch	1.5	Mrs Fennimore
Child Development	Years 10-11	Tuesday	Lunch	1.5	Mrs Berrisford
Geography	Year 11	Wednesday (Week B - Priority)	3:05-4:05pm	2.4	Miss Sharrock
History	Year 11	Wednesday	3:05-4:05pm	3.2	History Teaching Staff
RE	Year 11 Short Course	Wednesday	Lunch and 3:05-4:05pm	2.8	Mr Barber
Engineering design (R039 retake)	Years 10-11	Wednesday & Thursday	Lunch and 3:05-4:05pm	1.5	Mr Hinchliffe
English	Year 11	Thursday (Week B only)	Lunch	2.13	Mrs Perry
Sport	Years 10-11	Thursday	3:05-4:05pm	1.6	Mr Worthington / Miss Kaminskis
Health & Social Care	Years 10-11	Thursday	3:05-4:05pm	1.6	Mrs Fennimore
Hospitality & Catering	Years 10-11	Thursday	3:05-4:05pm	1.7	Mrs Bolton
Music	Year 11	Thursday	3:05-4:05pm	3.7	Mr Austerberry
Spanish	Year 11	Thursday	3:05-4:05pm	1.4	Mrs Davis
Computer Science	Year 11	Thursday	Lunch	3.14	Mrs Kirk
Enterprise Coursework	Year 11	Thursday (Week B only)	3:05-4pm	3.14	Mrs Kirk
Art Coursework	Years 10-11	Thursday & Friday	3:15-4pm	3.5 and 3.6	Miss Pattison / Miss Stevens

Sports Enrichment Timetable

Club	Year Group	Day	Time	Location	Teacher
Football	KS4	Monday	Lunch	Astro	Mr Griffiths
Girls Football	Whole School	Monday	3:05-4:05pm	Sports Hall / Astro	Miss Kaminskis
Netball	Whole School	Wednesday	3:05-4:05pm	Sports Hall	Mrs Berrisford
Boys Football	Years 9-11	Wednesday	3:05-4:05pm	Astro	Mr Griffiths
Boxing	KS4	Thursday	Lunch	Dance Studio	Mr Furnival
Basketball	Whole School	Friday	3:05-4:05pm	Sports Hall	Mr Kolita

Other Enrichment Clubs Timetable

Club	Year Group	Day	Time	Location	Teacher
Homework Club	Years 9-11	Monday / Thursday / Tuesday / Friday	Monday & Thursday lunch time; Tuesday & Friday 3:05-4pm	Library	Mrs Little
India Trip Drop In	Trip Students	Monday	3:05-4pm	2.5	Mrs Danks
Warhammer	Whole School	Monday	Lunch	1.6	Mr Collis
The Musical Drama Group	Whole School	Monday	3:05-4pm	Drama Studio	Miss Richardson
Homework Club	Years 9-11	Tuesday	3:05-4pm	Library	Mrs Little
Duke of Edinburgh	Whole School	Tuesday	3:05-4:05pm	Canteen	Mr Butcher
Choir	Whole School	Wednesday	3:05-4:05pm	3.7	Mr Austerberry
School Diversity Club	Whole School	Wednesday	Lunch	2.5	Mrs Danks
Mindfulness Colouring	Whole School	Wednesday	Lunch	1.4	Mrs Davis
Board Games	Whole School	Friday	Lunch	2.17	Mr Haworth
Creative Writing	Whole School	Friday	Lunch	2.12	Mr Asplin
Humanities Games & Support Club	Whole School	Friday	3:05-4pm	2.5	Mrs Danks

Mrs Danks

RSHE



small notes. Big impact.

We're celebrating NSPCC Kindness Week at The King's with our Kindness Post Box, located outside 2.5!

Students can write a kind message to someone in our school community, whether it's a thank you, a compliment or a few words of encouragement. Add the recipient's full name and year group, then pop it in the box ready for delivery. You don't have to include your own name.

Kindness notes are available from form tutors, Mrs Danks or the post box. Students are also welcome to make their own cards and slips to be delivered!

Parents and carers, we'd love you to join in too! Why not help your child create a thoughtful message, or write your own thank you to a member of our school community and send it in with your child?

A small message can make a big difference. Let's spread some kindness! 🍀

Home-School Links

SOCIAL MEDIA

As a parent of a teenage daughter, I know much time children can spend on their phones .

Social media and the internet can be a scary place! here are a few tips on how to keep your child safe



TikTok Safety Setup Checklist



🔒 Privacy

- ☐ Go to Profile → ☰ (Menu) → Settings and privacy → Privacy
- ☐ Turn on **Private account** (optional, for full control).
- ☐ Set **Comments** → *Friends* or *No one*.
- ☐ Set **Duet & Stitch** → *Friends* or *Only me*.
- ☐ Set **Mentions & Tags** → *Friends* or *No one*.
- ☐ Set **Direct messages** → *Friends* or *No one*.

🗣️ Live Safety

- ☐ Before going live → Settings → Live safety
- ☐ Enable **Keyword filter** for comments.
- ☐ Add **Moderators** to your live.
- ☐ Control **who can comment/gift**.

🚫 Restricted Mode

- ☐ Go to Settings and privacy → Content preferences
- ☐ Enable **Restricted Mode** → enter passcode.

🛡️ Reporting & Blocking

- ☐ On unwanted videos → Share → Report.
- ☐ On harmful users → Profile → ... (3 dots) → Block.

🕒 Screen Time & Family Pairing

- ☐ Go to Settings and privacy → Screen time
- ☐ Enable **Daily screen time limit** (e.g., 1h/day).
- ☐ Enable **Screen time breaks** (reminders to pause).
- ☐ (For parents) Set up **Family Pairing** to supervise teen accounts.



Instagram Safety Setup Checklist



🔒 1. Privacy Settings

1. Go to your Profile → ☰ (menu) → Settings and privacy.
2. Adjust these options:
 1. **Private account** → Only approved followers can see your posts and stories.
 2. **Comments** → Block comments from specific users, or filter offensive words.
 3. **Tags & Mentions** → Choose *Everyone*, *People you follow*, or *No one*.
 4. **Story controls** → Hide stories from certain people or allow close friends only.
 5. **Message controls** → Limit who can DM you (*Followers you follow back*, *No one*, etc.).

🕒 2. Time & Usage Management

1. Go to Settings and privacy → Time spent.
2. You can:
 1. Set **daily time limits** (e.g., 1 hour/day).
 2. Set **reminders to take breaks** while scrolling.
 3. View **daily average use** to monitor your habits.

🚫 3. Sensitive & Restricted Content

1. In Settings and privacy → Content preferences:
 1. **Sensitive Content Control** → Choose *Less* to filter out potentially harmful content.
2. You can also **mute or restrict accounts**:
 1. **Restrict** → Their comments/DMs are hidden until you approve.
 2. **Block** → They can't find or interact with you.

🛡️ 4. Reporting & Blocking

- To **Report a post/account**: Tap ⋮ (three dots) → Report → select reason.
- To **Block someone**: Go to their profile → ⋮ → Block.

🗣️ 5. Live Safety (if you go live)

- Before going live → tap ⋮ → Live settings.
 - Turn on **Comment filters** (hide offensive comments automatically).
 - Assign **Moderators** to manage your chat.
 - Control **who can comment** (Everyone, Followers, or No one).

SOCIAL MEDIA



YouTube Safety Setup Checklist



🔒 1. Privacy & Account Settings

1. Go to your YouTube app or desktop → profile picture → Settings.

2. Under **Privacy**:

1. Turn on **Keep all my subscriptions private**.
2. Turn on **Keep all my saved playlists private**.
3. Turn off **Ads personalization** (optional, under Google Account → Data & privacy).

🚫 2. Restricted Mode (Filter Content)

• **On desktop**: Scroll to the bottom of any YouTube page → toggle **Restricted Mode** on.

• **On mobile**:

- Tap **profile picture** → **Settings** → **General**.
- Turn on **Restricted Mode** → filters out potentially mature content.

🕒 3. Screen Time & Digital Wellbeing

1. In the YouTube app → profile picture → **Time watched**.

2. Options:

1. **Remind me to take a break** → set reminders.
2. **Remind me when it's bedtime** → pause watching late at night.
3. View **daily average watch time**.

👤 4. Parental Controls & Supervision

• **YouTube Kids app** → best for children under 13 (age-appropriate content).

• **Supervised accounts** (for teens) → Parents can set:

- Content setting (*Explore, Explore More, or Most of YouTube*).
- Time limits (via Google Family Link).
- Review search & watch history.

💡 5. Comment & Interaction Controls

• **On your videos**:

- Go to **YouTube Studio** → **Settings** → **Community**.
- Choose who can **comment** (hold potentially inappropriate comments for review).

• **As a viewer**:

- Block or report abusive commenters → tap **⋮** next to **comment** → **Report**.
- Mute notifications for unwanted interactions.



Snapchat Safety Setup Checklist



🔒 1. Privacy & Account Controls

1. Open Snapchat → tap your **Bitmoji/profile icon** (top left).

2. Tap the **Settings (gear)** in the top right.

3. Adjust these under **Privacy Controls**:

1. **Contact Me** → choose *My Friends* (so only friends can message/call you).
2. **Send Me Notifications** → limit to *Friends*.
3. **View My Story** → set to *Friends* or *Custom* (exclude people).
4. **See My Location** → enable **Ghost Mode** (so no one sees you) or share only with trusted friends.
5. **See Me in Quick Add** → toggle off if you don't want strangers adding you.

🕒 2. Screen Time & Family Centre

• **In Settings** → **Family Centre**:

- Parents/guardians can **link their account** with a teen's account.
- Allows monitoring of friends list and who they're chatting with (not messages).

• **Screen Time limits** can be managed via device settings (iOS Screen Time / Android Digital Wellbeing), since Snapchat doesn't have built-in timers.

🚫 3. Content Controls

• **Manage Friends** → remove or block anyone you don't want.

• **Report inappropriate Snaps or Stories** → press and hold the Snap → **Report**.

• **Friend Emojis & Subscriptions** → adjust to control your feed experience.

💡 4. Safety While Chatting

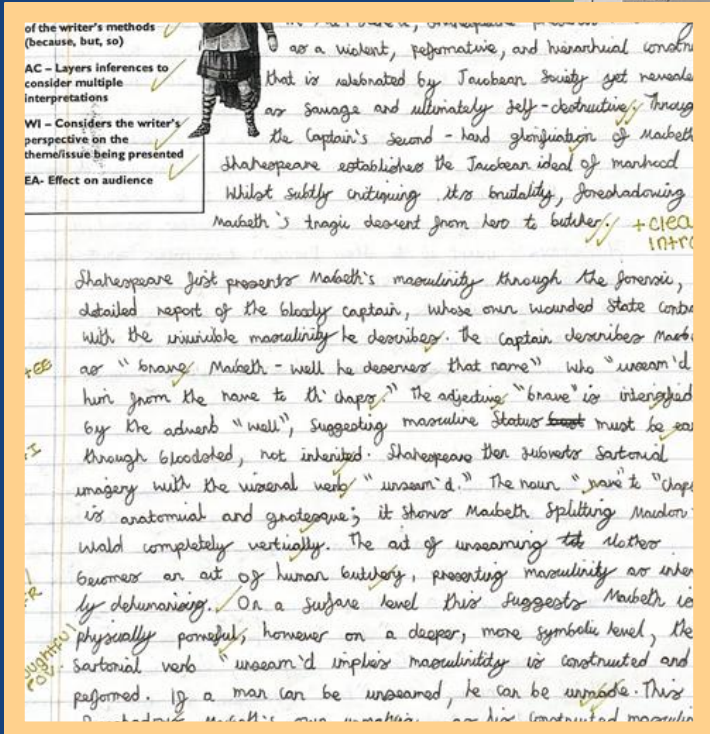
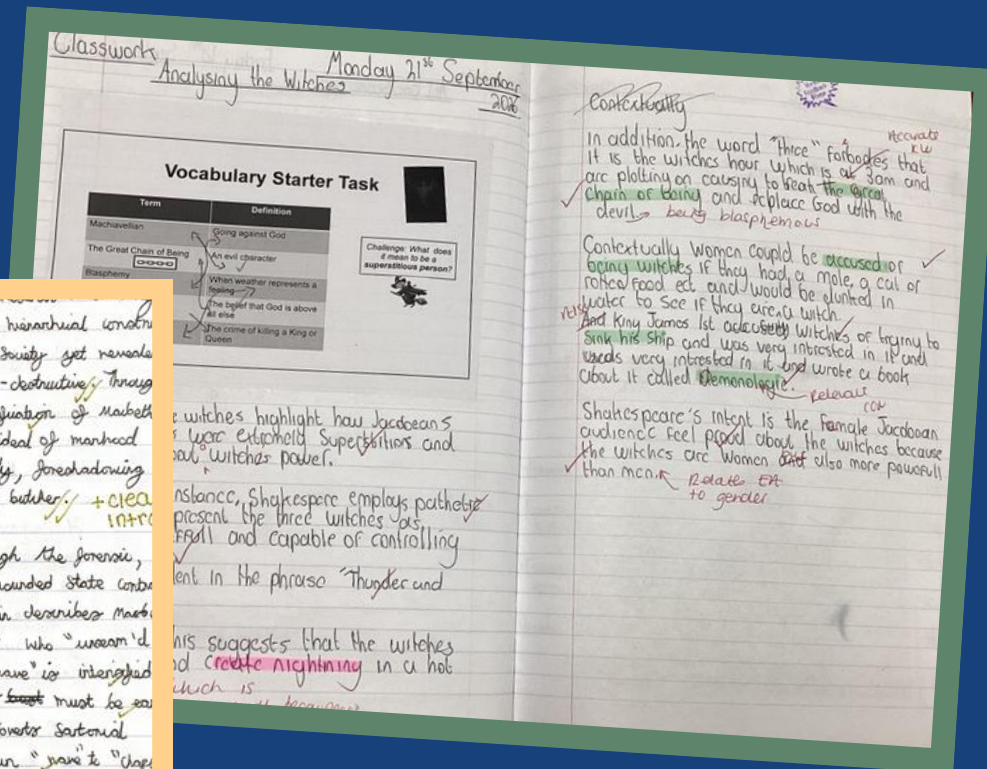
• **Disappearing messages** → Chats delete by default after viewing. You can also:

- Tap on a friend's name → **Chat Settings** → choose *Delete after viewing* or *Delete after 24 hours*.

• **Block or restrict users** → tap friend's profile → **⋮** → **Block** or **Remove Friend**.



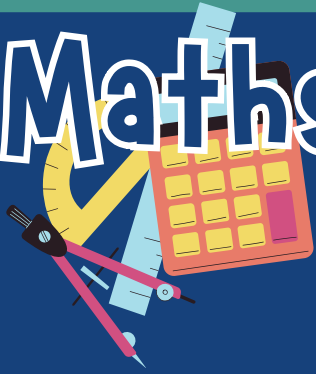
In preparation for their final year, Year 11 have begun their final play study, Macbeth, alongside completing their Spoken Language assessment. We have had topics ranging from the educational benefits of Minecraft to the notion of perfection!



Students are expected to have a comprehensive understanding of the entire play, and be able to link to key quotes, from memory? Flashcards & audiobook versions are a great way to revise!

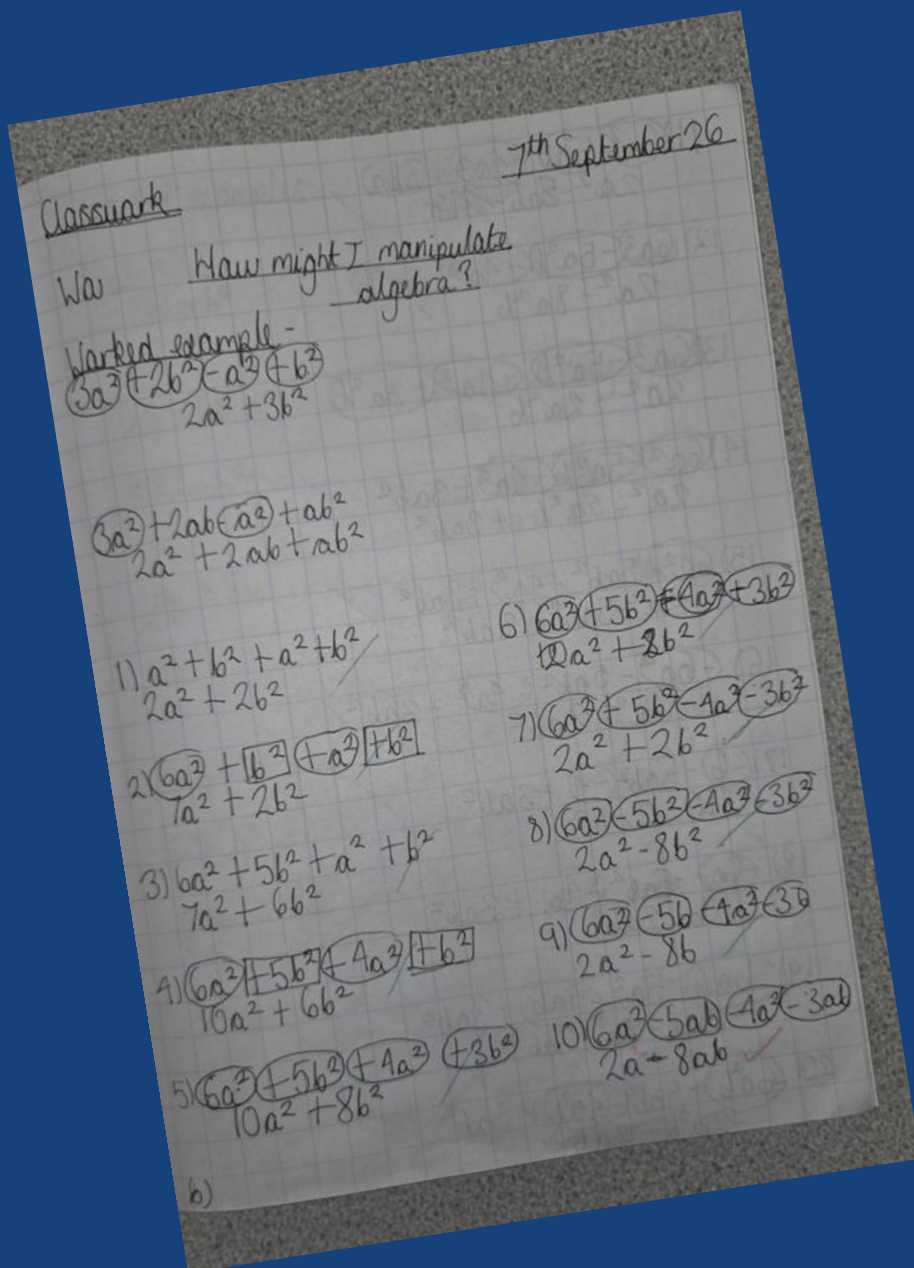
Mr Purle

Maths



For parents and carers who have ordered CGP revision guides, we are now placing the order with CGP and hope to distribute the guides to pupils before the October half-term.

We have been really impressed by the positive start pupils have made in Maths since returning from the summer break, particularly the pride they are taking in their work. It has been lovely to see their enthusiasm, careful presentation and willingness to tackle new challenges. We look forward to seeing them build on this promising start as they continue to develop their confidence and mathematical skills throughout the year.



Mrs Wilson

Science

Reminder
for KS4
parents
Revision
Guides are
available on
school shop
until 31st
October



Key Stage 3 students are exploring insulation to prevent heat loss, focusing on conduction, convection, and radiation. They test materials like wool and foam for their insulating properties. Through practical activities, they learn how insulation works and its role in energy efficiency.



Educake
Science

1,013 questions in total have been answered independently already this term.
Well done, The King's!

Rank	Student	Questions Answered
1 st	Elsie E. Y7	225 questions
2 nd	Alfie C. Y9	208 questions
3 rd	Ryan T. Y7	99 questions

We are so proud of
all of our
independent
learners!



Computer Science



Our students attended the Digital Skills and AI Event at Molineux Stadium, where they had the opportunity to develop their knowledge of AI, Microsoft tools and LinkedIn, building valuable skills for further study and the workplace.

They also met directly with employers from across the West Midlands to learn about current vacancies, career pathways and the skills employers are looking for. These conversations helped bring career opportunities to life and encouraged students to think about their own interests and ambitions. The event provided a supportive space to ask questions, explore real jobs and consider their next steps. It was a valuable opportunity to build confidence, broaden aspirations and prepare for the future.

Drama

Students have been developing their performance skills in Drama, exploring how voice, movement and facial expressions help bring characters to life. Through improvisation and group activities, they have been sharing ideas, creating scenes and building their confidence when performing in front of others.

Students have also been practising teamwork, listening to different perspectives and offering constructive feedback to their peers. These activities help develop creativity and communication skills while encouraging everyone to take part and express themselves.



Mr Austerberry Music



KS3 are hard at work creating compositions; yr7 are creating graphic scores on a weather theme using body percussion. Yr8 are writing music to accompany a scary story. Yr9 are starting to write music to accompany a movie trailer.

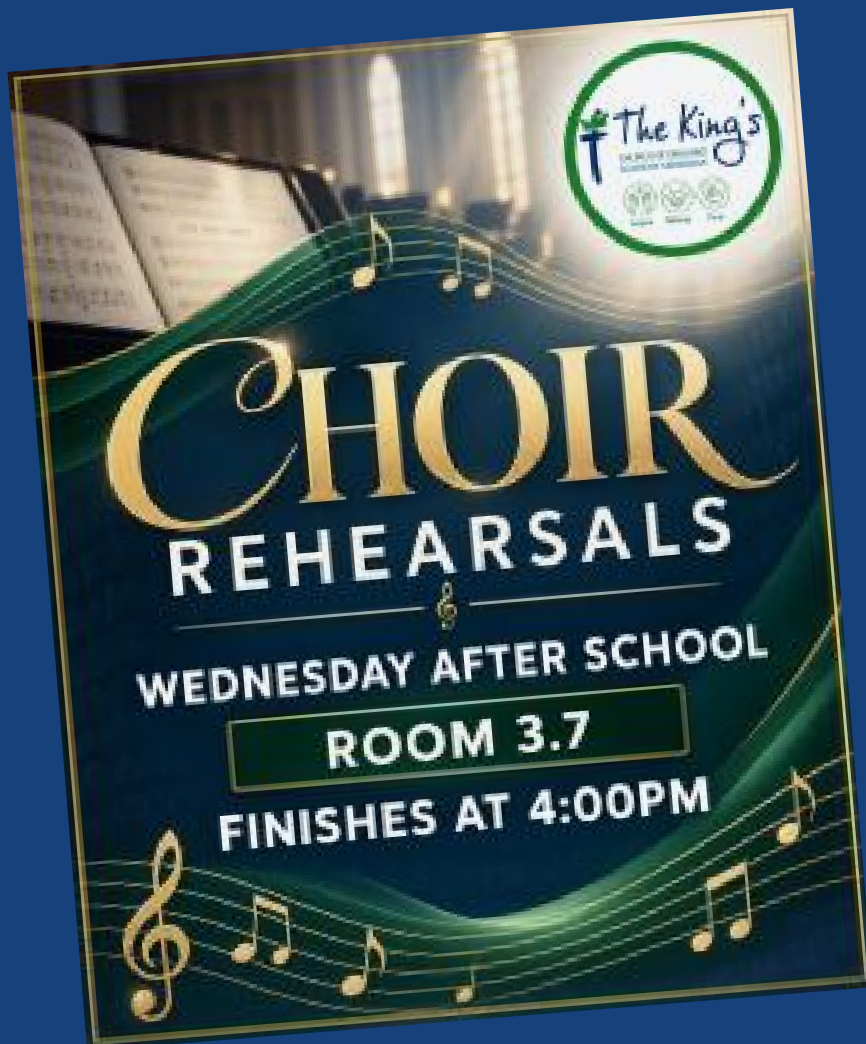
KS4

Yr10 are starting to work on their musical knowledge and finding out what they need in order to be prepared for their appraising part of the course (written exam)

yr11 are prepping compositions and performances and revisiting past musical knowledge.

A big reminder to join the school choir! offers wide-ranging benefits for mental, physical, and social well-being, enhancing mood, cognitive function, and community connection

We will always welcome new pupils or pupils that stopped but want to rejoin!!



• LIFE •
is
better
WITH
MUSIC

Miss Pattinson

Art



Students have been applying their knowledge of colour, shade and tone to develop their artwork. They have been exploring how light and dark create depth and dimension, using shading techniques and carefully considered colour choices to bring their ideas to life.

Through blending colours, building layers of tone and experimenting with contrast, students have been learning how small changes can create different effects. They have also been paying close attention to shape, texture and detail, developing their observational skills alongside their practical techniques.

Taking time to review and refine their work has encouraged students to make thoughtful creative decisions, build confidence and take pride in their progress.

Humanities



Humanities Out and About: Geography and History Field Trips

It has been a busy half-term for Humanities, with students taking their learning beyond the classroom through a range of exciting Geography and History field trips.

Year 9 Geography students have been exploring carbon capture in our local area, carrying out fieldwork linked to their current investigation. Students used a range of fieldwork techniques to collect data and consider how land use connects to wider global issues, including the challenge of climate change.

Year 10 Geography students travelled to Carding Mill Valley to complete fieldwork for their GCSE River Investigation. They investigated how river characteristics change downstream, collecting first-hand data to explore the processes shaping the river environment.

Meanwhile, Year 11 History students visited Quarry Bank Mill as part of their GCSE History studies. The visit provided an opportunity to explore the significance of the site and consider the key historical changes that took place there, bringing their classroom learning to life through first-hand experience.

These experiences allow students to develop important fieldwork and historical enquiry skills while seeing how the subjects they study connect to the world around them.

Look out for our next newsletter for more updates on our next out-of-class experiences!



Miss Kaminskas

Wellbeing



KS3 Physical Education

KS3 students have made a fantastic start in PE, showing enthusiasm and engagement across Practical ABCs, Volleyball, Football, Korfbal and Tag Rugby. They are developing their skills, coordination and confidence, while strengthening their teamwork and communication. It has been great to see students applying their learning in competitive situations, making thoughtful decisions and demonstrating positive sportsmanship.



Basketball Club



On Friday, Mr Kolita launched the first basketball club of the year, with a fantastic turnout from students across all year groups. Students enjoyed developing their skills, putting these into practice in games while building teamwork and confidence. New participants are always welcome, whether you are a beginner or an experienced player. Join us every Friday from 3:05–4:05pm in the sports hall!



Careers appointments have commenced again, giving students valuable opportunities to discuss their interests, explore future pathways and receive guidance on their next steps. We encourage students to make the most of these appointments, ask questions and consider the options available to them.

We have also been pleased to welcome staff from local colleges and sixth forms to speak with Year 11 about life after GCSEs. These sessions help students learn more about courses, entry requirements and different routes into further education, training and employment, supporting them to make informed and confident choices about their future.





Local College and Sixth Form Open Events 2026/27

Open events are a great opportunity to explore courses, meet staff, view facilities and ask questions about your next steps after Year 11.

Newcastle College (NSCG)

Thursday 8 October 2026: 5.30–8pm

Wednesday 11 November 2026: 5.30–8pm

Saturday 23 January 2027: 9am–12pm

Saturday 24 April 2027: 9am–12pm

Stoke-on-Trent College

Wednesday 14 October 2026: 5–8pm

Wednesday 18 November 2026: 5–8pm

Wednesday 10 February 2027: 5–8pm

Saturday 8 May 2027: 10am–1pm

City of Stoke-on-Trent Sixth Form College

Wednesday 7 October 2026: 5–7pm

Tuesday 17 November 2026: 5–7pm

Thursday 8 July 2027: 5–7pm

Reaseheath College

Saturday 17 October 2026

Saturday 28 November 2026

Saturday 30 January 2027

Saturday 20 March 2027

Saturday 24 April 2027

Saturday 12 June 2027

Start times: 9am or 10am. Please check your booking for details.

Cheshire College – South & West, Crewe Campus

Tuesday 6 October 2026: 5.30–8pm

Martec

Wednesday 21 October 2026: 3.30–6pm

Alsager Sixth Form

Thursday 8 October 2026: 5–7.30pm

The King's Church of England Academy Sixth Form

Thursday 11 February 2027: time to be confirmed

Mrs Goldstraw

2027 New Starters



It was incredible to welcome so many prospective Year 6 students and their families to The King's for our Open Evening!

There was a wonderful sense of excitement throughout the evening, and we were delighted to hear such positive feedback from families exploring our academy, meeting our staff and students, and discovering what their next chapter could look like.

Applications for September 2027 are open, with a deadline of 31 October 2026. We very much hope to welcome your child into our academy community!

If you have any further questions, need support or would like to arrange a tour, please contact us via our enquiries email. We will be happy to help.



Mrs Goldstraw

Year 7



And there we have it, the first attendance challenge for Free Footwear Friday and Year 7 beat everyone! Huge congratulations to them all with an attendance of 94.9%

A particular shout out to 7-DHI for having the best attendance in the year group too - well done everyone!

Next week, 15th October 4pm until 6pm, is the Year 7 Settling in Parents' Evening, which provides parents/carers with the opportunity to speak to their child's form tutor about how the first half term has gone

After October half term, Year 7 will be placed into sets based on their English and Maths baselines. Timetables will be shared with students before the half term break



Mr Barber

Year 8



Now five weeks into the term, Year 8 have settled into their routines, and there is already so much to celebrate. It has been lovely to see pupils working hard, contributing to lessons and showing kindness towards one another. Their efforts and achievements deserve recognition, and we look forward to celebrating many more successes as the term continues.

Attendance remains a key focus. Being in school every day helps pupils build their confidence, maintain friendships and keep pace with their learning. Thank you to parents and carers for supporting regular attendance and punctuality. If your child is experiencing difficulties attending school, please contact us so we can work together to offer support.



Miss Stanyer

Year 9



- We are so proud of the hard work Year 9 pupils consistently demonstrate in lessons. It has been wonderful to hear such positive feedback from staff about their attitude, effort and work ethic.
- The competition is on to win Free Footwear Friday! We know how competitive Year 9 can be, so let's work together and show fantastic teamwork to secure that top spot.
- Well done to the pupils who enjoyed the rewards trip to Alton Towers last week. It was lovely to see so many Year 9 pupils recognised for their efforts and achievements.
- A big thank you to everyone who took part in last week's litter pick. Every contribution makes a difference and shows how much we care for our school community.



Mrs Kirk

Year 10



I am incredibly proud of the students who have been sharing their revision with me and attending the exam clinic. It is encouraging to see them putting such positive effort into their studies already and taking responsibility for their exam preparation.

I love celebrating our students' hard work and talents. From beautiful singing and well-deserved postcards recognising achievement to thoughtfully created revision resources, there is so much to be proud of.

During form time, we have explored retrieval practice and how it can support effective revision. Simply rereading notes is not enough: students need to challenge themselves to recall information without looking, through quizzes, practice questions or explaining what they know. Finding this challenging is a valuable part of learning and helps strengthen their memory.

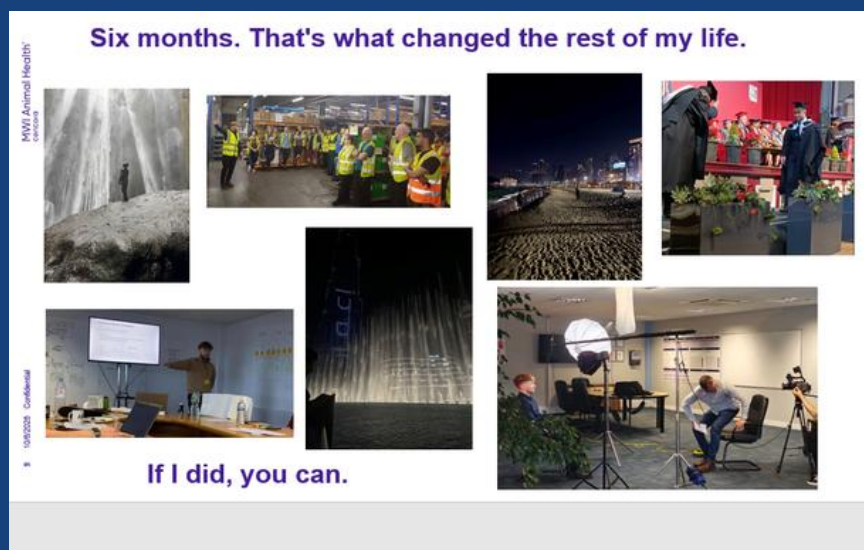
Parents and carers, please take a look through your child's folders to see the resources they have been gathering for their exams. Showing an interest, celebrating their efforts and offering to test them on a topic can make a real difference.





We were delighted to welcome former pupil Josh Farrall Jones back to The King's to share his journey since leaving school. Josh spoke about his experiences and the powerful message that it is never too late to turn things around.

His visit encouraged pupils to reflect on their choices, learn from setbacks and recognise that positive changes today can open up opportunities for the future. Thank you, Josh, for sharing your story and reminding our young people that their past does not have to define their next chapter.



67

**school days
Until January
exams!**

139

**school days
Until Summer
exams!**

Mrs Finnemore

Sixth Form



Last week, we were delighted to welcome representatives from the Department for Education (DfE) to the Fifth on Fourth Bistro, where they met our Sixth Form students and saw first-hand the skills they are developing in catering and hospitality.

It was a pleasure to showcase the talents of students on our technical courses, from preparing and serving food to working as a team and delivering excellent customer service. We are incredibly proud of the hard work, confidence and professionalism they demonstrated throughout the visit.

Thank you to the DfE representatives for taking the time to meet our students and learn more about how our technical pathways support their ambitions and prepare them for future careers.



Sixth Form

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October 2026

- Friday 23rd October 2026: INSET Day

November 2026

- Monday 2nd November 2026: INSET Day
- Tuesday 3rd November 2026 (AM): English Language Paper 1
- Wednesday 4th November 2026 (AM): Maths Paper 1 (Non-Calculator)
- Thursday 5th November 2026 (AM): English Language Paper 2
- Friday 6th November 2026 (AM): Maths Paper 2 (Calculator)
- Monday 9th November 2026 (AM): Maths Paper 3 (Calculator) / Mock Week
- Tuesday 24th November 2026: Sixth Form Trip

December 2026

- Friday 4th December 2026: INSET Day
- Friday 11th December 2026: UCAS Personal Statement Deadline

January 2027

- Wednesday 6th January 2027 (AM): Unit 4 - Research in HSC Exam (Year 13)
- Friday 8th January 2027 (AM): Unit 3 - A&P in Sport (Year 13)
- Friday 8th January 2027 (PM): Unit 1 - Human Lifespan Development Exam (Year 12)
- Monday 11th January 2027 (AM): Unit 2 - Working in HSC Exam (Year 13) / Unit 22 - Investigating Business in Sport (Year 13)
- Wednesday 13th January 2027: UCAS Deadline (6pm)
- Thursday 14th January 2027 (AM): Unit 3 - A&P for HSC (Year 12) / Unit 19 - Development and Provision of Sport (Year 13)





w/c 05/10/26



Note: For information on allergens, please consult the sheet in your menu folder at the back.
If you have any questions, please ask a member of staff.

The restaurant is open for lunch on Thursday and Friday this week.

STARTERS (£2.95)

Soup of the day (v, gf)

Breaded mushrooms (ccg, v)

Served with garlic mayonnaise and salad

(Both starters are served with a warm bread roll)

MAIN COURSES (£6.50)

Roasted chicken breast (gf)

Served with a creamy tarragon sauce with a selection of vegetables and potatoes (mk)

Hand battered fish and chips (ccg, fh)

Served with mushy peas and tartar sauce

Quorn savoury mince (ccg, v, mk)

Served with Yorkshire pudding and a selection of vegetables and potatoes

DESSERTS (£2.95)

Lemon Cheesecake (v, ccg, mk)

Served with Pouring cream

Caramelised Bananas (v, mk)

Served with ice-cream

Allergy abbreviations: CLY- Celery, CCG- Cereals containing gluten, CSN- Crustaceans, EG- Egg, FH- Fish, LN- Lupin, MK- Milk, MLS- Molluscs, MSD- Mustard, NS- Nuts, PNTS- Peanuts, SMSS- Sesame seeds, SYA- Soya, SDE- Sulphur dioxide, GF- Gluten free. Other Codes: V- Vegetarian, VN- Vegan

TO MAKE A RESERVATION

Send an email to fifthonfourth@thekingsofacademy.org

Call on

01782 794064

Reservations should be made at least 24 hours in advance.



Review us on
TripAdvisor

This menu is also available as a takeaway. Prices will be Starter: £2.95 Main: £5.95 Dessert: £2.95.
Please advise on booking if you would like your meals hot or cold. Served between 11.30 – 14.00.