



Aspire



Belong



Care

28th August 2026

Issue #1

A message from our Principal, Mrs Postlethwaite...

I'm really looking forward to welcoming students back to school on Wednesday and beginning another exciting year together.

There is so much to look forward to, and I'm excited to see our students back in classrooms, reconnecting with friends and teachers and ready for all that the year ahead will bring.

Over the next few days, please help us by making sure your child is ready for Wednesday with the correct uniform, shoes, bag and all the equipment they need. Starting well really does make a difference.

Enjoy the last few days of the summer break. We can't wait to welcome everyone back and get the new school year underway!

- 1 September- INSET (Staff only)
- 2 September- All Students return to school
- 11 September- Y7 Play in a week final show
- 16 September- Alton Towers rewards trip
- 21 September- Y7 Baseline testing week
- 22 September- Y11 Speaking & Listening day
- 25 September- Y10 Cardin Mill trip
- 8 October- Y11 Quarry Bank Mill trip
- 15 October- Y11 Shrewsbury trip
- 21 October- Y8 Trade Game
- 23 October- INSET (Staff only)
- 26-30 October- Half Term
- 2 November- INSET (Staff only)



FIRST DAY BACK STARTING TIMES

Wednesday 2nd September

- Year 7 - 8.25am
- Year 8 - 8.30am
- Year 9 - 9.05am
- Year 10 - 9.05am
- Year 11 - 9.05am
- Year 12 - 9.00am
- Year 13- 9.45am



We look forward to welcoming all students back to school for the new academic year.

To help ensure a smooth and settled start to the new academic year, students will have staggered start times in September for the first day back only.

On arrival, students will be greeted by their Head of Year before making their way to their form groups, where staff will be ready to welcome them back and help everyone settle into the new term.

We're really looking forward to seeing you all again and starting another fantastic year together!

Important notice

Important Allergy and Medication Reminder

A polite reminder that we are a nut-free school due to members of our school community having severe allergies. Please do not bring nuts or products containing nuts onto the school site.

We also have members of staff and students who are at risk of anaphylaxis from ibuprofen. We therefore ask that ibuprofen products, including tablets, gels and creams, are not brought into or used within school.

Any prescribed ibuprofen tablets must be handed directly to Reception and stored securely, in line with our procedures for all medication.

Ibuprofen gels and creams should be applied at home. If they need to be applied during the school day, please contact our Care Coordinator, Mrs Massey, so that an appropriate plan can be agreed.

Thank you for helping us support those who require these products while also protecting members of our school community with severe allergies.

Returning to School

Back to School: It's Okay to Feel Nervous

Starting a new school year can feel exciting, but it can also feel a little scary. Whether you are returning after the summer or starting high school for the first time, it is completely normal to feel nervous. New teachers, new classrooms, new routines and new people can take time to get used to. You do not need to know everything straight away.

Top Tips for a Positive Start

Get organised the night before – pack your bag, check your timetable and make sure you have everything you need.

Give yourself plenty of time – rushing in the morning can make you feel more stressed.

Ask for help – if you are lost, unsure or worried, speak to a member of staff.

Take one day at a time – focus on your first lesson, then your first day, then your first week.

Talk to someone – if something is worrying you, tell a parent, carer, teacher or another trusted adult.

Be kind to yourself – settling back into school can take time, and that is okay.

Remember others may feel nervous too – a smile or a simple hello can help you and someone else feel more comfortable.

Before long, the things that feel new or unfamiliar will start to become part of your normal routine.

You've got this – and there are always people in school who are here to help.

Attendance

Attendance Matters – A Strong Start to the New School Year

As we begin a new term, we want to remind all parents, carers and students of the importance of excellent attendance. Being in school every day, on time, sets students up for success, supports their wellbeing, and ensures they do not miss vital learning that builds week by week.

Morning Arrival Expectations

Our doors open at 8:25am. All students are expected to be in school by 8:33am, seated in form time and ready for a prompt 8:35am start.

From September, any student arriving after 8:33am will receive a detention. This ensures consistency, fairness, and a calm, punctual start to the day for everyone.

Why Attendance Above 97% Is Essential

We expect all students to aim for 97% attendance or higher. This is the national benchmark for good attendance and is directly linked to strong academic progress.

When attendance drops, even slightly, the impact is significant:

At 95% attendance, a student has already missed nearly two weeks of learning across the year.

At 90% attendance, they have missed almost four weeks – the equivalent of a full month of lessons.

Students with attendance above 97% achieve higher grades, show better social confidence, and maintain stronger routines that support long-term success.

Put simply: every day counts, and high attendance is one of the strongest predictors of positive outcomes in school.

We Are Here to Support

We understand that some families may face challenges with morning routines, health, transport or other barriers. Our attendance team is here to help. If you need support, guidance or advice, please get in touch with us. Working together ensures your child has the best possible chance to thrive.

Let's make this year one of strong attendance, positive habits and great achievements for every student.

Attendance

Key contacts

Attendance Officer

Mrs Beswick-Pepper

sbeswick-pepper@thekingscofeacademy.org

Home School Link Support

Mrs Thorne

NThorne@thekingscofeacademy.org

Sixth Form Attendance

Mrs Harnett

jharnett@thekingscofeacademy.org

BAND 1 100-95% ATTENDANCE	EXCELLENT
BAND 2 95-90% ATTENDANCE	CONCERN
BAND 3 90-85% ATTENDANCE	SERIOUS CONCERN
BAND 4 85-80% ATTENDANCE	SEVERE CONCERN
BAND 5 80-75% ATTENDANCE	
BAND 6 75-50% ATTENDANCE	

Mobile Phones in School – Important Update

The Department for Education expects schools to provide a mobile phone-free environment to reduce distractions and support positive behaviour, wellbeing and learning.

At The King's, our expectation remains simple: Off, Away, Always

Mobile phones must be switched off and put away before the school day begins and must not be visible or accessible during the school day.

What happens if a phone is seen?

- If a mobile phone is seen, whether it is being used or not, it will be confiscated.
- The phone will be securely stored at Reception.
- Parents or carers will be required to collect the phone from Reception.

This approach ensures our expectations are clear and consistent and helps us maintain a calm, focused and distraction-free environment. We ask parents and carers to support us by discussing these expectations with their child and reinforcing our Off, Away, Always approach.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to help all students Aspire, Belong and Care.

At The King's, we pride ourselves on the high standards of our school uniform. We ask that all students arrive each day wearing the correct uniform, smartly and appropriately, at all times.

Our uniform is an important part of our school identity and reflects the pride we have in being part of The King's community.

Thank you to all of our parents and carers for your continued support in helping us maintain these high standards as we prepare for September.

Piercings and hair colour/ style

Please remember that from September, piercings will no longer be able to be covered with tape. Other than one stud in each ear, all other piercings need to be removed or replaced with a clear retainer. No hoops are permitted. We will no longer provide clear studs to students, it is their responsibility to ensure these are purchased in advance of September.

Please ensure that hair colour is back to a natural colour and that any holiday embellishments such as feather, gems, glitter and coloured braids are removed.



Uniform Check List

Blazer	Black Blazer with embroidered The King's logo
White Shirt	Plain white long or short sleeved with a stiffened collar, top button and capable of taking a tie.
V Neck School jumper (optional)	Plain grey v neck school jumper.
Tie	Green and blue striped tie. Plain green for Year 11 leaders.
Trousers	Tailored, black with waistband and zip. The trousers must be of normal length, without decorations. Tight fitting, low cut, jeans, tracksuit bottoms, leggings and flares are not permitted.
Skirt	The King's Tartan Pleated Skirt. Knee Length.
Socks/Tights	40 denier minimum black tights or black ankle socks.
Shoes	Black low heeled shoes, enclosed at the heel and toe. No boots, trainers, canvas pumps or logos.
Outdoor Coat	Students may wear outdoor coat over their blazer during cold or wet weather. Coats must be removed once inside school buildings. None uniform sweatshirts and hoodies are not permitted and must not be worn on the school site.
School Bag	Waterproof and of an appropriate shape and size to carry A4 books.
Religious Headwear	If required for religious purposes, religious headwear must be plain black with no pattern.
Hair	Hair should be of natural colour and no lines or extreme styles are permitted
Jewellery	One plain stud in each ear and one watch is permitted. Hoops, dangly earrings, tunnels, stretchers, rings, necklaces, and bracelets are not allowed to be worn. Nose studs will need to be replaced with a clear retainer. Only school issued badges are to be worn on the blazer.
Nails and Make up	Any makeup and false tan should be subtle. False eyelashes, false/ acrylic nails and coloured nail varnish is not permitted.

Uniform

	Girls	Boys
B l a z e r & t i e	 	 
T r o u s e r s / s k i r t	 	
S h i r t	 	 

Shoes

Item	Girls	Boys
Shoes permitted Must be all black including Nike tick, addidas stripes, vans logos, lacoste logos. Examples accepted are: Nike Airforce 1 Nike Court Low Nike Vision Low Adidas Superstar Adidas Coaststar Vans all black shoe Lacoste all black shoe	       	       
Shoes not permitted	    	

PE Uniform Update

smart school uniform

The King's CE Academy

You can now purchase your new The King's CE Academy P.E kit, from

smart school uniform

Shop at Unit 2,
Highgate Trade Park,
Tunstall ST6 4JZ

Did you know?
You can pop in store to 'try before you buy'!



NEW PE Kit

¼ Zip Top = from £22.00
Sports Top = £15.00

Opening Times:
Monday- Friday 9am-5pm
Saturday 10am-4pm
Sunday opening:
Starting from 19th July - 30th August 2021

**WALK IN for friendly helpful service
or Shop online:**
www.smartuniform.co.uk
choose
Free Click and Collect
or next day delivery

If you have a question please email us on
shop@smartuniform.co.uk or Text us: 07300804840
Please note: the phone is staffed when we are not dealing with online orders,
online enquiries or shop customers

Come visit our store! Or make an appointment at-
shop@smartuniform.co.uk



New PE Top Update

We are pleased to share that a newly designed PE top has been introduced following student feedback. Students told us that the current polo shirts can feel uncomfortable due to the collar, so the new design offers a more comfortable alternative.

Please note that families do not need to purchase the new PE top immediately. These should only be bought when your child's current PE kit needs replacing. The existing PE kit remains acceptable and can continue to be worn until it is ready to be replaced.

PE Uniform

All students must wear the official King's PE top which can be purchased from Smart Uniform.

Students must also wear black PE shorts (baggy style), black plain tracksuit bottoms or black leggings along with black socks. These can all be purchased from Smart Uniform or from generic Highstreet stores.

Students will also need a pair of astro trainers and shin pads.

We have a 1/4 zip King's PE top which can be worn in colder weather which is purchased from Smart Uniform. This item is optional.

Item	Boys	Girls
The King's PE Top (compulsory) This item is available from The Smart Uniform Shop.		
The King's PE 1/4 zip (optional) This item is available from The Smart Uniform Shop.		
Plain unbranded black shorts, Plain unbranded Black leggings or plain unbranded black pe tracksuit (these items may be purchased from The Smart uniform shop, or any highstreet retailer.)		
Trainers and astros (1 pair of each) Pictured example of astros and trainers		
Shin pads		
Hair	Long hair must be tied up with a hair bobble.	Long hair must be tied up with a hair bobble.

Equipment

School bag that can fit A4 Size
folders and books.

Refillable bottle.

Pencil case.

Scientific calculator.

Ruler.

2 Black pens.

1 Green Pen.

Pencils.

Behaviour expectations

As we prepare to welcome everyone back to The King's Church of England Academy, we would like to remind all students of the high standards of behaviour and conduct we expect across our school community.

A new academic year is a fresh start and an opportunity to begin positively. We want every student to feel safe, supported and able to learn, and this relies on everyone playing their part.

Students are expected to:

- Arrive at school and lessons on time and ready to learn.
- Wear the correct school uniform smartly and with pride.
- Follow staff instructions first time.
- Show respect and kindness to staff, fellow students and visitors.
- Use appropriate language at all times.
- Move around the school calmly and sensibly.
- Take responsibility for their behaviour, choices and learning.
- Come fully equipped for lessons each day.
- Follow our expectations regarding mobile phones and other devices.
- Look after our school environment and the property of others.

Our values of **Aspire. Belong. Care.** should be reflected in everything we do. We expect students to aspire to be their best, contribute positively to our school community and show care and respect for those around them.

Staff will be available to support students as they settle back into school, and we encourage anyone who is worried about returning or needs additional support to speak to their Head of Year or another trusted member of staff.

We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back and beginning another successful year together.

Mrs. Holdcroft

Safeguarding



At The King's, the safety and wellbeing of every student is at the heart of everything we do.

Our safeguarding team is here to support students and families, listen to concerns and ensure that every young person feels safe, supported and able to seek help when they need it.

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Holdcroft, supported by our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads, Mrs Harrison and Mr Worthington.

They work closely with our Heads of Year, alongside Miss Stanyer, our Designated Teacher for Looked After and Post-Looked After Children, and Mrs Thorne, our EBSA and ELSA worker.

As we begin a new academic year, we want students and families to know that support is always available. If you have a concern, however small it may seem, please reach out to a member of the team.

We are here to listen, support and help.

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
LFinmore@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



SEND Support

At The King's, we want every student to feel supported, understood and able to thrive.

Our SEN Support Team, led by Mrs Smith, works across the school to support students with a wide range of additional needs. The team works closely with students, families, teaching staff and other professionals to make sure the right support is in place and that every young person has the opportunity to succeed.

Here to Support You

We understand that starting a new school year, moving into a new year group or simply navigating school life can sometimes bring questions or worries, particularly for students with additional needs and their families.

Our team is here to help.

Whether you have a question about the support your child receives, would like to discuss a concern or simply want some reassurance about the year ahead, please don't hesitate to get in touch. No question is too small, and we would always rather families reach out so that we can work together.

Mrs Smith - Assistant Principal and Head of SEND

Mrs Nevard - Deputy SENDCo

Mrs Cooper - Assistant SENDCo

Mrs Massey - Care Plan Co-Ordinator

Mrs Cook - SEND Admin

Christian Distinctiveness



Heavenly Father,

As the summer holidays draw to a close and we prepare to begin a new term, we give thanks for the time we have had to rest, recharge and spend time with those we love.

We pray for every member of our school community as we return.

Give our students confidence for the year ahead, our staff wisdom and patience as they guide and support them, and our families strength and encouragement throughout the journey. For those feeling excited, help them to carry that joy with them.

For those feeling nervous or uncertain, bring reassurance and peace. May our school continue to be a place where everyone feels they belong, where they are encouraged to aspire, and where we always care for one another.

Guide us through the opportunities and challenges ahead and help us to make the most of every day.

Amen.