Principal's Newsletter

The King's CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY KIDSGROVE

Aspire Belong Care

4th July 2026 Issue #17

A message from our Principal, Mrs Postlethwaite...

As we approach the final few weeks of the academic year, I would like to thank all parents and carers for their continued support. Last week brought exceptionally high temperatures, and I am grateful to our students and staff for the way they adapted. We made a number of adjustments across the school to ensure everyone remained as comfortable and safe as possible, and I appreciate the understanding and support shown by families throughout the heatwave and the early closure last Friday. This week we have also reiterated the message about safety in the water outside of school.

It has also been a significant couple of weeks for several year groups. Our Year 11 students have now completed their examinations and finished their journey with us with a wonderful 'whole school clap out' which was a brilliant end for them. We wish them every success as they take their next steps and look forward to celebrating with them at Prom and on Results Day in August. Meanwhile, Year 10 have successfully completed their mock examinations and have spent the week on work experience placements. This has been an exciting opportunity for them to develop new skills and gain valuable insight into the world of work.

We also welcomed our new Year 6 students for Transition Week. It is always a highlight of the year as we begin helping the next cohort settle into academy life and start their journey with us.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing partnership and support.

Upcoming Events

- 29 June- Y10 Work Experience week and Y6 Transition
- 2 July- Y7 Parents evening
- 3 July- Year 11 Prom
- 10 July- Sports Day
- 17 July- Last day of term

SLT

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

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

Opening Times:
Monday- Friday 9am-5pm
Saturday 10am-4pm

Sunday opening:
Starting from 19th July - 30th August 2021

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.

Mrs Boon

Curriculum

The Gateways were launched earlier this year for students and parents at the Options Evening. This week, our Year 9 students selected the pathway in which they would like to gain further experience and understanding.

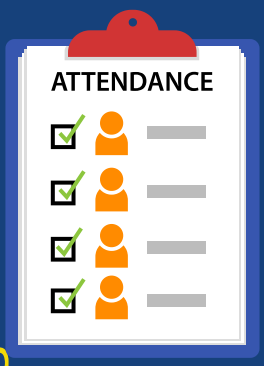
The available pathways are:
Construction and the Green Environment
Creative and Culture
Digital, Technology, Business and Finance
Education and Early Years
Health and Social Care, Sport and Public Services
Engineering, Design and Manufacturing

Over the next two years, students will have opportunities to engage in learning linked to their chosen pathway and to explore the wide range of careers available within these sectors. Through employer encounters, workplace experiences, enrichment activities, and curriculum-linked learning, students will develop a deeper understanding of the skills, qualifications, and career routes associated with their chosen industry.

We look forward to working alongside Alpha Academies Trust and Potteries Educational Trust to develop an innovative curriculum model that places students' aspirations, future destinations, and next steps at the heart of their learning.

Mrs Beswick-Pepper

Attendance



Why Attendance Matters

Every day in school counts. Good attendance helps students build strong routines, keep up with learning, maintain friendships and feel part of our school community. Even a few missed days can make it harder to catch up and can affect confidence, progress and wellbeing.

We know that there are times when absence is unavoidable, and we are here to support families where needed. However, by working together to prioritise attendance, we give every child the best chance to succeed, feel settled and enjoy school life in all its fullness.

Spotlight on The Attendance Team

Mr Worthington
Assistant Principal & Attendance Champion

Mrs Beswick-Pepper
Attendance & Welfare Officer

Mrs Thorne
Home School Link Worker

The King's CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY KIDSGROVE

ATTENDANCE

Why is it important?

Aspire Belong Care

Absence from school:
Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year. The government states that every pupil should attend at least 95%.

How do YOU measure up?

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 Lessons

89% & Below
Drastic effect on academic achievement

95% - 90%
Cause for concern

100% - 96%
Excellent

Together, we Aspire • Belong • Care

Mrs. Holdcroft

Safeguarding

We all hope that we never face a situation where a child goes missing from home. However, in the unlikely event that this does happen, it is important to know what support is available and what steps to take.

Staffordshire County Council has shared some key information and guidance to help families understand the support available and the actions that should be taken if a child goes missing. We encourage parents and carers to take a moment to read this information so they are aware of the support services and resources that can assist during such a difficult time.

If you are concerned about your child's mental health and wellbeing, urgent support is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through the NHS.

Anyone across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent can access urgent mental health support by calling NHS 111 and selecting the mental health option.

Alternatively, free 24/7 mental health text support is available across the area. Children, young people, parents and carers can text the following numbers at any time of the day or night:

- South Staffordshire: 07507 330605
- North Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent: 07312 263117

Please do not hesitate to seek support if you are worried about your child's mental health.

Mrs. Holdcroft

Safeguarding

While the World Cup is an exciting event that celebrates teamwork, diversity, and unity across the world, it can also bring additional pressures for some children and families.

To help support our school community during this time, we have included information and guidance on domestic abuse awareness, as well as online sports betting and gambling. We encourage parents and carers to review these resources and seek support if needed.

Mrs. Smith

SEND Support–Meet the Team

I absolutely love my role as a Teaching Assistant and Care Plan Coordinator at The King's Academy. It is a privilege to make a meaningful difference every day by combining classroom support with tailored student care, helping pupils to build confidence, overcome challenges and thrive in a supportive environment.

Every day brings new learning opportunities, especially as I work across all year groups and collaborate closely with pupils, families and medical professionals. Through my role, I have gained valuable insight into the wide range of medical needs our young people may have, and I am continually humbled by the resilience they show.

On the days when things do not go as hoped, I am there to help pupils feel safe, supported and understood. I am proud that, at The King's, we achieve this through the dedication of a fantastic team who are always willing to help.

In the classroom, I enjoy working alongside teachers and students to ensure that every pupil can access learning and achieve the very best they can. I also particularly enjoy supporting school trips, where it is incredibly rewarding to see our pupils experience new adventures, grow in confidence and flourish beyond the classroom.

No two days are ever the same, and that is what makes my role so exciting, rewarding and inspiring.

Mrs Keay

Christian Distinctiveness

Our wonderful Student Chaplaincy Team have been delivering collective worship to students as part of Transition Week. They have done an amazing job of welcoming our new pupils, sharing our school values and helping them to feel part of The King's community. It has been lovely to see our students leading with such confidence, kindness and care.

A huge well done to the team — we are so proud of you!

Whole School

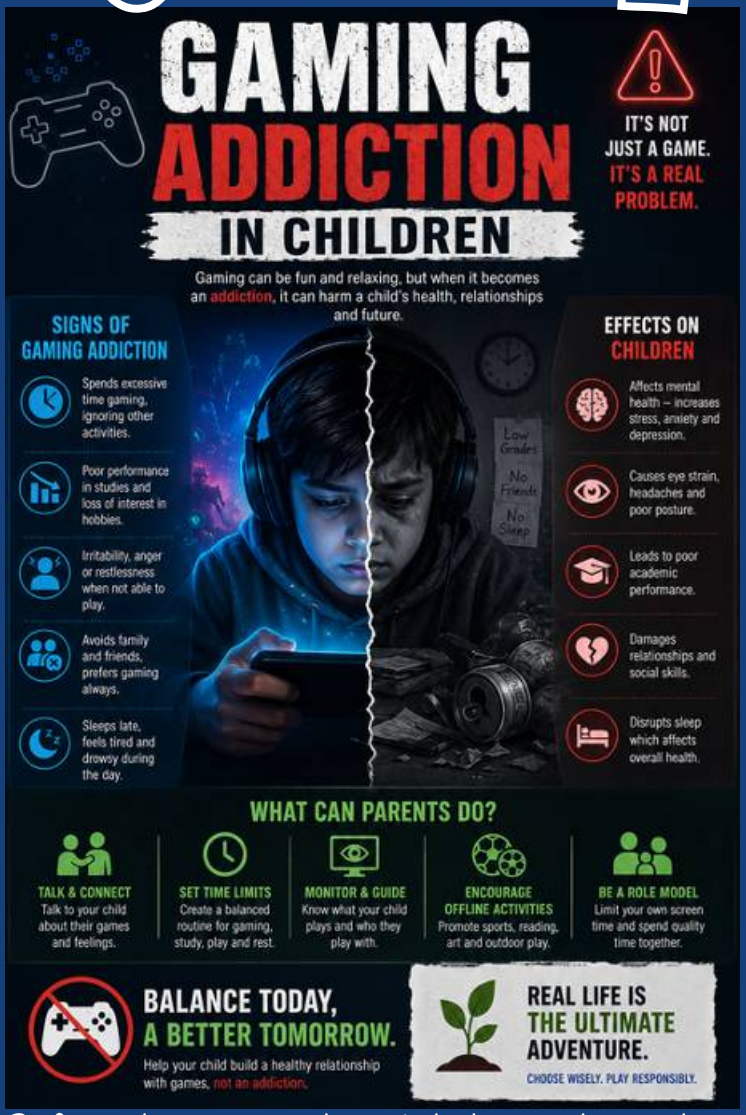
Enrichment

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Music coursework catchup Year 11	Rounders Whole school	Samba Band Year 7, 8, 9	Football Year 7 and 8
Football Whole School	English Master class Year 11 set 3	Football - Year 9,10 and 11	Jam Session Year 10 and 11	Chess and Board Games Club Whole School
GCSE Science Drop-in Year 10 and 11	Christian Union Whole school	Choir - Year 9, 10 and 11	Spiritual Quiet Space Whole School	Creative Writing Whole School
GCSE Science Higher tier Masterclass Year 10 and 11		English Masterclass - 11 set 2	KS4 Art Masterclass	English Masterclass 11 Set 6
11-4 ENG Masterclass		English Masterclass- 11 set 1	Pioneers Year 7,8,9	KS4 Art Masterclass Year 10 and 11
Nail Art Club Limited to 8 students in Yr 8 and 9	Badminton 16 Students max	English Masterclass 11 set 5	Musical Drama Group Whole School	KS4 Art Masterclass Year 10 and 11
India drop in Year 9 students going to India		English Masterclass 11 hi2	GCSE Science foundation class Year 10 and 11	
Rotary		School biodiversity club Whole School		After school 15.05
IT Masterclass Year 11	It Masterclass Year 10			
Enterprise Masterclass Year 11		KS4 Art Masterclass Yr 10 and 11		Lunch 13.20
		Mindful Colouring Club Whole school		
Computing Masterclass - Yr 11	Humanities games and support club Whole school	KS3 Science club WEEK A ONLY		
KS4 Art Masterclass- Yr 10 and 11	KS4 Art - Year 10 and 11			
KS4 Art Masterclass Year 10 and 11				

The King's CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY KIDSGROVE

Mrs Thorne

Home-School Links



Does this sound familiar? If so, please note there is help out there. The NHS now have service where both parents and professionals can refer to

The National Centre for Gaming Disorders (NHS)

The service offers assessment and therapeutic based treatment with CBT sessions focused on controlled levels of gaming and increasing other activities. It can also offer parents and family members educational workshops.

The centre uses a holistic approach, led by consultant psychiatrists, psychologists, and family therapists. The service accepts self-referrals, as well as referrals from family members and professionals.

Support is available for:

Young people aged 13 and over, and

Parents and carers of young people aged 13–16 years old.

parent referral form if the parents require our support.

Mrs Perry

English

A huge congratulations to our incredible Debate Mate Champions! Our students were absolutely amazing and represented The King's Academy exceptionally. They showed confidence, teamwork, resilience and fantastic communication skills throughout the competition, and we could not be prouder of the way they conducted themselves.

Their hard work, preparation and determination truly paid off as they brought home the trophy! What an outstanding achievement. Well done to every member of the team. You have represented yourselves, your families and our school brilliantly.

Mrs Wilson

Science

In Science, Year 7 have been learning all about the periodic table, why elements are placed where they are and some explosive demonstration of the patterns in reactivity!

Your paragraph text

Year 8 have been learning about energy costs and transfers, finding out how much energy is in food by burning it to see how much it can raise the temperature of water.

Year 9 have begun their work on Cells in readiness for their GCSE studies in the Autumn term, learning about Prokaryotic and Eukaryotic cells and how their structures affect the organisms they are part of.

Year 10 have focussed brlliantly on their latest set of mocks exams! We know 3 papers is a lot and we're really proud of their determination in preparing for them al!

Did you know...

Educake is a fantastic tool for independent learning as well as completing homework. Your child can use the Revision Wizard' tool to generate quizzes linked to their strengths and areas for development to help them practise and improve. This is a great way to keep your skills up over the summer break!

Mr Aslam

Computer Science

Out of This World Achievement!

A huge congratulations to our incredible students, whose code has quite literally gone where very few school projects ever have: into space.

As part of the Astro Pi competition, their programs have been run on the International Space Station. This is a phenomenal achievement and a fantastic example of creativity, problem-solving and real-world computing skills in action.

We are incredibly proud of their curiosity, dedication and ambition. They have shown that there are no limits when it comes to learning, innovation and aiming high.

Keep reaching for the stars. The universe is just the beginning.

Mrs Turner

Maths

It has been a pleasure this week to welcome our new Year 7 cohort for Transition Week.

Our students have worked incredibly hard, including in their Maths sessions, and it has been wonderful to see them settling in, engaging with their learning and getting to know life at The King's Academy.

A special thank you also goes to some of our fantastic Year 10 students, who have supported our new pupils so brilliantly. It has been lovely to see students from across different year groups working together, showing kindness, encouragement and care.

Well done to our new Year 7 students. We are so proud of the fantastic start you have made.

Miss Richardson

Performing Arts

Miss Kaminskas

Wellbeing Hub

Miss Sharrock

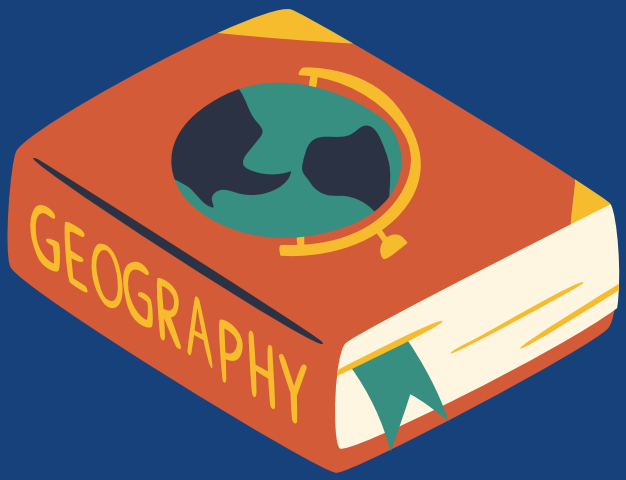
Humanities

Our Year 10 students wrked incredibly hard during their mock exams.

It has been fantastic to see students approaching their assessments with focus, maturity and determination. These mocks are an important opportunity to reflect on current progress, identify strengths and understand the areas that need further development.

With just 12 months until their GCSE exams, now is the time for students to see where they are, build strong revision habits and take ownership of their learning.

Well done, Year 10. Keep working hard and make every lesson, every revision session and every assessment count.



Mrs Danks

RSHE

CLEAN BODY CONFIDENT YOU

NHS
Providing NHS services

Small habits.
Big impact.
Every day.

GOOD HYGIENE. EVERY DAY.

Looking after your body helps you feel good, stay healthy and show respect for yourself and others.

DAILY HYGIENE CHECKLIST

SHOWER OR BATH DAILY
Wash all over with soap and water to remove sweat, dirt and bacteria.

USE DEODORANT
Helps to prevent body odour. Apply after washing.

BRUSH YOUR TEETH TWICE A DAY
Use fluoride toothpaste. Don't forget to floss!

WASH YOUR HAIR REGULARLY
Keeps your scalp clean and hair fresh. Find a routine that works for you.

WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN
Use soap and water for 20 seconds – especially after the toilet and before eating.

WEAR CLEAN CLOTHES
Change your clothes daily. Clean clothes help you feel and smell fresh.

WHY IT MATTERS

- Helps prevent infections and skin problems.
- Boosts your confidence and self-esteem.
- Shows respect for yourself and for others.
- Helps you feel fresh, focused and ready to take on the day.

CLEAN TODAY, CONFIDENT TOMORROW!

TOP TIPS

- Stay hydrated – drink plenty of water.
- Get enough sleep – your body repairs while you rest.
- Eat a balanced diet – good nutrition supports healthy skin, hair and energy.
- Exercise regularly – it boosts your mood and overall health.

DID YOU KNOW?

Our bodies have millions of bacteria. Most are harmless or even helpful, but good hygiene keeps the bad ones under control!

REMEMBER

It's normal to sweat.
It's normal to have spots.
It's normal to have body hair.
Everyone's body is different – look after yours and be kind to others.

NEED HELP OR ADVICE?

If you're worried about your skin, body odour, sweating or anything to do with your body, speak to someone you trust, such as:

- A parent or carer
- A teacher or school nurse
- Your GP

IT'S OKAY TO ASK FOR HELP!

GOOD HYGIENE. HEALTHY BODY. HAPPY YOU.

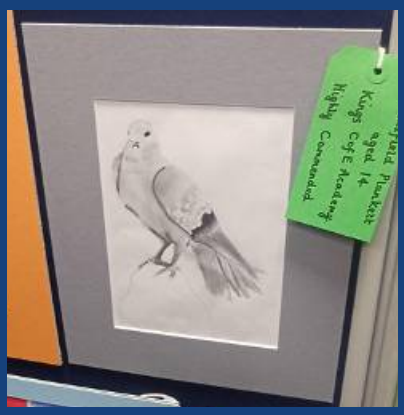
Take care of your body. It's the only one you've got.

For more information and advice from NHS, visit:
www.nhs.uk/live-well/hygiene-body-care

Miss Pattinson

Art

On Wednesday 17th June, our winning art students were invited to Keele University to recieve a prize for their submission in a local painting competition. Ruby, Max and Sienna created a response to a commemoration of what would have been the Queen's 100th birthday. Their creativity and skills caught the eye of the judges with Sienna winning first place in her age category!



Mrs Wright

Careers

Our Year 10 students recently attended a wide variety of placements as part of their Work Experience Week.

This was a fantastic opportunity for students to experience the world of work, develop new skills and gain a better understanding of different careers and industries. Students approached the week with maturity, enthusiasm and a willingness to learn, and we were incredibly proud of the way they represented themselves and The King's.

We hope the experience has helped students to think more carefully about their future pathways, ambitions and the skills they will continue to build as they move into Year 11 and beyond.

A huge well done to all of our Year 10 students for embracing this valuable opportunity.

Mrs Goldstraw

Transition

What a fantastic Transition Week it has been.

It has been wonderful to welcome so many lovely new faces to The King's Academy and to see our new Year 7 cohort make such a brilliant start.

Throughout the week, students have shown enthusiasm, kindness and confidence as they began to get to know our school community, meet new friends and experience life at The King's.

We are so proud of the way they have embraced the week and we are really looking forward to watching them grow, flourish and thrive with us in September.

Well done to our new Year 7 students. You have made an amazing first impression.

Mrs Goldstraw

Year 7

A huge well done to our wonderful Year 7 students, Polina D, Jake C and Reuben S, who were finalists in the National Careers Challenge, competing against over 100 schools.
Our students worked incredibly hard to create their own model, develop a full presentation and confidently share their ideas with the judges. They showed creativity, teamwork, problem-solving skills and fantastic determination throughout the process.
We are so proud of their efforts and the way they represented themselves and The King's Academy. Reaching the final is an outstanding achievement, and they should be incredibly proud of everything they have accomplished.

Miss Stanyer

Year 8

As we approach the end of the academic year, I would like to say a huge well done to all of our Year 8 students.

Over the last two weeks, many students have represented the year group brilliantly during their trips, including the careers visits and those who attended Northwood. It has been fantastic to see students engaging so well, showing enthusiasm, maturity and making the most of the opportunities available to them.

A special shout out also goes to Lewis F and Zac C for their fantastic achievements in the Junior Maths Challenge. This is a brilliant accomplishment and they should be very proud of themselves.

As we move towards the final weeks of term, it is important that our standards remain high right until the very end. Please continue to support us in ensuring that students arrive to school in the correct uniform, fully equipped and ready to learn each day.

We are also very much looking forward to seeing the competitive side of our students, and perhaps our form tutors too, during the upcoming Sports Day events. It promises to be a fantastic opportunity for students to get involved, support one another and show real team spirit.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for your ongoing support with behaviour and attendance. Year 8 attendance continues to be a real strength across the year group and remains strong nationally, which is something we are incredibly proud of.

Finally, a huge well done to all of Year 8 for nearly completing another successful year. Our students continue to make me proud, and often make me laugh, every single day. It has been a pleasure to see them grow in confidence, character and resilience throughout the year.

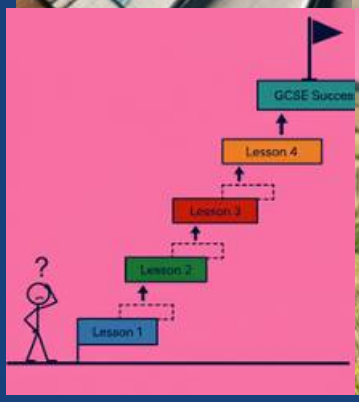
If any support is needed as we move towards the end of term, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's form tutor so that we can work together to ensure a smooth and positive start to the next academic year.

Mrs Kelly

Year 9

The students that completed the DofE expedition were absolutely incredible. Well done on an amazing step in your futures.

Stepping Up to GCSE



Assembly focus and conversations for at home over the past two weeks have included stepping up to GCSE: looking at 4 key areas to successfully step up.

- Attendance
- Independent learning
- Extra Curricular
- Being equipped

Students were asked which one of the four tasks could they work on for next year in year 10..

Water Safety.

It has been in the news and many young people have lost their lives. In assembly we have looked at the risk and with the weather hotting up again please remind your children to be safe around water.

First Name
Viktor
Cooper
Corey
Toby
Jack
Owen
Max
Elijah
Leo
Harry
Myles
Lexi
Aran
Ava
Joseph
Sophie
Beau
Ezekiel
Amelia
Ava
Lola Jae
Elliot
Caitlin

Mrs Kelly

Year 9

A huge well done to our fantastic Year 9 students, Imogen H, Emme P, Ellie W, Lexi C, Darcie D and Scarlett D, for their brilliant work as part of the National Careers Challenge.

The team worked incredibly hard to develop a full project and business proposition, carefully considering their ideas, target audience, design, branding and presentation. They showed creativity, teamwork, problem-solving skills and confidence throughout the process.

Their final presentation was excellent, and they represented themselves and The King's Academy brilliantly. We are incredibly proud of their effort, ambition and the way they approached the challenge.

Well done, Year 9. A fantastic achievement.

Miss Stevens

Year 10

We have been incredibly impressed with our Year 10 students throughout their mock exams. They have shown maturity, determination and a fantastic attitude towards this important point in the year.

Their effort, focus and resilience have been wonderful to see, and we are very proud of the way they have approached each exam. Well done, Year 10, keep working hard and believing in yourselves as you continue your journey towards Year 11.

A huge well done to our fantastic Year 10 students for their excellent efforts during Work Experience Week.

We have been absolutely blown away by the success stories we have heard from placements across the week. Students have represented themselves and The King's Academy brilliantly, showing maturity, confidence, enthusiasm and a real willingness to learn.

It has been wonderful to hear such positive feedback from employers and to see our students gaining valuable insight into the world of work, developing new skills and exploring future career pathways.

We are incredibly proud of each and every one of you. Well done, Year 10. What a fantastic week.

Miss Stevens

Year 10

Year 10 Attendance

As our Year 10 students prepare to enter one of the most important years of their school journey, we would like to remind families of the vital link between good attendance and academic success.

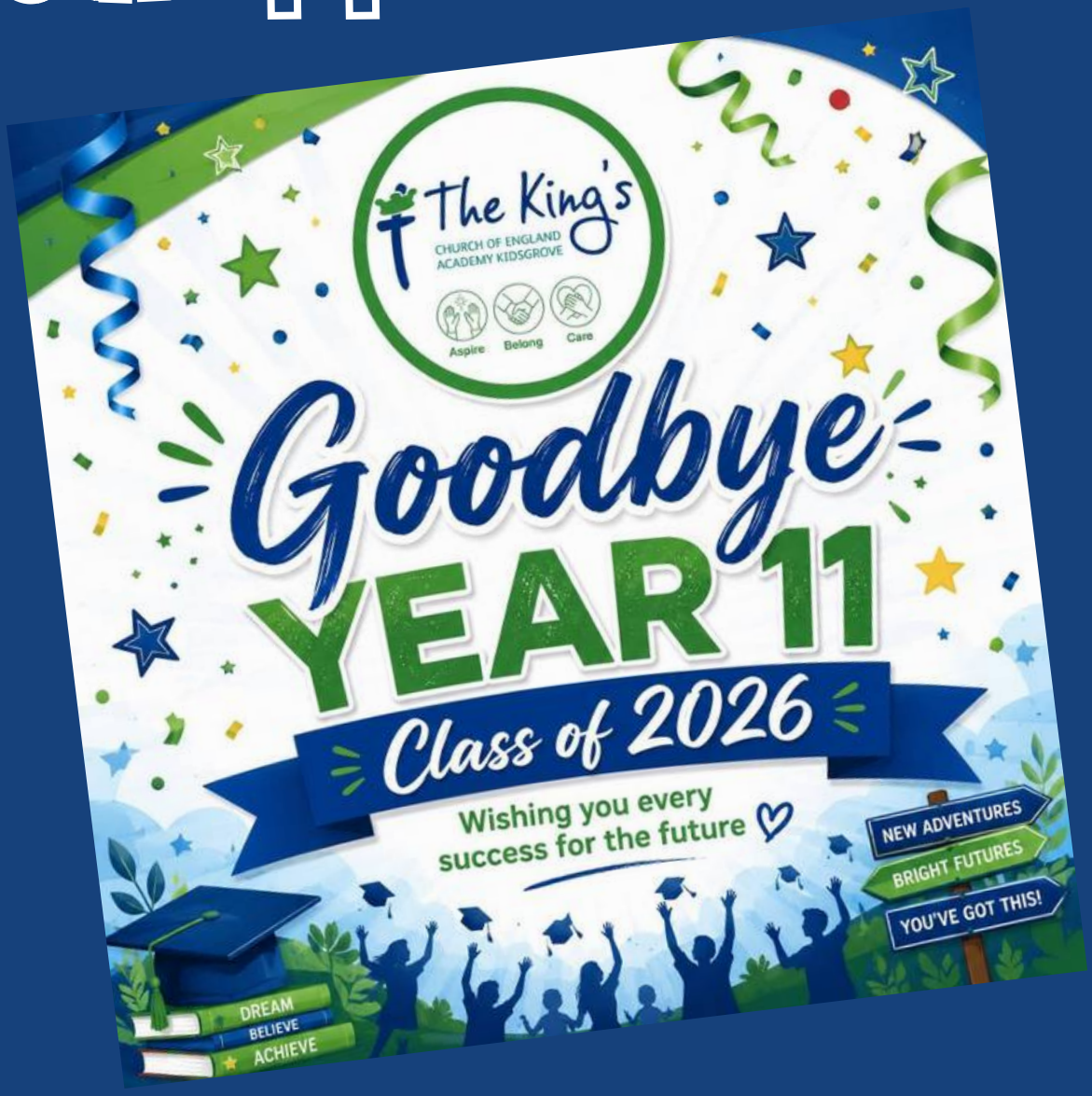
At present, attendance across Year 10 is lower than we would like it to be. Every lesson matters, and time missed from school can quickly lead to gaps in learning, reduced confidence and increased pressure as students move towards Year 11 and their GCSE examinations.

We know that our Year 10 students are capable of achieving great things, but to give themselves the very best chance, they need to be in school, on time, every day wherever possible. Strong attendance now will help them build the knowledge, routines and resilience needed for success next year.

If there are any barriers affecting your child's attendance, please contact their form tutor, Head of Year, or a member of the Attendance Team. We are here to support students and families so that every child can attend regularly and reach their full potential.

Mr Barber

Year 11



We officially said goodbye to our wonderful Year 11 students as they reached the end of their time at The King's.

It was a truly special moment to see the whole school come together for their clap out, celebrating everything they have achieved and the memories they have made during their time with us. There were smiles, cheers and a few emotional moments as students marked the end of this important chapter.

We are incredibly proud of the young people they have become and wish them every success as they take their next steps. Once part of The King's family, always part of The King's family.

Mr Barber

Year 11

Last night, we had the pleasure of celebrating Prom with our wonderful Year 11 students.
It was a beautiful evening filled with laughter, dancing, memories and a few emotional moments as students came together to celebrate the end of an important chapter in their school journey. Everyone looked absolutely fantastic, and it was lovely to see them dancing the night away and enjoying such a special occasion together.
A particular highlight of the evening was seeing Mrs Finnemore and Mr Purle's legendary dance moves, which certainly did not disappoint.
A huge thank you must also go to Mr Barber and the team, who did a wonderful job organising such a memorable evening for our students.

It was especially moving to see students saying a final goodbye to their Head of Year, who has supported, encouraged and guided them for so long.
Year 11, it's been EPIC!

Mrs Finnemore

Sixth Form

A huge shout out to Will B, Jacob C and Alex H, who have worked incredibly hard to support our students with their National Careers Challenge project.

They have given up their time, shared their ideas and supported our younger students brilliantly throughout the process. Their encouragement, patience and commitment have made a real difference, helping students to develop their projects, build confidence and prepare for their presentations.

It has been fantastic to see our Sixth Form students acting as such positive role models and showing leadership, teamwork and care.

Well done, Will, Jacob and Alex. We are incredibly proud of you and very grateful for all of your support.

Mrs Finnemore

Sixth Form

Applications are still open for places in Sixth Form commencing study in September 2026 in:

- Hospitality and Catering
- T Level Engineering
- Health and Social Care
- Sport

If you need further help or guidance, please speak to Mrs. Finnemore or Mrs. Harnett, or visit our website: www.thekingscofeacademy.org

Miss Collins

The Fifth on Fourth

The King's
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
ACADEMY KIDSGROVE

Aspire Belong Care

Indian Trip Curry Night

8th July 2026

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

18:30 Arrival

£15 per person (£5 per person is going towards the charity fund)

STARTER

Poppadoms and Dips (gf)

MAIN COURSE

Butter chicken (gf, mk)

Served with boiled basmati rice & garlic naan bread (ccg)

DESSERT

Crème brûlée with a hint of cinnamon (gf, v, mk, eg)

Tea and Coffee with mints

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

For more information

Call on 01782 794064