



Aspire



Belong



Care

27th March 2026

Issue #12

A message from our Principal, Mrs Postlethwaite...

As we come to the end of this Spring term I am delighted to share that our recent SIAMS inspection was incredibly positive. We are expecting the full report any day now, but inspectors were so impressed with students and staff at our school. The final report will recognise the many strengths of our school community and will celebrate the many ways in which our children are supported to grow, thrive, and truly flourish.

It will no doubt highlight the caring relationships, strong values, and sense of belonging that underpin daily life here. We are especially proud that the inspection reflects what we see every day- children who feel confident, inspired, and encouraged to be the very best version of themselves.

It has been wonderful seeing Year 11 so focused in their final few weeks of lessons before revision kicks in. The exams start just a couple of weeks after Easter so it really is the home stretch for them now! Thank you, as always, for your continued support in making our school such a special place for every child.

Have a restful Easter break and I look forward to seeing everyone back in school for the Summer term on Monday 13th April.

- 30th March- 10th April- Easter Holidays
- 20th April- Year 9 Landudno trip
- 21st April- Rewards day
- 22nd April- Earth day
- 4th May- Bank Holiday (School closed)
- 30th April- BTEC Exams start
- 8th May- GCSE Exams start
- 18th May- Year 7 York Camp trip
- 25th May- 29th May- Half term holiday
- 8th June- CF Awareness week
- 15th June- Year 11 Leavers assembly
- 3rd July- Year 11 Prom





Attendance



Spotlight on The Attendance Team

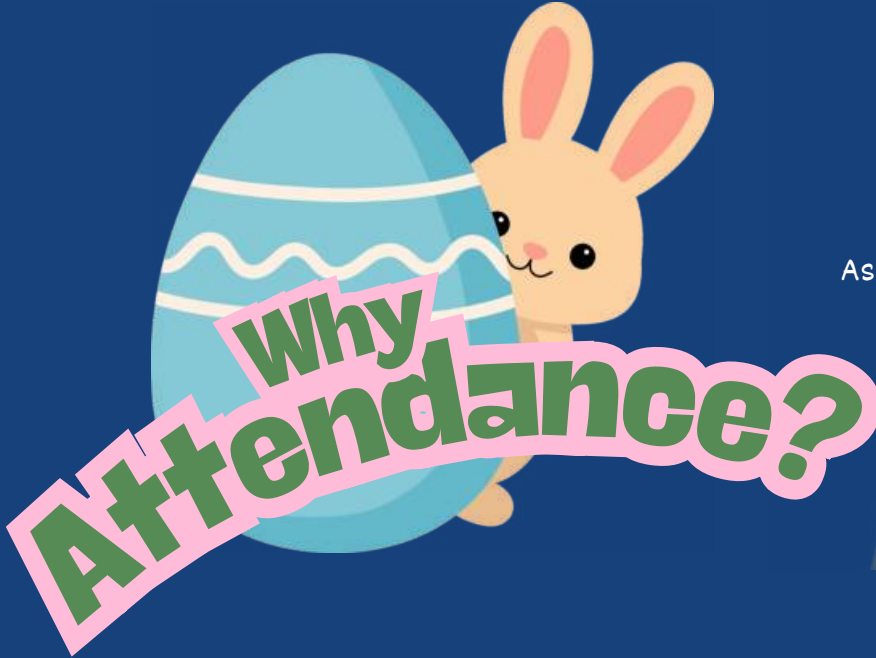
Mr Worthington
Assistant Principal & Attendance Champion



Mrs Beswick-Pepper
Attendance & Welfare Officer



Mrs Thorne
Home School Link Worker



Attendance remains a key focus for everyone at The King's. Understanding the importance of being in school every day is crucial, not just for lessons, but for your future.

Grades & Results: Missing lessons means missing important explanations, guidance, and practice. Regular attendance helps you stay on top of learning and achieve your best.

Skills & Confidence: Being in school every day helps you develop teamwork, communication, and problem-solving skills.

Future Opportunities: Colleges, apprenticeships, and employers look at attendance. High attendance shows dedication, responsibility, and commitment.

Attendance



Every Day Counts

Missing 1 day a week = 2 years of schooling lost over your school career!

Missing 10 days a year = 2 weeks of lessons missed

Missing 20 days a year = 4 weeks of lessons missed

Even small amounts of absence can add up and make a real difference to your learning.

Spotlight on The Attendance Team

Mr Worthington
Assistant Principal & Attendance Champion



Mrs Beswick-Pepper
Attendance & Welfare Officer



Mrs Thorne
Home School Link Worker



ATTEND TO ACHIEVE!

Attendance percentages as Number of days and lessons missed from school.
Students are required to attend school for 190 days each year.

Attendance during one schyear	Equals days absent	Which is approximately weeks absent	Which means this number of lessons missed	Absence over 5years
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons	¼ year
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons	½ year
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons	1 year
70%	59 days	12 weeks	300 lessons	1½ years
60%	80 days	16 weeks	400 lessons	2 years
50%	100 days	20 weeks	500 lessons	2½ years

Government (DfE) research suggests that **16 days** absence or **92%** attendance in any one year equals a **full GCSE drop in attainment**

How does your attendance compare with this target?

Mrs. Holdcroft

Safeguarding



Wellbeing Wednesday

Staying Safe This Half Term

- Stay with friends
- Let someone know where you are
- Agree check-in times
- Make smart choices
- Avoid anti-social behaviour
- Stick to well-lit areas
- Contact a trusted adult if you feel unsafe

Tips for Parents & Carers

- Talk about plans & boundaries
- Set clear time to be home
- Know who they're with
- Encourage staying in groups

Have Fun & Stay Safe!

Look out for each other & make good choices!

STAY SAFE

Parent support is available over the half term period. For example, you can contact the Crisis Team if you require urgent help or immediate support. They are available to provide guidance during difficult situations.

There is also a range of online support available. The NHS website offers trusted advice on mental health and wellbeing, while the NSPCC provides guidance and support specifically for families and young people.

In addition, you may wish to speak to your GP, local support services, or school safeguarding team if you have ongoing concerns. Remember, you are not alone, and support is available whenever you need it.

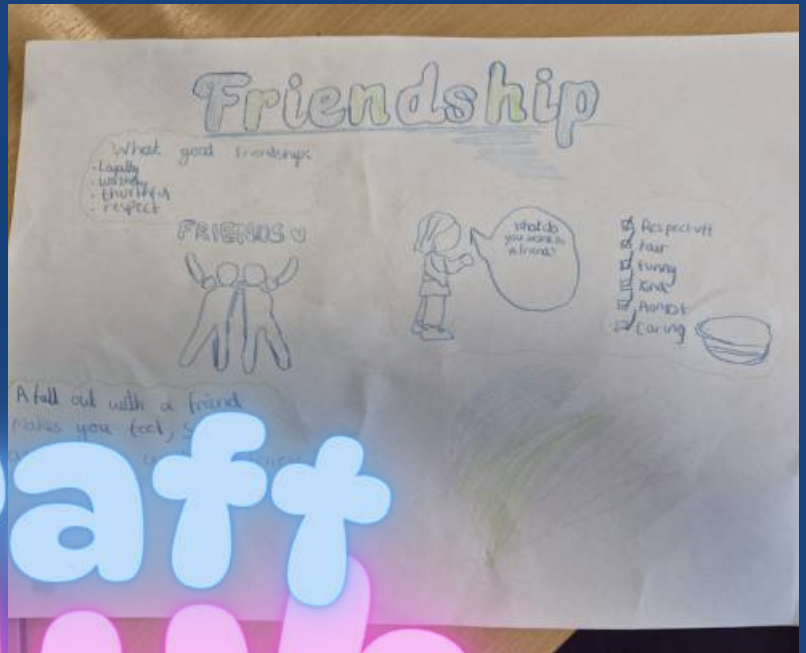
Mrs. Holdcroft

Safeguarding



Our Thursday Lunchtime Craft Club is open to all year groups.

It provides a safe, welcoming space where students can relax, get creative, chat, and support one another. Whether you enjoy arts and crafts or simply want a calm place to spend your lunchtime, everyone is welcome.



craft club



SEND Support

Don't forget to visit Staffordshire Connects website. It provides a wealth of expertise, knowledge and support for children and young people who have SEND in Staffordshire.

<https://www.staffordshireconnects.info/kb5/staffordshire/directory/home.page>



Mrs. Smith



SEND Support

<https://eequ.org/stokeontrentaiminghigh>

Stoke-on-Trent Aiming High is a programme full of exciting, fun and safe activities for children with special educational needs and disabilities in Stoke-on-Trent, up until the age of 18. Each child can book between 2-4 sessions per month dependent on their needs. We will tell you how many sessions you can book.





Christian Distinctiveness

As we approach the joyful season of Easter, our school community pauses to reflect on what it means to be part of a Church of England school. This is a special and significant time in the Christian calendar, inviting us to think deeply about hope, sacrifice, and new life.

Easter is at the heart of the Christian faith. It tells the story of Jesus' death and resurrection, a story that reminds Christians of God's love, forgiveness, and the promise of new beginnings. In school, we explore these themes not only through worship and RE lessons, but also through the way we treat one another every day.

Living Out Our Values

Our school vision is rooted in "life in all its fullness" (John 10:10), and our values guide us in living this out each day:

- **Aspire** – striving to be the best we can be, using our gifts and talents
- **Belong** – creating a welcoming community where everyone feels valued and included
- **Care** – showing kindness, compassion, and respect to others and the world around us

These values are at the heart of our Christian distinctiveness and become especially meaningful during this season of reflection.

A Time to Pause

Easter encourages us all to slow down and reflect.

In collective worship, classrooms, and quiet moments, we think about:

What we are thankful for

How we can show kindness to others

Ways we can grow and make positive choices

Looking Forward

Just as spring brings new life in the natural world, Easter reminds us of fresh starts and new opportunities. As a school community, we look forward with hope, continuing to nurture a caring, inclusive environment where every child can flourish. We wish all our families a peaceful and joyful Easter season.



Christian Distinctiveness

A prayer this Easter time.

Loving and faithful God,

At this special time in the Christian calendar, as we remember the journey of Jesus, His sacrifice, His love, and the hope of His resurrection, we pause to give thanks.

We pray for all our families and community this Easter season. May this half term be a time of peace, rest, and renewal. In the busyness of life, help us to slow down, to be present with one another, and to reflect on the true meaning of Easter.

Fill our hearts with hope, just as the empty tomb reminds us that light overcomes darkness and love conquers all. Guide us to show kindness, compassion, and forgiveness in our daily lives, following the example of Jesus.

Bless our homes with your peace, strengthen us with your grace, and bring us back refreshed and renewed.

In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen.

Enrichment



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Girls Football Whole school	Music coursework catchup Year 11	Netball 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
Nat1 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 h2	GCSE Science Foundation class Year 10 and 11	
Rotary		School biodiversity club Whole School		
IT Masterclass Year 11	IT Masterclass Year 10			
Enterprise Masterclass Year 11		KS4 Art Masterclass Yr 10 and 11		
		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				

After school 15.05

Lunch 13.20



We have had a busy half term with Year 8 and 9 girls competing in football tournaments, alongside our Year 8 boys taking part in a number of fixtures. Both teams have represented the school impeccably, demonstrating excellent attitude, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout. It has been fantastic to see so many students enjoying the opportunity to take part in competitive sport and representing the school with pride.



Home-School Links



There are lots of activities available across the city this half term
—why not check some out?

From sports and outdoor adventures to creative workshops and community events, there is something for everyone to enjoy. Taking part in local activities is a great way to stay active, try something new, and spend time with friends and family.

ComputerXplorers

HAF and Paid Spaces Available

EASTER CAMP

30TH MARCH TO 2ND APRIL
Newcastle Under Lyme Family Hub

ACTIVITIES:

- BLOXELS
- MINECRAFT
- 3D PRINTING
- ANIMATION
- SCRATCH
- ARTS & CRAFT
- LUNCH
- FUN SPORTS / GAMES ETC

HAF & PAID BOOKING

AGES 7-13

soh@computexplorers.co.uk
computexplorers.co.uk/stoke-on-trent

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD

Staffordshire County Council
Department for Education

SPARK TO YOUR SUCCESS
PROJECTS THAT IGNITE EVERYONE

STYS

NAIL VARNISH & NAIL ART ACCREDITATION

AGES 13-16

7th April 2026 – 10th April 2026

LOCATION:
Cemetery Road, Newcastle Family Hub
Knutton, England, ST5 6DH

DURATION:
9:30 – 15:30

In this 4 days you will learn how to prepare nails for varnish, shape and file, apply nail varnish correctly, add nail art AND get an accreditation.

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD

SCAN QR CODE TO BOOK!
12 SPACES AVAILABLE

ADVANCE GROUP

EASTER EGGS-TRAVAGANZA HOLIDAY CLUBS

INCLUDING: MULTI-SPORTS, ARTS & CRAFTS, COMPETITIONS & PRIZES!

At St Marys Catholic School

DOES YOUR CHILD RECEIVE FREE SCHOOL MEALS? THEY CAN JOIN US FOR FREE THROUGH THE HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES & FOOD PROGRAMME! (HAF)

HOW TO BOOK:

HOW TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

1. VISIT: "WWW.EQUU.ORG"
2. UNDER "WHERE DO YOU LIVE TYPE "THE AREA" AND PRESS "SEARCH"
3. CHOOSE THE VENUE OR CLUB OF YOUR CHOICE
4. BOOK ON YOUR CHILD
5. OR CALL 07980292847

INCLUSIVE CLUBS AVAILABLE FOR ALL ABILITIES!

OFSTED

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
www.advancegroup.co.uk

adv4ncegroup

Department for Education
Staffordshire County Council

HAF fun this Easter

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

SCAN ME!

visit staffordshire.gov.uk/holidayactivities

TUTORAGE HAF PROVIDER FOR

Hop Into Music and Science HAF EASTER CLUB

Make aliens, build rockets, create elastic band cars and design kaleidoscopes: hands-on science and music activities with a hot meal included.

Small mixed-gender groups for ages 6-11. Each day explores a different science topic, alongside fun activities, music and outdoor games.

TUE 31 MAR 2026 12:30 – 18:30
WED 01 APR 2026 10:00 – 14:00
THU 02 APR 2026 12:30 – 18:30
TUE 07 APR 2026 12:30 – 18:30

Scan for more info & booking

Brampton Museum, Brampton Park, Newcastle-under-Lyme, England, ST5 6DF



English

Creative writing success

Well done to the following students who have been selected to feature as part of an anthology of creative writing called 'Stranger Sagas'!

- Bradley - Year 7
- Daphne - Year 7
- Evie C - Year 7
- Melissa C - Year 9



Well done

Handwritten student work for Miles Year 10. The page contains a paragraph of text with annotations and a self-assessment checklist. The checklist includes items like 'Start (Writer Technique)', 'Evidence', 'Inference / Comment about the relationship', 'Zoomed Inference', and 'Context (Context of Robert Browning)'. A feedback note says 'Be specific with writer intent, rather than too vague.' A starburst graphic is overlaid on the page.

Miles Year 10

Handwritten student work for Archie Year 10. The page is titled 'Classwork Legacy Monday 16th March 2026'. It discusses the Kamakaze pilots and their legacy. The text includes: 'To begin, kamakaze is when Japanese soldiers would crash their planes into American ships and coast... Suicide.' and 'First of all, a pilot may commit kamakaze because they may want to feel like they have a legacy as a hero and someone to be remembered as a hero but may also do it because they are patriotic and want to die helping their country.' A feedback note says 'Good to have a legacy as a hero and someone to be remembered as a hero'. A starburst graphic is overlaid on the page.

Archie Year 10

Mrs Wilson

Science

Science week!!

Last week yr8 took part in the 'Curiosity' themed science week. They had two weeks to work in teams to think of, design and conduct science experiments using the theme of 'curiosity'. They did an excellent job, with members of the community coming in on Thursday to see their displays!



What learning has taken place?

Year 7 have been doing a speed investigation with Mrs Wilson and have been looking at how the incline of a ramp affects the speed of toy cars!



KS4 Science Study Support Sessions

KS4 Drop-in - come with a question!	Monday Lunchtimes	3.11
KS4 Higher tier Masterclass	Monday After school (3.15-4)	3.11
KS4 Foundation tier Masterclass	Thursday Lunchtime	3.8



Computer Science



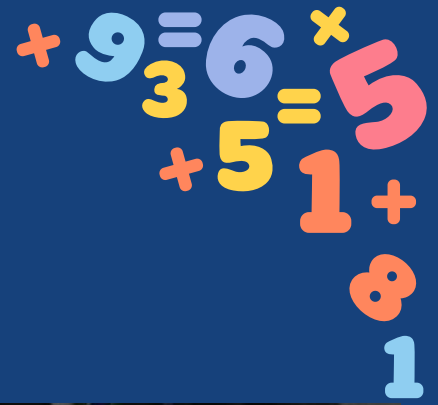
As part of recognising Earth day 2026, students in year 7 have been using Minecraft Education to build a house. They were asked to think about the environment and sustainability.

Encouraging our students to think about the natural world around them, and inspiring them to become courageous advocates for change, is a valuable way of developing curiosity and a sense of responsibility.



Mrs Turner

Maths



This term, our Year 9 students have been focusing on bearings, and we are incredibly proud of the effort, resilience, and progress they have shown throughout this topic.

Bearings can be a challenging concept, requiring students to combine their understanding of angles, direction, and problem-solving. Throughout the unit, students have learned how to measure and describe directions using three-figure bearings, always measured clockwise from North. They have also applied these skills to real-life scenarios, such as navigation and map reading.

What has stood out most is the determination our students have demonstrated. From mastering the use of protractors to interpreting multi-step questions, they have approached each challenge with a positive attitude. Many students have shown great improvement in their accuracy and confidence, particularly when solving exam-style problems.

In lessons, we have seen excellent collaboration, with students supporting one another and explaining their reasoning clearly. This has helped deepen understanding and build strong mathematical communication skills.

Miss Richardson

Performing Arts

Well done!



This half term Year 11 have completed their GCSE performance exam.

They have been working so hard since January to perform 2 extracts from the play "Find me". The students used their skills they have learnt this year and really showed the visiting examiner their skills and talents.

Well done to Max, Megan, Sophie, Brandon, Lani, Evie and Cody!

Wellbeing Hub



This week we were delighted to receive our brand new school football kit, awarded after our victory in The King's vs Kidsgrove Secondary Varsity tournament last summer at Kidsgrove Football Club. A special mention goes to Miley, who designed the winning strip — we absolutely love it!

Year 8 Oracy Week

Last week in PE, Year 8 students took part in a range of oracy-based team challenges, including a nightline, stilts challenges and obstacle courses, all designed to develop their communication skills.

These activities are important because they encourage students to clearly express ideas, listen effectively and work collaboratively as a team.



A big congratulations to our Year 11 and 6th form students who this week received outstanding results in Health and Social Care, Sport and Child Development! We are so proud of you!



Miss Sharrock



Humanities



GRATEFUL
FOR YOU

We would like to take a moment to say a heartfelt goodbye and good luck to Miss Thwaites as she leaves our school community. Over the past two years, Miss Thwaites has given exceptional support to our students through inspiring History lessons, and her dedication has made a lasting impact. As she begins the next chapter and moves closer to family in Cumbria, we pray that this change brings joy, peace, and many new opportunities. We will miss her greatly but send her with our warmest wishes for success and happiness in the future.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." — Jeremiah 29:11

GOODBYE

Modern Foreign



Languages



Year 7 Spanish students have been working hard on the topic “Mi Familia.” They have been developing their ability to recognise key vocabulary, including family members and titles, as well as building confidence in understanding and using simple phrases.

As part of their learning, students have combined their knowledge creatively by producing a collage that showcases their work. This includes labelled family members, written descriptions, and visual elements that demonstrate both their language skills and creativity.

It has been fantastic to see their enthusiasm and progress as they begin their journey in Spanish, and the collages reflect the effort and pride they have taken in their work.





Creative Arts



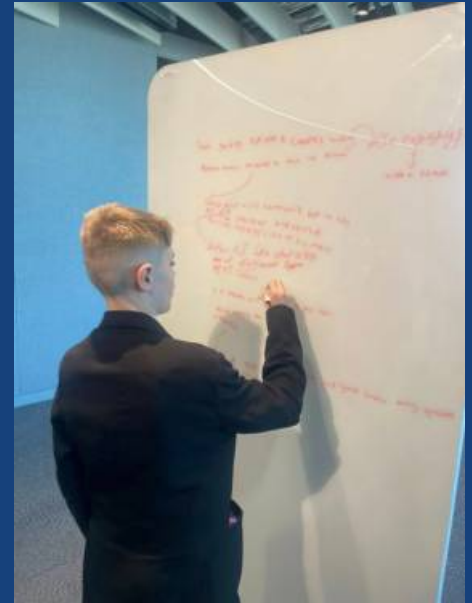
The props team have started work this term creating objects for the next school show – High School Musical. This group of talented Year 9 students have been so helpful over the years supporting Miss Pattinson with some fantastic displays for Shrek and Matilda. Their creativity, teamwork and problem solving skills are superb and I know they'll work well together to achieve another successful show – well done boys!

TEAM
WORK





Careers



Last week, a group of our students attended an exciting engagement and work experience event at BT in Birmingham.

They toured the buildings, spoke with a wide range of professionals, and took part in a design project alongside students from other schools.

Throughout the day, our students were fantastic, showing great leadership, teamwork, design thinking, critical thinking, and communication skills. We are very proud of them, and it was a truly valuable experience.

A big thank you to BT for hosting our students and to the staff who organised and supported the trip.

Year 7



Huge well done to Year 7 – 2 terms down, 1 to go!

Attendance has improved hugely in these last few weeks, bringing us to 94.1% (almost catching up with Year 8!)

You take up most of the top 20 students for positive points!

You are regularly showing care and support for your friends – please keep this up!

Star student – Archie S!



Archie plays pool for the Staffordshire A team and recently he played in the county finals in Great Yarmouth. Along with his team mates, Archie won the national cup, making the team Staffordshire champions. Archie also played the under 18/23 doubles world champion, who he beat! He will now progress to playing on the ultimate pool circuit – well done Archie, what a talent!



Miss Stanyer

Year 8



Year 8 have had another truly outstanding term! Attendance is soaring, and we are leading the way and that's exactly how we want it to stay! When we are all in school, we are working together, supporting each other, and getting the most out of every lesson and activity.



A special shout-out goes to everyone who took part in the Birmingham visit, your behaviour, teamwork, and commitment were exemplary and made the trip a huge success.

Well done, Year 8! Let's keep up the incredible work and continue to set the standard for attendance, effort, and achievement!

Miss Stanyer

Year 8

HAPPY
EASTER

Pride of The King's



Riley W. was awarded Pride of the King's this term for his incredible support of others, outstanding leadership skills, and significant contributions to a project. Well done, Riley, for embodying our values and being a role model for your peers. Keep up the fantastic work!



A huge congratulations to our top 20 students this term, who were invited to the Big Breakfast!

Your dedication, effort, and achievements have truly shone, and we are so proud of each of you. Keep inspiring others and reaching for excellence—this is just the beginning!



Year 9

Well done to our amazing top 20 for this 1/2 term who have smashed the positive points and have been able to enjoy a lovely big breakfast

- Caitlin A
- Isla M
- Lexi C
- Ethan H
- Denisa-Gabriela P
- Gracie S
- Yana A
- Viktor B
- Jack L
- Busola A
- Emma S
- Sophie I
- Merrilees C
- Jaiden E
- Sienna H
- Imogen H
- Lola M
- Rowan G
- Lucas D
- Lacey-May M



Please remember to keep standard high on return after Easter
-Don't forget your fab 5
-Full school uniform

Any problems with anything related to equipment and uniform please let me know and I am happy to support



Exciting opportunities



Please can all parents check arbor to see if you have any outstanding trip consents. There are two trips for some of the year 9 students. Firstly there is a geography Llandudno trip and secondly there is a Science Chester Zoo trip. Both these run very shortly after we return from our Easter break so please make sure consent and payment have been completed.

Hope everyone has a lovely Easter and stays safe





Year 10

Year 10 attendance is currently below where it needs to be, and we are keen to see a strong improvement moving forward. Attendance is incredibly important at every stage of education, but it becomes even more crucial during these key years as students prepare for their GCSEs.

It will be GCSE time before we know it, and every school day counts. Each lesson builds on prior learning, and missing time in school can make it harder to keep up and achieve full potential.

We encourage all students to make the most of every single school day and to prioritise attending regularly and on time.

If you have any concerns or need support with attendance, please do not hesitate to reach out to your Head of Year or a member of the attendance team, who will be happy to help.

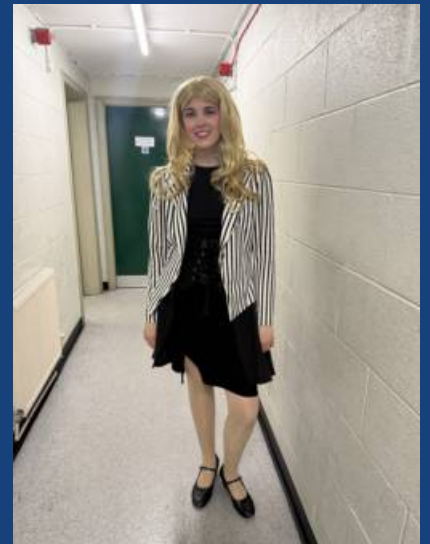
Yearly Attendance	Yearly Days Missed	Yearly Learning Hours Missed	Learning Hours Missed Over 5 Years
100%	0	0	0
97%	6	30	150
95%	10	50	250
90%	20	100	500
80%	40	200	1000
50%	100	500	2500

Miss Stevens

Year 10

ASPIRE.
BELONG.
CARE.

On Saturday, Miss Stevens visited Keele University to see our amazing Year 10 students attending Saturday school, where they are developing new skills in Art and Science. These students truly go above and beyond, showing aspiration, dedication, and a real love of learning.



We also want to celebrate Flo, who was visited by Miss Stevens and Miss Richardson after her incredible performance as one of the witches at the Rep Theatre. Flo is a bright, talented, and aspiring actress and performer. Her performance was hilarious and utterly captivating, and with her skills and dedication, she has a very bright future ahead!

Year 10



DREAM BIG,
WORK HARD,
MAKE IT
happen.

We are incredibly proud of the improvement in behaviour we have seen from Year 10. It has been fantastic to see students working hard and supporting one another in and around school.

This positive attitude is making a real difference, and we encourage everyone to keep it up as we move closer to this important stage in your education.

We wish all of our Year 10 students a restful and wonderful Easter break. Enjoy the time to recharge, and we look forward to welcoming you back ready to continue working hard.



Mr Barber

Year 11



A huge well done to our Year 11 students for the fantastic effort shown during your January exams in Health and Social Care, Child Care, Sport, and Enterprise and Marketing!

This is an important stage in your journey, and the focus, resilience, and determination you've demonstrated have not gone unnoticed. You are building strong foundations for the rest of your exams and your future beyond school.

As you head into the next phase, stay motivated, keep organised, and continue to believe in your abilities. Remember, support is always here whenever you need it.

Keep going—you've got this!

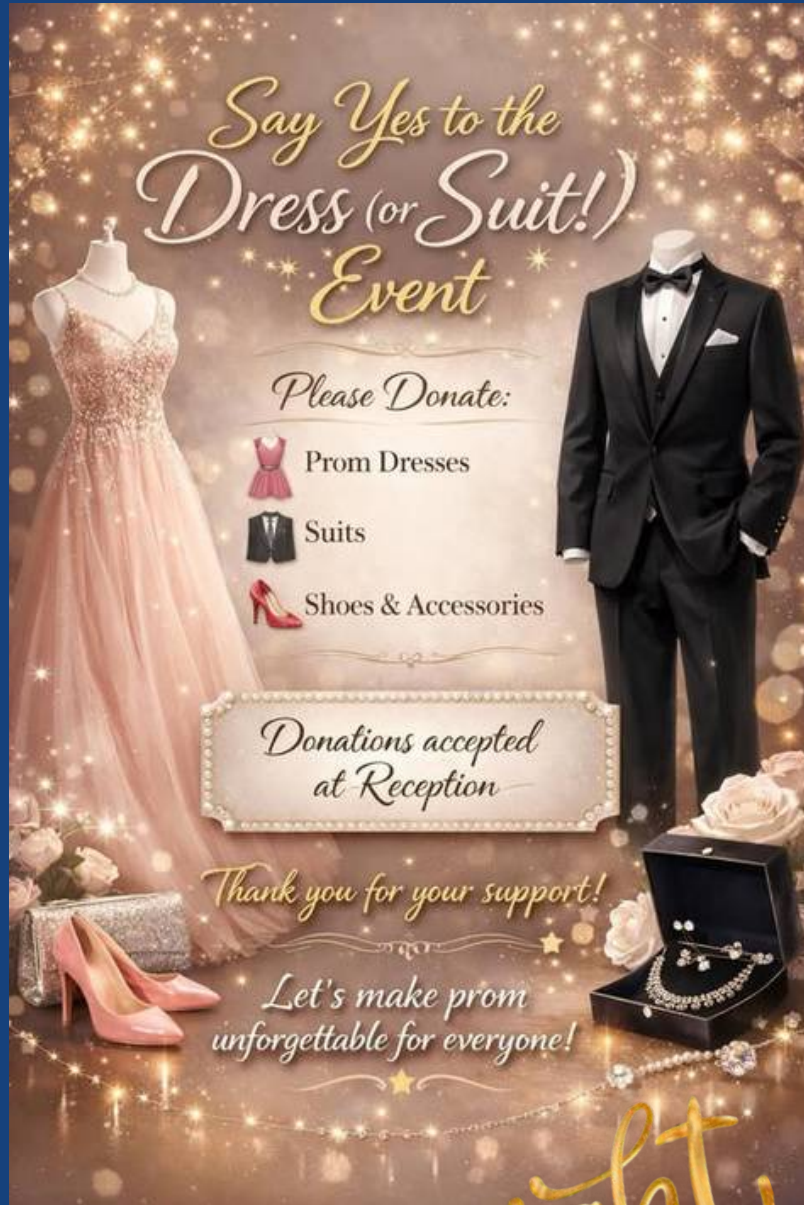


Mr Barber

Year 11



Say Yes to the Dress (or Suit!) Event



We're excited to support our students in getting ready for their special night and we need your help!

We are kindly asking for donations of:

Prom dresses

Suits

Shoes & accessories

Every contribution, big or small, will make a huge difference and help ensure every student feels confident and celebrated.

Donations can be handed in at reception we are incredibly grateful for your support

Let's come together to make prom unforgettable for everyone!

Prom night

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



Mrs Finnemore

Sixth Form



Congratulations to all our Sixth Form students who sat their January exams in Health and Social Care and Sport.

We are incredibly proud of your hard work, dedication, and the effort you have shown throughout. Your commitment to your studies has truly paid off, and you should all feel very proud of what you have achieved.

Well done to each and every one of you, keep striving for excellence and building on this success!

Have a restful Easter!

