



### **Dear Parents and Carers,**

This term, we were delighted to welcome many businesses to the academy for our annual careers fair. As you will see from the photos in this newsletter and on our website, the event created a fantastic buzz throughout the atrium. With approximately 50 companies in attendance—from local businesses to national and international organisations—the fair offered an exceptional opportunity for our students. We estimate that more than 500 people attended across the day, including Kingswood students and families from the wider Corby community.

The purpose of the event was to help students make clear connections between their day-to-day hard work and the exciting futures available to them. Feedback from visiting employers was outstanding; they described our students as the best they had met—confident, engaging and genuinely lovely. I wholeheartedly agree.

I am also delighted to share some exceptional news regarding our position within the community. This year, we received the highest number of applications ever for our Year 7 intake. With over 408 families listing Kingswood as a preference for just 216 available places—including a 25% increase in first-choice applications—we are proudly oversubscribed. We have also seen a record number of applications to our sixth form, with 130 students applying.

Additionally, attendance at our Parents' Evenings has reached a new high, with nearly 80% of families attending our recent Year 10 event. While we will always strive for even greater engagement, this strong partnership between home and the academy is central to supporting your children's success. Thank you for your continued trust, commitment and support.

**Matthew Gamble**

*Principal of Kingswood Secondary Academy*





### Key Dates / Events:

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March –  
Year 8 Parents' Evening

[Kingswood Secondary Academy - Home](#)

[Kingswood Secondary Academy - Term Dates](#)



Join us on X  
@KingswoodAcad

Dear Parents and Carers

As we begin Term 4, it's wonderful to reflect on the many successes our Year 8 students achieved throughout Term 3. They have demonstrated impressive maturity in their approach to learning, embracing new topics across the curriculum and showing real resilience during assessments and class projects. We have also been incredibly proud of the way they represented the school in extracurricular activities—from excellent teamwork during sports fixtures to creative contributions in clubs and enrichment sessions.

As a year team, we were especially proud of the way the year group conducted themselves during a recent assembly in which medical attention was required. Their calm, respectful behaviour showcased just how far they have come in developing maturity and responsibility over the past few terms.

Throughout Term 4, there is much for Year 8 to look forward to. Students will build on this term's progress with new learning units in every subject, giving them further opportunities to stretch themselves academically and strengthen key skills. Several events are also on the horizon, including school trips, wider curriculum activities, and early preparations for the next steps as they move into the second half of the academic year.

We look forward to welcoming our students back refreshed after the break and ready to embrace the challenges and opportunities that Term 4 will bring.

**Mr Golding and Mrs Hendry**

### Contact details

If you have recently moved to a new address and/or have updated your contact details, for example you have a new telephone number or email address, please can you contact your child's form tutor, Deputy Head of Year or Head of Year with the new details so we can update our records. Thank you.



### Attendance is Everyone's Business!

Last academic year, we witnessed a substantial increase in attendance, and I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved!

At Kingswood, we recognise and celebrate positive behaviour and encourage children to attend school by continuing to reward them with a wide range of prizes, including:

- **Weekly rewards** for the form group with the highest attendance in each year group
- **"Friday Feast"** – a prize draw for a student with 100% attendance to win a £20 Just Eat voucher
- **RISE points** awarded for daily attendance, with bonus points for achieving 100% attendance each week – these can be spent in our RISE Store for fantastic rewards
- **Attendance Flash rewards** awarded at the end of every term
- **NEW - Badges and certificates.** More information will follow - watch this space!
- **NEW - Hot Chocolate mornings** rewarding all students across the school with 100% attendance for the half term.

I hope we are all ready to make **Term 4 our best ever for attendance!**

Mr J. Moring  
**Student Attendance Lead**

## ATTENDANCE EVERY DAY COUNTS



KINGSWOOD SECONDARY ACADEMY

Respect, Independence, Service, Empathy

Why is Enrichment so important?

Enrichment:

- Helps children develop their interests and talents;
- Enables children to develop their character, confidence and independence;
- Teaches children how to keep physically and mentally healthy;
- Prepares individuals for future success.

Students can also participate in the following:

**Student council:** Elected form representatives from all year groups discuss issues affecting students and the Academy. This is a working party which helps our Academy progress.

**KEM – Kingswood Ethnic Minorities:** Volunteers discuss issues that affect and create a more inclusive community. This raises awareness, and students help to plan our cultural celebration days.

**LGBTQ+:** Formed of students from all year groups. This is an open and safe group where students discuss issues affecting their community. They also raise awareness by organising events and celebration days.

### Personal Development Curriculum

This spring, students across all year groups will be engaging with a rich and varied Personal Development curriculum designed to deepen their understanding of modern life, citizenship and the wider world.

**Year 8** will explore *politics and parliament*, learning how the UK is governed, the roles of key national leaders, and how individuals can get involved in grassroots politics and campaigning.

**Year 8** will investigate *UK law, crime and society* through an interactive “Desert Island” case study inspired by *Lord of the Flies*. Each lesson builds on the last as students develop their own rules, justice system and community responses to conflict.

**Year 9** will focus on *extremism and terrorism*, examining definitions, different forms of extremism and radicalisation, and the dangers of conspiracy theories. Students will also revisit their understanding of Antisemitism, linking to their earlier Holocaust studies in History.

**Year 10** will delve into *British Values*, beginning with what these values represent before examining Liberty, Mutual Tolerance and Respect. They will also explore issues such as hate crime and the rise of misinformation and fake news.

**Year 11** will follow the statutory *Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)* curriculum, covering healthy and unhealthy relationships, recognising abuse, staying safe around alcohol and parties, maintaining good sexual health, and revisiting key information on contraception.

Across the term, each year group will be supported to develop lifelong skills, reflect on important social issues, and build their understanding of the responsibilities and opportunities they have as young citizens.



# Kingswood Secondary Academy

## Break 2 and After School Clubs

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Break 2 1:40-2:10	Break 2 1:40-2:10	Break 2 1:40-2:10	Break 2 1:40-2:10	Break 2 1:40-2:10
KS4 Exams Clinic SC4 RM	Dance & Drama Club EP2 CR	Debating Club H2 WM	Dance & Drama Club EP2 CR	Crystal Club SC2 SM
Singing Club SC8 MT	KS3 Jamming Music Club MU2 TH	Board Games Club FH (Hope Church) PA1	STEM Club 9&10 SC5 JM & HJ	Kingswood Ethnic Minorities Group (KEM) SC8 MT
KS4 Art Catch A1 EE	Singing Club SC8 MT	Singing Club SC8 MT	HUMs Film Club H3 SE	Warhammer/ Boardgames M6 JM
GCSE Pod/Silent Study E8 MW/NM	Business Club IV4 SD/CL	Colouring Club H5 HA	KEM SC8 MT	PRIDE E4 LB
		Anime& Manga Club L1 HW	KS3 Doodle Club A1 LW	
		Music Year 11 MU2 TR	Garage Band MU2 TR	
			Fashion Club M2 RBR	
Basketball	Basketball	Basketball	Basketball	Basketball
Table Tennis	Table Tennis	Table tennis	Table Tennis	Table Tennis
<b>FOOTBALL ASTRO JL/MG Years 7-13</b>				
LIB Chess, Anime, Computer & board games	LIB Chess, Anime, Computer & board games	LIB Chess, Anime, Computer & board games	LIB Chess, Anime, Computer & board games	LIB Chess, Anime, Computer & board games
<b>After school 3:10- 4pm CHECK SPORTS CLUBS IN PE for clubs &amp; Fixtures</b>				
LIB Homework club	LIB Homework club	LIB Homework club	LIB Homework club	LIB Homework club
Year 11 Maths Masterclass	Year 11 English Masterclass	Year 11 Science Masterclass	Year 11 HUMS/MFL Masterclass	
Year 10 Masterclass Art A1/2 Dance& Drama EP3		Year 10 Masterclass Hospitality & Catering T2 Health & Social Care IV5 Business IV4	Year 10 Masterclass Music Mu1 & Mu2 Child Development ME1 Sports Science T1	



# Kingswood Secondary Academy

## Sports Clubs Timetable

**Sports Clubs Timetable - Please speak to your PE Teacher about the Term 4 Timetable**

**Please note:** the Kingswood Secondary Academy PE Kit must be worn for all after school clubs. Clubs will run from 3:10-4:10pm, therefore ensure that you register and arrange to be picked up at 4:15pm.

### Sports Fixture Timetable—Term 4

Week Commencing	Year 8	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	
23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Tuesday Boys & Girls GAT Sports Festival * @ Stanground	Tuesday Girls Netball @ Prince William	Thursday Boys Football Home vs PW	Tuesday Boys & Girls GAT Sports Festival * @ Stanground	Thursday Boys Football Away vs BW	Wednesday Girls Football Hosting
	Tuesday Girls Netball @ CTS			Thursday Boys Football Home vs CBA	Wednesday Girls Football Hosting	
9 <sup>th</sup> March		Tuesday Girls Netball @ Prince William	Thursday Boys Football Away vs LP	Thursday Boys Football Home vs LP	Wednesday Girls Football Hosting	
16 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday Girls Netball @ CTS			Thursday Boys Football Home vs WEL	Wednesday Girls Football Hosting	
23 <sup>rd</sup> March		Tuesday Girls Netball @ Prince William	Thursday Boys Football Away vs WEL	Thursday Boys Football Away vs CTS		
		Wednesday Boys and Girls GAT Academy Shield ** @ Weston Favell				

Sports Festival \* = Football, Badminton Doubles  
Academy Shield \*\* = Dodgeball, Netball, Cross Country



### The curriculum and independent learning at Kingswood Secondary Academy

Independent learning (home learning) is an integral part of the learning process at Kingswood Secondary Academy. It builds resilience by allowing our students to take ownership of their learning linked to the learning in lessons as well as forming good study habits. The Academy uses ClassCharts to record all independent learning tasks. All students and parents / carers have an individual log in for ClassCharts. If you need access, please contact your child's form tutor.

There are many different tasks that teachers may set students to complete independently such as completing research, undertaking a project, revising for a topic, completing an assessment, reviewing and / or improving a task and completing some online activities.

Please read the curriculum timetable for **Year 8 Term 4 2025** which highlights the learning expectations for each subject this term. We hope you find this information useful and take time to discuss the subject topics and learning opportunities with your child.

Term 4: Year 8 subjects	Curriculum, independent learning topics and assessment focus	Useful website links / additional information
English	'A Midsummer Night's Dream' by William Shakespeare.  Dracula – Bram Stoker play	<a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxgcwmn">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxgcwmn</a>  <a href="https://www.rsc.org.uk/shakespeare-learning-zone/a-midsummer-nights-dream">https://www.rsc.org.uk/shakespeare-learning-zone/a-midsummer-nights-dream</a>  <a href="https://www.sparknotes.com/lit/dracula/summary/">https://www.sparknotes.com/lit/dracula/summary/</a>
Maths	Fractions & percentages Standard Index form Number sense	<a href="#">MathsWatch</a>  <a href="#">Free KS3 Maths teaching resources   Y7, 8, &amp; 9   Page 1 of 2   Oak National Academy</a>  <a href="#">KS3 Maths - BBC Bitesize</a>
Science	Waves  Genes  Reactions	BBC Bitesize: <a href="#">Waves</a>  <a href="#">Genes</a>  <a href="#">Reactions</a>
Art	Fauvism painting, complementary colours	<b>Understand artists:</b> Develop knowledge of <b>Fauvism</b> , Painterly outcomes. Responding to artists, studying their colours, forms, mark making, compositions etc.



# Kingswood Secondary Academy

## Curriculum for Year 8 Term 4 continued

Term 4: Year 8 subjects	Curriculum, independent learning topics and assessment focus	Useful website links / additional information
Dance / Drama	Drama – introduction to theatre practitioners  Dance – conflict and Swansong, exploration of professional works	<a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zm72pv4">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zm72pv4</a>  <a href="https://rambert.org.uk/whats-on/swansong/">https://rambert.org.uk/whats-on/swansong/</a>
French	Holidays	<a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z7t8kmn/articles/zm3n7nb">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z7t8kmn/articles/zm3n7nb</a>  <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zms37nb/revision/1">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zms37nb/revision/1</a>
Geography	Weather and Climate	<a href="#">Weather and climate - KS3 Geography - BBC Bitesize</a>
History	Transatlantic Slave Trade	<a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z2qj6sg">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z2qj6sg</a>
IT	Introduction to programming continued	<a href="#">What is programming? - Introduction to programming - KS3 Computer Science Revision - BBC Bitesize</a>
Music	Creative Musician – Black Music in America (Ragtime and Blues)	<a href="#">The elements of music in the blues - Blues and jazz - Eduqas - GCSE Music Revision - Eduqas - BBC Bitesize</a>
PE	Girls – Trampolining and Rugby  Boys – Badminton Handball	<a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z2bvg82/revision/3">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z2bvg82/revision/3</a> Football <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxjqwxs">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxjqwxs</a> Trampolining <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zp2m7hv">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zp2m7hv</a> Rugby <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z2dw82p">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z2dw82p</a> Handball



# Kingswood Secondary Academy

## Curriculum for Year 8 Term 4 continued

Term 4: Year 8 subjects	Curriculum, independent learning topics and assessment focus	Useful website links / additional information
Religious Studies	Moral issues	<p><a href="#">Matters of life and death - BBC Teach</a></p> <p><a href="#">An introduction to Christian ethics - GCSE Religious Studies - BBC Bitesize</a></p>
Spanish	Town	<p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zf6t6v4/articles/zmftwtwy">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zf6t6v4/articles/zmftwtwy</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zd8wscw/revision/1">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zd8wscw/revision/1</a></p>
<p>Technology rotation</p> <p>Groups rotate every 7-9 weeks to cover all the areas</p>	<p><b>Food:</b> Health and safety in the kitchen. Cooking techniques and cooking a variety of simple dishes. The theory of food is then also taught in an extra lesson for half the year.</p> <p><b>Food theory:</b> Pupils study a theory unit on aspects of nutrition, sustainability and cultural aspects of food.</p> <p><b>Textiles:</b> An Art Textiles based project with sewing machine and other key skills. Applique flags/bunting.</p> <p><b>Engineering:</b> Pupils will be introduced to the diverse engineering / building sector through a range of practical activities.</p> <p><b>Computer Science:</b> Pupils will focus on the key fundamental skills such as – abstraction, logics, algorithms and data representation.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/occasions/recipes_for_kids">https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/occasions/recipes_for_kids</a></p> <p><a href="#">Easy Art for Kids: Wire Sculpture - Babble Dabble Do</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.tinkercad.com/">https://www.tinkercad.com/</a></p>



# Kingswood Secondary Academy

## Year 8 Communication

### Celebrating success:

We are pleased to celebrate the achievements of the top 20 RISE earners in **Term 3**. Well done for showing **R**espect, building **I**ndependence, having a sense of **S**ervice to our community and demonstrating **E**mpathy in lessons and in the community.

Arron	Taylor	134	Kaltom	Ettamli	122
Sorina	Grosu	131	Peyton	Moore	122
Adithya	Suresh	131	Lexi	Eaveson	121
Leon	Brzostowski	127	Ella	Wright	121
Oscar	Rzymiski	127	Nathan	Drage	120
Brighton Jnr	Majoni	126	Lottie	Little	119
Nathan	Munguana	126	Leah	McConnell	117
Alvin	Scornea	125	Amaris	Appiah	116
Denley	Ncube	123	Alan	Idasiak	116
Maya	Cocos	122	Jordan	Ssemanda-Kyambadde	116

Congratulations to the top 10 Tutor Groups for **Term 3**:

8W	2566	8S	2092
7K	2437	7G	2076
8K	2414	11W	2006
9D	2163	10B	1914
8D	2124	7S	1911



### Our RISE Store

We continue to see an incredible number of orders through the **RISE Store**, celebrating students who consistently demonstrate our school's core values: **Respect, Independence, Service to the community, and Empathy**. These values are key to helping our students grow into well-rounded Kingswoodian individuals.

Most RISE points this term were earned through **Independence**, which is awarded for efforts in and around learning. Points are given for things like participation in class discussions, producing high-quality work during lessons, and completing homework to a good standard.

We would like to celebrate all students who have earned RISE points and enjoyed spending them in the RISE Store. To continue offering a wide variety of items in exchange for RISE points, we warmly welcome donations from the wider community. Suggested items include **stationery, sweets, chocolates, toiletries, gift sets, and vouchers**.

If you know of any companies or sponsors who may be able to contribute to the store for our students, please contact **Mr. Feely** at: [feely@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org](mailto:feely@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org)



# Kingswood Secondary Academy

## Year 8 Communication

### Principal's Pride Celebration

We were pleased to recognise our Principal's Pride nominees from Years 7–9, who have demonstrated exceptional academic achievement throughout the term. A formal celebration was held during which students were presented with certificates and a small token of appreciation. They also had the opportunity to meet personally with Mr. Gamble to receive his congratulations. We commend all nominees for their diligence and commitment to excellence—your efforts are truly commendable.

#### Awardees by Subject:

- History:** Tyler Cairns
- Geography:** Oscar Ryzmski
- Religious Studies:** Mihaela Ivanut
- Spanish:** David Lesniak
- French:** Oliver Bialy
- Maths:** Lilly May-Parson
- English:** Coco Chan-Earle
- Science:** Denis Szekely
- PE:** Nicola Kevisa
- Dance/Drama:** Adithya Suresh
- Art:** Amelia Docherty
- IT:** Kyle Greer
- Technology:** Esme Davis
- Music:** Bea Hill



# Kingswood Secondary Academy

## Year 8 Communication

### Kingswood Secondary Academy Hosts Major Careers Event

On Wednesday 21st January, Kingswood Secondary Academy welcomed 50 employers to a highly successful careers event designed to inspire and guide students as they consider their future pathways. A huge thank-you to staff who invited family, friends and professional contacts, helping to create a diverse and engaging line-up of exhibitors. The event featured a mix of nationally recognised companies—such as Microsoft—alongside a wide range of thriving local businesses, all offering valuable insights into qualifications, apprenticeships and emerging job opportunities.

Organised by Beth Hardy, Aspiration and Careers Lead, and Ian Doherty, the event gave students the chance to speak directly with employers and gain practical advice on:

- The qualifications and skills needed for a variety of careers
- Opportunities for apprenticeships and internships
- What day-to-day responsibilities look like across different professions

#### Event Highlights

- Inspirational alumni returned to share their journeys, including:
  - Fynn (Met Police)
  - Freya (Midwifery)
  - Fumi (Women in STEM)
  - Ceara (Ernst & Young)
  - Andrew Guy (NHS)
  - Hollie Brown (Racetrack Photography)It was wonderful to welcome former students back as role models for our current cohorts.
- Year 9 students showed fantastic enthusiasm, approaching the event with excitement and curiosity.
- Employers praised the confidence of our students, noting how self-assured they were when discussing their aspirations.
- Sixth Form students were highly engaged, holding thoughtful and in-depth conversations with employers about future opportunities.
- Politeness and respect shone through, with several employers commenting on students' maturity. One described them as displaying "*maturity, kindness and politeness... a credit to you and their parents.*"
- An aspirational culture was evident, with many employers observing that students had clear goals and ambitions. As one noted, "A lot of them know what they want to do."
- A memorable moment included a highly positive and energising conversation between three students and Wayne from Future Build Finance—just one example of the many meaningful interactions seen throughout the day.

This year's event was a celebration of aspiration, confidence and community. Thank you to all employers, staff and students who contributed to such a successful and inspiring day.



# Kingswood Secondary Academy

## Year 8 Communication

### Introducing the Kingswood Shakespeare Company (KSC)

We are thrilled to announce an exciting new opportunity for our students: the creation of the Kingswood Shakespeare Company (KSC). This unique initiative is a joint venture between the Expressive Performing Arts and English faculties, delivered in partnership with the world-renowned Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC).


Over recent months, Kingswood teachers from both departments have taken part in specialist workshops led by RSC actors, directors and theatre makers. These professional experiences are now being brought directly into lessons and extra-curricular sessions, enriching the learning experiences of our students.

We are proud to share that our very own elite performance company, KSC, has now been formed.

Selected students are currently involved in rehearsals to prepare our school's section of *The Tempest* for the national Playmaking Festival. This festival is one of only 25 taking place across the country, and we will be collaborating with six other schools in our region before performing publicly at The Core Theatre in July.

We are also looking forward to welcoming an RSC Director Mentor in April, who will lead a specialist workshop to support the development of our final piece. In the meantime, KSC rehearsals will continue during lunchtime sessions as our performance begins to take shape.

Further information will follow in the coming months. We wish all involved the very best as they rehearse, create and fundraise—everything needed to help put the show on the stage!





Thursdays - Break 2  
Timings: 1.40pm to 2.10pm

WHERE: EP1

This is an invitation only event

For more information please speak to:  
Mrs. Rose,  
Mr. Robertson or  
Mr. Wood

In collaboration with 



### Year 11 Guest Speaker Supports Performing Arts Exam Preparation

Year 11 Performing Arts students were delighted to welcome Billy Dalziel from the Corby Heritage Centre into their lesson last week. Billy delivered a fascinating talk on Corby's rich history, with particular focus on the town's development and the powerful stories connected to the steelworks and the formation of our cultural heritage.

This insight will support students with their Component 3: Responding to a Brief exam, where they will create, devise and choreograph their own performances. Students will also track their skills development throughout the process, culminating in a final performance that is evaluated at the end.

Our Year 11 cohort were exemplary in their conduct, asking thoughtful questions that demonstrated real engagement with the material and their creative intentions. We extend our sincere thanks to Billy and North Northamptonshire Council for generously giving their time and expertise.



# Kingswood Secondary Academy

## Year 8 Communication

### Kingswood Ethnic Minority Group (KEM) Perform at Beanfield Primary School Community Day

We were delighted to visit Beanfield Primary School for their annual Community Day, a vibrant celebration of world cultures and religions. The event brought together students, families and staff in a warm, inclusive atmosphere that truly reflected the diversity and unity within the school community.

As part of the celebrations, KEM performed a short play centred on cultural diversity. The piece explored themes of understanding, respect and appreciation for different backgrounds, traditions and identities. Through expressive storytelling, movement and dialogue, the students demonstrated how cultural differences enrich our communities and how empathy and acceptance can strengthen the bonds between us.

The KEM performers represented Kingswood Secondary Academy with pride. Their work was thoughtful, expressive and impactful, showcasing the group's commitment to promoting cultural awareness and celebrating multicultural identity. Their performance added real depth to the event and was warmly received by Beanfield's staff, students and families.

We are incredibly proud of our students for their professionalism, creativity and passion—a wonderful contribution to a meaningful community celebration.



### Brilliant Club – Congratulations to Our Graduates

A huge well done to our Brilliant Club graduates! We recently marked the end of the programme with a well-deserved pizza party to celebrate their hard work, resilience and commitment over the past term.

Our students will be graduating from Cambridge University on Wednesday 4th February, where they will take part in a formal ceremony recognising their achievements alongside pupils from schools across the country.

We are incredibly proud of everything they have accomplished and the ambition they have shown throughout the programme. Congratulations to all our graduates!



# Kingswood Secondary Academy

## Year 8 Communication

### Year 8 and Year 9 Students Launch Inspires Club at the University of Northampton

Thirty of our Year 8 and Year 9 pupils visited the University of Northampton today for the official launch of the Inspires Club. Over the coming weeks, participating pupils will work closely with a PhD tutor to produce a piece of academic writing and experience university-style learning first-hand.

During today's visit, pupils:

- Met their PhD tutors for the first time
- Took part in an exciting scavenger hunt across the university campus
- Learned more about university study, courses, facilities and student life



Our pupils represented the school brilliantly throughout the day—showing curiosity, enthusiasm and maturity in every activity. We are very proud of them and look forward to seeing their academic projects develop over the course of the programme.



### Year 8: Inspires Day at De Montfort University

Thirty of our Year 8 pupils took part in an exciting Inspires Day at De Montfort University. Throughout the visit, pupils explored what university life is like, toured a range of campus facilities, and took part in an engaging problem-solving workshop designed to stretch their thinking and teamwork skills.

Our students showed great enthusiasm and curiosity during the day and represented the school wonderfully. This inspiring experience has given them a valuable early insight into university learning and the opportunities that higher education can offer.



# Kingswood Secondary Academy

## Year 8 Communication

### Year 9: Visual CV Day at De Montfort University



Fifty of our Year 9 pupils took part in an inspiring Visual CV Day at De Montfort University. Throughout the visit, pupils explored what university life is like, learned about a wide range of future career pathways, and received valuable guidance to support them as they begin to think about their GCSE option choices.

The day offered a fantastic blend of aspiration and practical insight, helping students reflect on their strengths, ambitions and the skills they may wish to develop for the future. Our pupils represented the school brilliantly and showed great enthusiasm throughout the event.



### Brilliant Club Success – Congratulations to Our Year 9 Scholars

Fourteen of our Year 9 pupils have successfully completed The Brilliant Club Scholars Programme, marking a fantastic milestone in their academic journey. Their hard work and commitment culminated in a special graduation ceremony at Robinson College, University of Cambridge, on Wednesday 4th February.

Throughout the programme, our pupils approached university-style learning with determination and curiosity. They engaged with challenging material, developed their academic writing skills, and demonstrated the resilience, ambition and independence that will continue to support them as they progress through their education.

A huge well done to all our graduates. They represented the school brilliantly, and we are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved.



# Kingswood Secondary Academy

## Year 8 Communication



### Exciting times for our Kingswood community

We are pleased to share an exciting update following Lee Barron's recent visit to Kingswood. During his time with us, Lee met with our students to introduce the *Pride of Place* project—an ambitious, community-focused initiative that will see Kingswood receive £2 million over the next ten years.

What makes this opportunity truly special is the central role our young people will play. As part of the project, our students will be involved in the decision-making process regarding how this long-term funding is allocated. Their voices will directly shape community priorities in key areas such as health, education, and local development.

Lee was incredibly impressed by the thoughtful questions and ideas shared by the students, and he expressed how valuable their perspectives will be as the project progresses. This partnership not only empowers our students but also strengthens our connection with the wider community, giving them a real chance to influence positive, lasting change.

We look forward to keeping you updated as our involvement develops and as students begin contributing to planning discussions in the coming months.



# Kingswood Secondary Academy

## Year 8 Communication



### Street Tag

Are you concerned about the amount of screen time you or your family are using each day?

Are you worried about a lack of physical activity, fitness, or becoming more sedentary?

Have you noticed a decline in your own mental health, or that of a family member, over the past six to twelve months?

If so, *Street Tag* offers a fun and motivating way to turn screen time into opportunities for physical activity and wellbeing.

We are delighted to announce that **Kingswood** is taking part in **Season 1 of the Corby Schools Street Tag event**, which will officially launch on **Monday, 26 January 2026**. As a school, we have entered as a team with the aim of encouraging our whole community to become more active and healthier in 2026.

Street Tag is an interactive app that can be downloaded via the Street Tag website. It encourages participants of all ages — from Year 1 students to grandparents — to walk, jog, run or cycle around Corby to collect virtual tags. A step-by-step guide on how to access the game is attached. When signing up, please remember to select **Kingswood Secondary Academy** so that all activity contributes to our position on the leaderboard.

Once the app is installed, tags are automatically collected when you come within range, meaning you do not need to take your phone out while being active — the app registers your progress for you. To ensure a fair and fresh start for all schools, the leaderboard will be **reset to zero at 7:00 a.m. on Monday**, so even walking to school that morning could help kick-start our score.

Every step counts — whether you are walking, running, or cycling — and all physical activity helps boost our school's position on the leaderboard. Steps recorded from both indoor and outdoor activities can also be converted into Street Tag points via the app using Fitbit, Apple Watch, Garmin, an in-built phone pedometer, or by uploading screenshots of step counts.

For further details, please visit the [Street Tag website](#).

**Good luck, and we hope you enjoy getting involved!**



# Kingswood Secondary Academy

## Year 8 Communication

### New student lockers

We have recently installed new student lockers, which are now available to rent. These lockers offer a modern, robust, and secure solution for storing student belongings and equipment. Having a locker can help students reduce the amount they carry each day and avoid misplacing important school items.

The standard rental price for a locker is £35 per year, but we have negotiated a reduced rate of £25 for our students and their families.

Additionally, if students left any items in their lockers last academic year, we kindly ask them to visit Student Services during breaktimes or after school. All items have been bagged separately, and students will need to provide their old locker number to collect their belongings. Unclaimed items after two weeks will be disposed of — e.g. donated to charity shops or recycled.



**secure locker rental**  
thinking outside the box

# Two simple ways to rent your locker

Simple, safe, secure...

**Visit [www.locker.rentals](http://www.locker.rentals)** or **Scan this QR code**

**Once on the web app do the following:**

- Enter your **location**
- Choose your **preferred locker area** from the drop down menu (if available)
- Click on **check availability**
- Where prompted enter your details and read and agree to the terms and conditions
- Click on **rent locker** and follow the instructions for entering your payment details.
- You will then be emailed a locker code and the number of your locker compartment.

**How to Access your Locker:**

- Go to the locker number detailed on your confirmation email
- Enter the **4 digit code** detailed on your confirmation email and open the lock
- Should you forget your code it can be reissued by visiting [www.locker.rentals](http://www.locker.rentals) and clicking on the re-issue my locker code link.

**For all other enquiries, please email [enquiries@securelockerrental.uk](mailto:enquiries@securelockerrental.uk)**



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The Kingswood Secondary Academy is part of the Greenwood Academies Trust (GAT). Please use the link below to see our full list of current vacancies for both Kingswood Secondary Academy and other Academies within GAT: [Kingswood Secondary Academy - Vacancies](#)



Please access the Academy website to find information about aspiration and careers and how to best support your child, including job of the week:

[Kingswood Secondary Academy - Job of the Week](#)



### ClassCharts

Please access ClassCharts <https://www.classcharts.com/account/login> for all homework, RISE points and behaviour information. You will need a code in order to log on. Please contact your child's tutor who will provide this for you.

**ParentPay** is a convenient facility that enables parents and carers to pay, in a cashless way, for various items. You can access ParentPay by visiting [Kingswood Secondary Academy - ParentPay & Shop](#)

Here are just a few of the things that can be paid for via the [Kingswood Secondary Academy Shop](#):

Student Planners/Calculators/Student ID cards, lanyards & holders  
Art supplies  
Revision guides & books (these are provided free of charge to PP students)  
Uniform  
Exam Re-takes

**Payment reports are printed out daily and orders processed. Your child can collect their orders the FOLLOWING DAY from Student Services.**

Items will not be posted home.



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### Annual Lockdown Drill:

The safety and welfare of our students and staff is our highest priority at Kingswood. As you would expect, we regularly practise emergency drills to ensure our staff and students know what to do in an emergency. The aims of the training drills are to improve our ability to protect pupils/students, save lives, and reduce injuries. These practice drills allow us to evaluate our emergency operation plans and improve our response skills.

For many years now we have also practised our 'Lockdown Drill' and we wanted to make you aware of this. These drills are designed to ensure that pupils/students are aware of our safety procedures and to reduce the level of anxiety that could come from a real-life situation should it ever occur - which of course, we hope never will.

A lockdown would be initiated when a situation arises that requires the isolation (rather than evacuation) of students and staff from an identified risk, such as; dangerous animal in the vicinity of the school, local emergency (gas cloud/air pollution), or an intruder on our site.

In the event of a real risk and lockdown, we would initiate lockdown in liaison with the police. Parents and carers will be contacted at a suitable time to inform them of the event. It is vital that parent(s)/carer(s) do not:

- Contact the school via telephone in order to keep our phone lines clear
- Contact your child/children directly by mobile phone even if they contact you
- Come to school in person, unless told it is safe to do so by ourselves

We appreciate that this would be extremely difficult, but if the above points are not followed this could jeopardise the safety of students and staff in school.

Please be sure that your contact information is up to date and accurate. It is a good idea to have several trusted adults listed as contacts with the school.

We must stress that these incidents are extremely unlikely to occur. However, we are best to be prepared and because of our lockdown planning we did successfully initiate a lockdown on the advice of the Police in 2022 when stray dogs were in the local community.

Thank you for your continued support and if you have any questions regarding the above information then please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of Year.



# Kingswood Secondary Academy

## Year 8 Communication

### **Parking and Access to Kingswood Secondary Academy**

Wherever possible, we encourage our students to walk or cycle to the Academy, as this offers clear health and environmental benefits.

If you do bring your child by car, please note the following:

### **Dropping Off Your Child in the Morning**

It would be most helpful if you could drop off your child a few hundred metres from the school and allow them to walk the short distance in.

If you wish to use our roundabout, this is permitted in the mornings. This works well because drop-offs occur over a 30–45-minute period, so congestion is generally not a significant issue.

### **Collecting Your Child at the End of the Day**

Due to the large number of students leaving in a short time frame, we do not allow parents onto the site to collect their children. This is because of the significant congestion it causes, which leads to vehicles backing up onto Gainsborough Road and blocking traffic in both directions.

### **In summary:**

Please do not drive onto the school site to collect your child at the end of the day.

### **Exception:**

If your child has a disability, please speak with their Head of Year or Miss Skorwider in our Special Educational Needs Department, who will make appropriate arrangements.

### **Consideration for Local Residents**

We often receive complaints from local residents, particularly on Tower Hill Road and Oak Wood Drive. With this in mind, we kindly ask that you:

- Note that **Tower Hill Road is a no-stopping area** between Monday and Friday, 8am–6pm. This is clearly signposted.
- Park considerately. Consider parking further away and allowing your child to walk a few minutes to meet you, helping reduce congestion.
- Avoid blocking residents' driveways or using them to turn around or stop.
- Do not park on yellow lines.

### **The AA - School Safety Alert**

- Over **6,000 children under 16** were injured on UK roads in 2023 while walking or cycling.

### **The AA - Safety Advice for Drivers**

- Slow down in school zones—even if not signposted.
- Avoid distractions, especially mobile phone use.
- Park responsibly—not near school gates or on zigzag lines.
- Watch out for children on bikes, scooters, or crossing roads.
- Obey school crossing patrols.

*"The return to school is a busy and exciting time for families, but it also brings increased risks on the roads. With more children walking, cycling, and scooting to school, drivers must be especially cautious."*

— Tony Rich, AA Head of Road Safety

**Thank you for your co-operation.**



# Kingswood Secondary Academy

## Year 8 Communication

### Kingswood Secondary Academy – Uniform Requirements

At Kingswood Secondary Academy we believe that wearing our distinctive uniform gives our students a sense of belonging, fosters pride in the Academy and stops students coming to school in inappropriate clothing or footwear. Students are our ambassadors in the community and therefore we expect all students to wear full uniform when travelling to and from the Academy, at all Academy functions, on extra-curricular visits and when taking part in sports events. Please refer to our website for updated uniform policy and expectations.

#### Our Academy uniform consists of:

- An Academy tie with a traditional white shirt which has a fastened top button and is long enough to be tucked into trousers or a skirt; the bottom of the tie should meet the waistband.
- Black trousers or skirt made of standard material (see below) – studs or zips on pockets must not be visible. Jeans, cords, hipster and tight-fitting (e.g. Revs-style) trousers are not appropriate, and all trousers should cover the ankle. Combat-style trousers, e.g. with additional side pockets, are not allowed.
- We introduced a **new skirt** in September 2025, and it is available for purchase from **Price and Buckland**, (our uniform supplier). Any student who chooses to wear a skirt must wear this approved style purchased from Price and Buckland. Students who prefer not to wear a skirt may continue to wear **tailored black trousers**, which should meet the guidelines outlined in our current uniform policy.
- Academy blazer for all students in years 7 to 11.
- Black or grey socks with black trousers; neutral or black tights with skirts.
- Black leather or leather-style traditional school shoes that can be polished, with a heel no more than 2cm in height. (No boots or trainers, or trainer-style shoes such as Vans or Converse are allowed. Girls' ballet-type footwear is not acceptable)

#### Physical Education kit for all years:

- Black tracksuit bottoms with Academy logo
- Black short-sleeved sports polo shirt with purple panels and the Academy logo
- Black long-sleeved sports shirt with purple panels and the Academy logo
- Black shorts with Academy logo
- Suitable trainers or other sports footwear
- Sports leggings with academy logo or plain black sports leggings (not cotton) Students will also be required to bring other appropriate kit to their PE lessons where necessary. For example, shin-guards for contact sports, studded boots for rugby, mouth guard for some PE activities. Students will be given specific advice from their PE teachers.

