



Dear Parents, Carers, and Students

As we approach the end of Term 4, we are now officially over two-thirds of the way through this academic year—a fact that surprised me when I first heard it last week. Time really does fly when you are having fun. I would like to reflect on what has been an exceptionally busy and rewarding spring for our Kingswood community. It has been a term defined by our RISE values—Respect, Independence, Service, and Empathy—as our students continue to flourish and represent the academy with pride.

It has been a standout term for Kingswood sports. In February, our Year 8 and 9 basketball teams travelled to Nottingham to compete against other schools within the Trust. Our girls finished 2nd and our boys 3rd, resulting in a fantastic 3rd place overall for the Academy. Additionally, thirteen of our student officials from Years 10, 11, and 13 showed great leadership by hosting local primary schools for the Take 8 Basketball Tournament.

We also continue to celebrate our musical talent. Following our Music Mark award earlier this academic year, it has been wonderful to see nearly fifty students regularly engaging in instrumental lessons and performing in our various clubs and bands.

I would also like to highlight the recent storytelling project hosted at The Core at Corby Cube on 22 March. Twenty of our young people had the unique opportunity to work with Netflix and the National Youth Theatre to explore careers in the creative industries—a truly inspiring event for our budding storytellers.

We talk to our students about 'investing in themselves', and the examples above are just a few of the many ways Kingswood students are going above and beyond, taking advantage of the opportunities available in our academy to develop their skills and abilities for the future.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable Easter break and look forward to welcoming everyone back for the summer term.

Please note the following key dates as we move into the Easter break and Term 5:

- Last Day of Term 4: Friday 27 March 2026
- Easter Break: Monday 30 March to Friday 10 April 2026
- Start of Term 5: Monday 13 April 2026
- May Bank Holiday (Academy Closed): Monday 4 May 2026

Yours sincerely

Mr Matthew Gamble

Principal, Kingswood Secondary Academy





Key Dates / Events:

[Kingswood Secondary Academy - Home](#)

[Kingswood Secondary Academy - Term Dates](#)



Join us on X
@KingswoodAcad

Dear Year 8

Our Year 8 cohort continues to go from strength to strength. This term, we have seen a significant improvement in attendance, with many students' showing real dedication to being in school each day and engaging positively with their learning. This upward trend is making a noticeable difference across the year group, and we are incredibly proud of the commitment shown.

Students have also been wearing their rewards and badges with great pride around the academy. These badges recognise their achievements, progress, RISE values, and contributions to school life. It has been wonderful to see so many Year 8 students collecting new awards and celebrating their progress.

We are also looking forward to several upcoming trips planned for later this year and into next year. Further details will be shared with families in due course, but these opportunities promise to offer memorable experiences that will enrich students' learning and personal development.

A reminder to parents and carers that if a child is going to be absent, the school should be contacted between 08:00 and 08:30am to report the absence. This helps us maintain accurate attendance records and ensures the safety of all students. We also ask that students come to school fully equipped and in the correct uniform each day. Should they forget an item, the Standards Hub is available before 08:30am to support them.

Finally, I would like to wish all students and their families a very Happy Easter. We hope you enjoy a restful break and look forward to welcoming Year 8 back for a fantastic Term 5.

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 5 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.

PSHE & Personal Development – Term 5 Overview

Following the Easter break, each year group will continue its PSHE and Personal Development journey, with most year groups studying the statutory requirements of **Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)**.

Year 7 will learn about friendships, relationships, and respect, including online relationships, consent, peer pressure, and the societal pressures associated with being male today.

Year 8 will build on their Year 7 learning, with an increased RSE focus. Topics include sexual orientation, the menstrual cycle, and an introduction to contraception.

Year 9 will explore sex, the law, and consent. Lessons will cover the legal framework around consent, sexual activity, domestic abuse and violence, as well as the statutory topic of FGM.

Year 10 will deepen their understanding of RSE, particularly around unhealthy relationships and the sexualisation present within the media, including the impact of pornography.

Year 11 will focus on mental health and the promotion of emotional wellbeing as they prepare for their GCSE examinations.

Across all topics, pupils have access to the Kingswood Way QR code, enabling them to confidentially share information with Mrs Bonner. In PSHE lessons, students are also directed to local RSE and mental-health support services within the North Northamptonshire area.

For parents, carers, and pupils wishing to access further resources, our shared PSHE/RSE Padlet is available here: [PSHE resources board](#)



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
FOOTBALL ASTRO JL/MG Years 7-13				
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
After school 3:10- 4pm CHECK SPORTS CLUBS IN PE for clubs & Fixtures				
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 5 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 5

Week Commencing	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
13 th Apri	Tuesday Girls Netball @ CTS			Thursday Boys & Girls Athletics @ Corby Triangle	
20 th April	Tuesday Girls Netball @ Bishop	Tuesday Girls Netball @ Southfields			
27 th April					
4 th May		Wednesday Boys & Girls Athletics @ Corby Triangle	Wednesday Boys & Girls Athletics @ Corby Triangle	Tuesday Girls Rounders @ CTS	
11 th May			Wednesday Girls Rounders @ Lodge Park		
18 th May		Tuesday Girls Rounders @ CBA			



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

KS3 Academy Assessments

Our Years 7, 8 and 9 cohorts will soon take part in their KS3 Academy Assessments.

Assessment dates:

Year 7 - Week 1: 18/05/2026 Week 2: 01/06/2026 Week 3: 08/06/2026

Year 8 - Week 1: 15/06/2026 Week 2: 22/06/2026 Week 3: 29/06/2026

Year 9 - Week 1: 05/05/2026 Week 2: 11/05/2026 Week 3: 18/05/2026

These assessments provide an important opportunity for teachers to determine the progress pupils have made across their subjects this academic year. Pupils will use the feedback to address misconceptions, revisit key topics, and strengthen their understanding. The assessments will also give pupils valuable experience of working under timed examination conditions—an essential skill as they move towards future formal exams.

In preparation, pupils will receive knowledge organisers in lessons, and form tutors will support them in creating a personalised revision timetable. Class teachers will also upload a copy of the relevant knowledge organiser to ClassCharts, along with **the exact date of each assessment**. All pupils should now be revising independently, using the strategies taught during lessons.

To support your child at home, we encourage parents and carers to:

Do – Revision is most effective when pupils actively engage with the material. This could include writing flashcards, creating mind maps, or using Cornell notes—techniques pupils have been practising in form time and lessons.

Review – Helping your child by asking questions from their revision materials can significantly improve recall and memory retention.

Go back through – This is an ideal time for pupils to revisit misconceptions or topics they found challenging, strengthening understanding through retrieval practice.

You can access more information about a wide range of effective revision methods by visiting:

[Revision techniques from BBC Bitesize](#)

If you have any questions regarding your child's progress or the upcoming Academy Assessments, please do not hesitate to contact their subject teacher or form tutor.

Thank you for your continued support.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Curriculum for Year 8 Term 5

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 5 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 5: Year 8 subjects	Curriculum, independent learning topics and assessment focus	Useful website links / additional information
English	Dystopian Fiction – Genre Study 'The Veldt' by Ray Bradbury	https://www.bl.uk/20th-century-literature/themes/visions-of-the-future
Maths	Angles in parallel lines and polygons Area of trapezia and circles	KS3 Maths - BBC Bitesize
Science	Holistic Assessment B Reactions Genes	BBC Bitesize: Genes Chemical Reactions
PE	Boys: Athletics and cricket Girls: Athletics and Striking and fielding games (Rounders)	Cricket - GCSE Physical Education - BBC Bitesize Athletics - GCSE Physical Education - BBC Bitesize Bing Videos - Rounders



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Curriculum for Year 8 Term 5 continued

Term 5: Year 8 subjects	Curriculum, independent learning topics and assessment focus	Useful website links / additional information
Art	Cultural Identity may lead to students making masks, or mixed-media work following topics such as Alebrije, Tinga Tinga	Art and Design - BBC Bitesize
Dance / Drama	Dance – Dancing through the decades Drama – Musical Theatre Acting	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uqHt2VeYJN4 https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z2hr7ty/revision/2
French	Festivals and Food	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zs4w3qt/articles/zmvwywx
Geography	Hot Deserts Middle East	Deserts guide for KS3 geography students - BBC Bitesize Geopolitics and conflict for KS3 Geography - BBC Bitesize
History	World War One	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z4crd2p
IT	Clear messaging in digital media	What are digital communication systems? - BBC Bitesize Media literacy resources - BBC Bitesize
Music	Ensemble Musician – Popular Music (Rock)	Playing together - KS3 Music - BBC Bitesize



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Curriculum for Year 8 Term 5 continued

Term 5: Year 8 subjects	Curriculum, independent learning topics and assessment focus	Useful website links / additional information
Religious Studies	Moral issues	Matters of life and death - BBC Teach An introduction to Christian ethics - GCSE Religious Studies - BBC Bitesize
Spanish	Holidays	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zfnfd6f/revision/1
Technology rotation Groups rotate every 7-9 weeks to cover all the areas	<p>Food: 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>Food theory: Pupils study a theory unit on aspects of nutrition, sustainability and cultural aspects of food.</p> <p>Textiles: An Art Textiles based project with sewing machine and other key skills. Inspired by the applique techniques of ASAFO flags.</p> <p>Engineering: Pupils will be introduced to the diverse engineering / building sector through a range of practical activities.</p> <p>Computer Science: Pupils will focus on the key fundamental skills such as – abstraction, logics, algorithms and data representation.</p>	https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/occasions/recipes_for_kids 20 Fun And Easy Sewing Projects For Kids To Make (homeschoolmasteryacademy.com) Flash Dustmagnet Back to Clean in a Flash 20" - Textiles Tinkercad - Engineering



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

Celebrating success:

We are pleased to celebrate the achievements of the top 20 RISE earners in **Term 4**. 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.

Viktor	Zagorski	109	Bohdan	Almes	98
Eliza	Pogoda	106	Arron	Taylor	98
Maison	Lansberry	105	Leon	Bonnefemme	97
Adithya	Suresh	105	Nathan	Munguana	97
Ella	Wright	105	Alvin	Scornea	96
Archie	Duncan	102	Max	Simpkin	94
Peyton	Moore	101	Amalia	Aanikai	93
Rae	Duncan	100	Kaltom	Ettamli	93
Lilly Mai	Parsons	100	Andrew	Green	93
Leah	McConnell	99	Olivia	Hajo	93

Congratulations to the top 10 Tutor Groups for **Term 4**:

10K	3156	8K	1673
8W	2135	8G	1651
7W	1788	9D	1606
8D	1689	7K	1562
8S	1680	10W	1447



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



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

CoachBright Peer-to-Peer Coaching

We are delighted to share that our school has been selected as part of the intervention group for the national CoachBright / EEF trial. The programme has now been successfully launched, and it has been wonderful to see our Year 10 and Year 7 pupils working so positively together.

Coaching pairs have settled quickly into their roles, demonstrating real maturity, teamwork, and enthusiasm. The sessions are already fostering a supportive and encouraging atmosphere, where younger pupils feel confident tackling challenging maths content while older pupils develop valuable leadership and communication skills.

The programme will continue into next term, providing pupils with further opportunities to deepen their metacognitive strategies, build independence, and strengthen their belief in their ability to succeed.

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.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

Radio Traineeship – Student Spotlight

Four of our Sixth Form students are currently taking part in an exciting Radio Traineeship Programme in partnership with the University of Northampton. Over the course of six weeks, they attend weekly sessions where they are developing a wide range of technical and broadcasting skills.

Throughout the programme, students have been learning how to operate professional recording desks, as well as practising key interview and journalism techniques—including how to craft engaging hooks that lead seamlessly into songs. They have also had the opportunity to pre-record a news segment, which was successfully broadcast.

Being taught by industry experts has given our students invaluable hands-on experience and a taste of real-world radio production. A fantastic opportunity and an amazing achievement—well done to all involved!



Project Sideline – Year 8 Workshop Highlights

On Wednesday 18th March, our Year 8 cohort took part in an inspiring series of workshops delivered by **Project Sideline**. Through a blend of basketball-based activities and engaging discussions, students explored key themes such as confidence, resilience, and empathy.

The workshops also included vital learning around **knife-crime awareness**, helping students understand how positive choices, teamwork, and self-belief can keep them—and their wider communities—safe.

Our Year 8s represented the school brilliantly throughout the sessions, embracing every opportunity to develop new skills and reflect on the values that support their well-being both inside and beyond the classroom.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

Cadet Highlights – This Term's Activities

Our Cadets have enjoyed an action-packed and inspiring term, taking part in a variety of hands-on experiences both within the community and across local emergency services.

They began with an insightful visit to the **Control Room at Police HQ in Northampton**, where they learned how emergency responses are coordinated and gained a behind-the-scenes look at real-time operations.

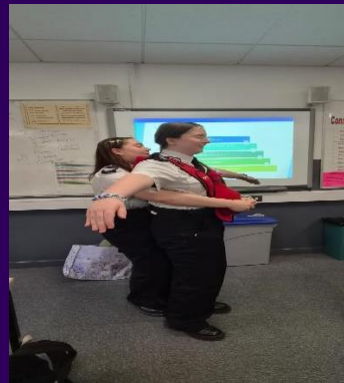
The group also visited the **Custody Suite in Kettering**, giving them a valuable opportunity to understand police procedures and the responsibilities involved in maintaining public safety.

Cadets then took part in a **basic First Aid training session with EMAS**, developing essential life-saving skills and building confidence in how to respond in emergency situations.

Later in the term, they received an informative visit from **Aquarius**, a charity supporting individuals and communities with issues related to addiction. This session helped raise awareness and encouraged thoughtful discussion. [Aquarius Charity – Helping People and Communities across the Midlands](#)

Finally, our Cadets proudly **supported the local community in Kettering** by volunteering with **RunThrough**, contributing to a positive and energetic community event.

<https://www.runthrough.co.uk/regions/midlands-running-events>



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

Lessons from Auschwitz Project

Six of our Year 12 students recently participated in the *Lessons from Auschwitz* project, a powerful educational programme designed to deepen understanding of the Holocaust. As part of the experience, students had the opportunity to meet a Holocaust survivor and later took part in an intensive one-day visit to Auschwitz I and Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland.



This profound experience enabled our students to gain a first-hand insight into the human impact of the Holocaust. They returned with a strengthened appreciation for the importance of remembrance and a renewed commitment to challenging prejudice in all its forms.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

Mrs Bonner Appointed Chair of the Pride in Place Project

Last month, Mrs Bonner was invited to Downing Street by our MP, Lee Barron, to take part in the launch of the UK Pride in Place initiative. We are delighted to announce that she has been appointed Chair of our Kingswood Pride in Place project. This ambitious and transformative initiative will bring £2 million of investment into the Kingswood, Exeter, and Hazel Leys communities over the next ten years.

This substantial funding represents a long-term commitment to improving health, strengthening community connections, and enriching the educational experiences of young people and families across our area. At the very heart of this project sits Kingswood Secondary Academy, ensuring our students and local families directly benefit from every stage of its development.

Under Mrs Bonner's leadership, the Pride in Place project will focus on:

- Enhancing opportunities for students through new programmes, resources, and experiences
- Improving community health and wellbeing with targeted initiatives and support pathways
- Building a stronger, more connected local community through collaborative projects and shared spaces
- Raising aspirations and creating an environment where every young person can thrive

Mrs Bonner's passion for the community and dedication to our students make her the perfect choice to lead this important work. Her appointment marks the beginning of an exciting decade of growth, collaboration, and opportunity for everyone in our local area.

These are truly exciting times for our school, our students, and our wider community. We cannot wait to see the positive impact this project will bring.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

Storytelling Workshop with the National Youth Theatre, in Association with Netflix

On Thursday 19th March, our Sixth Form English, Media, and selected Year 13 students had the fantastic opportunity to participate in a two-hour storytelling workshop led by industry professionals from the National Youth Theatre (NYT), recently featured on ITV and BBC local news. Delivered in partnership with Netflix to mark the anniversary of *Toxic Town*, the session offered students a unique insight into the world of professional storytelling and performance.

The two visiting directors were hugely impressed by the enthusiasm, commitment, and confidence shown by our students, offering glowing praise for their focus, creativity, and collaborative spirit. Throughout the workshop, students took part in dynamic ice-breakers and warm-up activities before moving into practical tasks exploring character creation and narrative building. This included improvisation, object-based imagery, free writing, and experimenting with the impactful use of sound and questioning when shaping new material.

The room was filled with energy, imagination, and a genuine sense of possibility as students embraced every challenge and creative prompt. It was truly inspiring to watch them engage so wholeheartedly, showcasing both their talent and their willingness to push themselves creatively.

We are incredibly proud of how confidently and professionally our students represented the school during this exciting and memorable experience.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

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.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

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.

