

Newsletter

Year 8 Summer Term



Dear Parents and Carers,

Time really does fly and, as the term draws to an end, I want to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful year we have had together. It has been a year filled with numerous achievements, which have only been possible through the support and dedication of our amazing school community.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you, our parents and carers. Your active involvement, encouragement and collaboration have been vital in fostering the nurturing and positive environment we have here for our students. Your commitment to their education is crucial in helping your children and our students reach their full potential, and I speak on behalf of everyone at Kingswood when I say we are immensely grateful for this partnership.

This year, our students have truly embraced their learning, both in and out of the classroom, and have risen to the occasion time and again, consistently living by our shared RISE values of Respect, Independence, Service to Community and Empathy. Whether through academic pursuits, sport, the arts or community service, our students have demonstrated their talents and commitment to themselves, each other and Kingswood in many ways. It has been a joy to witness and celebrate their successes.

I also want to acknowledge and thank the exceptional work of our teachers and wider staff. Their passion, creativity and tireless efforts have been at the forefront of our students' achievements. As ever, the staff at Kingswood have gone above and beyond to provide a supportive and enriching learning experience, and I am incredibly proud of their dedication and professionalism. On this note, I would like to say a huge thank you to the following staff who are leaving us this academic year:

- Ms Boulton-Roe – who is taking on a new challenge delivering Maths at college level
- Mrs Thebe – who is moving to Southampton and continuing to teach Science
- Mr Jones – who has retired from the profession
- Mrs Pavlicic – who is moving back to France to be with her family
- Mr Mayne – who is travelling to Thailand for his new teaching role
- Mrs Copland – who has been promoted to Head of School within the Trust

As ever, we are excited to welcome the following new permanent members of staff, maintaining the wonderful balance of experience and consistency at Kingswood while benefiting from important new additions and fresh ideas:

- Mr Pugh – a Maths teacher who has recently graduated with a degree and a Master's from Oxford University
- Mr Asonganyi – an experienced Physics teacher joining us from another secondary academy within the Trust
- Ms Socarras-Londono – a Spanish teacher with degrees in Spanish and English
- Mrs Hopkins – our new Deputy Principal, an experienced senior leader joining us from CBA
- Ms Russouw – a Dance teacher from the prestigious RADA (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art)

Thank you once again for your trust, support and partnership. I wish you all a joyful summer (let's hope the lovely weather continues!) and I look forward to welcoming everyone back in September with renewed energy and enthusiasm.

Enjoy your summer.

Matthew Gamble
Principal



Newsletter

Year 8 Summer Term



Key Dates / Events:

Term 1 starts
Wednesday 2nd
September.

[Kingswood Secondary Academy - Home](#)

[Kingswood Secondary Academy - Term Dates](#)



Join us on X
@KingswoodAcad

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of Term 6, I would like to take a moment to celebrate what has been a positive and successful term for our Year 8 students.

Firstly, I would like to congratulate all students on their recent academic assessments. They have approached these with maturity and determination, and it has been fantastic to see the progress made across their subjects.

We have also enjoyed some excellent enrichment opportunities this term. The recent trip to Duxford was a great success, with students demonstrating outstanding behaviour and enthusiasm throughout the day. It was a valuable opportunity to bring learning to life beyond the classroom.

In addition, a group of students took part in the Fire Service intervention programme. They represented the school brilliantly and gained valuable experiences that helped to develop their confidence, teamwork and resilience. We are extremely proud of their engagement and progress.

As we now look ahead, I would like to wish all students and families a safe and enjoyable summer break. We look forward to welcoming students back into Year 9, where they will begin an important stage of their school journey, including selecting their GCSE options.

Thank you for your continued support.

J Golding
Head of Year 8

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.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

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 1 2026** our best ever for attendance!

Mr J. Moring
Student Attendance Lead

ATTENDANCE EVERY DAY COUNTS

0	Days Absent	100%	 Perfection
1	Days Absent	99%	 5 Lessons missed
3	Days Absent	98%	 15 Lessons missed
5	Days Absent	97%	 25 Lessons missed
7.5	Days Absent	96%	 37.5 Lessons missed
10	Days Absent	94%	 50 Lessons missed
15	Days Absent	92%	 75 Lessons missed
19	Days Absent	90%	 95 Lessons missed



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.

What an exciting year ahead! We have lots planned for our students, including workshops, guest speakers, events, trips, and clubs – the list goes on!

Break 2 clubs will be launching soon, and a full timetable will be shared with all students shortly.

PSHE Curriculum – Term 1 2026 Overview

This term, students across all year groups will engage with a range of topics designed to support their personal development and wellbeing:

Year 7: Introduction to PSHE, focusing on managing change, including life transitions and financial literacy.

Year 8: Exploring “*Proud to be Me*”, with a focus on self-esteem, emotions, and future aspirations.

Year 9: Developing essential life skills such as first aid, budgeting, and staying safe on social media.

Year 10: Understanding rights and responsibilities in employment, alongside online safety and relationships.

Year 11: Preparing for life after GCSEs by exploring post-16 options, CV writing, and managing exam stress.

For all PSHE topics, pupils have access to the **Kingswood Way QR code**, which allows them to confidentially share concerns with **Mrs Bonner**. Pupils are also signposted to local RSE and mental health support services available across the **North Northamptonshire** area during PSHE lessons.

Further information for pupils and parents/carers, including additional PSHE and RSE resources, can be found on our shared Padlet:

<https://padlet.com/abonner2/pshe-resources-board-e2um141bnuk223l>



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Curriculum for Year 9 Term 1

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 9 Term 1 2026** 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 1: Year 9 subjects	Curriculum, independent learning topics and assessment focus	Useful website links / additional information
English	Gothic Literature Frankenstein by Mary Shelley Disturbed Voices Poetry	https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/gothic-literature-8196 https://www.sparknotes.com/lit/frankenstein/ https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/introduction-to-poetry-335c
Maths	Straight line graphs Forming and solving equations Testing conjectures	https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage/key-stage-3/subjects/maths
Science	KS3 Topic - Separating mixtures KS4 Topic – Bioenergetics	GCSE and secondary resources for KS3 and KS4 - BBC Bitesize Separating mixtures Bioenergetics
PE	Boys: Football and Table Tennis Girls: Netball and Basketball	Basketball https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jB5CyaAyXNM Netball https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MPvMKhmQn_o



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Curriculum for Year 9 Term 1 continued

Term 1: Year 9 subjects	Curriculum, independent learning topics and assessment focus	Useful website links / additional information
Art	Topic: Colour Theory Artist link: Varied illustrators/artists Skills: Vocabulary, painting, colour mixing, understanding tints and shades and labelling Colour wheel.	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z9bbk2p/revision/1
Dance / Drama	Drama: To explore social issues and real-life scenarios through the social, historical and cultural contexts of a play text, using <i>Blood Brothers</i> as a key example. Dance: To develop understanding of the physical and technical skills required to be a professional dancer, while exploring professional repertoire such as <i>Carmen</i> .	Drama https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/s/keystage3-ks3-english-literature/keystage3-ks3-english-literature-prose-contemporary-prose/blood-brothers-modern-literature-ks3-literature-reading-ks3-english-english-ks3-ks4 Dance https://www.new-adventures.net/the-car-man
Geography	Climate Change (Physical) Economic Activity (Human)	What Is Climate Change? United Nations
History	World War II and the Homefront	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zk94jxs/articles/z6vff82?course=zc3rg7h
IT	Networks: From Semaphores to the Internet	Networks from semaphores to the Internet
Music	What makes a good song?	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z3q47p3/revision/1
Religious Studies	Marriage and family	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zrr7y9q/revision/1



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Curriculum for Year 9 Term 1 continued

Term 1: Year 9 subjects	Curriculum, independent learning topics and assessment focus	Useful website links / additional information
Spanish	All about my life: Students explore music, technology, and free time interests, building confidence in expressing opinions about their lives.	https://quizlet.com/gb/822023905/y9-baseline-100-spanish-flash-cards/?i=559tf1&x=1qqt https://wordwall.net/resource/88242/viva-2-mi-vida-mi-movil
Spanish (Students that changed from French to Spanish)	Family and friends and Where I live	https://quizlet.com/gb/823436984/y7-top-100-words-flash-cards/?i=559tf1&x=1jqt https://wordwall.net/resource/10448023/spanish-family-tree
Technology rotation Groups rotate every 7-9 weeks to cover all the areas	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. Food theory: Pupils study a theory unit on aspects of nutrition, sustainability and cultural aspects of food. Textiles: An Art Textiles based project with sewing machine and other key skills. Engineering: Students will design and create a skateboard using MDF board and carry out peer evaluation. Computer Science: Pupils will focus on computational fundamental skills such as – decomposition, abstraction, pattern recognition and algorithms.	https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/occasions/recipes_for_kids Easy Art for Kids: Wire Sculpture - Babble Dabble Do https://www.tinkercad.com/ KS3 Computer Science - BBC Bitesize What is computational thinking? - Introduction to computational thinking - KS3 Computer Science Revision - BBC Bitesize Introduction to python programming Smart Cities - Turinglab



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

Celebrating success:

We are pleased to celebrate the achievements of the top 20 RISE earners in Term 6. Well done for showing Respect, building Independence, having a sense of Service to our community and demonstrating Empathy in lessons and in the community.

Viktor	Zagorski	149	Agata	Sliwczynska	123
Arron	Taylor	141	Simona	Stratan	123
Nicolas	Cristea	137	Salma	Noor	122
Alvin	Scornea	133	Mazie	White	122
Brighton Jnr	Majoni	128	Oscar	Rzymiski	118
Kaltom	Ettamli	127	Adithya	Suresh	118
Nathan	Munguana	127	Maisy	Barr	116
Ella-Rose	Rigby	124	Ella	Wright	114
Beatrice	Serbicean	124	Nathan	Levenie	113
Peyton	Moore	123	Munopaishe	Njitimana	113

Congratulations to the top 10 Tutor Groups for Term 6:

8W	2599	9W	1941
8K	2335	8G	1921
7W	2318	9S	1854
8D	2137	7K	1698
9K	2006	9D	1613



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: lfeely@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

Year 10 Art Trip to Northampton College End-of-Year Show

Year 10 students recently visited Northampton College to experience their end-of-year exhibition, which showcased an exciting range of work across Fine Art, Photography, Fashion, Textiles and Illustration. The vibrant and diverse display offered students an inspiring insight into what studying art at a higher level can look like, while also encouraging them to consider future pathways and creative careers.

Students conducted themselves exceptionally well throughout the visit, demonstrating enthusiasm, curiosity and maturity. They engaged thoughtfully with the exhibition, taking photographs and asking insightful questions to deepen their understanding of the work on display.

The group explored around ten studio galleries, each presenting different perspectives and creative approaches. A particular highlight was the guided tours led by lecturers and support staff, who provided valuable insight into the materials, processes, project concepts and challenges students had encountered and overcome during their studies.

There was a real sense of excitement as students moved through the exhibition, discovering new ideas and responding to the wide variety of artistic styles. Overall, the trip was a highly enriching experience, offering both inspiration and a meaningful glimpse into studying and working at an advanced level in the arts.

Miss Etherington, Mrs Wray and Mrs Crozier would like to congratulate all students and thank them for their excellent behaviour and positive attitude, which made the trip so memorable for all the right reasons.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

A Visit to the British Motor Museum

Ten of our Year 7 students recently visited the British Motor Museum as part of an exciting trip with Axiom Maths. Throughout the day, they took part in a range of activities alongside students from other schools, including friendly competitions and mathematical challenges.

We are especially proud to share that our boys' team achieved the fastest tyre-change time of all the groups attending – a fantastic achievement!

In addition to competing in three different maths challenges, students enjoyed a guided tour of the museum, where they explored the history, design and engineering behind some of Britain's most iconic vehicles.

The trip was both rewarding and enjoyable, and our students represented the school brilliantly throughout the day. We have also included a selection of photographs from the visit that showcase the museum and exhibits, without featuring any students.

This was a memorable experience for everyone involved, and we are grateful to Axiom Maths for providing such an engaging opportunity.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

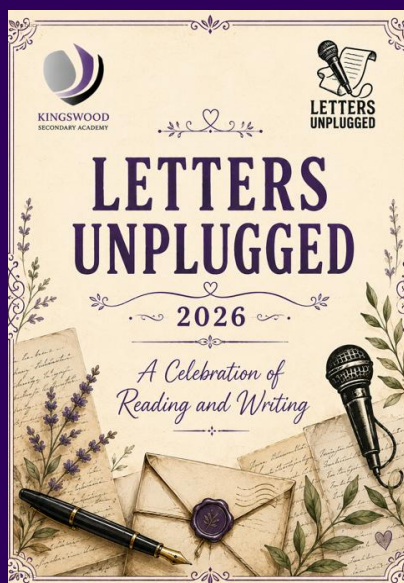
Letters Unplugged: A Celebration of Words

On Wednesday 17th June, Kingswood held its second *Letters Unplugged* event – a wonderful celebration of reading and writing. Students and staff came together to share both found letters and original poetry, creating an evening filled with creativity, reflection, and expression.

The event centred on the power of pen and paper, highlighting how words can be shared, treasured, and passed down through generations.

Ahead of the evening, local poet Laura Kenefick delivered two engaging creative writing workshops with our students. She also joined us as a special guest, sharing one of her poems, brought to life through a performance by our very own KEM Choir.

A special thank you to Miss Harris for organising such a wonderful and inspiring event.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

Navigating Success: Our Bronze DofE Expeditions 2026!

In June, our enthusiastic Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award cohort officially embarked on their highly anticipated expeditions. The group comprised ten determined Year 9 and eight resilient Year 10 students, all eager to take on the great outdoors.



Kitted up and ready to go!

The Practice Run: Learning the Ropes

Our journey began in the Huntingdon and Oundle area. For many students, this was their first taste of countryside map reading and setting up camp.

- **The Weather:** Luck was on our side. The rain did not last long on day one, and day two stayed completely dry!
- **The Trek:** Students walked alongside adult leaders and worked hard to master their navigation skills.
- **The Kitchen:** Camp cooking provided a steep learning curve. Not all culinary experiments were successful, but it was perfect practice!



Camping at Ferrar House, the fading daylight highlighting our new green tents and late sun glinting off shiny new Trangia!

The Qualifier: Putting Skills to the Test

Returning to the Huntingdon and Oundle area, the real test began. This time, the teams had to navigate completely independently to reach the campsite.

- **Flawless Navigation:** After-school training paid off. The students navigated excellently.
- **Master Chefs:** Lessons were learned! Camp food was significantly better this time around.
- **Campfire Bonding:** Evening one was filled with laughter, fun, and team games.
- **Beating the Heat:** Day two brought intense sunshine. Extreme heat meant finishing early, but students coped brilliantly.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

Beyond the Map: New Friendships

The absolute highlight of the experience was watching the students connect. The expedition brought together individuals from different year groups. It helped them forge strong new friendships with peers they might never have spoken to in the school corridors.



Cooking dinner on the new stoves.

Beyond the Map: New Friendships

The absolute highlight of the experience was watching the students connect. The expedition brought together individuals from different year groups. It helped them forge strong new friendships with peers they might never have spoken to in the school corridors.



Students enjoying down-time in the evening.

Thank You to Our Incredible Leaders!

An adventure like this requires an enormous amount of time and effort behind the scenes. We want to extend a massive thank you to our fantastic expedition leaders and staff.

They completely volunteered their personal time, gave up their evenings, and worked tirelessly to keep everyone safe, motivated, and moving in the right direction! Thank you to **Ms Coleman, Mrs Martin, Mrs Woodward and Mr Woodward** for all your help.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

A Massive Thank You to Our Supporters!

None of this would have been possible without our amazing community. This entire expedition was funded through the incredible generosity of local businesses and charities, as well as kind donations from our own staff.

Their vital donations allowed us to purchase all our high-quality expedition kit, from tents to cooking equipment.

A special thank you to:

Zoe Paul for kit donations and Carolyn Wood for camp food donations

Di Coleman for kit donations and training equipment

Steve Woodward for kit donations

PGR Construction

Rotary Club of Corby Phoenix

LMH Engineering

Ancor RPC

Tesco



We are deeply grateful for this investment in our students' personal growth! Huge congratulations to all 18 of our Bronze participants for their outstanding resilience, teamwork, and spirit!



The peacock put on a lovely display to welcome the walkers home, although they did not notice!



We are immensely proud of our students. They coped with sore feet and achy muscles - not to mention how hot it got! They experienced so many 'firsts' and were real ambassadors for Duke of Edinburgh, Kingswood Secondary Academy and their parents or guardians.

None of this would have been possible without your kind donations – thank you very much for your support.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

Sixth Form Prom

We held our Sixth Form Prom at The Ritz in Desborough on Friday, 26th June. It was a beautiful, warm evening, and students were able to enjoy the stunning gardens before moving inside to dance to a playlist of their choice.

There was some fantastic dancing on display, and we were delighted by a solo vocal performance from David Boyede-Joseph, which was both powerful and emotional.

Several members of staff enjoyed spending time with students and were extremely impressed by their conduct throughout the evening, as was the venue owner.

Students also organised their own light-hearted awards, adding to the celebratory atmosphere. Mr Green and Kaye Alexander shared a few heartfelt words, thanking Year 13 for their hard work and commitment over the past two years. It was truly wonderful to see students celebrating their achievements together.

A special thank you goes to Kaye Alexander and the Sixth Form Events Team for organising such a memorable and fitting send-off. We wish all of our Year 13s a happy and healthy summer break, and we look forward to sharing in your successes on results day!



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

Imperial War Museum Duxford Visit

On Friday, 26th June, Year 8 students enjoyed an educational visit to the Imperial War Museum Duxford. The trip provided a valuable opportunity to explore a wide range of historical aircraft and exhibits, helping to bring classroom learning to life.



A particular highlight for many was the chance to go inside Concorde, followed by watching various aircraft take to the skies, making the experience even more memorable. Students engaged well throughout the day and showed a genuine interest in the exhibits across the different hangars, making the most of every opportunity.



Overall, it was a very positive visit, and students thoroughly enjoyed the chance to learn beyond the classroom in such an inspiring setting.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

Year 10 Drama Students Inspired by The Paper Birds

Our Year 10 BTEC Drama students recently took part in an exciting devising workshop at our sister academy, Stanground Academy in Peterborough, working alongside the acclaimed contemporary theatre company, The Paper Birds. The experience provided students with the opportunity to collaborate with peers from across the GAT Trust while learning directly from industry professionals.

Throughout the day, students enthusiastically engaged in a range of creative activities and techniques used by The Paper Birds in the development of their professional productions. As one of the UK's leading contemporary theatre companies, their innovative approach to theatre-making offered students a valuable insight into current industry practice and inspired them to think creatively about their own work.



The workshop will provide excellent preparation for Component 3 of their external assessment next academic year, equipping students with new ideas, skills and confidence in the devising process. We are incredibly proud of the commitment, courage and engagement shown by our students throughout the day. They were outstanding ambassadors for both the Performing Arts Faculty and Kingswood Secondary Academy.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

RSC Playmaker Festival Success

A huge congratulations to the Kingswood Shakespeare Company (KSC) and KEM Choir for their outstanding performances at the RSC Playmaker Festival held at The Core, Corby. The theatre was packed, and our students truly did themselves, their families, and Kingswood proud. Following the performances, representatives from the Royal Shakespeare Company praised both the quality of the production and the professionalism of our students, with particular recognition given to the choir's moving performance and the exceptional standard of music on display.

This incredible achievement was only possible because of the dedication, commitment, and passion of our staff. Special thanks go to Claire Rose, Dave Robertson, and Mpho Thebe, whose leadership and countless hours of preparation helped create such polished and memorable performances. Appreciation is also extended to Maria Wiley, Charlie Dawson, and Rhiain O'Malley for their invaluable behind-the-scenes support throughout the day, and to Ross Nightingale, Liz Etherington, and Linda Crozier for their assistance with transport, art, costumes, and props.

The students involved demonstrated remarkable commitment, resilience, and teamwork throughout the rehearsal process, overcoming challenges—including a heatwave-disrupted rehearsal schedule—with positivity and determination. Their hard work culminated in performances that received glowing feedback from members of the public, theatre professionals, and workshop leaders.



One of the most memorable moments of the festival came during the workshops, when professional actors paused a competition because they were so impressed to see students from competing teams enthusiastically encouraging and supporting one another. This spirit of kindness, collaboration, and mutual respect perfectly reflected what it means to be part of the Kingswood community.

The festival brought together students from different year groups and performing arts clubs, united by a shared passion for performance and Shakespeare. Watching them work together, develop their confidence, and embrace the challenge of performing Shakespeare was a truly magical experience. Even after a physically and mentally demanding 13-hour day at the theatre, students were still smiling and eager to celebrate together with a final group photograph.

We are incredibly proud of every student involved. They were a credit to themselves, their families, and our school, and they embodied the very best of Kingswood throughout the event. Their talent, teamwork, and enthusiasm made this a memorable and inspiring experience for everyone involved.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

An Evening of Celebration

On Thursday 2nd July, we gathered at the Corby Cube for a truly special evening to honour and celebrate the exceptional achievements of our students.

Students were nominated by their teachers in recognition of their achievement, progress and commitment across all key stages, making the event a wonderful showcase of dedication, resilience and success.

We were delighted to welcome Dr Steve O'Brien, Mayor of Corby, who delivered a thought-provoking speech. Drawing on both his personal and professional connections to the Academy, Dr O'Brien recognised and celebrated the many achievements of our students. Former student Ceara Grey reflected on her experiences at Kingswood, sharing an inspiring message of resilience and perseverance. Local poet Laura Kenefick captivated the audience with a poem dedicated to Kingswood, highlighting the values of care and community. The audience was also inspired by Head Boy Denis Mihut, who gave a moving and personal account of his journey at Kingswood. His humour, determination and passion resonated with everyone present.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

An Evening of Celebration continued

Throughout the evening, guests were treated to a range of outstanding performances. Our talented Year 10 dancers captivated the audience, while the Kingswood Shakespeare Company showcased an excerpt from their performance at the RSC Playmaker Festival, held at The Core the previous evening. Memorable solo performances from Laila Hamilton, Daley Grana and Sonny Stevenson highlighted the exceptional talent of our young singers, while the gifted KEM Choir brought the evening to life with sensational performances that left the audience in awe.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all Heads of Year and members of the Senior Leadership Team for presenting awards and helping to make the evening such a memorable occasion. A very special thank you goes to Hajra Saeed and her support team for their hard work and dedication in organising the event so beautifully.

Finally, we would like to thank all staff, students, parents, carers and family members for their continued support in making this such a wonderful celebration of achievement and success.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

The Principal's Award 2026

Amidst all the incredible talent and outstanding accomplishments celebrated during the evening, one student truly stood out as exemplifying excellence in every aspect of academy life.

The Principal's Award 2026 was proudly awarded to Denis Mihut (Year 13) in recognition of his exceptional commitment, achievements, and invaluable contributions to the Academy. His dedication, positive attitude, and consistent pursuit of excellence have made him a true role model for others.

Denis has recently secured a Degree Apprenticeship with Microsoft and will begin his new role in September. He will be based at Microsoft's Paddington office in London while also working remotely. We are incredibly proud of everything he has achieved and have no doubt that he will continue to enjoy even greater success in the future.

As he embarks on this exciting new chapter, Denis leaves a lasting legacy within our school community. He plans to remain in contact with the Academy, and everyone at Kingswood looks forward to hearing about his future achievements and progress.

Congratulations, Denis, on this well-deserved recognition, and best wishes for the future.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

Year 7 Enjoy an Unforgettable Day at Warwick Castle

On Friday 3rd July, 63 Year 7 students embarked on an exciting trip to Warwick Castle, where they stepped back in time and immersed themselves in centuries of history.

The day was packed with memorable experiences, beginning with an exploration of the Horrible Histories Maze, where students navigated their way through a series of historical challenges and encounters. Many also rose to the challenge of climbing to the top of one of the castle towers, where they were rewarded with spectacular panoramic views of the surrounding countryside.

Students were captivated by the thrilling Viking show, which brought history to life through dramatic storytelling, action-packed performances and impressive displays. Another highlight of the day was the magnificent Birds of Prey display, which left many in awe as eagles, falcons and other birds soared gracefully overhead.



For those seeking a more immersive historical experience, the Castle Dungeons proved to be a popular attraction. Transported back to medieval times, students ventured through dark passageways and encountered unexpected surprises around every corner. The atmospheric setting and interactive performances created a truly memorable – and at times jumpy – experience!

Throughout the day, our students represented the Academy superbly. Their behaviour was excellent, and they embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm, curiosity and respect. It was a fantastic day of learning, adventure and fun, with memories that will last for years to come. Well done, Year 7!



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

The Great Kingswood Spelling Bee!

This term saw the exciting finals of *The Great Kingswood Spelling Bee* for both Year 7 and Year 8 students.

All students initially took part in a whole-year spelling test, from which nearly 40 students in each year group earned their place in the finals. These took place over the last two weeks of term and were held in front of a live audience of their peers—an incredible achievement in itself!

A huge well done to all students who took part. Demonstrating confidence, resilience, and a fantastic grasp of spelling, they rose to the challenge brilliantly. The competition was fierce, with Year 7 tackling words such as “*acquaintance*” and “*colonel*”, while Year 8 impressed with even more complex vocabulary like “*transient*” and “*metamorphosis*.”

We are incredibly proud to celebrate the achievements of our Year 7 and Year 8 students. In Year 7, Jackson Allan-Hammel, Lauryn Sowumni, Madeline McKay, and Lilly-Mai Parsons were awarded medals and prizes in recognition of their outstanding effort, dedication, and achievement.

In Year 8, we are delighted to recognise our top performers, who were awarded medals for their exceptional efforts:

- 1st Place: Coco Chan Earle
- 2nd Place: Robert Batchelor
- 3rd Place: Ruvimbo Chinembeza

Congratulations to all participants—what a fantastic showcase of talent and determination!



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

Year 10 Geography Fieldwork Visit to Hunstanton

On Wednesday 8th July, 56 Year 10 and Year 12 students travelled to Hunstanton to carry out their Geography fieldwork.

During the morning, students made the most of the sunny weather while investigating sand dune succession. Working across the dune system, students collected data on vegetation cover, plant species, soil characteristics, and environmental conditions to explore how the ecosystem changes from the fore dunes nearest the beach to the more established dunes further inland. Students also considered the important role sand dunes play in protecting the coastline and supporting biodiversity.

Students spoke to members of the public to gather opinions on the most effective methods of protecting the coastline, building confidence as they engaged with people they did not know. The group explored the unique physical features of the area, including Hunstanton's striking red rock and the Carstone wave-cut platform, even having time for a stone skipping competition.



After lunch — which for many included fish and chips, ice cream, and even a visit to the fair or arcade — students continued their investigations in the town centre. They looked at the range of shops and facilities available, conducted pedestrian and traffic counts, and considered whether visitors were tourists or local residents. Students also examined house prices and completed environmental quality surveys.

The students represented the school exceptionally well throughout the day. Their behaviour, enthusiasm, and engagement were outstanding, and they should be very proud of their efforts.

Well done to all involved — a fantastic example of learning beyond the classroom!



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

Voyage Graduates Celebrate Their Success

The Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Team recently hosted a special celebration for Year 7 and Year 8 students who have successfully completed the Voyage programme and are preparing to begin learning Spanish in September. The event was designed to recognise their achievements and give them a flavour of the exciting language-learning journey ahead.

Held in the Restaurant during Periods 1 and 2, Year 8 students attended on Wednesday 8 July, while Year 7 students enjoyed their celebration on Thursday 9 July. Throughout the event, students were introduced to aspects of Spanish language and culture in a fun and engaging way, helping to build excitement for their Spanish lessons next year.

As part of the celebration, students were also given the opportunity to sample a range of Spanish foods, allowing them to experience a taste of Spain and further immerse themselves in the culture they will be exploring through their language studies.

The Voyage programme has supported these students in developing their language skills and confidence, and this event was a fantastic way to celebrate their hard work and dedication.

Congratulations to all of our Voyage graduates—we look forward to seeing them continue their language-learning journey and embrace the opportunities that studying Spanish will bring.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

Year 11 Prom

Our Year 11 Prom was held at the Holiday Inn on Friday 13th July, and what a fantastic evening it was. It was wonderful to see our students arrive in such elegant attire, looking confident and proud as they made their grand entrance. The beautiful sunny weather added to the occasion, highlighting the sense of celebration for this long-awaited event.

The evening was filled with joy and laughter, with students enjoying time together on the dancefloor and celebrating their achievements. A highlight of the night was the Awards Ceremony, which recognised students for a range of memorable and well-deserved titles.

A special thank you goes to Mrs O'Malley and Mrs Forsyth for organising such a successful event, as well as to the Prom Committee for their support in making the evening so special.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication

Kingswood's Got Talent Raises £475 for Cransley Hospice

Parents, carers, students and staff came together for an unforgettable evening of entertainment at Kingswood's Got Talent. The talented performers wowed the audience and helped raise an impressive £475 for Cransley Hospice, making the event a tremendous success.

The competition showcased a fantastic range of talents from across the school, including a magician, comedian, guitarist and singer, and several talented vocalists. Audience members were thoroughly entertained throughout the evening, while enjoying interval refreshments and contributing additional donations to support this worthy cause.

A huge thank you goes to our judging panel, Eric Asumang, Alex Bonner and David Boyede-Joseph, who had the difficult task of selecting a winner from such a talented group of performers. Special thanks also go to Denis Mihut, who did an excellent job hosting and presenting the event.



Congratulations to Haleyjade Branston, who was crowned the winner of Kingswood's Got Talent after a hilarious and confident comedic performance that had the audience laughing throughout. Haleyjade's originality, stage presence and excellent delivery impressed both the judges and the crowd, making her a worthy winner of this year's competition.

The event was brilliantly organised by our Sixth Form team, especially Jess Routledge and Mrs Bonner, whose hard work, dedication and commitment ensured the evening ran smoothly from start to finish. We are incredibly proud of everyone who performed, volunteered, supported and donated. Together, they helped raise valuable funds for Cransley Hospice while celebrating the incredible talent, creativity and community spirit that make Kingswood such a special place.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Year 8 Communication



UNIFORM SWAP SHOP

In order to reduce perfectly good uniform ending up in landfill, Kingswood Secondary Academy will be hosting its swap shop for the fourth year running!

If you have any of the following items in a good state of repair and would like to donate them to our swap shop, please bring them to reception before we close for the summer holidays. We are looking for:

- Blazers
- Jumpers
- PE tops
- PE trousers
- PE shorts
- Shirts
- Ties
- Coats
- School bags
- Pencil cases/stationery items
- Shoes with soles intact and good tread
- Trainers with soles intact and good tread



Swap Shop – Donate or Take!

Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd of July

11am-1.00pm in the atrium at

Kingswood Secondary Academy

You do not need to donate items to take items. Please come along!

REMINDER - CHANGES TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If your child is already eligible for and having Free School Meals, you will still need to reapply on a yearly basis.

If you receive Universal Credit, you will now be eligible for Free School Meals and should apply **as soon as possible** to ensure your claim is processed in time for September. Please access the parent portal at <https://northnorthamptonshire.synergy.hsc.accesscloud.com/SynergyWeb/>

Even if you have No Recourse to Public Funds as a condition of your immigration status, your child *may* still qualify for Free School Meals under the changes. Contact Lauren Dudley for more information and an application form on ldudley@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org



Use the QR
code to
take part...



*We want to hear from
young people (11+) ...*

HEALTHY LIVES SURVEY

This survey asks about things like:

- What helps you stay healthy
- Any challenges you face
- The support you know about (or wish you had)



This survey closes at
23.59pm on
31st July 2026



North
Northamptonshire
Council



Use the QR
code to
take part...



Parent/Carer HEALTHY LIVES SURVEY

We want to better understand what
helps families lead a healthy lifestyle,
what challenges they may face, and
what support or information they
would find most useful.



This survey closes at
23.59pm on
31st July 2026



North
Northamptonshire
Council



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.

