

Newsletter

Year 8 Term 1



Message from the Principal: -

I hope that you have had a lovely summer and that your child has been able to rest and relax and was, of course, excited for the start of our new school year. As part of our school routine it was a pleasure to personally welcome back all of our students during our 'Refresh, Refocus, Restart' assemblies. During the assemblies we reflected on the wonderful achievements from the last academic year and reminded ourselves of the high expectations we have for all of our staff and students. I am pleased to report that students have returned ready to learn and have settled quickly back.

I am also delighted to inform you that whilst it seems the rest of the nation were experiencing a drop in top GCSE results, we celebrated excellent results over the last three weeks with our students achieving and exceeding more target grades than ever before. Kingswood is now securely above national average for the third year running which is a brilliant achievement by our students and the wonderful Kingswood staff. We have more students than ever before achieving grades 4 and above, and grades 5 and above in both English and Maths. At Kingswood, this means that our students have more 'doors open' and in essence more choice over their futures. Perhaps unsurprisingly, this has led to a significant number of applications for Sixth Form places, and we are delighted to welcome back many of our Year 11 students as they begin the next stage of their journey with us. This is a good news story, and it should give all students the encouragement and aspiration to know that with great attendance, enthusiasm, and hard work, they can achieve the highest grades and access the very best opportunities in the future.

It is an exciting time to be the Principal at Kingswood and during my assemblies I shared pictures of the building work that we invested in over the summer months. We have revamped the Science corridor, completely renovated the toilets on the English corridor and are still finalising the improvements in the PE faculty. These areas are barely recognisable and are part of an ongoing plan to continue to maintain and improve the learning facilities at Kingswood. I know the students are most grateful and will look after our improved academy.

This term, we continue to focus on our school values: Respect, Independence, Service to our community and Empathy. We are always proud of our students who demonstrate our values within the academy as well as supporting our local community. We have many plans to celebrate our student successes with plenty of exciting opportunities and I look forward to sharing more information with you next term.

M Gamble



Newsletter

Year 8 Term 1



Key Dates / Events:

Open Evening for prospective Year 7 pupils in 2025 - Thursday 26th September.

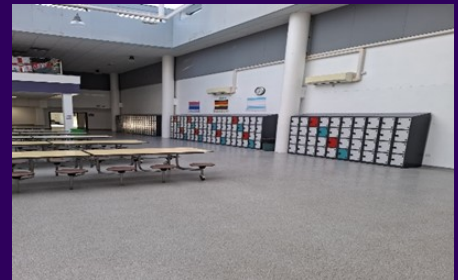
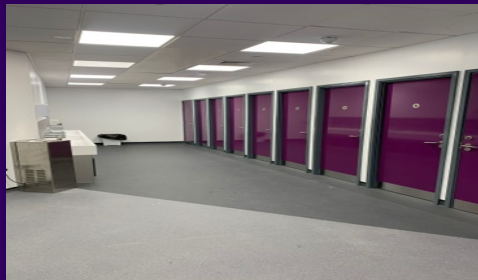
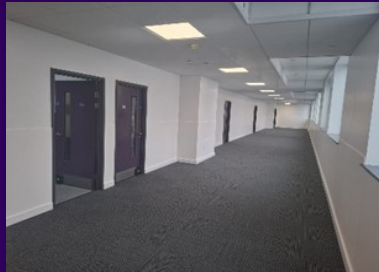
Open Days for prospective Year 7 pupils in 2025 - Please contact Reception on **01536 741857** to book a tour.



Join us on X (Twitter)
@KingswoodAcad

An update on our building work:

Here are some images of the building work that we invested in over the summer months. You can see the revamped Science corridor, our newly decorated RISE store, the completely renovated toilets, our new school lockers and the ongoing improvements in the PE faculty. We know our students will look after our improved academy.



Message from Head of Year 8: -

Dear Year 8,

I hope you had a fantastic summer break and are ready for the new school year. We look to start Year 8 with a focus on our school values: Respect, Independence, Service to the Community and Empathy. We will be holding our students to these values and encouraging them to demonstrate them around our Academy. With these RISE values we hope to reward students for positively contributing to their own and others' experience within their learning journey. This year is full of opportunities to learn, grow, and make new memories. We will continue to support one another, and have a great year together.

Mr de Kock and Mrs Browning



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Curriculum, Clubs and Celebrations

Year 8 Enrichment Clubs:

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:

We have had a fantastic start to our new Personal Development PSHE programme with the following themes:

- Managing Change for Year 7.
- Proud to be Me for Year 8.
- Essential Skills in Year 9.
- Rights and Responsibilities for Year 10.
- Your Future and Beyond for Year 11.

Our Kingswood Mission and RISE Values: We act with integrity, doing the right thing even when nobody is looking as we build the community we wish to live in and treat each other with **Respect**.

We are **Independent** learners because we always come to school on time, in the correct uniform and with the right equipment.

We help and support others and always have a sense of **Service** to our community.

We live enriching lives beyond the classroom which includes participation in clubs, leadership and charitable activities (which enables us to become **Empathetic** citizens).

*We are proud to contribute to our school and town community, proud to be Corby, proud to be Kingswoodians - so now let's **RISE** together!*



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Curriculum, Clubs and Celebrations

Year 8 Enrichment Clubs:

Timetables for **Instrumental Lessons** are in the practice room corridor. Students must check their timetable in preparation for their lessons (w/c Monday 9th September). Please speak to Miss Hinnis for more information.

The timetable for all Enrichments Clubs will be finalised and shared next term. Please see the Term 1 **Sports Club** timetable below:

AFTER SCHOOL (3:10pm– 4:10pm)				
Venue	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Astro / Field	Y7&8 Football Club KL Girls Football Club – All years ROM	Touch Rugby – All years and mixed gender LF		
Netball Courts / Gym	Netball Club – All years KA / RLA			
Sports Hall			Y7 Basketball Club PH	Y8-11 Girls Basketball Club SM
Main Hall	Table Tennis Club – All years SD			
Fixtures / Revision (See teacher)		Y9 & 10 Girls Netball Fixtures @ KW KA / ROM / EP	Y7 & 8 Girls Football Fixtures @ KW ROM / SM	Y10 & 11 Boys Football Fixtures SD

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 students must ensure that they register and arrange to be picked up at 4:15pm.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Curriculum, Clubs and Celebrations

Year 8 Curriculum Clubs:

Curriculum clubs:

Independent learning is an integral part of the learning process at Kingswood Secondary Academy. It builds resilience by allowing you to take ownership of your learning linked to the learning in lessons as well as forming good study habits. These rooms are available for Years 7, 8, and 9 until 4:10pm for independent study:



Monday	LRC (library)
Tuesday	LRC (library)
Wednesday	LRC (library) English in E2 with specialist staff
Thursday	LRC (library) Humanities in H2 and MFL in L2 IV1 and IV4 with a vocational teacher

Sports clubs:

Sports clubs are also timetabled for after school. They are advertised in all form rooms, on Facebook, on our website and in the PE area. Please speak to your PE teacher for more information.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Curriculum, Clubs and Celebrations

Year 8 Curriculum:

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 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 8 subjects	Curriculum, independent learning topics and assessment focus	Useful website links / additional information
English	Animal Farm by George Orwell The Art of Rhetoric	https://www.sparknotes.com/lit/animalfarm/summary/ https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/1984-d739 https://www.grammarly.com/blog/rhetoric/ https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/introduction-to-rhetoric-fd1d https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/writing-rhetoric-1e51
Maths	Ratio and scale Multiplicative change Multiplying and dividing fractions	https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage/key-stage-3/subjects/maths
Science	Reconnection of year content – acids/alkalis and metals/non-metals Electromagnets Earth	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zng4d2p Acids and Alkalis Metals and Non-Metals Electromagnets Earth



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Curriculum, Clubs and Celebrations

Year 8 Curriculum continued:

Term 1: Year 8 subjects	Curriculum, independent learning topics and assessment focus	Useful website links / additional information
Geography	Natural resources (Physical)	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zjsc87h
History	British Empire and Slavery	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/courses/zybxtrd
Religious Studies	Evil and Suffering	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zhsjsw/revision/1
French	Module 1 Core Language Revision and Holidays	The Top 100 Core Word list for Y8 French. https://quizlet.com/gb/822023112/y8-top-100-words-for-y8-french-flash-cards/?i=559tf1&x=1jqt
Spanish	Where I live	https://quizlet.com/gb/823436984/y7-top-100-words-flash-cards/?i=559tf1&x=1jqt
Art	Developing knowledge of Abstract art and Shape, and be able to confidently produce Collage art.	https://www.jessknights.co.uk/blog/texture-food-illustration
Dance / Drama - to develop a range of drama themes and dance skills	Drama Topic one is Evacuees OR Dance Topic two is London Riots or Conflict	Dance https://www.ballet.org.uk/blog-detail/dust-akram-khan/
IT	E-Safety and Using Vector Graphics	Curriculum teaching resources (teachcomputing.org)
Music	Rooms rotate but pupils cover all the areas by the end of the year. MU1 - Ringtones MU3 – Chords	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zmsvr82
PE	Boys: Football and Table Tennis Girls: Netball and Basketball	Football https://www.thefa.com/football-rules-governance/lawsandrules Table tennis https://www.tabletennisengland.co.uk/play/rules-and-how-to-play/ Netball https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8XISfjXXakQ Basketball https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XbtmGKif7Ck



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Curriculum, Clubs and Celebrations

Year 8 Curriculum continued:

Term 1: Year 8 subjects	Curriculum, independent learning topics and assessment focus	Useful website links / additional information
Technology rotation	<p>Groups rotate every 7-9 weeks to cover all the areas below</p> <p>Food: Health and safety in the kitchen. Cooking techniques and cook a variety of simple dishes. The theory of food is then also taught in an extra lesson for half the year.</p> <p>First Aid: Pupils follow a bespoke program developed for us teaching them basic first aid and cover: Wounds, bleeding, lifestyle and lung disease (COPD), life threatening emergencies and broken bones and head injuries.</p> <p>Textiles: Asafo Flags— develop fabric dying techniques, hand sewing, machine sewing and respond to cultural influences.</p> <p>Finance Skills : Pupils are taught about real life finance skills and using an online programme.</p> <p>Library lesson: Pupils follow a reading programme.</p> <p>Engineering: Students will design and create a birdbox using resistive materials and carry out peer evaluation.</p>	<p>www.bbc.co.uk/food/occasions/recipes_for_kids</p> <p>Secondary Art and Design classroom resources (bbc.co.uk)</p>



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Communication

Year 8



New student lockers

Our current lockers have come to the end of their life cycle and we have been working on providing a more modern, robust and secure solution. We have also been keen to improve the functionality e.g. booking, problem resolution (including when students lose their keys), and the cleaning and sorting of items left in lockers by students at the end of the year. After consultation with the Trust and speaking with colleagues at other schools which have used the supplier, we have now installed new student lockers that are now available to rent.

Having a student locker can help our students to reduce carrying equipment and avoid misplacing important school items. The normal price for the hire of one of these lockers for a year is £35, however we have negotiated this price down to £25 for our students / families. Please read the flyer below for more information about how the new system will work:

secure locker rental
thinking outside the box

Two simple ways to rent your locker

Simple, safe, secure...

Visit 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 and clicking on the re-issue my locker code link.

For all other enquiries, please email enquiries@securelockerrental.uk



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Communication

Year 8



Sixth Form recognition

Mr Eley had the pleasure to interview our Year 13 students for SSLT this year. They really are an excellent group of students and we are excited to see how they will contribute to the academy moving forwards. Please find below the students and their responsibilities:

Head Boy: Josh Walkden

Head Girl: Stevie Allen

Deputy Head Boy: David Kantyka

Deputy Head Girl: Rishika Bjaj

Wellbeing Lead: Jemma Birds

Finance Officer: Ethan Wright

Mentoring Leads: Sarah Lasekan and Macy Webber

Event Leads: Buhuni Arachige and Jack Druce

Community Lead: Deividas Gedvilas

Careers and Alumni Officer: Emma Best

Head of Student Engagement: Tarik El-Sayed

The British Computer Society Coding Competition at Cranfield University

In July our now Year 8 students visited Cranfield University. They enjoyed the day and were the only school allowed to see the control room due to their role model behaviour.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Communication and Celebrations

Year 8



Our GCSE Results

The Academy is pleased to announce a year of brilliant results for pupils. The whole Academy community is incredibly proud of its pupils, and many are now looking forward to progressing onto their A-Levels at the Academy.

While all pupils have done well, there have been some impressive individual performances. These include:

Josh Parkin, who achieved 9s in Maths, Science and History, 8 in English, Distinction* in Business and Distinction in Information Technology.

Jessica Routledge, who achieved 9s in Science, English, Maths & History and Distinction in Performing Arts.

James McSherry, who achieved 9s in English and history, 8 in Maths, 7 in French and Distinction* in Business.

Iara Silva who, achieve a 9 in Science, 3 8s in English, Maths and Geography and Distinction* in Business.

Ewa Ogedengbe, who achieved 9s in Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Maths, 8s in English and Geography and Merit in Information Technology.

Dana Serakova, who achieved 8s in Maths, English, Science and History as well as 2 Merits in Information Technology and Performing Arts.

Mr Gamble, Principal at Kingswood Secondary Academy, said:

"Congratulations to our Year 11 students on their outstanding GCSE results. Their hard work, dedication, and resilience have truly paid off. Not only have they achieved academic success but also demonstrated remarkable character and perseverance. We are incredibly proud of our students and wish them every success as they move forward onto their next steps, either here in our Sixth Form or to college."



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Communication and Celebrations

Year 8



Our A-Level Results

The Academy is pleased to announce a year of excellent results for pupils. Their determination and hard work has meant many have achieved strong results and will now progress onto their chosen next steps in higher education, jobs or apprenticeships.

There have also been some impressive individual performances. These include:

Eamonn Oliff, who achieved 2A*s Geography and Maths and a Distinction* in Business. Eamonn has secured his first-place choice to study Economics at the University of Nottingham.

Brendan Bremner, who achieved 2As in Geography and Maths and a B in Physics. Brendan has secured his first-place choice to study Economics at the University of York.

Kayleigh Gilmour, who achieved an A in Maths and 2Bs in Biology and Chemistry. Kayleigh has secured her first-placed choice to study Bio-Medical Science at the University of Sheffield.

Anya Thompson, who has achieved 3As in Biology, Chemistry and Physical Education. Anya has secured her first-placed choice to study Veterinary Medicine at the Royal Veterinary College, London.

David Saranut, who achieved an A* in Sociology and 2Bs in English Literature and Psychology. David secured his first-placed choice to study Law at the University of Nottingham.

Mathew Gamble, Principal at Kingswood Secondary Academy said:

"Here at Kingswood Secondary Academy we are so proud of our pupils for what they have achieved. These superb outcomes represent an exceptional accomplishment and is a real testament to their hard work, dedication and support network around them. We are very excited to see what they will do next and wish them luck for their future endeavours."



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Communication

Year 8



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: <https://www.kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org/page/?>



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

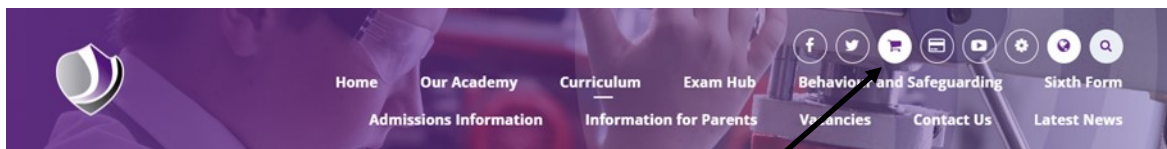
<https://www.kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org/page/?title=Job+of+the+Week&pid=615>



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.

How to access ParentPay



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 <https://www.kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org/> and then by clicking on the shopping trolley icon. Here are just a few of the things that can be paid for via the ParentPay Shop:

- Equipment Packs
- Art supplies
- Revision guides & books
- Uniform
- Exam Re-takes.

In the payment screen it is essential that we are able to identify your child and his/her Tutor group. Once we have received payment notification, we will process your order and your son/daughter will be advised when they can collect their items from Reception. Items will not be posted home.



Kingswood Secondary Academy

Communication

Year 8



Parking and access to Kingswood Secondary Academy:

Wherever possible we encourage our students to walk or cycle to the Academy for the obvious health and environmental benefits this brings.

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

Dropping off your child in the morning:

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

If you do wish to use our roundabout then we do allow this in the mornings. This works because parents drop off their children over a 30-45 minute period, so congestion does not tend to be a significant issue.

Collecting your child at the end of the day:

Due to the inevitable departure of students in a relatively short period of time at the end of a school day, it does not work for us to allow parents onto site to collect their child. This is because of the very significant congestion caused which leads to vehicles backing up out of our entrance, in turn then blocking Gainsborough Road in both directions.

In summary: please do not drive onto our school site to collect your child at the end of the day.

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

Sadly, we quite often get complaints from local residents e.g. on Tower Hill Road and Oak Wood Drive. With this in mind, we'd be very grateful if you note the following:

Please park considerately and consider parking further away and allowing your child to walk for a couple of minutes to get to you, so you can park in a less congested location.

Please avoid blocking residents' drives and do not use residents' drives to turn around in or stop in. Please avoid parking on yellow lines.

Thank you for your understanding.

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

Communication

Year 8



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 – 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. Skirts should be no shorter than knee length and should not be fitted or made of tight stretchy material. Skater-style skirts are not suitable. As a rule of thumb, trousers and skirts should be modest.
- 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.

