



8th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had an excellent start to the term and have very much enjoyed welcoming our new and existing students to the new academic year and talking to them about their summer. Alongside our induction activities, our house events have begun with team building activities across year groups; students participated very well and had fun in the process. We had our fire drill practice, and it was perfect, 1075 students exited and entered school efficiently and in absolute silence, a very impressive sight!

In this letter I will be updating you on:

- Staffing changes
- Examination results
- Attendance and punctuality
- Uniform
- Behaviour for learning policy.
- Curriculum
- Parking
- Key dates for the school year

Staffing changes

We are delighted to welcome

- Mr Tabberer – RE Subject Leader
- Ms Cunningham – Science Teacher
- Ms Yeomans – Maths teacher
- Ms Burke – MFL teacher
- Ms Lewis – Maths Teacher and Lead for Implementation
- Ms Hutt - Pastoral Support

Mr Gunn will no longer be working at KNGS from September, we wish him and his family all the very best in their next adventure. Due to Mr Gunn's departure **Mrs Bi will now be the schools Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)**. As always, if you have safeguarding concerns please contact the school via reception straight away.

Examinations results

Again, examination results at GCSE and A level were very good and both above national. We will get a better picture of GCSE results and the Progress 8 score later this term.

A level results:

	Kings Norton 6 th Form	National
A*-A	31%	26.5%
A*-B	64.6%	52.7%
A*-C	83.1%	75.4%
A*-E	98.7%	97.2%
Average grade	B-	



GCSE results:

% of grades	KNGS	National
4+	89%	67.84 %
5+	76%	52.22 %
7+	37.8%	21.61 %

Attendance

Attendance has been fantastic so far this year with nearly every student attending over the first two days. Thank you so much for your continued support as this will ensure all students:-

- establish and retain strong friendship groups;
- are happy and enjoy school;
- improve their personal development and flourish socially;
- flourish academically enabling them to progress to a high-quality college or sixth form, university or apprenticeship place of their choice.

Your child should come into school even if they have cold symptoms: cough, runny nose, sore throat or don't feel quite right, if they are too unwell to be in school during the school day we will contact you. The only time you should keep your child at home is if they have a temperature of 38°C or above, a contagious disease or have been vomiting or have diarrhoea. The DFE have asked me to share this link with you which explains more about contagious diseases and conditions. <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>.

We have carefully analysed our GCSE results information and have found a direct link between students who attended school over the year with at least 96% attendance and those who were below 95% attendance. The difference is dramatic. Students attending school at least 96% of the time achieved on average nearly one whole grade higher in every subject than those whose who attended for 90% of the time and more than half a grade higher in every subject than those who attended for 95% of the time. This was irrespective of prior attainment or target grades.

A report with 95% attendance at the end of the year might sound high, but it just isn't as 95% equates to 9 days of absence over the year. These 9 days are equivalent to 45 lessons a year and this learning is very hard to catch up with. Over a 5 year school journey at 95% attendance, 225 lessons or 9 whole weeks of learning are lost! So, striving for 100% attendance is important to ensure good academic and personal progress.

Attendance: What do these attendance % mean in reality over a year?

Attendance %	Number of lessons lost	Number of days and weeks of learning lost
98%	20	4 days
96%	25	7 days
95%	45	9 days
94%	55	11 days
90%	100	4 weeks (20 days)
85%	150	6 weeks (35 days)



Our website has more information about attendance <https://www.kngs.co.uk/school-life/attendance/> . Should you need support with your child's attendance please contact school straight away, initially via their form tutor.

Useful attendance reminders:-

- Students should attend even if they have a cold or feel unwell.
- Report absence daily by 8.30am, using the absence line on the main school number 0121 675 1305.
- Holidays during term time cannot be approved.
- Written proof of medical and dental appointments **MUST** be provided.

Punctuality

Punctuality to school is also essential in ensuring students flourish. Lateness to school will be logged regardless of whether parents/carers phone school. As with all other areas of school life, we will support students to find ways to prevent lateness to school re-occurring or escalating into late detentions.

Uniform

Most students have returned to school with smart uniform, thank you for your support. We do however have a concern about the skirts that are being worn by some students which do not meet the uniform requirement.

As per the uniform policy, skirts should be as below, please note in particular the last two points and ensure that the skirt your child is wearing to school meets these requirements:

- Navy blue with back vent or navy blue with all round pleats.
- Material containing a polyester and viscose mix has been selected.
- **Fitted and/or Lycra skirts are NOT allowed.**
- **Skirt should be no more than 5cm above the knee.**

The uniform policy can be found on our website:

<https://www.kngs.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Uniform-and-appearance-Policy-June-2022-amended-March-2023-V2.pdf>

Behaviour for Learning

Last year I let you know that we were amending our Behaviour for Learning Policy. As before, the policy aims to support each and every student to flourish by creating an environment that allows everyone to feel safe and is treated with respect. In practice, this may feel a little different for our students but the sanctions are proportionate and we will aim to shape or re-shape student behaviour to help them to flourish.

However, we know that each and every student has great potential and it is our job to enable each child to flourish. Thank you for your support in talking to your child about our norms and routines. Almost all of our students follow these and understand their importance. The table below shows consequences when students do not follow our high expectations, however at each stage support is also in place. The KNGS Behaviour for Learning Policy can be found on our website:

<https://www.kngs.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Behaviour-for-Learning-policy-JUNE-2023.pdf>



Brief summary

Level	Consequence
Level 1	Verbal warning and discussion with student. Confiscation of jewellery and mobile phone. Parent/carers will be asked to collect confiscated phones on second incident.
Level 2	Final warning – 5-10 minute detention with member of staff – Level 2 log – 0 Behaviour Points
Level 3	Behaviour log issued for 20 minute break detention the following day – 1 Behaviour Point
Level 4	One-hour after school detention and / or removal from lesson. Parent / carer contact made by teacher – 2 Behaviour Points
Level 5	Renewal room (internal suspension) and parental meeting – 3 Behaviour Points
Level 6	Suspension and parental meeting – 4 Behaviour Points
Level 7	Permanent exclusion and parental and related meeting (Headteacher).

Curriculum

We know that most students are confident in explaining the work they are doing in each subject and the topics they will cover during this year however, if you would like to know more about each curriculum area, details are available on the school website <https://www.kngs.co.uk/curriculum/overview/> This includes curriculum maps (<https://www.kngs.co.uk/curriculum/overview/curriculum-maps/>) which show the overview of that subject across all years. We know that you may not be an expert in all subjects, but the more you can ask questions, the more it will help your child to consolidate their learning. Curriculum maps for each subject can be found on our website by following the link above.

Student safety and parking

With 1078 students leaving school at the end of the day, it is even more important for all parents and carers to drive and park in line with legal requirements as we strive to keep the exit from school as safe as possible. Thank you to the majority of parents and carers who drive and park safely and courteously at the end of the day. For the few that do not, can I please remind you of the guidance from PC Tony Harris, Bournville Lane Police Station: The Highway Code <https://www.highwaycodeuk.co.uk/parking.html> section 243 states, do not stop or park:-

- Near a school entrance
- Anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services
- Opposite another parked vehicle
- Where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and powered mobility vehicles
- In front of an entrance to a property

We kindly ask that you do not stop or park on the yellow lines, both zig zag and single lines, block our neighbours' driveways and carry out dangerous turning manoeuvres in the road. Please do not put our children at risk just because you wish to save a few seconds.

Key dates for the year

The following confirms important dates during the school year when the school will either start late, finish early or close due to staff training. Also, I have included other key dates for your diary. **Please note the early closure on Monday 26th September to accommodate our main School Open Evening event.**



Early closure, late starts, training days and school closures				
	Day	Date	Event	Timing
2023	Monday	25 th September	Main school and Sixth Form Open Evening (2024 entry)	Students finish at 12.20pm
	Friday	1 st December	INSET Training day	Closed to students
2024	Wednesday	7 th February	INSET Training day	Closed to students
	Monday	6 th May	Bank holiday	Closed to staff and students
	Friday	24 th May	INSET Training Day	Closed to students
	Friday	19 th July	Last day for students	Students finish at 12.30pm
	Monday	22 nd July	INSET Training Day	Closed to students

Other key dates for your diary – Please note all events marked *				
	Day	Date	Event	Timing
2023	Monday	18 th September	Y12 Parents as Partners Evening (online event)	5.00pm – 5.45 pm
	Monday	25 th September	School Open Evening (Year 7 & Sixth Form - 2023 entry)	6.00pm – 8.00 pm Students finish at 12.20pm
	Tuesday	26 th September	Open Morning (Year 7 & Sixth Form – 2023 entry) - Online booking required	*** 9.00am – 11.00am (online bookings only)
	Thursday	28 th September	Y10 Parents as Partners Evening (online event)	6.00pm – 8.00 pm
	Thursday	5 th October	Open Morning (Year 7 & Sixth Form – 2023 entry) - Online booking required	*** 9.00 – 11.00 am (online bookings only)
	Monday	9 th October	Y7 Parents as Partners Evening	4.00pm – 6.00 pm
	Thursday	16 th November	Y11 Parents Evening (online using School Cloud)	3.30 – 6.00pm
	Thursday	30 th November	Sixth Form Parents Evening (online using School Cloud)	3.30 – 6.00 pm
	Tuesday	19 th December	Christmas Concert	Time TBC



Other key dates for your diary – Please note all events marked *				
2024	Day	Date	Event	Timing
	Thursday	18 th January	Y7 Parents Evening (online using School Cloud)	3.30pm – 6.00pm
	Tuesday	30 th January	Y8 Parents as Partners Evening for identified students	Time TBC
	Thursday	1 st February	Y10 Parents Evening (online using School Cloud)	3.30pm – 6.00pm
	Thursday	29 th February	Y9 Parents Evening (online using School Cloud)	3.30pm – 6.00 pm
	Tuesday	5 th March	Y11 Parents as Partners Evening for identified students	Time TBC
	Tuesday	19 th March	Y13 Parents as Partners Evening for identified students	Time TBC
	Thursday	21 st March	Y8 Parents Evening (online using School Cloud)	3.30pm – 6.00 pm
	Monday	24 th June	Whole School Open Morning Y7 & Sixth Form - 2023 entry	*** 9.00am – 11.00 am
	Tuesday	25 th June	Whole School Open Morning Y7 & Sixth Form - 2023 entry	*** 9.00am – 11.00 am

***** Whole school open mornings do not affect timings of the school day, students should attend as normal**

Please note timings may change, you will be informed if this is the case.

We are excited about the year ahead and very proud of our students making such a positive start to the year in order to open a world of opportunities. Thank you for your continued support as it is vital that school and home work in partnership to ensure all children flourish.

Yours sincerely

Nicola Raggett
Headteacher