



PARENTAL NEWS BULLETIN

Issue 2 Monday 7th September 2026

HEADLINE NOTICES

The Big Future Survey



Kingsdale is participating in the Big Future national child survey which is being organised by the Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel De Souza. Dame De Souza is keen to hear the views and opinions of as many young people as possible across the UK on a range of issues. We would be grateful if parents could encourage their child/ren to participate in the survey which can be accessed online via this [link](#). See Page 2 below for more details.

Please remember Kingsdale takes the voice of all our stakeholders very seriously. Please keep a look out for our half-termly confidential online surveys from our partner platform MySchoolWellbeing which seeks to canvass the views of students and parents across the academic year. Further details issued separately.



*School Photographs

The school photographers will be coming into school on the days listed below. Please ensure that your child is aware of the day that their school photograph is due to be taken. Arrangements for photographs for siblings and further details are issued separately by Heads of Learning.

Tuesday 8th September 2026 – Year 8
Wednesday 9th September 2026 – Year 9
Thursday 10th September 2026 – Year 10
Friday 11th September 2026 – Year 12
Monday 21st September 2026 – Year 11
Tuesday 22nd September 2026 – Year 13

Mobile Phone Policy – Smartphone Free Site

A reminder of the details of our mobile phone policy which from 1st September 2026 prohibits students in Years 7-11 from being in possession of a smartphone at any time whilst on the school site. Further information has been issued separately and can also be accessed on our website [here](#). We thank parents and students for their continued support of this key school policy. Please address any queries, including any medical exemption requests via phones@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

THEME OF THE WEEK

'Community is a place where people come together in order to fulfil a specific purpose, to help others fulfil their purposes and to take care of one another.'

Sobonfu Somè

WORD OF THE WEEK

Prudence

The state of being careful in the management of affairs.

SCHOOL NEWS

Kingsdale Careers Programme 2025-26
We are very proud of our Careers Programme at Kingsdale and a lot of the exciting talks and opportunities come from parental volunteers. So, we need your help to support our Careers programme for 2026-27!

The mainstay of our Careers programme are our lunchtime talks, which usually last 45mins - 1 hour and are aimed at a range of year groups. These sessions will most likely happen on a Wednesday this year but we can be flexible. We will also be hosting our Careers Fair in early 2027.

If you think you would be able to support us with any of our careers programme lunchtime talks, the Careers Fair, or in any other capacity, please fill out [this form](#).

If you have any questions please get in touch with us via

careers@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Uniform Bank

Get Educated and Save the World

The KFS Uniform Bank, provides quality pre-loved school uniforms, is open Monday to Friday at 4.10pm daily.

Please email Mr James Lewis via jls@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

with any queries. Please note that other access times can be arranged by appointment.



**CHILDREN'S
COMMISSIONER**

THE BIG FUTURE

**The Children's Commissioner,
Dame Rachel de Souza, has
launched The Big Future survey.**

It's your chance to have your say on what it's like to be a child or young person in England today - what you love, what worries you, how you have fun, and the changes you want for a better future.

There are questions about voting, school, your area, online safety, and space for you to tell her what you think is important!

**It takes less than 10 minutes to
complete the survey.**



Take part now:

childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture

#TheBigFuture  @childrenscommissioner

Music News



Kingsdale Percussion Festival | 18 June 2026

Kingsdale Foundation School was proud to host the inaugural Kingsdale Percussion Festival, bringing together young musicians from across the South London Schools Partnership (SSLP) to celebrate the exceptional breadth and quality of percussion performance across the region.



The evening featured outstanding performances from Kingsdale's Junior Steel Pan Ensembles, Junior Percussion Ensemble, Kingsdale Percussion Ensemble, African Drumming Ensemble and Senior Percussion Ensemble, alongside guest ensembles from Dulwich Wood Primary School, Dulwich College and the Centre for Young Musicians. A particular highlight was the collaborative performance of *Rock Trap*, bringing together students from Kingsdale and the Centre for Young Musicians, while Kingsdale alumnus Jacob Toomey-O'Neill returned to perform an outstanding solo drum kit recital.

The festival was a tremendous celebration of collaboration, musical excellence and community partnership, reinforcing Kingsdale's commitment to providing exceptional musical opportunities for young people across South London.



Kingsdale Music Festival (Part One) | 25 June 2026

The first of this year's Kingsdale Music Festival concerts showcased the extraordinary depth of musical talent across the department. Performing to a packed audience in The Pod were the Barry Graham Big Band, Brass Ensemble, Chamber Choir, Clarinet Ensemble, Gospel Choir, Junior Jazz, Junior Woodwind and Senior Wind Ensemble.

Each ensemble demonstrated exceptional musicianship, commitment and professionalism, reflecting countless hours of rehearsal and the high expectations that underpin music-making at Kingsdale. The evening celebrated not only musical achievement, but also the confidence, teamwork and enjoyment that ensemble performance fosters.



Crystal Palace Community Concert | 2 July 2026



Kingsdale was delighted to accept an invitation from Festival Republic to perform at the Crystal Palace Community Concert in Crystal Palace Park.

The Year 9 Jazz Band—Sam, Kai, Izar, Finlay, Ted and Frank—performed an accomplished 30-minute set featuring music by Ezra Collective, The Comet is Coming and Afrobeat pioneer Fela Kuti. Sharing the stage with community choirs and local school ensembles, the students represented Kingsdale with distinction and demonstrated the exceptional standard of jazz performance within the department.



Music News

Hillside Gardens Summer Fete | 27 June 2026

Kingsdale musicians were delighted to support the Hillside Gardens Summer Fête, bringing live music to the local community on a beautiful summer afternoon.

Our Senior Jazz Band, comprising Year 13 students Auri and Cameron alongside Year 11 students Emi and Theo, delivered an outstanding programme of contemporary jazz fusion, performing with confidence and musical flair. The afternoon concluded with an entertaining surprise Beatles tribute from Mr Jones and Mr Williams, providing a fitting finale to a wonderful community celebration.



Summer Art Exhibition | 8 July 2026

Visitors to the annual Summer Art Exhibition were welcomed by elegant live performances from Kingsdale Music Scholars, whose music created a sophisticated atmosphere throughout the evening.

Performances on marimba, piano and harp provided the perfect accompaniment to the exhibition, enhancing the celebration of creativity across the arts. Outstanding performances from students including Anoushka (Year 8) and Jess (Year 11) exemplified the exceptional individual musicianship nurtured within the department.

Music News

Assemblies Live! Outreach Project | 9 July 2026

As Southwark's Lead Music School, Kingsdale was proud to deliver another successful Assemblies Live! outreach project, with our Year 12 A Level Music students visiting Ivydale Primary School and Bird in Bush Primary School.

The students presented engaging live assemblies, performing on a range of instruments while sharing their own musical journeys and discussing the opportunities available through learning music at secondary school. Primary pupils were invited to ask questions about learning an instrument, life at secondary school and the many benefits of musical participation.

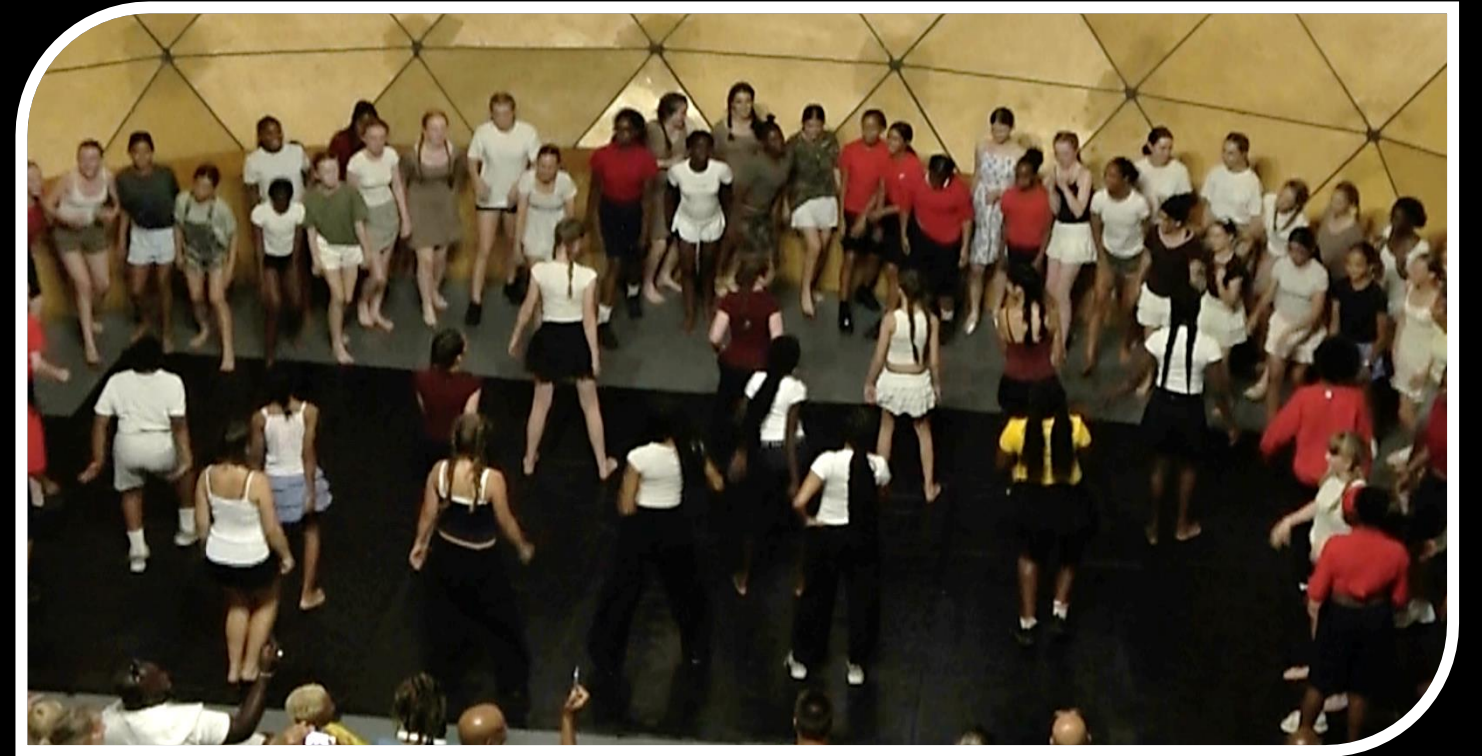
The project forms part of Kingsdale's commitment to widening access to high-quality music education across the borough while providing valuable leadership opportunities for our sixth form musicians, who represented the school with maturity, professionalism and enthusiasm.



Kingsdale Music Festival (Part 2) | 14 July 2026

The second concert of the Kingsdale Music Festival continued the celebration of ensemble music-making with another inspiring evening of performances in The Pod.

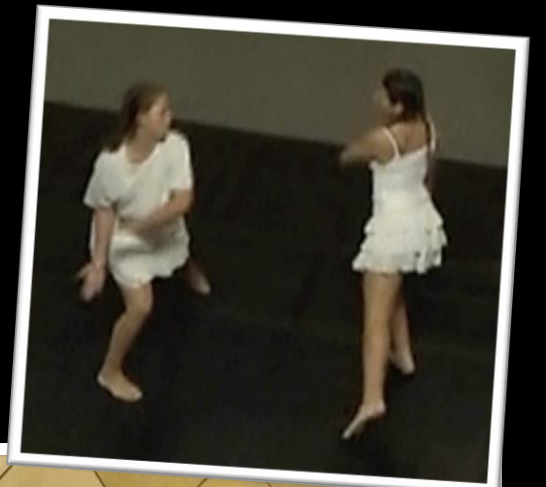
The Orchestra, Junior Strings, Junior Guitar, Cello Ensemble, Intermediate Guitar, Kingsdale Voices, Harp Ensemble, Folk Band and Musical Theatre Choir each demonstrated the remarkable diversity of musical opportunities available to students at Kingsdale. From classical repertoire to folk traditions and contemporary musical theatre, the concert celebrated the breadth and ambition of the department's musical provision.



Dance Showcase | 15 July 2026

The annual Dance Showcase once again demonstrated the exceptional creativity, technical excellence and artistic confidence of Kingsdale's dancers.

Performing to a capacity audience in The Pod, students delivered a compelling programme of choreography that reflected months of dedication and rehearsal. The energy and enthusiasm within the theatre created an unforgettable atmosphere and provided a fitting celebration of another outstanding year for Dance at Kingsdale.



Student Band Showcase | 16 July 2026

This Summer marked the launch of the inaugural Student Band Showcase, an exciting new addition to Kingsdale's annual performance calendar.

Featuring self-formed bands from Years 7 to 12, the evening transformed the Performance Hall into a vibrant live music venue as students performed an eclectic programme of rock and pop music to an enthusiastic audience. Particularly encouraging was the collaboration between students from different year groups, highlighting the strong musical community that continues to flourish within the department.

The concert also featured the debut performance of the re-established Electric Guitar Ensemble, whose exhilarating renditions of Metallica and Rage Against the Machine captivated the audience, alongside an outstanding performance from the Senior Guitar Ensemble.



Music News

International Cultural Day | 19 July 2026

Music once again played a central role in Kingsdale's annual Culture Day, celebrating the rich diversity of our school community through an exciting programme of performances and workshops.

Students performed with the Balkan Brass Band, Steel Pan Ensembles and in a range of solo and duet performances celebrating musical traditions from around the world. Visitors also enjoyed interactive African drumming workshops and an exclusive preview from the cast of next year's whole-school musical, *Hadestown*, ahead of its Autumn Term 2027 production.

Culture Day provided a vibrant conclusion to the academic year, showcasing the diversity, creativity and community spirit that continue to define music-making at Kingsdale.





National Year of Reading 2026

National Year of Reading Department of Music

This half-term, the Performing Arts department is taking the lead on our whole-school reading focus, exploring how music, drama and dance can inspire us to engage with words, stories and ideas in different ways.

For the next 3 weeks, the Music Department is launching Song of the Week, encouraging pupils to listen closely to great songs and explore the relationship between music, lyrics and meaning.

Our first Song of the Week is *Bob Dylan's Blowin' in the Wind*.



Bob Dylan is an American singer-songwriter whose songs have had an enormous influence on popular music and culture. Released in 1963, *Blowin' in the Wind* became one of his best-known songs and was closely associated with the protest movements of the 1960s. The song raises questions about peace, war, freedom, equality and human suffering.

Rather than simply telling the listener what to think, Bob Dylan repeatedly asks questions.
How long can injustice continue?
Why do people ignore the suffering of others?
When will humanity learn to live peacefully?

Listen carefully to *Blowin' in the Wind* and follow the lyrics as you do so. As you listen, think about:

- The questions Bob Dylan asks. Why might he use questions rather than simply stating his opinions?
- Repetition. Look for words, phrases and ideas that return throughout the song. What effect does this have?
- Imagery and symbolism. Dylan refers to roads, seas, mountains, the sky and the wind. Could some of these images represent something beyond their literal meaning?
- Peace and conflict. What does the song suggest about war and humanity's ability to learn from it?
- Freedom and equality. How might the song have connected with struggles for civil rights during the 1960s?
- The music. Listen to Dylan's voice, acoustic guitar, melody, tempo and accompaniment. The musical material is relatively simple – why might that be effective?
- Words and music together. Does the music strengthen the meaning of the lyrics? Would the words have the same impact if they were presented simply as a poem?
- Your response. The song is more than 60 years old. Do you think its questions are still relevant today? Why?

There isn't necessarily one correct interpretation. We want you to listen closely, think about the text and support your ideas with evidence from the song.



Bob Dylan - *Blowin' in the Wind*
How many roads must a man walk down
Before you call him a man?
How many seas must a white dove sail
Before she sleeps in the sand?
Yes, and how many times must the cannonballs fly
Before they're forever banned?
The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind
The answer is blowin' in the wind

Yes, and how many years must a mountain exist
Before it is washed to the sea?
Yes, and how many years can some people exist
Before they're allowed to be free?
Yes, and how many times can a man turn his head
And pretend that he just doesn't see?
The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind
The answer is blowin' in the wind

Yes, and how many times must a man look up
Before he can see the sky?
Yes, and how many ears must one man have
Before he can hear people cry?
Yes, and how many deaths will it take 'til he knows
That too many people have died?
The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind
The answer is blowin' in the wind

Competition: Music Review of the Week

After listening, pupils are invited to submit a short 150–300 word review of *Blowin' in the Wind*.

The writer of the best review will receive a Bob Dylan album on CD.

The winning review will also be displayed on the Music Department noticeboard and shared in the Parental News Bulletin

Your review should comment on:

- The meaning of the lyrics – What do you think Dylan is trying to communicate?
- Musical features – What do you notice about the melody, voice, instruments, rhythm, tempo, dynamics, texture or structure?
- Words and music – How effectively does the music communicate and strengthen the song's message?
- Your opinion – Do you think *Blowin' in the Wind* is an effective song? Why? Support your opinion with evidence from what you hear and read.

Reviews should be emailed to: musicstaff@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Mental Health & Well-Being Weekly Focus for Students: Navigating New Chapters: Reset, Reconnect and Recharge

This week's mental health and well-being focus for students is "Navigating New Chapters: Reset, Reconnect, and Recharge."

This theme focuses on emotional regulation, peer connection, and building a sustainable routine following the long summer break.

The theme can be broken down into actionable focus areas which link to Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) lessons or focus points for discussion during tutor time.

Resetting the Rhythm

Focus: Bridging the gap between the relaxed summer schedule and the demands of the school year.

Activity: Have students map out "Energy Rhythms." Since shifting abruptly to early mornings causes biological stress, focus on sleep hygiene, screen-time boundaries, and creating a manageable after-school routine.

Reconnect and Reflect

Focus: Acknowledging shifting friendship dynamics and easing social anxiety after time away.

Activity: Use guided circle-time or "icebreaker" activities to help students find common ground. Introduce tools like the [Anna Freud Self-Care Summer Toolkit](#) for actionable ideas on how to boost wellbeing

Please contact Ms V Turner via mentalhealth&wellbeing@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk for further information on our mental health & well-being offer for students.

Welcome from the Learning Support Faculty!

The Learning Support Faculty would like to welcome everyone back to the school and we hope everyone has enjoyed their time so far.

We would like to introduce our fantastic team to you and let you know a little bit about what we do.

- Director of English and Learning Support: Miss G Smith
- SENCO: Ms S Jarada
- Assistant SENCO: Ms M Thorn
- SEND Consultant: Ms L Dadkhah
- SEND Consultant: Ms C Francis-Finch



The Waves of Intervention model are used at Kingsdale Foundation School, with a particular focus on Wave 1: Quality First Teaching. Our staff are given regular CPD opportunities by specialists with-in the Learning Support Faculty, from external agencies and within faculties and pastoral teams. Students who require additional support may be allocated a Teaching Assistant (TA) to supplement the teaching and input they receive. Students who require access arrangements for examinations are assessed in line with JCQ guidance.

The Learning Support Centre (LSC) is a therapeutic intervention provided to allow students experiencing anxiety to be referred for a period of time. This is a quiet space for students to work and be supported by teachers and TAs. Students have access to learning mentors, counsellors, and an art psychotherapist through a referral procedure in line with their needs. The SEND provision in lessons is monitored through the quality assurance of teaching and learning procedures

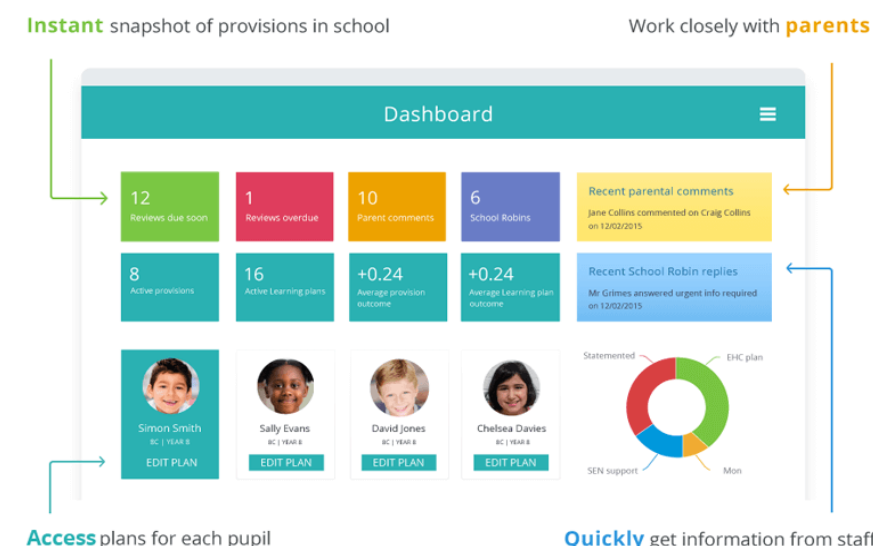
Edukey

As part of the school's focus on Quality First Teaching we have a programme called Edukey.

Edukey is a fantastic piece of software for ensuring staff can plan and deliver their lessons effectively for all students.

All provision plans for students are uploaded so information is accessible to all staff, including documentation, provision plans, meeting logs and a tool to be able to communicate quickly and easily with the teachers of said pupil.

This also means all staff can be proactive in seeking information relating to each and every pupil's needs.



SEND FACULTY NEWS

SEND Local Offer

Information and Local Offers

The Learning Support department would like to remind you that you can find lots of useful information in our SEND Policy and Report which can be found [here](#) under the 'SEND Policies & Report'

You can find out information regarding your local SEND offer here:

- [Southwark](#)
- [Lambeth](#)
- [Lewisham](#)
- [Croydon](#)
- [Bromley](#)
- [Wandsworth](#)
- [Merton](#)



Lambeth Parent Forum

Lambeth Parent Forum are a group of parents and carers of children and young people with additional needs and disabilities aged 0 to 25 in the London Borough of Lambeth. We work with local authorities, education, social care, health and other providers.

Membership of Lambeth Parent Forum is free and we do not ask anything of you unless you want to become involved in Forum activities and consultations. We are funded by a grant from the DfE and are currently supported by Contact in Lambeth.

We are part of The National Network of Parent Carer Forums (NNPCF). To sign up please: [Click here](#)

Neurodiversity 101: Start of a New School Term

Welcome back to Kingsdale and Welcome to Kingsdale to our Year 7 students and parents, as we start the new term, please find the advice below from the Neurodiversity 101 Newsletter produced by Prof. Amanda Kirby.



What can you do to make a difference?

Communication with the school:

Contact your child's form tutor if you haven't done so and ask to discuss your child's needs and any adjustments that should be in place from day one. Create a document with information about your child's strengths, challenges, and preferences you can share with them. Think about what the areas of greatest demand for your child at this time will be and try and focus on these skills or discuss the support for them.

Create a visual timetable and key information about the school day:

Depending on the age of your child create a simplified visual timetable for the school day (if you know what's happening day to day). Post up the names of new teachers. The more information your child has about the school day the less challenging the change will be for them. If you don't have this before the start of the term, try to get this information as soon as they start. Place timetables in the kitchen, and their bedroom so your child can see what is happening across the week.

Practice travelling to school:

You could walk/drive or use public transport (whichever method you will use) to practice what will happen for them each day.

New uniforms:

If your child has a new uniform and new shoes practice dressing and undressing and dealing with unfamiliar fastenings while there is less pressure for both of you timewise. If they need adaptations for fastenings such as Velcro instead of buttons, make these changes. Marks and Spencer's do an adaptive clothing range.

Label everything and personalise it where possible:

Involve your child in choosing and personalising their school belongings so they can recognise them easily such as their school bag, lunchbox, pencil case and other essentials. This can also create a sense of ownership and excitement about going to school.

Create some social stories:

If you use social stories, consider creating a simple story that introduces the school, teachers, and peers, along with expected activities. You can play this with your child to familiarise themselves with the processes.

Connect with classmates:

Play-dates in the first few weeks when term has started can help cement friendships. Keep them short and at a time when your child is not too tired.



Identify comfort items:

Encourage your child to select a comfort item or fidget toy they can take to school. Having something familiar can provide comfort during times of stress. This can be something they could keep in their pocket or in their pencil case.

Discuss school routines:

Talk with your child about what they're looking forward to at school and what might be worrying them. Address their concerns and highlight the positive aspects of the school experience. You may want to discuss times that are less structured such as lunchtimes, and break times as these may be more stressful for some children and talk about what they can do if they need some support and how to ask for it.



Practice your goodbyes:

If leaving you is hard help your child rehearse saying goodbye and coming up with a routine for drop-offs. Consistency and a positive routine can make farewells easier.

Talk through the day:

Transitioning to school can be challenging, but your support and patience are key to helping your child succeed. Check every day after school how the day's gone. Sometimes, if you are driving home the chat alongside can be easier than face-to-face.

Prepare the night before:

Put out clothes the night before school and pack bags and have them ready by the front door. It is really odd but there is more time in the evening than there is in the morning.

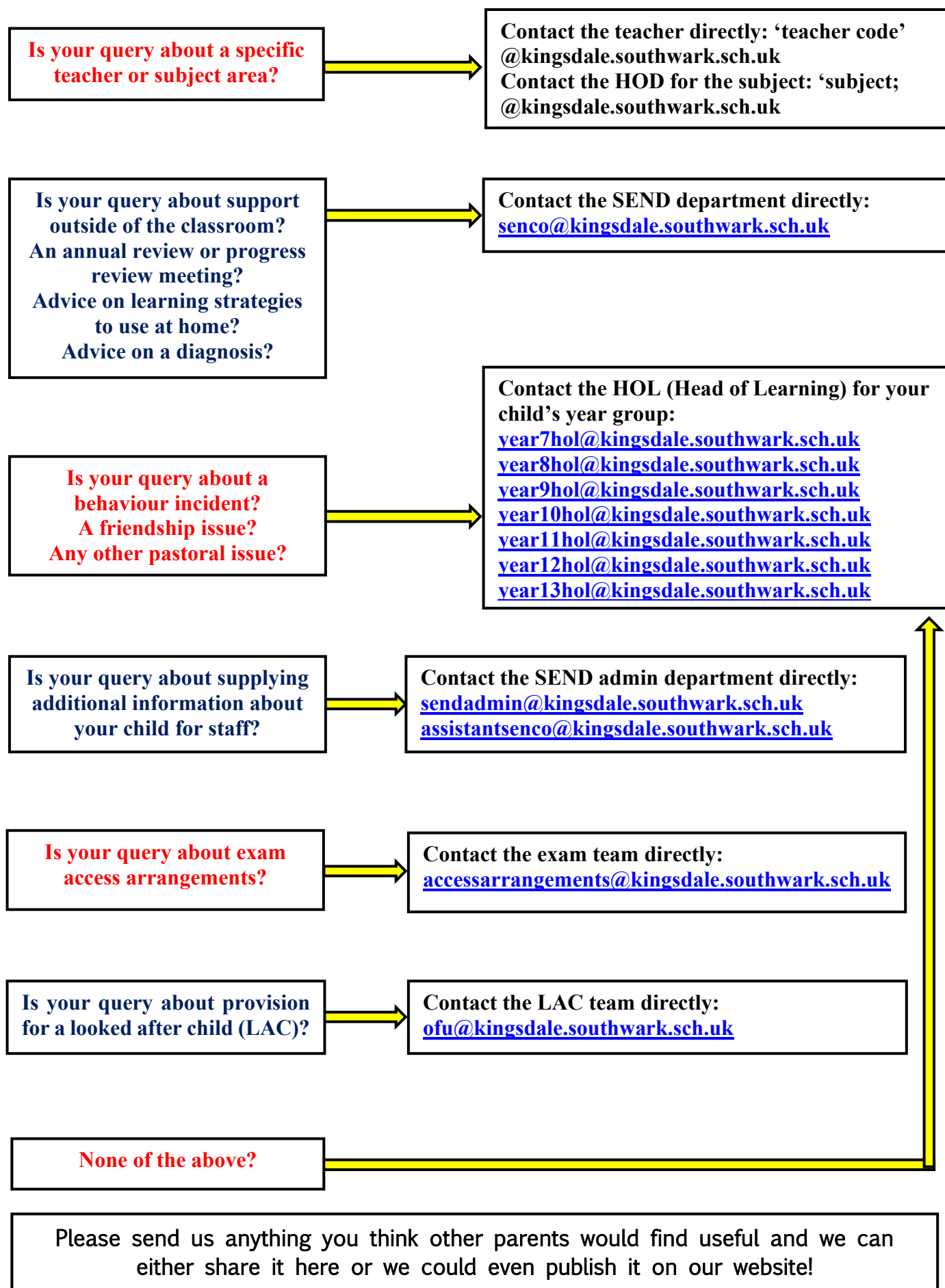
Practice your self-care:

As the start of the term approaches, make sure to prioritise your own self-care. Your child may pick up on your own feelings of stress too!



Communication Flowchart: SEND

At Kingsdale we would like our communication to be as effective as possible. Please see the flowchart below to help us support your child effectively and get the information needed to the right people.





Young
People
Southwark

If you are worried someone's drinking or drug use is affecting your child, we're here to help.



We help children and young people to cope with difficult family situations and feel stronger in themselves.

You can speak to us on 0203 404 7699
or email Southwark.YoungPeople@cgl.org.uk

Change Grow Live Registered Office: 3rd Floor, Tower Point, 44 North Road, Brighton BN1 1YR. Registered Charity Number 1079327 (England and Wales) and SC039861 (Scotland). Company Registration Number 3861209 (England and Wales).



Drug and
Alcohol Service
Southwark



Young
People
Southwark

Free Workshops for Parents and Carers

Do you want more guidance on how to talk to your children, teens and young people about vaping, alcohol or drugs? Do you want to be informed on the current themes and trends we come across working with young people in the borough?

Substances are more accessible today than ever before. For parents, carers or anyone responsible for children and young people, it can feel overwhelming and difficult to know how to respond.

We're offering FREE online workshops for parents and carers in Southwark, to give advice and guidance to help you navigate this quickly changing landscape.



We'll cover:

- Current trends amongst young people
- Strategies for talking to young people about substances in an open and supportive way
- Practical advice on how to keep your children safe from the dangers of substance misuse



For further information contact:

- Email: Southwark.YoungPeople@cgl.org.uk or scan the QR code for a direct link to the eventbrite page.
- You can call us on: **020 3404 7699**

SCAN ME



Talking to your child about

SHARING IMAGES ONLINE

For children and young people, socialising online is part of normal life. Chatting online and sending messages, photos and videos can be a good way of strengthening friendships. Sometimes, however, they can misjudge boundaries and may not realise the impact of their actions.

They can also be manipulated or pressured by others into sending inappropriate content, such as nude or semi-nude images. These can be sent for reasons including humour, shock-value, revenge or exploring bodies and relationships. Once images are shared, they can't be retrieved, leaving them vulnerable in many ways.

Having conversations with your child at an early age about what is and isn't ok to create and share can help keep them safe.



What can you do to keep your child safe online?

S

Set clear boundaries.

Agree with your child what they can do online and their access to certain apps/websites.

T

Talk with your child and be supportive.

Listen to what they already know so you can start a conversation about what normal use is.

E

Educate everyone in the family.

Make sure all family members know what isn't appropriate and how to stay safe online.

E

Evolve with the internet.

Keep up to date with technology used by your child and their features such as smartphones, VR headsets etc.

R

Research, review and regulate the apps and websites your child uses. This will allow you to decide whether they should use them and how to keep them safe online.



Prosecutions of children are very rare but there can be legal consequences to sharing nude or semi-nude imagery of a child (photos, cartoons or other picture formats), even if the person doing so is a child. If you think your child has shared an inappropriate image, speak to an advisor at the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command (CEOP). Details below.



FOR SUPPORT AND ADVICE, PLEASE VISIT:



ParentZone – Resources for parents/children to help keep kids safe online.



CEOP Education from the National Crime Agency – Advice, information and resources to use with your child to help keep them safer from online child sexual abuse.



Internet Matters – Comprehensive resources and expert guidance to help parents/carers keep their children safe online.



A safe space for teenagers worried about sexual behaviour

Our new website for young people with concerns about
their own or someone else's sexual thoughts and behaviour.



shospace.org.uk

Why Shore?

- It is one of the only resources of its kind in the world, designed specifically for young people with concerns about sexual behaviour
- It has reliable information to get anonymous help if they or a friend has acted harmfully online

KFS Uniform Bank

Our uniform is a key part of our identity and as such we are able to help parents and carers in providing quality uniform items. Sadly, the cost of living is still rising and some families are finding it a challenge to cover all bases in bringing up a family. There is also the negative environmental impact in design and disposal within the clothing industry to consider. Kingsdale community families can acquire cleaned and sanitised pre-worn uniform blazers (Belmont Dry Cleaners in Croxted Road have been most generous with their time and costing in this matter) and other items, dependent on availability, at a much, reduced rate.

The Uniform Bank will also be open between 3.45pm and 4.45pm each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please, always check for availability of items prior to making a purchase. This is a rolling programme that continues throughout the entire academic year and as such we are always looking for donations. Please leave washed and folded clothes at the main Reception area. Items of uniform will be available at other times of the year depending on supply. If you would like to help in any way please make yourself known to the team. If you have any queries, do not hesitate to contact: Mr Lewis at jls@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk



Kingsdale is a Safe Space

We would like to take this opportunity to once again remind students and their families of our two confidential emails which are operational both during and outside of school hours.

This provision is available for any member of our school community wishing to seek advice, discuss any matters relating to mental health & well-being or report an incident or concern confidentially via email.

We appreciate that students, parents, carers or guardians may wish to speak to someone outside of school hours or may wish to disclose an incident or concern confidentially or anonymously.

Our two confidential emails are:

health&wellbeing@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

tellsomeone@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Please contact Ms V Turner for further information regarding this provision or any matters relating to mental health & well-being at Kingsdale School.

The School Shop

A reminder that our School Shop is now open during the school day to enable students to purchase a range of useful items that they might need.

This includes stationary and uniform items; all of which can be purchased using their school fob.

The School Shop is located in the main Atrium nearest to the green stairs.



Lost Property

We are still receiving a large number of items that have been mislaid or lost by students.

In many cases, these items are unlabelled, making it very hard for them to be quickly and successfully reunited with their owners!

Please can we ask parents to label all items of their children's property at school, including water bottles, blazers and coats.

Lost property queries can be directed to lostproperty@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Is My Child Eligible for **Free School Meals**?

Your child may qualify for free school meals if you receive certain benefits. Any parent or carer in England can check here, even if your child's school isn't signed up. It's free to use (run by LGfL, an education charity) and you'll get an instant result checked securely against government records.

☰ **Qualifying benefits include**

- ✓ Universal Credit
- ✓ Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- ✓ The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- ✓ Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- ✓ Child Tax Credit (if not receiving Working Tax Credit)
- ✓ Working Tax Credit run-on

Conditions apply to some benefits – the quickest way to find out is to run a check.

📅 **New from September 2026**

Free school meals are expanding to **every child in a household that receives Universal Credit**.

You don't need to wait until then to find out if you're eligible. Run a check now and you'll see if your child will be eligible from September.

IF ELIGIBLE



Your child gets a free, nutritious lunch every school day.



Save around £500 per child, per year on the cost of school lunches.



May unlock additional Pupil Premium funding for your school – supporting things like tutoring, trips and clubs.

Your child's school is notified automatically if they use the checker, or simply share your email receipt with them as proof of eligibility.



INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY

What is International Literacy Day?

"Literacy is not just about educating, it is a unique and powerful tool to eradicate poverty and a strong means for social and human progress."

International Literacy Day, designated by UNESCO in 1967, is an annual awareness day that marks the importance of literacy to all countries and cultures which takes place every year on the 8th of September. International Literacy Day 2026 focuses on Literacy teaching and learning in the COVID-19 crisis and beyond.

Who is UNESCO?

UNESCO stands for United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. The organisation seeks to build peace through international cooperation in Education, the Sciences, and Culture. They transcend political agendas and were established after World War II ended in 1945 in the pursuit of peace and global cooperation in the fields of Education, Science, and Culture. Their work spans many other areas beyond literacy, but they see this as essential for peace and prosperity.

This event is in line with the Education For All Goals and the United Nations program (United Nations Literacy Decade).

Why do we need International Literacy Day?

Over 775 million adults struggle with basic literacy, and two-thirds of this figure are women. Celebrating International Literacy Day (ILD) is a brilliant way to raise awareness of the value of literacy and to encourage children and adults alike to develop their literacy skills.

How can students celebrate International Literacy Day?

You could review of your favourite books, do a creative writing task, or read a story together. You could do something artistic, such as design your own book covers or bookmarks.

STUDENT TASK - HOW TO ENTER:

Submit your entry to housesystem@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Ensure your entry is accompanied by your full name, tutor group and House.

HOUSE CAPTAIN YOUR SCHOOL NEEDS YOU!

Would you relish the challenge of becoming a House Captain?

- Are you an organiser and communicator?
- Are you a good team player?
- Do you have lots of creative ideas?



Then you could be ready to be a House Captain!

STUDENT TASK: Write a paragraph to explain why you want to be a House Captain. The House System remains integral to promoting the *Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development* for all our students across the school.

Email your paragraph:

housesystem@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Include your full name and tutor group.

CALENDAR 2026-27



You can also find lots of other useful sources of information on the school website [here](#). This includes further details about the operation of the school, including Term Dates, Assessment and Uniform.

Should you have any suggestions for additions to our website, please contact Mr Karp, via email tkp@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

For further information on term & holiday dates, please contact the Attendance Team via attendance@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

AUTUMN TERM 2026

First Autumn Half-Term

Tuesday 1st September Friday 16th October

INSET DAYS – School closed to all students

Tuesday 1st September – Wednesday 2nd September

Half-Term Holiday

Monday 19th October – Friday 30th October

Second Autumn Half-Term

Monday 2nd November – Friday 18th December

SPRING TERM 2027

First Spring Half-Term

Monday 4th January – Friday 12th February

Monday 4 January INSET DAY

School closed to students except those in Year 11 by invitation

Half-Term Holiday

Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February

Second Spring Half-Term

Monday 22nd February – Friday 25th March

SUMMER TERM 2027

First Summer Half-Term

Monday 12th April – Friday 28th May

Monday 12th April INSET DAY

School closed to students except those in Year 11

Mayday Bank Holiday

Monday 3rd May 2025

Half-Term Holiday

Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June

Second Summer Half Term

Monday 7th June – Friday 23rd July

Friday 26th July INSET DAY

School closed to students except by invitation



Kingsdale Foundation School, Alleyn Park, Dulwich, London, SE21 8SQ
Web: www.kingsdalefoundationschool.org.uk Tel: 0208 670 7575 (To report student absence use Option 2)