



# PARENTAL NEWS BULLETIN

Issue 25 Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026

## HEADLINE NOTICES

### First Summer Half Term Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

We welcome students and families back to the start of an exciting Summer term which commences on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026. On this day, selected Year 11/13 students will be required on site by invitation only for revision sessions for which further details have been issued separately. All other students are due to return on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at the usual times. Additional details have been issued separately. Full details regarding school and holiday dates for the 2025-26 & 2026-27 academic years can be located on our website [here](#).



### Curriculum Coffee Mornings

This half-term sees our next cycle of optional Coffee Mornings for parents, which are a great opportunity to meet staff and learn more about the curriculum for each year groups.

These sessions will take place in addition to our established, more general, monthly Parents' Forums. The upcoming dates for this term's meetings are:

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026 Year 11  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026 Years 12 & 13  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026 Years 9 & 10  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026 Years 7 & 8

Each event starts at 11.30am (Conference Room 1) at the school. Parents who are interested in attending, must register via the link sent separately by email. We hope to see you there. Should you have any queries, please contact Mrs Chaudhary, Deputy Headteacher via [sca@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:sca@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)

### Lost Property

Please could all parents ensure that all students' personal belongings are clearly marked with their names.

Every day we receive a large number of unlabelled belongings at the Lost Property Office which we are unable to return to students, resulting in extra expense for parents and unnecessary waste. Please direct queries to

[lostproperty@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:lostproperty@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)

### THEME OF THE WEEK

#### Change

'God, give us the serenity to accept what cannot be changed; give us the courage to change what should be changed; give us the wisdom to distinguish one from the other.'

### WORD OF THE WEEK

#### Fortuitous

(of something that is to your advantage) not planned, happening by chance

*"It was a fortuitous moment when the bus arrived just as the rain began."*



### UPCOMING EXAM REVISION TIPS

- Make a realistic revision schedule
- Find a revision style that suits you.
- Look at past exam papers
- Take regular short breaks
- Be patient and kind with yourself
- Practice good sleep hygiene
- Eat regularly – eat brain food!
- Reward yourself
- Do something physical
- Don't forget to ask for help!
- & most importantly don't forget to relax.



# MENINGITIS + SEPTICAEMIA

Meningitis  
**NOW**

Meningitis is a serious condition where the protective layers around the brain and spinal cord become inflamed. Septicaemia is when the bacteria enter the bloodstream to cause blood poisoning. They can happen to anyone, so it's important to know the symptoms and risks.

Early symptoms, such as fever, vomiting, aches, muscle pain, cold hands and feet and headaches, can look similar to common illnesses like colds or flu. But someone with meningitis or septicaemia will usually become seriously ill in a matter of hours. That's why it's crucial to keep checking on anyone who is unwell.

## MENINGITIS SYMPTOMS?

- fever
- a very bad headache (this alone is not a reason to get medical help)
- vomiting
- stiff neck
- dislike of bright lights
- rash (DO NOT wait for a rash to appear before seeking medical advice)
- confusion, delirium
- severe sleepiness, losing consciousness
- fits

## SEPTICAEMIA SYMPTOMS?

- fever and shivering
- severe pains and aches in limbs and joints
- vomiting
- very cold hands and feet
- pale or blotchy skin
- rapid breathing
- diarrhoea and stomach cramps
- red or purple 'bruised' or blotchy rash on skin that does not fade under pressure - do the glass test. On dark skin, check paler areas of the skin, such as the palms of the hands, soles of the feet, inside the mouth (roof), and the eyelids
- difficulty walking or standing
- severe sleepiness, losing consciousness

If you become worried about yourself, your child, or a friend, particularly if symptoms are getting worse, seek medical help urgently.

**EARLY TREATMENT CAN BE LIFE-SAVING.**





### Dance Trip to Move It – A Day to Remember! Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March

Students from Years 7–9 recently enjoyed an exciting and inspiring trip to the annual Move It Dance event, held at the Excel London.

The day was packed with energy, creativity and opportunity. Students took part in a variety of interactive dance games, watched incredible live performances from talented dancers and explored a wide range of dancewear and costumes. It was a fantastic chance for them to experience the dance world beyond the classroom.

One of the highlights of the day was spotting dance celebrity Abbey Lee Miller, known for her role on Dance Moms, which created a real buzz of excitement amongst the students.



Throughout the trip, students were exposed to different dance styles, schools, and training opportunities, helping to broaden their understanding of where dance can take them. It was not only a fun and enjoyable experience, but also an educational one, inspiring many to think more deeply about their own dance journeys.

Overall, it was an amazing day filled with learning, laughter and a shared love of dance.





# MUSIC NEWS



## Southwark Gospel Event @ Kingsdale Foundation School

Kingsdale was delighted to welcome groups of singers from 6 schools for a day of Gospel singing on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> of March as part of our ongoing work as a lead school for Southwark Music Service and in collaboration with Southwark Schools Learning Partnership.

Supported by a live band, Kingsdale's own alumni Gospel leaders Kuziva and Neto worked with over 150 students, culminating in a joyful performance at the end of the day.

Staff from visiting schools mentioned students were singing all the way home and staff at Kingsdale were delighted with the way all of the visiting schools engaged with a day of music-making and look forward to working with partners to have further musical collaborations in the future.

# SCIENCE NEWS

## Biology In Action

On 17<sup>th</sup> March, 35 Year 12 Biology students attended an enriching and thought-provoking trip to the Emmanuel Centre for a series of expert-led lectures.

Among the highlights was a fascinating talk on de-extinction, which explored the scientific possibilities and ethical considerations of bringing extinct species back to life. The session encouraged students to think critically about the role of biotechnology in conservation and the wider implications of human intervention in natural processes.



In addition, students attended a highly valuable session on exam technique delivered by an experienced examiner. This talk provided practical advice on how to approach examination questions effectively, avoid common pitfalls and maximise marks, guidance that will be particularly beneficial as students prepare for their upcoming assessments.

The trip proved highly beneficial in reinforcing classroom learning while also offering insight into how biological knowledge is applied beyond the curriculum. It supported students in developing both their subject understanding and their academic skills, helping to build confidence ahead of their A Level examinations.

Student feedback was overwhelmingly positive. One student commented, "I particularly enjoyed the talk about de-extinction. All the speakers were very passionate about their subjects and lectures were inspiring."

Overall, the visit to the Emmanuel Centre was a rewarding experience, broadening students' scientific perspective and encouraging curiosity beyond the classroom.





## Busy Half-Term Schedule for Sixth Form Careers

This half-term, we were lucky to host a variety of careers talks, with students hearing about careers from a variety of professionals including awarding winning CNN Journalist Francesca Street as well as parents on working in the charity sector, media planning and ecology.

We were also lucky to welcome medical specialists to discuss career paths in more depth, including dentistry and clinical psychology. We also began our partnership with the Construction Youth Trust, who will be running a programme specifically around employment skills and the wider construction industry.



On a wider level, our entire Year 12 cohort attended the annual UCAS fair at the London Excel Centre, speaking to universities and employers from around the UK and beyond.

We are excited for next term, when the shift will begin towards further education preparation with a series of more university focused talks, including Imperial College, Kings College, Royal Holloway University and the University of the Creative Arts.

Year 12 are also now exploring work experience options. If your company or organisation can offer a work experience placement please email [JBU@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:JBU@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk). We can be flexible in terms of dates and length of placement.







# Careers Insight Day

**London Museum** is excited to run a **Careers Insight Day** during May half term. This event will showcase the different jobs in a museum, helping you explore all the exciting opportunities available in this sector.

Come along to take part in workshops, see behind the scenes, get hands-on with our objects and speak to staff about their roles.

When: **Wednesday 27 May 2026, 10am – 3pm**

Where: **London Museum Spaces, 150 London Wall, EC2Y 5HN**

To apply, please complete the form using the link below by **24 April 2026**.



We'll be in touch in early May to confirm if you have a place. If you have any questions about the day, please email [earlycareers@londonmuseum.org.uk](mailto:earlycareers@londonmuseum.org.uk).

**LONDON  
MUSEUM**



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



# CAREERS NEWS

We have a number of talks coming up this half-term.  
To express interest please use [this link](#).

| Date                           | Time                       | Years     | Talk                     |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> April | TBC                        | 9-13      | Data Centres             |
| Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> May     | Period 4<br>12.10-12.50pm  | 8 & 10    | Nursing                  |
| Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May   | 4.15-5pm<br>(after school) | All Years | Archaeology              |
| Spring – date TBC              |                            |           | Video publishing & media |

## YEAR 8 TASTER SESSIONS

| SUBJECT    | DATE       | TIME                                  | LOCATION |
|------------|------------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Psychology | 14/04/2026 | After School -<br>Sign up via satchel | LSL      |
| Sociology  | 23/04/2026 | After School -<br>Sign up via satchel | LSL      |

Please note that the deadline for submitting options can be extended until 24<sup>th</sup> April for students who are waiting for the Psychology taster session before making their choices.

### Work Experience Help

Our Year 12's will soon be looking for work experience opportunities. All placements are appreciated to ensure all students have work experience arranged, a boost for both their personal horizons and their UCAS/Apprenticeships applications.

If you or your employer would be interested in hosting a Kingsdale student, please contact Mr Burke at [jbu@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:jbu@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)

### Former Kingsdale Student Inspires Year 12 with Career Journey in Town Planning

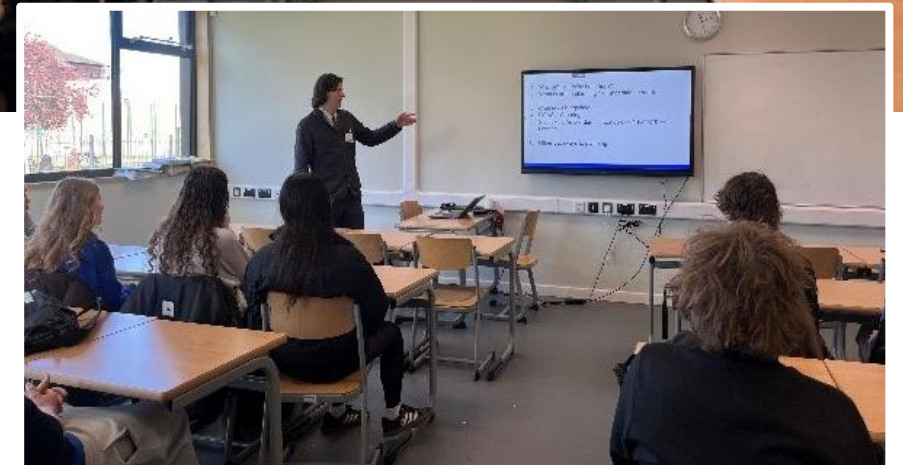


We were pleased to welcome former Kingsdale student Charlie Back, who spoke to Year 12 about his journey into town planning.

Charlie shared his experiences at Kingsdale, including the challenges of A Levels, resitting Year 12, and being diagnosed with dyslexia, highlighting the importance of resilience. He discussed studying Sociology at the University of Sussex, where a year abroad sparked his interest in town planning.

After working in community engagement, Charlie decided to pursue a career and undertook a master's in Town Planning at UCL, alongside gaining practical experience through projects and internships. He concluded with advice on applying for graduate roles and navigating future uncertainty, followed by a Q&A session.

His talk offered students an honest and inspiring perspective on overcoming setbacks and exploring career pathways.





Insight into University is a virtual experience that helps students explore STEM degrees, apprenticeships, and related careers. It offers access to university life, STEM projects from top UK universities and global companies, first-year lectures, and live sessions with academics, admissions tutors, apprentices, employers, and current students.



*"I absolutely loved the course. It has helped me discover my true passion, and love which I hope to pursue in the future."*

## Course topics

- Hear from STEM professionals at top UK companies, from early-career apprentices to senior leaders and recruiters, about their journeys, inspirations, and projects.
- Join live Q&A sessions with STEM professionals, admissions officers, students, and professors in a supportive environment.
- Get expert advice on university applications, interviews, admissions tests, student finance, and support services.
- Take part in hands-on STEM activities like bridge building, making ice cream at the chemical level, and flight experiments.

100%

of students increased their awareness of STEM opportunities available to them

92%

of students felt the skills and knowledge gained from the course would have a positive impact on their future studies or career.

## Course requirements and registering your interest

This course is open to all students aged 16+ who have a genuine interest in STEM subjects and is suitable for all abilities. To apply, please visit our website [here](#).



[The Engineering Development Trust](#) are excited to let you know that APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN for their hugely popular [2026 Summer Virtual into University course](#).

This unique course is for students in Years 11-13 / S5-S6 and can be completed flexibly over the Summer (approx. 30 hours of study).

The course will allow students to explore STEM studies at TOP UNIVERSITIES, including degree apprenticeships, and the career opportunities that that these subjects lead to. It will provide access to information on student life, STEM projects and activities set up leading UK universities and global STEM companies, first year undergraduate lectures, live interactive sessions with academic, admission tutors, employers, and current students.

Upon completion students will gain a [Silver Industrial Cadets Award](#) Inspired by its Patron, His Majesty, King Charles III, Industrial Cadets is a nationally recognised award which students can use as evidence of their experience and to support future applications and careers journeys.

## EDT WEBINARS

Students are also invited to join an Insight into EDT Webinar that is taking place this week. This webinar will tell you more about Industrial Cadets, what activities are available to join in during the Summer holidays and how EDT can help students with STEM activities this academic year.

Next month there will be a webinar where [Parents/Guardians](#) will be able to find out about all of the upcoming opportunities for their children.

To book:

Topic: Discover EDT exclusively for Parents & Guardians

When: Thursday 16th April at 4-5pm

Registration Link : [Click here](#)



# NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP

We are working with the National Careers Hub, who are offering pupils and students direct insight into apprenticeship pathways across a wide range of sectors.

Each session includes employer insight, application tips, and apprentice voices.

These sessions are particularly valuable for:

- Broadening awareness of technical and apprenticeship pathways
- Giving students practical insight into vacancies, applications and real apprentice experiences



## Upcoming AIM Spotlight sessions:

- Frontier Innovation – Green Sector – 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026 [Register here](#)
- Creative Industries – 16<sup>th</sup> June 2026 [Register here](#)

National Apprenticeship Week Parent and Carer webinar:  
Understanding apprenticeships [Click here](#)

Time for Change: Make it an apprenticeship

Join to discuss the importance of Level 2 and 3 apprenticeships. [Click here](#)

National: IBM, Apprenticeship and Post-School Internship Application  
Masterclass [Click here](#)

Below are also some useful links both students and parents interested in finding out more about Apprenticeships.

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/apprentices>

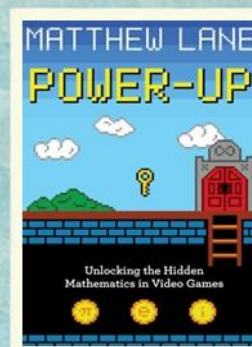
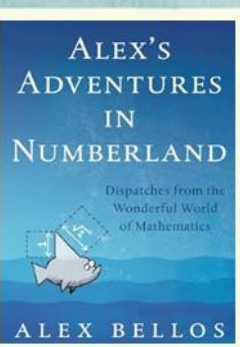
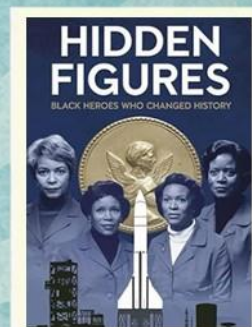
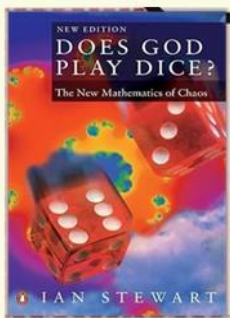
<https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/zones/student/>

<https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/zones/parent/>



**GO  
ALL  
1N.**

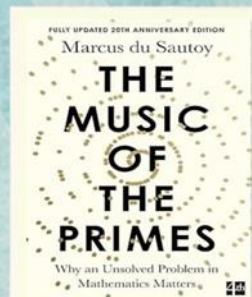
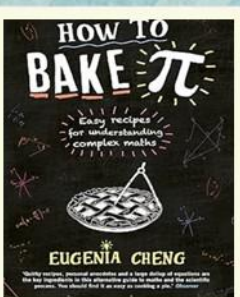
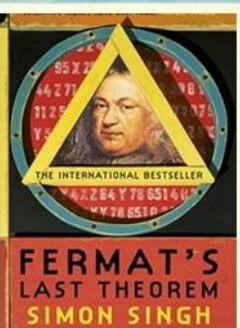
National Year of Reading 2026



*Deliciously  
Good Reads!*

**Join our maths  
reading challenge!**

Take part in maths-themed reading this half term through weekly articles, treasure hunts, and recommended books. You'll also have the chance to create posters, podcasts, or summaries to share your ideas. Points, prizes, and celebrations will recognise everyone's participation and enthusiasm along the way. Check Satchel One and listen out for the tannoy announcements for daily updates.





# Part of the National Year of Reading 2026



## Parent Engagement

We would also like to continue inviting families to donate suitable books to support this initiative. Donations can be handed in at the Main School Office or at the collection point in the Main School Entrance between 8.10 and 9.05am daily. Your contributions help us maintain a varied and engaging selection of texts for students to enjoy.

We continue to insist that all students carry a reading book in their bag at all times, as this supports a range of reading activities across the school day.

As part of our commitment to involving the whole school community, we are inviting parents and students to recommend books they feel would be valuable further additions to our libraries. Please use the link [here](#) to share your suggestions and join us in shaping a diverse and exciting reading collection.

## Book Recommendations

We have been sharing book weekly recommendations with students via the school's morning tannoy system. We have sent a list of recommended books to parents.

## Reading Clubs

We are also pleased to announce two new initiatives launching in Spring Term 2026.

### Peer Reading:

Selected Year 7 students are taking part in 1:1 reading sessions with trained Year 11 mentors, supporting confidence, fluency and enjoyment of reading.

### Book Clubs:

A weekly lunchtime club led by our librarian, where students share recommendations, discuss books, and explore new authors in a relaxed and supportive setting. If your child is interested, please contact the English faculty via [english@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:english@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)

## Go All In

The theme of the National Year of Reading is Go All In, reconnecting reading with the things that already inspire us – from playlists and football matches to films, science, art, food and family time. It's reading that fits how we live, not the other way around.

Integrating with this theme, we are launching Go All In Reading Quest this year. Each subject is allocated a half term to promote reading activities in their subject.

The Languages faculty will take the lead in Summer Term 1 and we will inform you in due course on all the different activities on offer for students.

## Use of Libraries

All students are encouraged to visit the library, explore the new collection, and borrow books regularly.

The Upper School Library and Lower School Library are both accessible to students before school (8am onwards), after school (until 5pm) and during lunch times.



Thank you once again for your continued support of our reading initiatives. Watch this space for further details.

## Year 8 Classics Book Club – Step into the Ancient World!

Do you enjoy myths, battles, heroes, love stories and epic adventures?

Are you a Percy Jackson or a Stephen Fry fan?

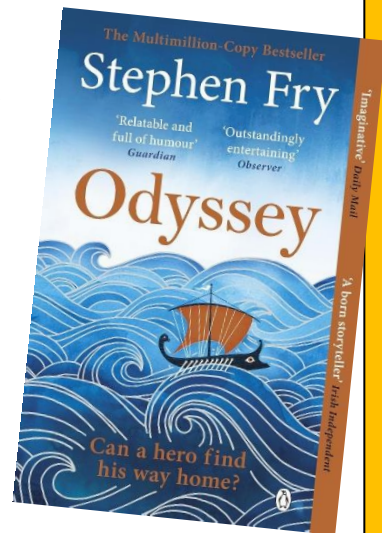
Have you yet to experience life in the ancient world but want to learn more?!



Then join our **Year 8 Classics Book Club** and travel back in time to the fascinating worlds of **Ancient Greece and Rome!**

From powerful gods and legendary heroes to fierce gladiators and mighty emperors, we'll explore some of the greatest stories ever told.

Whether you're new to Classics or already hooked on Greek mythology, this club is the perfect place to discover, discuss and debate.



## What to expect:

- Exciting reads inspired by Greek myths and Roman history
- Fun group discussions and debates
- Creative activities like storytelling, quizzes, and mini-dramas
- A chance to learn about ancient culture, beliefs, and daily life

**When:** Tuesdays 12.10 pm

**Where:** Lower School Library

**Who:** All Year 8 students welcome

If you want to find out more about the club please contact:  
Miss Evans or Mr Bowring in the Languages Department via  
[languages@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:languages@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)



# SCHOOL NEWS

## Mental Health & Well-Being Weekly Focus for Students: Challenging Stigma

This week's Mental Health & Well-Being focus for students is **Challenging Stigma**. Challenging mental health stigma in school is crucial as stigma creates barriers to care causing young people to suffer in silence, fear judgment, and delay seeking help. Eliminating stigma fosters a safe environment, encourages early intervention, and prevents social isolation.

At Kingsdale we recognise the importance of creating safe spaces within an environment where there's always someone to talk to and where support can be found when needed.

### Core Strategies for Reducing Stigma

Effective anti-stigma work focuses on education and normalising conversations to ensure students feel safe seeking help.

- **Integrate into Curriculum:** Moving beyond one-off workshops to embed mental health education into subjects like science or PSHE
- **Use Neutral Language:** Framing support as "practical coping" or "resilience tools" rather than purely medical or "biomedical" terms can reduce the fear of being "different"
- **Empower Student Leadership:** Training "Wellbeing Ambassadors" or peer mentors allows students to lead conversations. Peers are often the first people students turn to when struggling

### Impact of Stigma on Students

If left unchallenged, stigma can lead to severe consequences for a student's long-term success.

- **Education Loss:** Approximately 40% of young people report that stigma has stopped them from attending school
- **Internalised Shame:** Students may begin to view themselves as "broken" or "weak," leading to a decrease in self-esteem and academic motivation
- **Misidentified Behaviour:** Mental health struggles are sometimes treated as "bad behaviour," leading to punitive measures like isolation rather than support.

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







ALL ABILITIES WELCOME!

# Ballet Club

MONDAYS AFTER SCHOOL

Year 7 sessions passes will be provided to leave P7 5 mins early

YEAR 7 - 3:40-4:20PM

YEAR 8/9/10 - 4:20-5:10PM

DS1 (DANCE STUDIO)

EMAIL [LHK@KINGSDALE.SOUTHWARK.SCH.UK](mailto:LHK@KINGSDALE.SOUTHWARK.SCH.UK) OR  
SPEAK TO MISS HEYBROCK FOR MORE INFO!

## Ballet Club

Classes are a blend of barre work, technique and choreography, with an opportunity to perform in the dance showcase at the end of the year. Never done ballet before but want to try it? Did ballet when you were little but haven't done it for years? No problem! Whether you're a beginner or just love ballet, all abilities are welcome.

Please email [lhk@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:lhk@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk) to express interest and find out more information.

If any year 11s are interested in assisting with Ballet Club, please also email!





## ESAA Cross Country Championships

Well done to Celia Allen and Sofia Mendez, who competed in Liverpool last weekend at the ESAA National Cross Country Championships for intermediate girls.

A special congratulations to Celia, who achieved a 4<sup>th</sup> place finish for the London team which was a fantastic accomplishment.

## Kingsdale Under-12 Boys' Football A Team South London Cup Quarter Finals Kingsdale v Elm Green School

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March, Kingsdale travelled to Elm Green School in the quarter finals of the South London Cup. They put in a fantastic display of progressive football, eventually winning 5-4. Well done boys!

**Final Score:** Kingsdale 5-4 Elm Green

**Goals Scorers:** Dejuan Oppong (3) and Alex Joseph (2)

## Under-14s Girls' & Boys' Volleyball Interschool Tournament

Our Year 9 mixed volleyball team, travelled to play in a local inter school tournament at Haberdashers' Hatcham College in the week before the Easter break. They performed fantastically, where they finished joint 1<sup>st</sup> and only losing 1 game. Well done to all the team!



*KFS disclaimer. Please be advised Match reports produced and presented by student reporters.*

## 40th Anniversary Swimathon

Sophie-May Rowe and Valerie Wang, both sports scholars in Year 7, recently took part in the 40th anniversary of Swimathon, raising money for Cancer Research and Marie Curie.

On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, they took on the challenge of swimming 5km - that's 200 lengths of a leisure centre pool - which they completed in an impressive 2 hours 15 minutes.

They have worked incredibly hard fundraising and have raised £650 for these charities.

The girls are really proud to have completed the challenge and it's a brilliant achievement that reflects their determination, resilience, and teamwork.



## Under-14s Boys' Rugby Rosslyn Park 7s

The Kingsdale Under-14s produced a series of determined and competitive performances at the Rosslyn Park 7s before the Easter break, facing strong opposition and showing great resilience throughout the day.

In their opening match against Langley School, Kingsdale started brightly but were put under pressure as Langley found their rhythm, resulting in a 43-14 defeat. Despite the scoreline, Kingsdale were the only team in the group to score against Langley, who went on to top the group — a testament to our boys' effort. Tries were scored by Jaiden Afranie-Wilson and Isaac Timbrell.

The second game against Malvern College was a thrilling encounter. Kingsdale led 24-21 heading into the final moments, but a last-second try from Malvern saw them edged out 28-24. It was another strong performance, with tries from Jaiden Afranie-Wilson (3) and Spencer Fay.

Kingsdale saved their best performance for the final game against Mount Kelly, delivering a complete display in both attack and defence to secure a well-earned 29-12 victory. Tries came from Jaiden Afranie-Wilson (3), Isaac Timbrell, and Ruben Walker.

Overall, it was a great day of rugby, with the team showing continuous improvement, strong teamwork, and plenty of positives to build on moving forward.

# SPORTS NEWS







## Come and join the Strategy Games Club at lunch times!

1. Have NO 'save or pause' buttons - unlike modern PC games. Whatever happens, happens - the 'dice' decide.
2. Eat and Game at the same time in either SN:1 or 2.
3. Monday to Thursday - your lunchtime.
  - You don't have to attend every lunchtime - choose days that are convenient to you.
  - Adventure as a group or individually.
4. Types of games that we play - we have over 10 different options, but, the usual are:
  - Dungeons and Dragons.
  - Traveller RPG (similar to Star Wars).
  - Call of Cthulhu (Horror based themes/investigations) - various era's:
    - 1920's-30's.
    - 700 A.D - Anglo Saxon Britain.
  - Runequest 6 & 7 Ed.
5. TRY an ON LINE game for free:
  - Type in on line: [RQ - SoloQuest - The Battle of Dangerford](#)

The Battle of Dangerford is a free, interactive [solo adventure](#) from the RuneQuest Starter Set, designed to teach the rules of the -based fantasy RPG. Players control Vasana, a Sartarite warrior defending a key ford against the Lunar Empire, using choices, skill checks, and combat to determine the battle's outcome.

Email Mr Dennington at:  
([sdn@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:sdn@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk))  
if you are interested - or just turn up.

## CALENDAR 2025-26

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](mailto:tkp@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)

For further information on term & holiday dates, please contact the Attendance Team at [attendance@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)



### SUMMER TERM 2026

#### First Summer Half-Term

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April INSET DAY

*School closed to students except those in Year 11*

#### Mayday Bank Holiday

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2025

#### Half-Term Holiday

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May

#### Second Summer Half Term

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July INSET DAY

*School closed to students except by invitation*

2026/27 Term Holiday dates now published [here](#)



# Work Experience for SEND Secondary Students: Ideas, Support, and How Parents Can Help

Preparing for the world of work can feel like a big step for any young person, but for students with SEND, it can bring additional questions, concerns, and opportunities. Work experience, when approached thoughtfully, can be incredibly empowering. It helps build confidence, independence, and real-world skills that extend far beyond the classroom.

## Why Work Experience Matters for SEND Students

Work experience is not just about future employment. It is about exploration. For SEND students, it can:

- Build confidence and self-esteem
- Develop communication and social skills
- Help identify strengths and interests
- Provide structure and routine outside school
- Encourage independence and decision-making

Success in work experience does not mean doing everything perfectly. It means learning, trying, and growing.



## Starting the Conversation at Home

Talking about work can feel overwhelming for some young people. Here are some ways to make it more approachable:

- Keep the conversation open and positive, focusing on interests rather than pressure
- Use real-life examples, such as linking hobbies to possible job roles
- Break things down into small, manageable steps
- Listen carefully and validate any worries or concerns
- Use visual supports like timetables, photos, or social stories to make ideas clearer

It is completely fine if your child is unsure at first. Exploring options is part of the process.

## Supporting Your Child Before and During Placement

Preparation can make a big difference to how confident your child feels.

### Before the Placement

- Visit the workplace in advance if possible
- Practise the travel route together
- Talk through what a typical day might look like
- Share important information about your child's needs with the employer

### During the Placement

- Check in regularly about how things are going
- Celebrate small successes
- Keep communication open with school staff or supervisors
- Be ready to adjust expectations if needed

## What Support Is Available

There is a range of support available to help SEND students prepare for work:

- School SEND teams and careers advisers can help identify suitable placements and provide preparation support
- Local Authority SEND services often run employment programmes or can signpost opportunities
- Charities and organisations such as Mencap, Ambitious about Autism, and National Autistic Society offer resources, training, and advice

## Work Experience Ideas

The best placements are those that match your child's interests, strengths, and support needs. Here are some accessible and adaptable ideas:

### 1. Community-Based Roles

Local libraries, charity shops, or community centres can offer welcoming environments. Tasks might include shelving, sorting, or greeting visitors.

### 2. Animal Care

Pet shops, vet clinics, or animal shelters can be great for students who enjoy working with animals. Activities may include feeding, cleaning, or basic care routines.

### 3. Creative and Practical Roles

Art studios, hair salons, or small local businesses can provide hands-on experiences that support creativity and skill-building.

### 4. School-Based Opportunities

Some students benefit from placements within a familiar environment, such as helping in younger classrooms, assisting in the school office, or supporting site staff.

### 5. Supported Internships or Short Placements

Structured programmes with built-in support are often available through local authorities or specialist organisations. Short placements or part-time experiences can be just as valuable as full-week placements.

## 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](#)



## Social Groups & Activities for Secondary Ages (16–25)

Southwark's Youth Offer and Local Offer list social opportunities that are free or low-cost and tailored to young people with SEND aged secondary school and post-16:

- **Angels SEND Social Club (Ages 16–25)**  
Weekly social club with arts, music, gaming, drama, sport and creative activities, great for building confidence and friendships after school or at weekends.
- **Coding & Computing Club (16–25)**  
Fun social tech club where young people can meet peers, learn new skills and expand confidence in a welcoming environment.
- **Toucan Gigs & Trips Club (16–25)**  
Social outings, such as football matches, gallery visits and gigs, ideal for older secondary students and post-16 young people who want to be active and meet others.

Click on this [Link](#) for more information.





REGISTER TO ATTEND

# EHCP POST-16 SCHOOL TRANSITION



For SOUTHWARK young people,  
parents & carers

Are you a young person with an EHCP due to start a new post-16 educational setting in September 2026?  
**YES!**

Do you have concerns about the setting named in your young person's EHCP (Education, Health and Care Plan)?  
**YES!**



FOR SOUTHWARK YOUNG PEOPLE, PARENTS & CARERS WITH AN **EHCP** STARTING A **POST-16** EDUCATIONAL SETTING IN **SEPTEMBER 2026**

## SESSION DATE

**ONLINE**

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2026  
12:30pm - 2:00pm  
Microsoft teams

This sessions will provide you with impartial advice, including how to make an appeal to SENDIST (the Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal)

## CONTACT

For more information contact the SIAS Team

✉ [sias@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:sias@southwark.gov.uk)

☎ 020 7525 3104

## 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.

**Is your query about a specific teacher or subject area?**

Contact the teacher directly: 'teacher code' [@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)  
Contact the HOD for the subject: 'subject; [@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)

**Is your query about support outside of the classroom?**  
**An annual review or progress review meeting?**  
**Advice on learning strategies to use at home?**  
**Advice on a diagnosis?**

Contact the SEND department directly:  
[senco@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:senco@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)

**Is your query about a behaviour incident?**  
**A friendship issue?**  
**Any other pastoral issue?**

Contact the HOL (Head of Learning) for your child's year group:  
[year7hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:year7hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)  
[year8hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:year8hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)  
[year9hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:year9hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)  
[year10hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:year10hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)  
[year11hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:year11hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)  
[year12hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:year12hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)  
[year13hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:year13hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)

**Is your query about supplying additional information about your child for staff?**

Contact the SEND admin department directly:  
[sendadmin@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:sendadmin@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)  
[assistantenco@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:assistantenco@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)

**Is your query about exam access arrangements?**

Contact the exam team directly:  
[accessarrangements@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:accessarrangements@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)

**Is your query about provision for a looked after child (LAC)?**

Contact the LAC team directly:  
[ofu@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:ofu@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)

**None of the above?**

Please send us anything you think other parents would find useful and we can either share it here or we could even publish it on our website!





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](mailto: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)



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](mailto: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.



[shorespace.org.uk](https://shorespace.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



# SCHOOL NEWS

## 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](mailto:jls@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)



## 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.school.uk](mailto:lostproperty@kingsdale.southwark.school.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](mailto:health&wellbeing@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)

[tellsomeone@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto: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.



# HOUSE COMPETITION



## What Is Vaisakhi and Why Is It Important?

Vaisakhi is an important festival celebrated by Sikhs around the world each year in April. It marks the founding of the Khalsa in 1699 by Guru Gobind Singh, which is a special Sikh community committed to equality, courage, and helping others.

The festival is both religious and cultural. Many Sikhs visit the Gurdwara (place of worship), where they pray, sing hymns, and share a free meal called *langar* with others, showing the importance of equality and community.

Celebrations often include colourful parades, music, and traditional clothing. Vaisakhi is also linked to the harvest season in parts of India, making it a time of celebration and gratitude.

Learning about festivals like Vaisakhi helps children understand different cultures, beliefs, and the importance of respect and inclusion in modern Britain.

**STUDENT TASK:** Plan a Vaisakhi celebration! Choose **ONE** of the following to design:

- A colourful **parade float**
- A traditional **festival outfit**
- A special **festival flag**

Your design should:

- Use bright colours and patterns
- Include symbols or ideas linked to Vaisakhi
- Show what is important about the celebration (e.g. community, equality, sharing)



## HOW TO ENTER:

Share your design with the House Team: [housesystem@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:housesystem@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk)  
Ensure your entry is accompanied by your full name, tutor group and House.



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about



AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

In October 2022, the enormously popular social media network Twitter was purchased by tech tycoon Elon Musk. That sparked a host of changes to the platform – not all which have been received positively by its fans. The alterations have continued with each passing month, many of them raising online safety concerns among the 530 million users of Twitter (now rebranded as simply X). With further adjustments reportedly in the pipeline, X has attracted more than its usual share of controversy and caution in recent times.

## A BLOCK ON BLOCKING

X has announced plans to remove its blocking feature. Previously, this stopped other users from viewing your profile or sending you direct messages, while also hiding their posts from your feed. Only this latter function will now remain. The decision has been criticised by some members, who feel that blocking (in its current form) protects them from X users who promote denial and hatred.

## AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Many of X's less age-appropriate posts can feature anything from extreme political views to pornography. While accounts marked as 18+ are restricted from non-members, it's still fairly easy to stumble across this material accidentally. X's new 'For You' page also shows content from accounts that a user doesn't already follow – meaning that almost anything could end up on a child's feed.

## LIMITED REPORTING FEATURES

X offers a premium membership, with some functionality (such as controlling who can view and reply to your posts) increasingly being made exclusive to those who pay the subscription fee. Several commentators have speculated that X could one day become an exclusively paid-for service, with access to accounts being revoked for anyone unwilling or unable to take out a subscription.

## VERIFICATION FOR SALE

Historically, Twitter's moderators granted account verification: certifying someone as authentic by placing a blue tick next to their username. One of X's earliest changes was to place verification behind a paywall; this caused the number of celebrity impersonators to rise and left no way to distinguish, say, a legitimate influencer from a copycat fake account seeking to exploit other users.

**BLUE TICK SALE**

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### PROTECT PRIVACY

Unsavory characters may try to gain access to a young person's X account – either to view their posts and gather information on them, or to completely take control of it. To minimise risk, ensure the account has a strong password and enable the 'Protect Your Posts' feature (via the account settings), so that strangers can't view your child's posts without first being approved as a follower.

### DON'T RISE TO THE BAIT

To gain more views and followers, some X users post deliberately inflammatory comments on sensitive topics such as race, sexual orientation and gender issues. Many young people could find this upsetting. Emphasise that, if your child encounters someone spreading hate on X, it's best not to give that person what they want: an argument. Ignore them, mute their account and move on.

### STAY ALERT FOR IMPOSTERS

Make sure your child understands that X's blue ticks no longer guarantee the identity of anyone on the platform. While it might be exciting if a celebrity liked your child's post, it could just as easily be an imposter with malicious intentions. If your child's not 100% sure that an X user actually is who they claim to be, advise them to err on the side of caution and avoid interacting with that account.

### ONLY FOLLOW TRUSTED ACCOUNTS

Using the 'Following' tab on X helps to ensure that the only content your child sees has come from accounts they've chosen to follow: this should reduce the chance of them inadvertently being exposed to harmful, violent or explicit content. Show your child how to report another user's account if, say, they're behaving inappropriately by spreading misinformation or offensive opinions.

### BE READY TO TAKE ACTION

If your child suffers harassment on the platform or becomes the target of a hack, you could consider deactivating their account entirely. Recently, X's safety features have been criticised for allegedly failing to protect users' wellbeing – so if your child is being subjected to abusive messages or similar mistreatment on the platform, it might be prudent to remove them from X altogether.

## Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site @GRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. Always eager to test out the latest apps, games and online trends, he's also a parent who understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



**National Online Safety®**

#WakeUpWednesday



# SPORTS FIXTURES

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

- No planned fixtures/events

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

- No planned fixtures/events

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

- No planned fixtures/events

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

- No planned fixtures/events

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

- No planned fixtures/events

Please note that fixtures maybe postponed or rearranged due to weather conditions.

<http://www.kingsdaleschoolsports.org.uk>



# HOUSE NEWS

## Online Safety Corner

For this week's Online Safety focus we are looking at 'What Parents & Educators Need to Know about X.' Get a greater insight here. Please read.

Remember to keep an open dialogue with your child about their activities online. See Page 24 above

## The House Leader Board 2025-26

Week ending  
27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

- 1st Place – Swift 90,467 points
- 2nd Place – Dove 90,149 points
- 3rd Place – Albatross 89,110 points
- 4th Place – Falcon 89,077 points
- 5th Place – Eagle 89,186 points



## Student Suggestion Boxes

To promote our well-established and highly effective Student Voice programme, there are suggestion boxes, which are located outside of the Attendance Office in the Main Atrium and the Office of The Headteacher at the bottom of the Green Stairs.

Please encourage your child to use this facility to make suggestions about how we can continue to improve our provision.



## Ways we communicate with Parents and students

We communicate with students & parents via:

### Student & Parent Email

Please ensure we have your correct email and mobile phone contact details. Students should also be regularly accessing their student email accounts.

### MS Teams

Used to share schoolwork, assignments and files.

### Twitter/Website

You can find us at @kingsdalefs. Our website at: [www.kingsdalefoundationschool.org.uk](http://www.kingsdalefoundationschool.org.uk)

### SatchelOne (previously SMHW)

Used to share homework details and other school news via the Notice Board feature with students and parents. Login [here](#).

### MyEd app

Downloaded for free at:

<https://www.myedschoolapp.com/>

This app provides a range of useful info for parents.

