



PARENTAL NEWS BULLETIN

Issue 35 Monday 29th June 2026

HEADLINE NOTICES

Important Information – New DfE Mobile Phone Policy!

Please be advised that official and stricter DfE mobile phone guidance for schools has now become statutory. This statutory guidance, which can be accessed [here](#), places an immediate mandatory duty on schools to ensure that students are not accessing mobile devices during the school day and that schools and classrooms are mobile phone free spaces. This is in accordance with the KFS revised mobile phone policy, it is imperative that students ensure that any authorised mobile phone devices brought to school are switched off at all times and are not held on their person whilst at school, instead being placed in bags or lockers. Please note that any devices identified to be in contravention of the above policy requirement will be confiscated by the school, usually for 3 days. Please contact phones@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk with any queries regarding this matter.

Calling all Parents! EPQ – Extended Project Qualification

In September, our Year 12's will start the EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) process. As part of this, students look to develop their skills in research, referencing, project management, critical analysis, academic writing and presentation delivery. We would love to bring these Wednesday afternoon sessions to life by hearing from parents who use these skills in their own work. If you would be willing to come in and give a short talk about how you apply any of these skills in your job, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact Ms Dixon via ADX@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk if you are able to help. Thank you in advance for supporting our Year 12 learners.

House Excellence Award



Jamie Hilyer, Year 8, has won the House Excellence Award. He was nominated by the PE Dept. Jamie captained the Year 8 boys Elite Team for English Schools Football and the team won the Final at Stoke City's Bet 365 Stadium. He has recently signed for QPR football club.

Jamie is an excellent leader and all-rounder, who also plays cricket for the Year 8 and 9 teams. He consistently plays at a high level, and we really appreciate all his efforts. Keep up the good work, Jamie!

PRIDE MONTH

THEME OF THE WEEK

Aspiration and Achievement

'God wants us to be victors, not victims; to grow, not grovel; to soar, not sink; to overcome, not be overwhelmed.'

WORD OF THE WEEK

Nefarious

Definition: Flagrantly wicked, impious, or evil.

Sentence: Superheroes are always fighting evildoers and stopping their *nefarious* plots

SCHOOL NEWS

Southwark Council & London Bubble Theatre Screen Time and Young People's Mental Health Performance and Discussion

This in-person event for parents carers and professionals will explore the links between screen time and young peoples' mental health and offer discussion, advice and support to caregivers who are concerned for their young people. The event will feature a performance of London Bubble's 'Seen on Screen' a specially commissioned performance which has been seen by over one thousand Year 7 students in Southwark. At this time of wider national debate on the subject and the Prime Minister's recent announcement on a social media ban for teens, this event is a timely opportunity to bring together caregivers, professionals and researchers to discuss how we can best support young people in this area.

Thursday 9th July 2026, 12 - 2.30pm
Peckham Library (Pod 1),
122 Peckham Hill Street, SE15 5JR
More information on page 2

SAVE THE DATE!

You are invited to attend the
Art & Design Exhibition
Wednesday 8th July 2026
5pm – 8pm in the Atrium & Foyer Gallery

Southwark Council in partnership with London Bubble Theatre invite you

SCREEN TIME & MENTAL HEALTH

An event for parents, carers and professionals

- Watch a powerful performance from London Bubble Theatre about the impact of screentime on young people, originally delivered to over 1,000 Year 7s across Southwark.
- Take part in an open discussion to share your perspective and learn from others.
- Hear from researchers from Queen Mary University and take home some tips for managing young people's screen time and mental health.

09 JUL 2026

12.30PM - 2.30PM

 **Peckham Library (Pod 1)**
122 Peckham Hill Street
London SE15 5JR

 **FREE!**
Click the link to book

Organised by:

Southwark
Council
southwark.gov.uk

**Light refreshments will be provided.*



Book [Here](#). We look forward to seeing you!



The Kingsdale Family International Culture Day 2026

The planning for this exciting community event to celebrate the school's diversity and inclusive ethos is well underway.

The event itself will be held on Sunday 19th July 2026 between 12 noon & 4pm. You are cordially invited to join this summer celebration with your friends and families. Tickets will be made available shortly.

In case you or your child is able to contribute in any of the activities listed below, please contact us via email at kfcultureday@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk. Activities and highlights that you can contribute to includes:

- Music, Dance & Theatre
- Stalls with cultural products
- Multicultural Cuisine
- Diverse Talents
- Interactive Performing and Creative Arts Workshops
- Artefacts from Around the World for sale/exhibition

Applications for all bookings of stalls, activities & performances will close on Monday 29th June 2026.

Student Committee members (Years 7-13) and Prefects meetings have already started and any student interested in joining the student committee must contact Mrs Chaudhary during tutor time.

We would also like to encourage you to please help us with donation of raffle prizes for this grand summer event. In case you can help us with any donations, please contact us via email kfcultureday@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk. The funds that we raise through this event will be donated to the charity 'Mind' that provides support, advice and services for better mental health.

We are looking forward to celebrating this exciting Kingsdale community event with you!



Summer Festival 2026

This year Kingsdale's Summer Festival continues to grow and takes place over the course of the Summer half-Term 2. Information regarding attendance and ticketing where applicable has provided separately. Consent and visit details for external events will continue to be sent via our Evolve trips platform.

Please note the dates and times below, with further details following via Evolve notifications and further notifications from the Music Department and Ensemble Directors.

Thursday 2nd July 2026

Crystal Palace Schools Festival 6pm @ Crystal Palace Park Arena (Festival Republic)

Sound Check 2pm

- Year 9 Jazz Band (Mr Williams)

Wednesday 8th July 2026

Kingsdale Art and Design Exhibition 5pm @ Kingsdale Atrium

- Senior Jazz

Thursday 9th July 2026

Dance Recital Evening 6pm @ Kingsdale Drama Theatre

- Year 9 Singing Scholars
- Senior Guitar (Mr Melovski)

Friday 10th July 2026

School-O-Rama Steel Pan Festival 11am-3pm

@Trevor Bailey Sports Ground SE21 7HA

- Steel Pans (Groups to be communicated later – Mr Shorter)

Thursday 16th July 2026

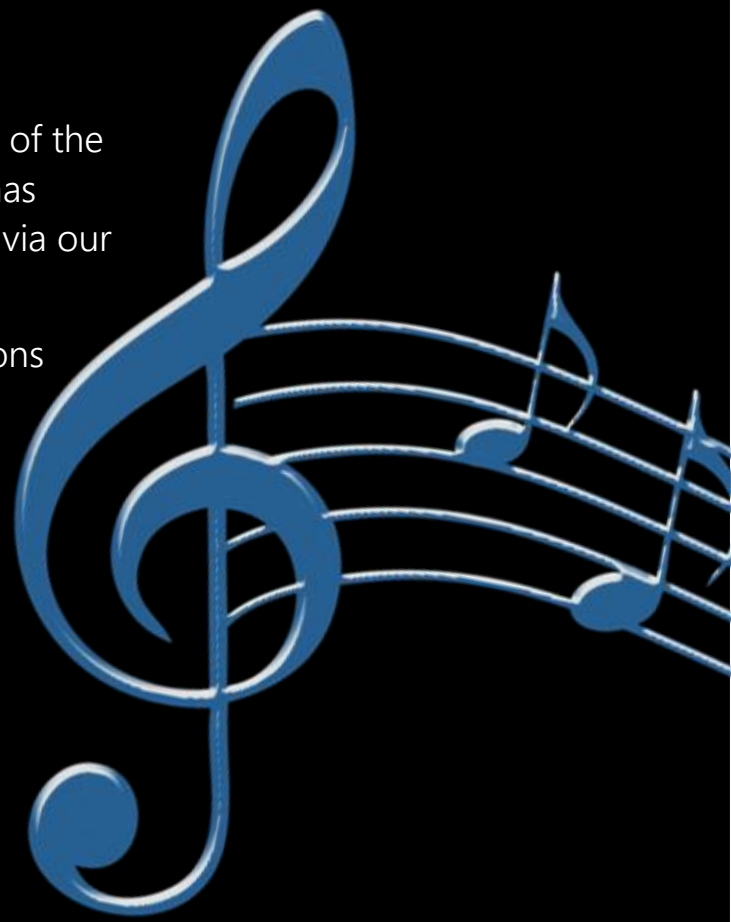
"Battle of the Bands" @ Kingsdale POD

- Electric Guitar Ensemble & Student Bands (Mr Williams)

Sunday 19th July 2026

Kingsdale International Family Culture Day 12pm @ Kingsdale Atrium

- African Drumming, Balkan Ensemble (Mr Melovski),
- Intermediate Guitar (Mr Tonks)
- Other acts TBC



We look forward to welcoming you to the performances and joining in celebrating the accomplishments of our young people

DULWICH WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL TRIP



We recently had the pleasure of welcoming the Year 3 cohort from our neighbouring Primary School, Dulwich Wood. They were treated to a lesson from our Year 7 and 8 Bronze Arts Awards student, who must plan and deliver a lesson as part of their Bronze assessment. They worked hard to plan, set up and deliver two excellent sessions that inspired the students and developed their interest in the arts. One session focused on wax resist skills, whilst the other developed their sculpting skills using air dried clay. Despite some nerves, the Year 7's were excellent. They delivered the lessons with enthusiasm, kindness and had a good subject knowledge. There might be some future teachers in the making!! Well done to everyone involved!!



SELFIE

Open Call for Self-Portraits
for 12-18 year olds



Exhibit your work at Green's Gallery

Free entry

Any media, any size, framed or unframed

Send an image of your self-portrait by email to
greensgallerydulwich@gmail.com by 3 JULY

Include title, size, media and contact details

A £100 art materials voucher awarded to judges' top pick

This is an exciting Art competition being offered
by Green's Gallery in Dulwich village.

Create a self portrait and submit your entry to the email above!



Our talented Year 9 Food Preparation and Nutrition students will be preparing and serving a selection of authentic **Pintxos** – delicious, flavour-packed snacks inspired by the vibrant food culture of the Basque Country in northern Spain.

This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our students' achievements, experience their culinary creativity, and enjoy some fantastic food. We look forward to welcoming you for an evening of great flavours and student success.

Art & Design Exhibition

Join us for a taste of Spain!

Wednesday 8th July 2026
5pm – 8pm



KINGSDALE
FOUNDATION SCHOOL

SE21 8SQ

Artwork by Summar Perkins
A Level Fine Art



Art & Design Exhibition

Wednesday 8th July 2026
5pm – 8pm



KINGSDALE
FOUNDATION SCHOOL

SE21 8SQ

GEOGRAPHY COMPETITION

GEOGRAPHICAL ASSOCIATION • KS3: YEARS 7, 8 & 9 • FREE TO ENTER

2026 THEME

Fragile Environments

Design and make a 3D model that showcases a fragile environment and explains why it is vulnerable.

A fragile environment is one that can be easily damaged by natural changes or human activity.



Physical Features

Landforms, vegetation, climate & wildlife



Why It's Fragile

What makes it sensitive or vulnerable

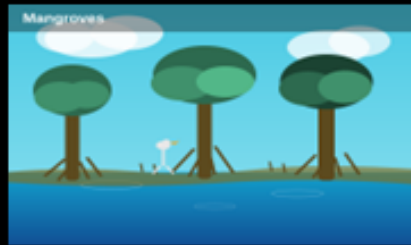
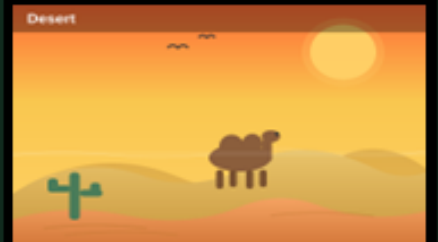
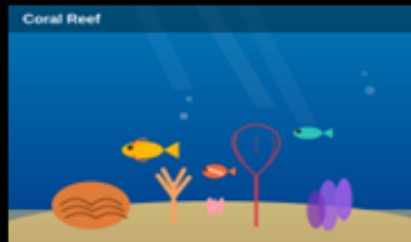


2+ Threats

e.g. climate change, pollution, habitat loss...

★ Bonus: Also show how the environment can be protected or managed!

EXAMPLES OF FRAGILE ENVIRONMENTS



Many more environments to choose from — or pick your own!

JUDGING CRITERIA

- ✓ Geographical relevance
- ✓ Detailed geographical explanation
- ✓ Originality and creativity
- ✓ Quality of model build

KS3: YEARS 7, 8 & 9

HOW TO ENTER

<https://geography.org.uk/get-connected/get-involved-1-student-activities/geographical-model-making-competition/>



1 Photograph your model

Take 2 photos: an oblique/side view AND an aerial/bird's-eye view from above.



2 Complete the entry form

Download the entry form from the Geographical Association. Write up to 300 words describing your model and explaining the geographical concept. You can type or photograph handwritten text.



3 Get parental/guardian consent

Download and complete the parental consent form from the Geographical Association. Entries cannot be considered without it.



4 Submit everything online

Fill in the form at the bottom of the Geographical Association competition page, attaching your entry form and consent form. That's it!

ENTRY CATEGORIES

Individual — KS3

Years 7, 8 & 9

KEY DEADLINE

Closes 31 July 2026

MATERIALS



Main material: reused or waste cardboard + other recycled materials from home or school

No need to buy new materials for colour — use pencils or paints you already have.

AWARDS & TIPS



Winners and runners-up receive awards from the GA, announced on social media.

→ Add labels for features, threats & protection strategies

→ Use your 300 words to explain the geography — not just describe the model

DEADLINE: 31st JULY 2026

 **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

Jacob Leslie at AFC Wimbledon
 Congratulations to Jacob Leslie, Year 8,
 (Football) on signing for AFC Wimbledon.

Jacob's had a great season for Kingsdale
 winning the English Schools' Elite Cup
 and South London Cup.

AFC Wimbledon came to watch Jacob in
 a school game back in February and for
 his great form they decided to take him
 on trial. Jacob's hard work and
 commitment paid off with great news
 signing for the League 1 outfit.

We wish Jacob all the best. Keep up the
 hard work!



English Schools Track and Field Championships

A big congratulations to Eliot Peacock
 and Elliott Albert-Preskett (pictured) who
 have both qualified for the London team
 for the English Schools Track and Field
 Championships in Birmingham, at the
 'Alexander Stadium' on 10th & 11th July
 2026.

Elliott Albert-Preskett, Year 8, has been
 selected by London to race 800m which
 as a first-year junior athlete this is quite
 an achievement, and he'll be competing
 against the best Year 8 and 9 runners.

Good luck boys!



CAREERS NEWS

Careers Talks

A reminder that we have the following careers talks lined up this half term. If
 your child is interested, please book via
 email: careers@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Careers in Strategy Wednesday 1st July 1-2pm

Careers in Data Industry The Data Boom and a Career in the Data Centre
 Industry Tuesday 7th July 1-2pm

Careers in Metropolitan Police Wednesday 8th July, Time TBC

We will issue an entry pass to all the interested students before the event,
 once we have received a request to join the event. The sessions are open to
 all year.

Please email careers@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk wit any queries.



SPORTS NEWS

Under-15s Girls' Smash It Cup Play Offs Kingsdale v James Allen Girls School

The Under-15s travelled to Griffin Sports Ground for the
 Smash It Cup Play-Offs against James Allen Girls School
 (JAGS) last week, who we have played previously in a cup
 competition and narrowly lost.

This game for both teams looked very close at the start,
 however we took too many risks with our runs and got
 quite a few wickets taken against us (9 wickets),
 compared to us taking JAGS for 5 wickets.

We had some excellent bowling by Iris, Sophie, and Freya.
 Unfortunately, JAGS won 238 runs to 201 runs.

Final Score: Kingsdale 201-238 JAGS

Team sheet: Martha Ackroyd-Todd, Evelyn Hough, Poppy
 Clapperton, Sophie Benghiat, Iris McWilliams, Anaiya
 Queiros, Freya Small, Sophia Smith and Poppy Greeves.

*Kingsdale Disclaimer – Please be advised Match reports produced and presented by
 student reporters.*

SPORTS NEWS



Under 15 Boys Cricket

Huge congratulations to the Boys' Under-15s Cricket Team on an outstanding season, winning 7 matches and reaching the Barclays Knight-Stokes Cup Finals Day.

The team's cup journey was particularly impressive. Kingsdale topped their group to secure a place in the quarter-finals, where they defeated Graveney by 8 wickets. Daniel Burgess was named Player of the Match after an excellent unbeaten innings of 56 runs.

In the semi-final, the boys produced another dominant performance, overcoming Rutlish by 9 wickets. Harry Wilkie earned Player of the Match honours with a superb unbeaten 62 runs.

Their victory secured a place at Finals Day, where they faced a strong Tiffin side in a further semi-final, eventually losing by 38 runs. The team then competed in the 3rd place play-off against Wilson's, narrowly missing out on a podium finish after a 59-run defeat.

Finishing 4th in such a highly competitive tournament is a fantastic achievement and reflects the hard work, commitment, and talent shown by the squad throughout the season.

Well done to all players and involved on a memorable season!



YEAR 7 BOYS - 22ND JUNE,
12:55PM - 3:40PM. MEET AT THE TRACK

YEAR 8 GIRLS - 8TH JULY,
12:55 - 3:45PM, MEET AT THE TRACK

YEAR 8 BOYS - 1ST JULY,
12:55 - 3:45PM. MEET AT THE TRACK

YEAR 9 GIRLS AND BOYS - 29TH JUNE,
9AM - 12:50PM, MEET AT THE TRACK

YEAR 10 GIRLS & BOYS, 6TH JULY,
9AM - 12PM, MEET AT THE TRACK

PE Department Extra-Curricular Sports Activities Timetable - Summer Term 2025-26

Sports Clubs Summer Term 2026

This half term has seen the arrival of several new activities to our extra-curricular sports provision open to students of all abilities. Please be aware that due to the nature of these activities' numbers are limited and a waiting list remains in operation if required. Please be assured that should these new activities, (skateboarding; aerial silks; parkour and trampoline), prove a success then we will investigate the possibility of providing additional sessions moving forward. Please also be aware that trampoline is due to start a little later in this half-term while the external exam season continues

Please may I ask that you use the QR code to book your child on to clubs while we transition on to a new system. For those of you who have registered your child via Evolve for the "aerial silks" activity please be assured that this will still be valid and that you will be notified in due course of your child's allocated session(s) for this activity.

Please contact Ms V Turner via pe@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk for further details regarding sport at Kingsdale.



Day	Activity	Time	Venue	Staff
Monday	Striking and Fielding Mixed – Year 7	8:00-8:40am	AP	Ms. King/ Mr. Dash
	Sports Scholars – Mixed - Year 7	11:05-11:50am	AP	Mr. Price
	Sports Scholars – Mixed - Year 8	12:00-12:45pm	AP	Ms. Jaymes
	Sports Scholars – Mixed - Year 10	12:00-12:45pm	GM2	Ms. Jones
	Sports Scholars – Mixed - Year 9	12:55-1:40pm	AP	Mr. Price
	Cricket – Mixed – Year 7	3:45-5:15pm	AP	Mr. Price
	Netball – Mixed -Year 7	3:45-4:45pm	GM2	Ms. King
	Ballet – Mixed – Year 7	3:40-4:20pm	DS	Ms. Heybrook
	Ballet – Mixed – Year 8, 9 and 10	4:20-5:10pm	DS	Ms. Heybrook
Tuesday	Striking and Fielding - Mixed – Year 8	8:00-8:40am	AP	Mr. Lord
	Dance – Mixed – Technique – Year 8 and 10	12:00-12:45pm	Dance Studio	Ms. McGregor
	Dance – Mixed – Technique – Year 9	12:55-1:40pm	Dance Studio	Ms. McGregor
	Dance – Mixed – Contemporary – Year 7	3:45-5:00pm	Dance Studio	Ms Dookey
	Dance – Mixed – Contemporary – Year 8, 9 and 10	4:15-5:30pm	Dance Studio	Ms. Dookey
	Cricket – Mixed – Year 8 and 9	3:45-5:15pm	AP	Mr. Price/ Mr. Johnstone
	Netball – Mixed - Year 8	3:45-5:15pm	GM2	Mr. Foster
	Cycling – Mixed – All Years	2:50-5:00pm	Herne Hill Velodrome	Ms. McManus
	Volleyball – Mixed – All Years	4:15- 5:15pm	GM2	Mr. Fitchett
	Trampolining–Mixed – Year 7, starts 30/6/26	4.15-5:15pm	SH	Ms. Turner
Wednesday	Striking and Fielding Mixed – Year 9	8:00-8.40am	AP	Ms Jaymes
	Horse Riding – Mixed- Year 7	10:45-12:15pm	Dulwich Stables	Ms. McGregor
	Horse Riding – Mixed – Year 7	12:45-2:15pm	Dulwich Stables	Ms. McGregor
	Athletics (Sprint) - Mixed – All Years	3:45-5:00pm	PF	Mr. Roberts
	Athletics (Throws) - Mixed – All Years	4:15-5:30pm	PF	Mr. Jones
	Athletics (Jumps) - Mixed – All Years	4:15-5:30pm	PF	Mr. Dash
	Athletics (Middle Distance) - Mixed – All Years	4:15-5:30pm	PF	Mr. Martin
	Skateboarding – Mixed – All Years	4:15-5:15pm	Playground	Ms. McManus
	Parkour – Mixed – Year 7	11-11:45am	Gym2	Mr Dash
Thursday	Parkour – Mixed – Year 8	12-12:45pm	Gym 2	Mr Dash
	Striking and Fielding Mixed – Year 10	8:00-8.40am	AP	Ms. Jaymes
	Trampolining – Mixed – Year 8 and 9, starts 2/7/26	8:00-8.40am	SH	Ms. Turner
	Dance – Street Dance – Mixed – Year 7	3:45-4:30pm	Dance Studio	Ms. McGregor
	Dance – Street Dance – Mixed – Year 8, 9 and 10	4:30-5:30pm	Dance Studio	Ms. McGregor
	Cricket – Mixed – Year 10	4:15-5:15pm	AP	Mr. Roberts
	Arial "Silks" – Mixed – Year 7, starts 4/6/26	4.10-5.25pm	Gym 2	Mr. Foster/ Mr. Dash/ Mr. Price
Friday	Short Tennis – Mixed – All Years	8:00-8.40am	GM2/Track	Mr. Hall
	Cup Final Football Training – Boys – Year 8 and 11	8:00-8.40am	AP	Mr. Price/ Mr Johnstone
	GCSE PE Revision – Year 11	8:00-8.35am	AR3	PE Teaching Staff
	Netball – Mixed - Year 9 and 10	4.10-5.00pm	GM2	Ms. Sinclair



SCHOOL NEWS

Mental Health & Well-Being Weekly Focus for Students: Bullying and Cyberbullying

This week's mental health & well-being focus for students is Bullying and Cyberbullying. Addressing bullying and cyberbullying through a proactive, whole-school approach is essential for safeguarding mental health in secondary schools. While traditional bullying targets victims within physical spaces, cyberbullying strips away the safety of the home, creating a state of constant vulnerability. The [UK Government's Guidance on Promoting Mental Health in Schools](#) emphasises that emotional well-being is directly tied to attendance and academic success.

The Mental Health Toll of Bullying
Bullying is not a harmless rite of passage; it is a severe psychological stressor with long-lasting implications.

- Psychological Distress: Victims experience sharply elevated rates of depression, panic, and social anxiety.
- Impact of Cyberbullying: Over 65% of youth facing mental health struggles report experiencing online abuse, which often results in severe trauma due to its public, permanent nature and perpetrator anonymity.
- Self-Harm Risks: Studies published by [Wiley Online Library](#) reveal that adolescents subjected to in-person school bullying are twice as likely to engage in self-harm.
- Perpetrator Vulnerability: Students who perpetrate bullying frequently struggle with their own unaddressed psychological distress and trauma.

Universal Prevention (All Students)

- School Connectedness: Building a culture of belonging acts as a primary buffer against suicidal ideation and low self-esteem.
- Curriculum Integration: Embedding digital literacy, emotional regulation, and bystander intervention into health education courses.
- Clear reporting systems: Providing clear, anonymous reporting pathways to break down the stigma of seeking help.

Targeted Interventions (At-Risk Students)

- Senior Mental Health Leads: Designating trained staff members to coordinate internal pastoral support networks.
- Evidence-Based Coping Strategies: Using cognitive behavioural strategies to help affected youth rebuild psychological resilience.
- Restorative Justice: Using structured mediation to help bullies understand the impact of their actions, while providing psychological care.

Community Engagement

- Parental Collaborations: Providing toolkits to parents to identify signs of cyber-victimisation, such as hyper-vigilance or phone avoidance.
- External Healthcare Pathways: Establishing clear referral lines to child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) for severe crises.

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

National Year of Reading Department of Sport, Health & Recreation

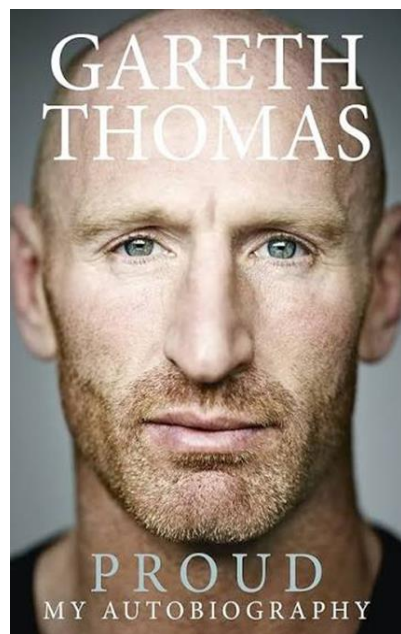


National
Year of
Reading
2026

This half-term the PE department has been helping to celebrate National Year of Reading by blending literacy with movement through active, gamified warmup initiatives.

Each week we have been announcing a sports related book of the week and a weekly sports reading theme. To link all our weekly themes together the sports department are running a competition awarding a prize for the best poster or written piece of work, in each year group, which shows evidence that students have carried out the weekly reading themes.

Any student who wishes to enter should ensure they submit their compilation of evidence from each weekly theme to Mrs Turner, Director of Sport, (Sports Hall upstairs office), by Monday 13th July 2026. Winners will be announced in the subsequent issue of the Parental Newsletter.



The PE department's book of the week is Proud, (Youth Edition), by Welsh rugby legend Gareth Thomas, a powerful adapted version of his award-winning autobiography, *Proud*. Tailored for younger readers, it details his rise to becoming one of the most celebrated figures in British sports while secretly battling the intense personal struggles of hiding his sexuality in the hyper-masculine world of rugby.

The book, suitable for secondary age students (ages 11–18), is an incredible tool for young people. Key themes explored include: Courage & Identity: Tackling the pressure of being a national hero while living a double life.

Overcoming Prejudice: Dealing with the intense internal and external battles of coming out as gay in professional sports.

Mental Health: Addressing the heavy toll of concealment and how to embrace your authentic self.

For young readers or educators looking for resources on LGBTQ+ inclusion and sports, it offers a deeply moving message of acceptance and resilience.

The PE departments reading theme of the week is The Science of Sport where we ask students to explore related texts focusing on area such as aerodynamics in cycling, nutrition for athletes, or the technology behind equipment.

For further information please contact Mrs V Turner, Director of Sport, at pe@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

National Year of Reading 2026

We are proudly supporting the National Year of Reading 2026 and the theme of 'Go All In.' Watch this space for more information regarding the exciting programme of initiatives we have planned to support this important focus. As a 'Do Now' activity, we ask all parents to ensure that their children have a reading book in their school bag every day which they can obtain from the school libraries.

National Year of Reading Department of Sociology

Book recommendation Boy Everywhere by A.M. Dassu



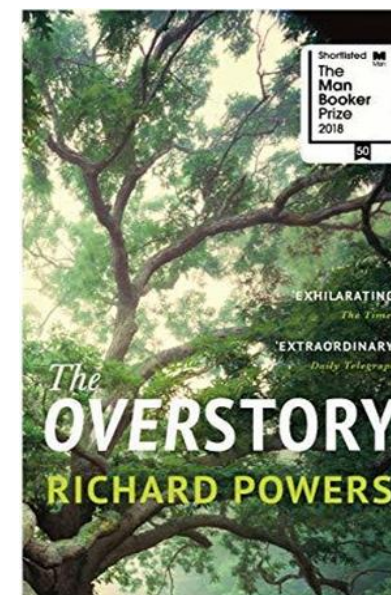
A novel that follows Sami, a 13-year-old boy forced to flee his home in Syria when civil war breaks out. As Sami and his family undertake a dangerous journey across Europe in search of safety, readers gain an insight into the challenges faced by refugees and asylum seekers. Suitable for students 11+.

National Year of Reading Citizenship Competition

Knowledge of current events is vital in Citizenship. Find a news article that is related to something you have covered in Citizenship this year. Write a paragraph summarising the article and explain how trustworthy you believe it to be and why. Submit entries to Mr Packham or Ms Yurdakul: spm@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk; eyl@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

National Year of Reading Department of Sociology

Book recommendation The Overstory by Richard Powers



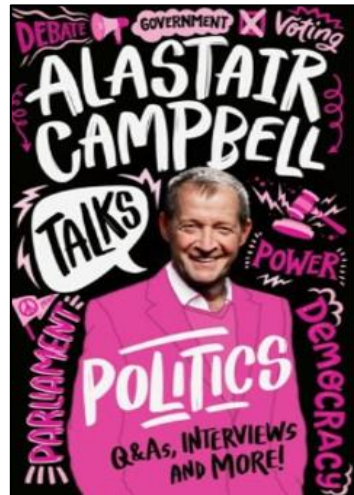
Suitable for students 15+

An interesting read about human relationships with nature and a fictional insight into the connections we have with each other and the natural world. It reads like lots of short stories that are interconnected.

National Year of Reading Sociology Competition

Sociology is everywhere! Find a newspaper article based on a sociological issue of your choice; crime, families, education, culture, the media, the environment and write a review of the article to win a £10 book voucher. Submit your review to Ms Keith-Jopp at rhp@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

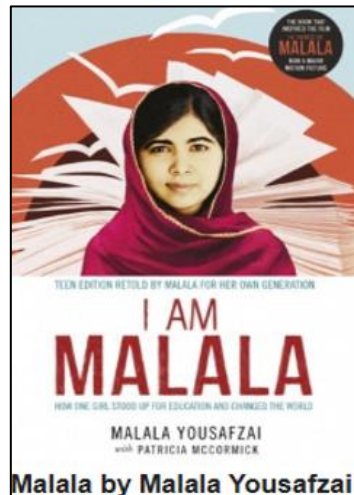
National Year of Reading Department of Politics



Key Stage 3 Book Tip

Alastair Campbell Talks Politics

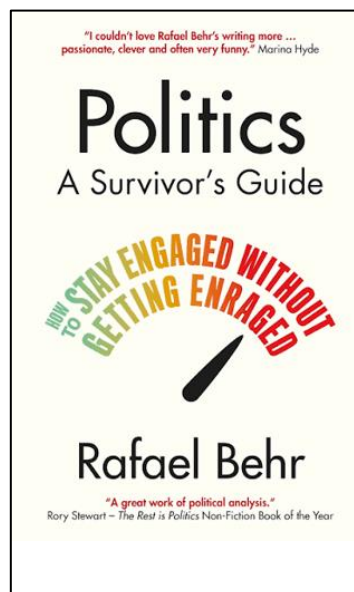
In this book, Alastair Campbell explains how politics works, explores major political ideas and issues, and encourages readers to engage critically with the world around them.



Key Stage 4 Book Tip

I Am Malala

This memoir tells the story of Malala Yousafzai's fight for girls' education in Pakistan and how she became a global advocate for human rights after surviving an attack by the Taliban.



Key Stage 5 Book Tip

Politics: A Survivor's Guide by Rafael Behr

This book offers a witty and accessible introduction to how politics really works, revealing the strategies, compromises, and behind-the-scenes realities of political life.

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

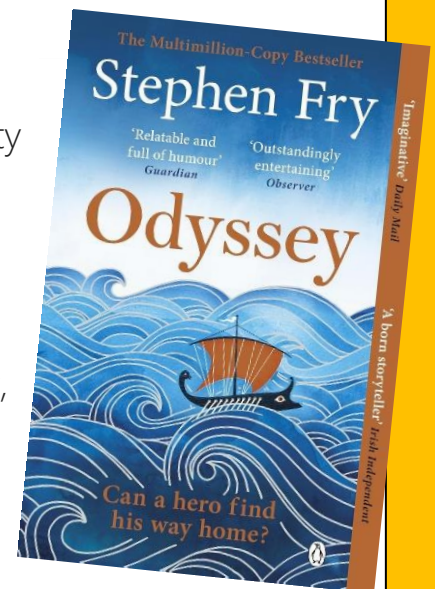
Do you enjoy myths, battles, heroes, love stories and epic adventures?
Are you a Percy Jackson or a Stephen Fry fan?
Have you yet to experience life in the ancient world but want to learn more?!



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.

Supporting Maths at Home

Many children and young people with SEND can find maths challenging at times. The good news is that maths skills can be developed through everyday activities at home, without the need for formal worksheets or lengthy practice sessions.



Here are some simple ways to support your child:

- Use maths in real-life situations such as shopping, cooking, budgeting, and planning journeys. These activities help children see the purpose of maths in everyday life.
- Encourage discussion by asking questions such as "How did you work that out?" or "Can you think of another way to solve it?" This helps develop mathematical thinking and confidence.
- Focus on understanding rather than speed. Many children with SEND benefit from having extra time to process information and apply strategies.
- Use practical resources such as coins, measuring jugs, clocks, dice, counters, or household objects to make mathematical concepts more concrete and visual.
- Celebrate effort and progress. Building confidence is just as important as developing skills. Praise perseverance, problem-solving, and willingness to have a go.

Remember, short and positive experiences with maths are often more effective than long periods of practice. By making maths part of everyday life, you can help your child develop confidence, independence, and essential life skills.

If you have any concerns about your child's progress in maths, please contact their class teacher or the SEND team, who will be happy to discuss ways to support learning at home.

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](#)



How Contact can help

Contact is a UK charity that provides support and information to families with disabled children, whatever the condition or needs.

Our helpline

Our freephone helpline can give advice about any aspect of raising a disabled child, including help with finances, education, emotional and practical support.

 **0808 808 3555**  **helpline@contact.org.uk**

Guides for parents

We have a range of free guides for parents, including:

- *Personal Independence Payments and other benefits at 16*
- *Preparing for adulthood*
- *Holidays, play and leisure*
- *Aids, equipment and adaptations*

A full list of our guides is at the link below. All our guides are free to parents who call our helpline, and are free to download.

 **www.contact.org.uk/publicationslist**

 **0808 808 3555**

SEND FACULTY NEWS cont.

FREE

FAMILY ACTIVITIES THIS SUMMER

SCIENCE MUSEUM



With the summer holidays just around the corner, many families are beginning to think about ways to keep young people active, engaged, and entertained. The good news is that there are lots of free and low cost activities available across London throughout the summer break.

Many local libraries will be running the annual Summer Reading Challenge, offering free activities, crafts, and opportunities to encourage a love of reading. Parks and open spaces often host family events, nature trails, and sports activities, while museums such as the Science Museum, Natural History Museum, and Museum of London offer free entry and interactive exhibits suitable for a wide range of interests and ages.

Families may also wish to explore local SEND friendly activities through their borough's Local Offer website, where holiday clubs, family events, and inclusive activities are regularly advertised. Booking early is recommended as places can fill quickly.

The summer holidays can be a wonderful opportunity to try something new, spend time together, and build confidence through positive experiences. Whether it is exploring a local park, visiting a museum, joining a library activity, or taking part in a community event, there are plenty of opportunities to make lasting memories this summer.

If you discover any particularly SEND friendly activities during the holidays, we would love to hear your recommendations for future newsletters.

Email us senco@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

HELPING YOUR CHILD STAY COMFORTABLE IN THE HEAT

Simple tips for children and young people with SEND

- 1. KEEP HYDRATION A PRIORITY**
Encourage regular drinks throughout the day, even if your child doesn't recognise when they are thirsty.
- 2. CREATE COOL SPACES**
Keep curtains closed during the hottest parts of the day and use fans where appropriate. Create a calm, cool space where your child can relax.
- 3. CONSIDER SENSORY NEEDS**
Some children may find certain clothing or sun cream uncomfortable. Offer choices and find what works best for your child.
- 4. MAINTAIN PREDICTABLE ROUTINES**
Changes to routine can increase anxiety. Use visual timetables, discuss plans in advance and keep familiar activities where possible.
- 5. WATCH FOR SIGNS OF OVERHEATING**
Some children may not understand or communicate that they are too hot. Look out for changes in behaviour.
- 6. PLAN OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES CAREFULLY**
Go out in the morning or late afternoon. Wear a hat. Use sunscreen. Take breaks in the shade. Plenty of fluids.

Every child is different. Small steps can make a big difference in keeping your child comfortable, safe and able to enjoy the summer.

Helping Your Child Stay Comfortable During Hot Weather

Warm weather can be enjoyable, but for some children and young people with SEND, higher temperatures can be challenging. Sensory sensitivities, communication differences, medical conditions, and changes to routine can all make hot weather more difficult to manage. Here are some simple ways to help your child stay comfortable and safe during periods of hot weather:

Keep Hydration a Priority

Encourage regular drinks throughout the day, even if your child does not recognise when they are thirsty. Using a favourite bottle, adding fruit to water, or offering ice lollies can make hydration more appealing.

Create Cool Spaces

Keep curtains closed during the hottest parts of the day and use fans where appropriate. Some children may benefit from having a designated cool area at home where they can relax and regulate if they begin to feel overwhelmed.

Consider Sensory Needs

children may find lightweight clothing uncomfortable or struggle with the feeling of sun cream on their skin. Where possible, offer choices of suitable clothing and experiment with different sun cream brands or application methods to find what works best for your child.

Maintain Predictable Routines

Changes to daily routines during hot weather can sometimes increase anxiety. Using visual timetables, discussing plans in advance, and maintaining familiar activities where possible can help provide reassurance.

Watch for Signs of Overheating

Some children may not recognise or communicate that they are becoming too hot. Look out for signs such as increased irritability, fatigue, headaches, dizziness, changes in behaviour, or withdrawal from activities.

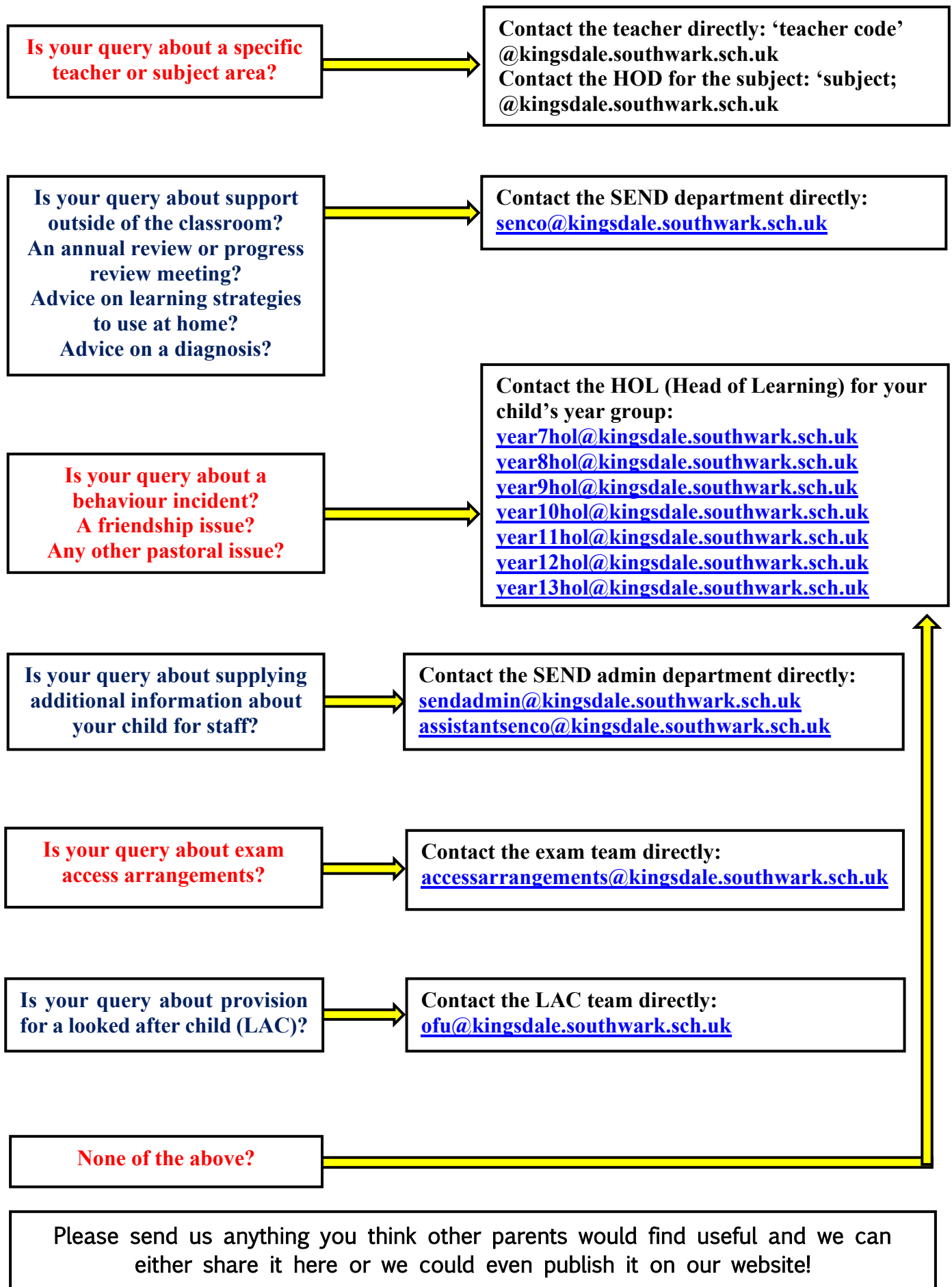
Plan Outdoor Activities Carefully

Try to schedule outdoor activities during the morning or later afternoon when temperatures are lower. Remember hats, sunscreen, regular breaks in the shade, and plenty of fluids. Most importantly, remember that every child is different. Taking small steps to meet your child's individual needs can help ensure they remain comfortable, safe, and able to enjoy the summer weather.

Top Tip: Freeze small bottles of water overnight. As they melt throughout the day, your child will have a cold drink available for longer.

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.



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



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

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.

HOUSE COMPETITION



What Is International Joke Day?

Why did the student bring a ladder to school?
Because they wanted to go to high school! That's right - it's time to dust off your favourite one-liners. International Joke Day 2026 is a celebration of joy, laughter and the humour that brightens our daily lives.

Laughter truly is the best medicine - and a universal language that brings people together. Whether it's a witty pun, a classic knock-knock joke, or a hilarious story, sharing a laugh has a unique way of lifting our mood and strengthening our connections with others.

When Is International Joke Day 2026?

Save the date! International Joke Day 2026 falls on **Wednesday 1st July 2026**.

It's the perfect way to kick off the second half of the year - with plenty of laughs and light-hearted fun. Take the opportunity to share your favourite jokes with friends, family, and even strangers to bring smiles and brighten someone's day.



What Is the Theme for International Joke Day 2025?

The theme for International Joke Day 2026 is *"Laughter Unites Us."* This year's focus highlights how humour has the power to connect people across different cultures, experiences, and back-grounds. In a time when division often takes centre stage, a shared laugh can remind us of our common humanity and the simple joy of connection. The theme invites everyone to embrace everyday humour and spread laughter and positivity wherever they go.

STUDENT HOUSE ACTIVITY: Share your favourite joke with the House Team. We will collect your contributions and create a Kingsdale joke book.

SUBMIT: housesystem@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk
Ensure your entry is accompanied by your **full name, tutor group and House**.

World Refugee Week

Celebrating Culture Through Food

As part of World Refugee Week in June, we encouraged students to explore foods from cultures they may be less familiar with and to share ideas by learning about dishes enjoyed by others around the world.

One of our students, Beth Perrett, Year 7, from Swift House, was introduced to a Nigerian snack called Puff Puff by her football teammate. Puff Puff is a popular West African treat made from lightly sweetened dough that is deep-fried until golden and fluffy. Beth has kindly shared the recipe with fellow students, helping us celebrate cultural exchange through food and conversation.

Have you ever tried Puff Puff, or perhaps made it at home? We'd love to hear from you if you decide to give the recipe a go or if it's already a family favourite!

Puff Puff Ingredients

- 2¼ teaspoons (7g) active dry yeast (*1 packet*)
- ½-¾ cup (100-150g) sugar
- ½ tablespoon (8-9g) salt
- 2 cups (472ml) warm water (*+1-2 tablespoons for softer puffs*)
- 3½ cups (420g) flour
- Vegetable oil *for deep frying*



Instructions:

1. Mix the yeast, sugar, salt, and water, and set aside for 5 minutes to activate the yeast.
2. Add the flour and mix well.
3. Cover and let it rise for 1-2 hours.
4. In a large saucepan, heat at least 3 inches of vegetable oil (7-8cm) on low. Too little oil will result in flatter balls.
5. Test to make sure the oil is hot enough by putting a drop of batter into the oil. If it is not hot enough, the batter stays at the bottom rather than rising to the top.
6. When the oil is hot enough, grab bits of the mixture with your hands or use a spoon to get small balls of dough and drop them carefully into the oil.
7. Fry for a few minutes until the bottom side is golden brown. Turn the balls over and fry for a few more minutes until the other side is golden brown.
8. Use a large spoon or strainer to remove them from the oil. I usually place them on napkins immediately to soak up the excess oil.
9. If desired, you can roll the finished product in cinnamon or powdered sugar to make it sweeter.

STAY SAFE ONLINE THIS SUMMER



SPORTS FIXTURES

Monday 29th June 2026

- Year 9 Girls' & Boys' Sports Day Heats at Mary Datchelor Playing Fields. 9am Start. 12.45pm Finish: **PE Staff**

Tuesday 30th June 2026

- Year 7-10 Mixed Girls' & Boys' Great Big Dance off National Finals at Cheltenham Town Hall. Leave school at 7am. Start 10.30am. Return at 10pm approx.: **Ms McGregor/Ms Dookey**

Wednesday 1st July 2026

- No Planned Fixture/Events

Thursday 2nd July 2026

- Years 7-10 Mixed Girls' & Boys' Step Live Royal Academy of Dance Showcase at Cadogan Hall, Chelsea. Leave school at 11.30am. Start 1pm. Return at 9.30pm approx.: **Ms McGregor/Ms Dookey**

Friday 3rd July 2026

- Years 7-10 Mixed Girls' & Boys' Central School of Ballet event at KFS. Start 10am. Finish 2.45pm: **Ms McGregor/Ms Dookey**
- Under-13s Boys' Cricket Home Match v Bishop Thomas Grant School. Leave school at 1pm. Start 2pm. Return at 5pm approx.: **Mr Johnstone/Mr Price**

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



HOUSE NEWS

Online Safety Corner

For this week's Online Safety focus we are looking at 'How to Stay Safe this Summer.' 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
26th June 2026

- 1st Place – Dove 117,208 points
- 2nd Place – Swift 116,664 points
- 3rd Place – Albatross 116,479 points
- 4th Place – Falcon 114,995 points
- 5th Place – Eagle 113,309 points



It's still looks a close race for the top spots!

School Shop



Refillable water bottles are now on sale in the School Shop! This is part of the school's environmental plan and move away from plastic.

£2.60 per bottle

Available in white, aluminium, 500ml only (67x 205mm)

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

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.

