



PARENTAL NEWS BULLETIN

Issue 9 Monday 17th November 2025

HEADLINE NOTICES

Kingsdale Sixth Form Open Days

The last of our Sixth Form Open Days will take place on:

Wednesday 26th November 2025 4.30pm - 7pm

You can access further details regarding our Sixth Form open events for Year 12 September 2026 entry [here](#).

For all queries regarding admissions to the Sixth Form, please contact the Sixth Form Office via email at sixthform@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk or 0208 655 9723.



House Excellence Award

Kasija Andrejic, Year 9, has won the House Excellence Award. She was nominated by the English department.

Kasija has demonstrated exceptional hard work and commitment throughout the term, consistently approaching every lesson with enthusiasm and a strong desire to improve.

Her contributions in class have been thoughtful, articulate, and insightful, lifting the quality of discussion for everyone around her. Kasija's creative writing has been particularly impressive - rich in imagination, detail, and emotion, showing a maturity and flair well beyond her years. Her dedication to English is evident in everything she does, and this award is a well-deserved recognition of her outstanding efforts!

School Mobile Phone Policy 2025-2026

A reminder to all parents of the details of our mobile phone policy which continue unchanged into the 2025-26 academic year.

Please note that as previously advised, KFS will be a **smartphone free school for students in Years 7-11 from September 2026**. Currently this expectation applies only to students in Years 7 & 8.

Further details have been issued separately. We thank parents and students for their continued support.



THEME OF THE WEEK

Compassion

'You make a living by what you get but make a life by what you give.'

WORD OF THE WEEK

Commensurate

In a correct and suitable amount compared to something else.

'Her new position came with a commensurate level of responsibility.'

Have we forgotten the devastation in Jamaica 🇯🇲

Get Rid of and Donate needs the community help to support the people of Jamaica

We need the community help!

Wanted items Ambient Food

Rice, flour, sugar, cooking oil, tin fish (tuna, mackerel, sardine) baked beans, sweetcorn, instant noodles, baby food, formula, baby nappies, baby wipes, feminine products, toothpaste/toothbrush, waterproof clothing, wellington boots, tarpaulin, touches

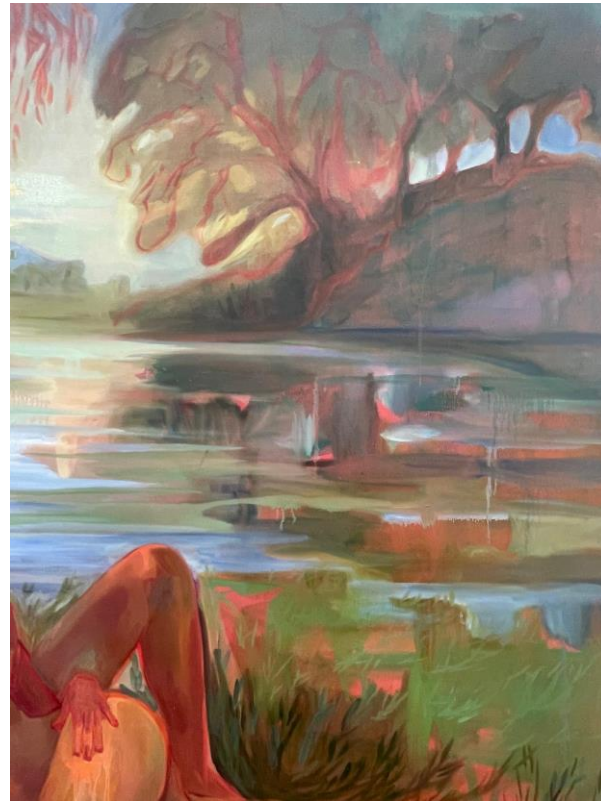
**Drop off at everyday
between 10:00 am – 5:00 pm**

**St Faith's Community Centre
Red Post Hill
London SE24 9JQ**

Kingsdale Careers Programme 2025-2026

Following our careers survey and feedback from students, we have a number of exciting careers events coming up this half-term. See page 9.

If you have any questions please get in touch with Ms Markes via careers@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk



Frieze Art Fair Trip

Alongside a group of other Year 12 students, I was recently lucky enough to attend the Frieze Art Fair in Regent's Park with school. It was an incredibly valuable experience that allowed us to explore an amazing variety of artwork, from traditional painting to contemporary sculpture.

We enjoyed recognising the work of artists we were already familiar with, while also discovering new names and styles that inspired our own practice and will help us develop our A Level portfolios.

One artist who particularly stood out to me was Vanessa Raw. I was captivated by her expressive, gestural landscape paintings and her bold, vivid use of colour. I'm looking forward to researching her work further and exploring how her approach might influence my current painting unit.

Lola Jarvis, Year 12



ENRICHMENT NEWS

Sociology And Bar Mock Trial Trip To The Old Bailey

Last week, Year 13 Sociologists and Year 12s involved in the Bar Mock Trial Scheme visited the Central Criminal Court, also known as the Old Bailey.

This is the highest criminal court in the country which hears only the most serious trials. Students were able to watch summary prosecutions and the cross-examinations of defendants, in trials including murder and sexual assault. Students were really fascinated to see the criminal justice system in action, noting the strange combination of very important and serious cases with such mundane and sometimes tedious details and processes.

It has enriched our understanding of how crime plays out in practice, and given the Year 12 Bar Mock Trial students inspiration for how they will act when they get involved in their own trials.

CAREER NEWS

Careers in Law: Talk from a Barrister

Tuesday 18th November

Period 5: 1 - 1.45pm in CR1

This talk aimed at students in Years 9, 12 and 13 is from barrister, Martha Holmes. Martha has been a barrister since 2003 and specialises in child law. She covers both public and private law, representing parents, local authorities and guardians at all levels of court. She also has experience in criminal law. Martha will talk about her experiences of being a barrister, her career path and what students should consider if they want to get into law. It will be a fascinating talk for anyone who has an interest in law, the criminal justice system, and children and families.

Students can register their interest via this link [Careers Talk sign-up 2025-26 – Fill in form](#) but can also just turn up. We hope to see them in CR1 on Tuesday at 1pm Bring your lunch

CAREER NEWS cont.

Careers Talks this Half-Term

Following our careers survey and feedback from students, we have a number of exciting careers events coming up this half-term:

Date	Time	Years	Talk
Tuesday 18 th November	Period 5 1-1.45pm	9, 12 & 13	Law: Talk from a Barrister
Thursday 20 th November	Period 3 11.15am- 12.00pm	11	Southwark College
Monday 24 th November	Period 4 12.10-12.50pm	8 & 10	Medicine: Talk from a GP
Monday 1 st December	Period 4 12.00-12.45pm	13 & 10	Criminal and Social Justice Sector
Tuesday 9 th December	Period 1 1.00-1.45pm	9, 12 & 13	Diplomacy and Development

All talks will take place in CR1 unless indicated otherwise.

To express interest in any of these talks, students should use the link here: [Careers Talk sign-up 2025-26 – Fill in form](#)

For any careers-related queries please contact:
careers@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Inspire Critical Thinking (Years 9-12)

This is a really interesting opportunity from the University of Oxford, designed to help pupils explore fascinating topics through articles and challenges created by academics at the university.

Resources will be live between January and April 2026, and students can engage with them at their own pace.

A chance to discover new and exciting topics, see how arguments are constructed, and to reflect on their own ideas about the issues presented.

Applications close on 7th December.

More details are available here: [Inspire Critical Thinking | St John's College, Oxford](#) and [here](#).

Christ Church-Oxford Edge Poster Competition (Years 11-12)

Open to Years 11 and 12 at UK state schools, the theme is
“What global challenge would you solve with
entrepreneurship and how?”.

Submit your poster by midday on 5th January.

Entries welcome across Medical and Physical Sciences, Social Sciences and Arts and Humanities. There will be a celebration event in Oxford on Tuesday 10th March.

[Solving Global Challenges Poster Competition | Christ Church, University of Oxford](#)

SCHOOL NEWS



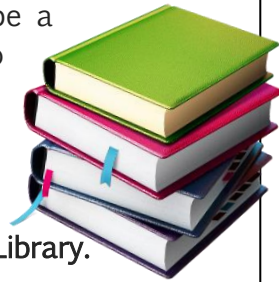
YEAR 10 MUN CLUB

A great new Year 10 Model United Nations (MUN) Club starts on Tuesday during Period 4. Year 10 students should come along and join us in HU4.

LIBRARY NEWS

Carnegie Book Club

If you're in Year 7 and love reading, join Ms Redfern and Ms Walker for the Carnegie Medal Book Club! The club allows students the opportunity to read, discuss and review the books shortlisted for the 2025 [Carnegie Medal for writing](#), so it will be a great chance for students to read some of the best titles in teen fiction! We will be meeting every Wednesday during Period 3 (Year 7 lunch) in the Lower School Library.



SCHOOL NEWS



West Dulwich Community Patrol

Let's get ahead and stop street crime before it starts! A reminder that our community patrol scheme, in conjunction with Love Your Doorstep (LYDS) continues this term. We are continuing our patrols and are still looking for parental volunteers from the KFS community.

What is a community patrol?

LYDS say the best volunteers are those who work from home, part time or are semi-retired and want to do something positive for their community.

- Patrols are weekdays from around 3.30-5pm.
- A patrol is a group of 2-4 volunteers, who are visible, say hi and intervene if necessary, by being friendly.

If you'd like to volunteer to help make our area safer, we'd love to hear from you via the sign-up link [here](#). If you can't spare the time, please do help by spreading the word with your local contacts.

Thank you for your support. We can make a real difference to our community by working together!



Join the Student AI Think Tank Have your say on the future of learning!

Kingsdale is launching a **Student AI Think Tank**: A group where students from **Years 7 to 13** come together to explore how artificial intelligence is shaping education and school life.

We'll meet **once every half term** to:

- Share ideas about how AI can help students and teachers
- Discuss opportunities and challenges
- Represent the voice of students on the future of learning

Interested? Email AIThinkTank@students.kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk to find out more and get involved.

Your ideas. Your future. Your voice.

ESAA Cross-Country Cup Regional Final



Intermediate Boys



Emery Aldridge

On Monday 10th November, 24 students participated in the ESAA Cross-Country Cup Regional Final at Dulwich College. In wet and windy conditions, our students battled hard across the course and represented the school proudly. It was a fantastic effort from all pupils involved but it was our Junior Boys' team who excelled as they qualified for the ESAA Cross-Country Cup National Final in Rugby on Saturday 6th December 2025.

Huge congratulations to Emery Aldridge who won the Junior Boys' Race (2.4km) in a blistering 8 minutes and 17 seconds.

Kingsdale Foundation School Junior Boys' – National Finalists – Emery Aldridge, Elliott Albert Preskett, Theo Hough, Pietro Kelly, Lucas Bovell, Sammy Welch.



Junior Boys



Junior Girls

Malaika Trim, Lily Sophia, Koto O'Sullivan, Annabelle Bunton, Lotta Kersting Gomes & Evie Ellison

SPORTS NEWS

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



London Youth Games at Parliament Hill

On Saturday 8th November, William Siu (Year 12), Thomas Siu (Year 9) and Mary Siu (Year 7) ran the first London Youth Games annual event, the Cross Country at Parliament Hill.

This is notoriously a tough course that begins with a steep long incline, known as "The Wall" then funnels through trees and narrow paths. The runners have to avoid tree roots, stones and divots.

William ran 4.5k in 17.28, Thomas ran 3k in 11.50 and Mary ran 2k in 10.33.

Well done to all of you!



Year 9 Girls' Under-14s ESFA Cup Football Kingsdale v Haberdasher's Hatcham College

Congratulations to the Year 9 Girls who have progressed to the 4th Round of the ESFA Girls U-14s Schools' Cup after an outstanding victory against Haberdashers' Hatcham College. It was an excellent performance from the squad on a difficult pitch to play on.

Final score: Kingsdale 10-0 Haberdasher's Hatcham College

Goal scorers: Carla De Los Santos Tormo (2), Marlena Westaway (2), Poppy Clapperton (2), Lisa Chantry (2), Ruby Trim (1) and Sophia Smith (1).

SPORTS NEWS cont.

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



Under-14s Girls' Netball Sisters in Sport Competition Kingsdale v Colfe's School

Our Under-14s Girls Netball team played their second match in the Sisters in Sport competition and faced a shaped Colfe's side, making it a fantastic contest.

A huge congratulations to Sophia Liard, who was named Player of the Match - a well-deserved recognition for her outstanding performance!

The Team: Aiko Wall-Gaskin, Maliyah Boothe, Ella Marsden, Seren Yeatman, Esther Yeatman, Polly Lyon, Sophia Liard & Eleanor Saldanha.



Under-16s Boys' Hockey Tournament

On Thursday 6th November at Trinity School, the Under-16s Boys' Indoor Hockey team had their first tournament which was the Prelims. They started off strong against Allyn's. Ryan Jones had a goal disallowed in the first half, following from that we had 2 short corners, but nothing came from then. However, shortly after Frank Whitehead scored to make it 1-0 to us. Allyn's quickly equalised. We had high attacks and lots of possession during the game. Dominic Rooks had a great interception and got it to Ryan, unfortunately he didn't manage to score. Allyn's received a short corner but a great save by our goalkeeper Daniel Coggins, kept the score level. We had a few more attacks but could not convert, then Frank won another short and managed to convert it to make it 2-0 to us.

In the next game, against Forest School, the boys started strong, quickly scoring, making it 1-0 in less than a minute thanks to Ryan. However, Forest got lucky and equalised. Forest got a penalty flick, with another fantastic save by Dan in goal. Moving up to our attacking D, Cas with possession, used his reverse stick and flicked it into the goal making it 2-1. Forest gained possession to make it 2-2. In the last few minutes, Frank scored to win the game 3-2.

In our third game, against Trinity, it was very close between both teams at the beginning. This quickly changed when Trinity got a short corner and brought the score to 1-0. Our boys managed to take back possession, with Frank scoring levelling up the game to 1-1. However, Trinity managed to keep possession for the remainder of the game, winning 5-1.

In our final game against Langley Park the opposition scored early and had complete control of the game. Our boys didn't get a look in losing 5-0.

It was an excellent day with great hockey played by all students involved.

The Team: Ryan Jones (Capt), Daniel Coggins, Morgan Stacul, Cas Sarshar, Jake Milton, Albie Beech, Frank Whitehead and Dominic Rooks.



PGL WATER SPORTS TRIP



PE PGL Water Sports Trip 21st – 26th June 2026

The PE department is pleased to announce that we are now inviting those of you who have children in **Years 8 and 9** to register your interest if you wish your child to be considered for a place on this action-packed trip. As with previous years 40 students from Years 8 and 9, accompanied by Kingsdale staff, will set off for the Domaine de Segries, Ardèche in the South of France for an action-packed week of adventure.

During the week students will navigate their way down the Ardèche descent through rapids and breathtaking scenery on a two-day 29-kilometre journey in two-person kayaks under the close supervision of Kingsdale staff and highly qualified instructors. Students will also enjoy a slightly more leisurely day at Wave Island Water Park in preparation for another action-packed day this time canyoning, (Haute Besorgues), followed by a less strenuous and well-earned trip to Vallon Pont d'Arc for shopping. Students will also take on new challenges with a visit to a high ropes site where students can tackle numerous courses with varying degrees of complexity and challenge.

If you would like your child to be considered for a place on this trip, please register your interest by completing and submitting our registration form via the link below by no later than **Monday 24th November 2025**.

[PE Department PGL Water Sports Trip
21st - 26th June 2026 – Fill in form](#)

For further details please contact:
Mrs V Turner, Director of Sport,
Health & Recreation via
pe@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

SPORTS NEWS cont.

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



Congratulations to the Year 8 Boys' Football teams!

Year 8 Boys' A Team English Schools' Cup Kingsdale v Richard Challoner School

On Monday 10th November the Year 8 Boys' football team beat Richard Challoner School in the English Schools' Cup.

Final Score:

Kingsdale **5-0** Richard Challoner School

Goal scorers:

Sky Scannell (2), Tristan Fullerton (2), and Rico Jones (1)

Player of the Match: Jacob Leslie for his non-stop running and battling in mid-field on a rainy day.

Year 8 Boys' Elite-Team English Schools' Elite Cup Kingsdale v Bonus Pastor Catholic College

On Tuesday 11th November, the Year 8 Boys' Elite Football team beat Bonus Pastor Catholic College in the English Schools' Elite Cup.

Final Score:

Kingsdale **5-0** Bonus Pastor Catholic College

Goal scorers:

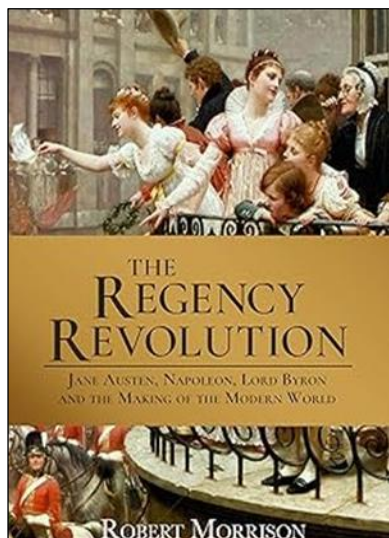
Harrison Abayomi (1), Tristan Fullerton (1), Jacob Leslie (1), Kobe Mukoro (1) and Kamau Virtue (1)

Player of the Match: Jacob Wright - Van Heeswijk For marking a Chelsea Academy player of the game.

A great week for the teams Keep up the hard work!

Reading Recommendations

Teacher Recommendation



Mr Hutchinson recommends *The Regency Revolution* by Robert Morrison

The Regency began on 5 February 1811 when the Prince of Wales replaced his violently insane father George III as the sovereign de facto. At the

centre of the era is of course the Regent himself, who was vilified by the masses for his selfishness and greed. Around him surged a society defined by brilliant characters, momentous events, and stark contrasts; a society forced to confront a whole range of pressing new issues that signalled a decisive break from the past and that for the first time brought our modern world clearly into view. Mr Hutchinson really enjoyed learning about how similar the era is to our own one – how many issues relevant then still are today. A dense but entertaining read – perfect for Key Stage 4 & 5 readers who are interested in history and literature.



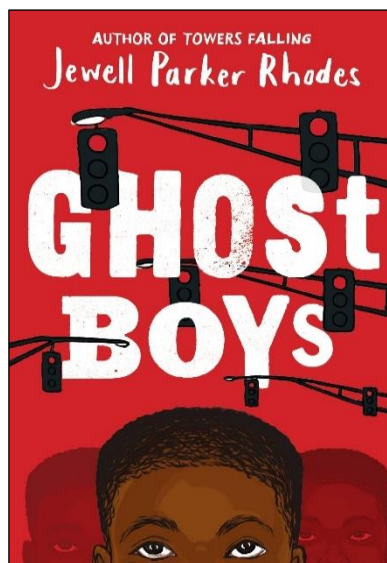
CALENDAR 2025-26

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

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

Student Recommendation



Katja Shaw, Year 8 recommends *Ghost Boys* by Jewell Parker Rhodes.

Jerome is killed by a policeman who mistakes his toy gun for a real one. In the narrative, Jerome's ghost lives on to watch the aftermath of the events – including the pain of his grieving family and the police officer's hearing.

Jerome begins to encounter other ghost boys and makes a connection with their stories.

Katja was really moved by protagonist's suffering and really enjoyed the supernatural parts of the story.

Some mature themes, so mostly suitable for Year 9 and upward.

AUTUMN TERM 2025

Second Autumn Half-Term

Monday 3rd November – Friday 19th December

SPRING TERM 2026

Monday 5th January INSET DAY

School closed to students except those in Year 11

First Spring Half-Term

Monday 5th January – Friday 13th February

Half-Term Holiday

Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February

Second Spring Half-Term

Monday 23rd February – Friday 27th March

SUMMER TERM 2026

First Summer Half-Term

Monday 13th April – Friday 22nd May

Monday 13th April INSET DAY

School closed to students except those in Year 11

Mayday Bank Holiday

Monday 4th May 2025

Half-Term Holiday

Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May

Second Summer Half Term

Monday 1st June – Friday 24th July

Friday 24th July INSET DAY

School closed to students except by invitation

Helping Your Child with SEND Talk About Their Future Career

HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE MAKE A CAREER DECISION



Useful Resources

- National Careers Service (<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk>)
- Preparing for Adulthood (<https://www.preparingforadulthood.org.uk>)
- Disability Rights UK – Into Work (<https://www.disabilityrightsuk.org>)
- SEND Support and Careers Advice (GOV.UK) (<https://www.gov.uk/topic/schools-colleges-childrens-services/special-educational-needs-disabilities>)

Talking about the future can feel daunting for any young person. For those with SEND, thinking about careers can bring both excitement and uncertainty. As a parent or carer, you play a vital role in helping your child explore their strengths, interests, and aspirations.

1. Focus on Strengths and Interests

Begin by talking about what your child enjoys doing and what they are good at. These might include hobbies, school subjects, or everyday skills such as helping others, solving problems, or being creative. Focusing on strengths builds confidence and helps your child understand how their abilities can connect to real-world jobs. Try asking:

- "What do you enjoy most about that activity?"
- "Can you imagine doing something like that when you are older?"

2. Explore a Range of Options

Young people with SEND should have access to the same career information as all students. They may also benefit from learning about additional pathways and supports available. These might include supported internships, apprenticeships, or courses at specialist colleges. Encourage your child to attend career fairs, open days, or taster sessions. Many schools and local authorities also host events designed specifically for young people with SEND.

3. Build Confidence and Independence

Even small steps can make a big difference. Encourage your child to take part in clubs, volunteering, or short work experience placements. These experiences help them develop communication skills, teamwork, and self-awareness, all of which are essential for future employment. Remind them that success can take many forms. For some young people, part-time or supported work may be ideal. For others, college or university might be the goal.

4. Keep Talking and Listening

Career conversations are not one-off events. They evolve as your child grows. Keep discussions open and positive, and remember that it is fine if your child does not have all the answers right away. The most important thing is that they feel heard, valued, and supported in exploring their options.

As one parent shared:

"We discovered that our son's love of animals could lead to a supported internship at a local farm. It gave him confidence and a real sense of purpose."

Help and Support for Parents: Money



Disability Living Allowance (DLA): DLA is often the first benefit which parents claim – it's not means tested and is paid every month. There are two elements to DLA, care and mobility, so consider whether you will need to apply for which element or both, for instance.

For more information on DLA, visit [Citizens Advice](#).

Direct payments: Direct Payments for disabled children were introduced in 2000 and are becoming more popular among families. They aim to give you and your child more flexibility and control about the support services you need, for example, money can be given for you to pay for a personal assistant for your child, for a childcare place, for an activity club for children with SEND.

Other benefits

There are a wide range of other benefits you can claim for, such as:

- Carers Allowance
- Child Tax Credit
- Parental Leave
- Other grants – e.g. fares to hospital

Ask your SENDIAS team who to contact and about eligibility criteria: [Southwark SENDIAS](#)



Free & Low-Cost Resources for Parents of Children with Dyslexia

Southwark Local Offer – Dyslexia / Literacy Information Pack

Download the free "dyslexia / literacy difficulties" information pack via Southwark's Local Offer website.

[Southwark Literacy Difficulties / Dyslexia Info Pack Southwark Local Offer](#)

Southwark SpLD Advice & Information Pack (2024-25)

This PDF includes guidance, recommendations, and strategies for schools and families around specific learning difficulties.

[Southwark SpLD Advice & Information Pack \(PDF\)](#)
education.southwark.gov.uk

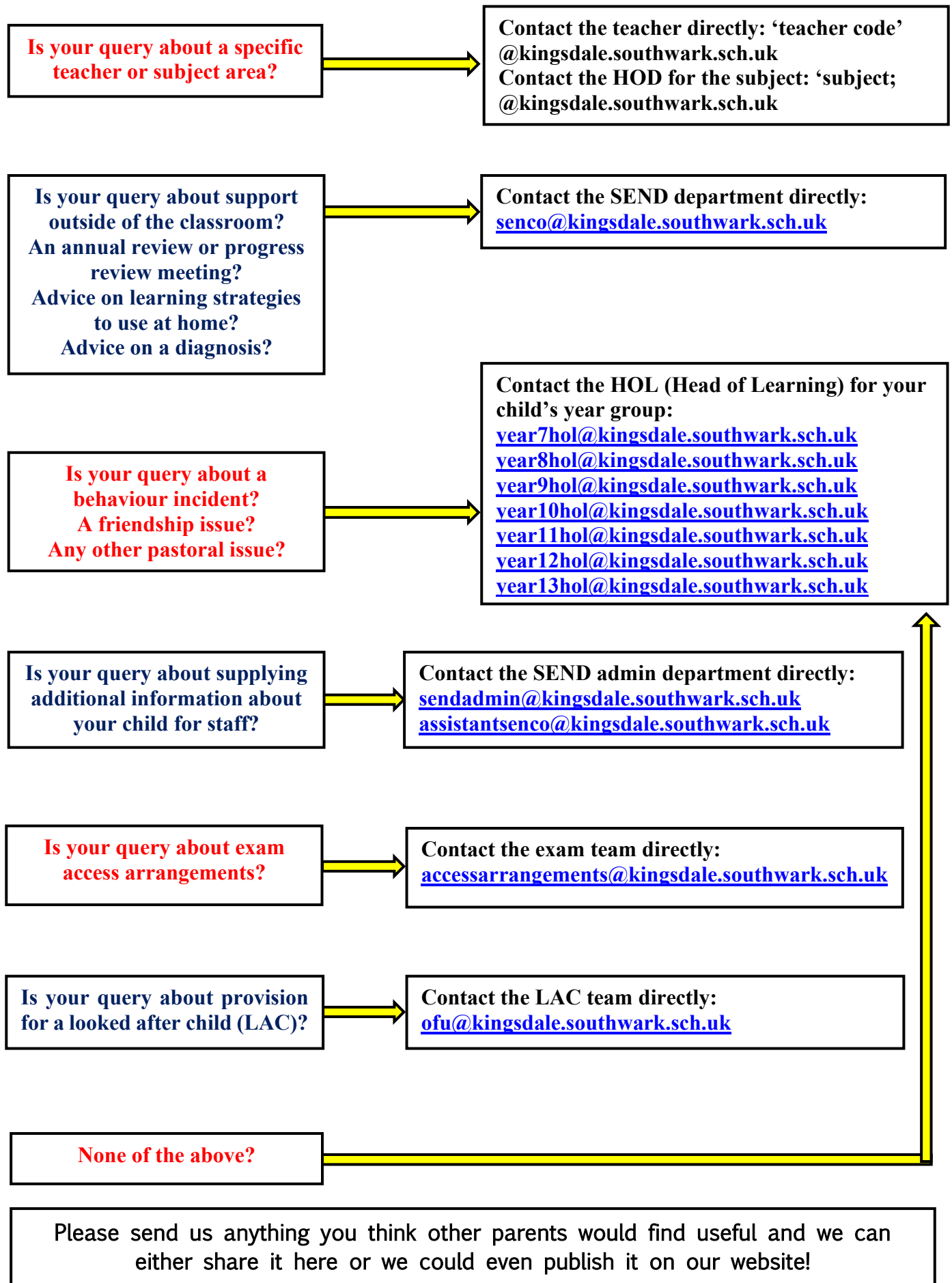
Southwark Disability Hub (KeyRing)

A community hub offering information, support and connections to local services in Southwark.

Email: disabilityhub@keyring.org | Tel: 020 3457 7580 [KeyRing](#)

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.



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

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**

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



Education from
the National
Crime Agency

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.

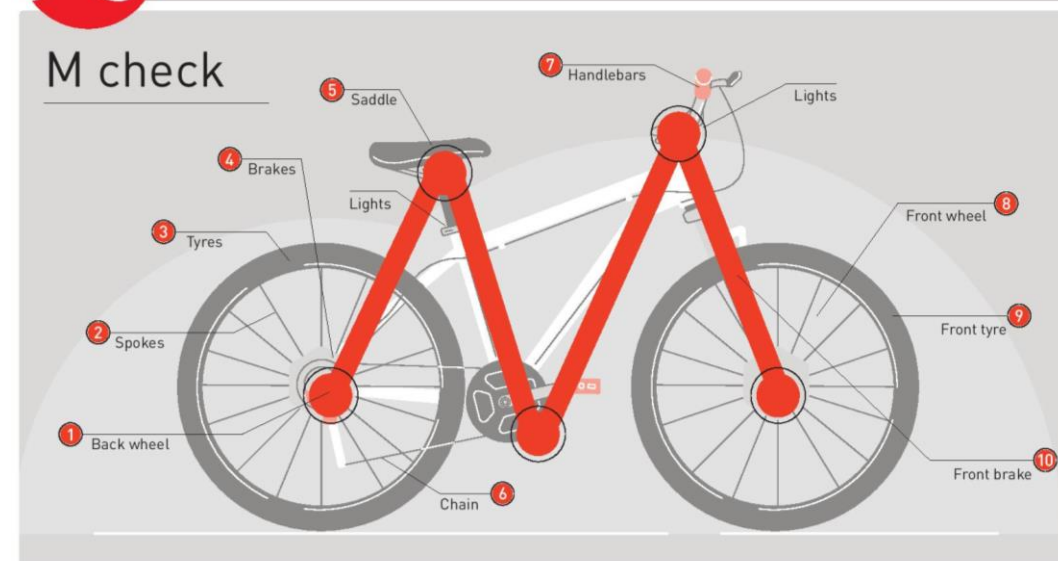
Our two confidential emails are:

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.

Bicycle checks

If you ride a bike, keeping it well maintained is important to keep you and others safe. A simple M check only takes a few minutes. Following the shape of the letter M means you won't miss anything out.



Road Safety Awareness Week 2025

Focus on Safe Vehicles

This week is Road Safety Week, led by Brake, and the focus is on keeping every vehicle safe — whether it's a car, a motorbike, or a bicycle.

The goal is simple: to make sure that every time we travel, we do so as safely as possible.

Many of our students cycle to school, and it's important to remember that riding safely starts with a roadworthy bike. Taking just a few minutes for regular checks can make a big difference — not only for your own safety but also for others on the road.

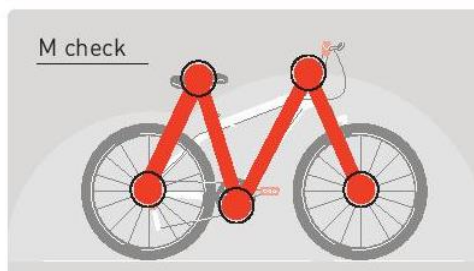
Try the simple "M" check!

Following the shape of the letter M helps ensure you don't miss any vital parts when inspecting your bike — from tyres and brakes to the chain and handlebars.

How to carry out a simple M check on your bicycle

Follow our step-by-step guide to make sure your bike is fit for the road.

M check



1 Back wheel

Check your back wheel is fitted securely. Give it a spin to make sure it's aligned.



2 Spokes

Pluck your spokes to check their tension. They should all make a similar sound.



3 Tyres

Tyres should fit to the wheel rim. Look for damage and check your tread for wear. Pump up tyres to the correct pressure, which should be written on the tyre.

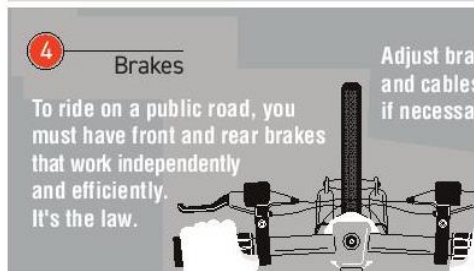


4 Brakes

To ride on a public road, you must have front and rear brakes that work independently and efficiently. It's the law.

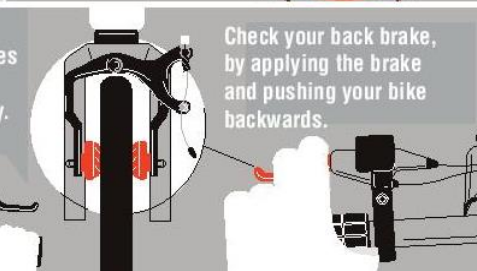
Adjust brakes and cables if necessary.

Check your back brake, by applying the brake and pushing your bike backwards.



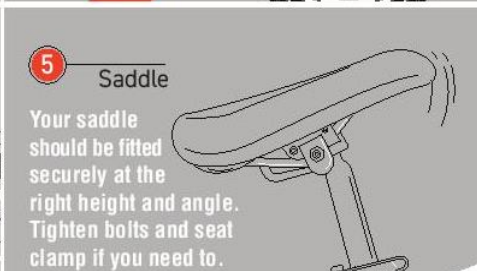
5 Saddle

Your saddle should be fitted securely at the right height and angle. Tighten bolts and seat clamp if you need to.



6 Chain

Check your chain is clean and oiled, so that pedals can spin smoothly.



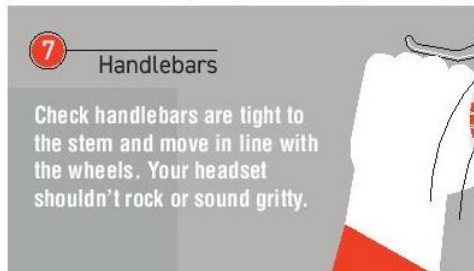
7 Handlebars

Check handlebars are tight to the stem and move in line with the wheels. Your headset shouldn't rock or sound gritty.



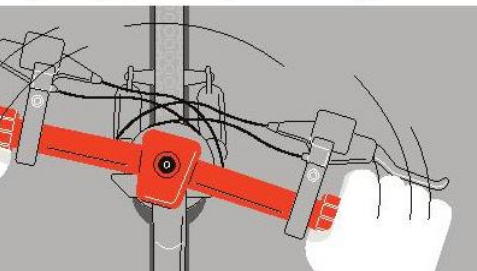
8 Front wheel

Your front wheel should be fitted securely and spin smoothly with no loose spokes.



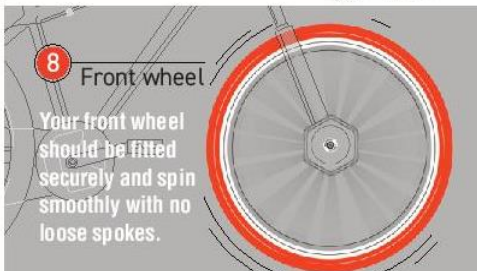
9 Front tyre

Check your front tyres fit to the wheel rim and aren't damaged. Check your tread and pump up tyres to the correct pressure.



10 Front brake

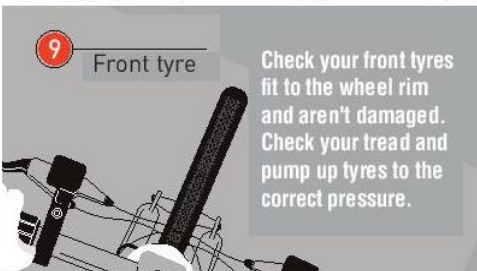
Check your front brake, by applying the brake and pushing your bike forwards.



11 Lights

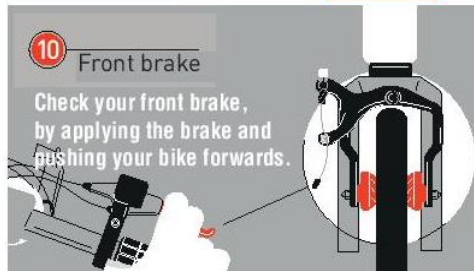
To ride in the dark, you need reflectors and working front and back lights.

Check they're clean and attached securely.



12 Maintenance

Don't forget to get your bike serviced regularly by your local bike shop, or take a course to learn how to do it yourself.



SAFE
VEHICLES
SAVE LIVES.

Road
Safety
Week

Organised by
Brake

Sponsored by
AUTOGLASS

Hastings DIRECT

motive

samsara

Let's make every journey as safe as possible.
www.brake.org.uk/road-safety-week

Let's all do our part to stay safe, visible, and responsible on the roads this week and beyond!

HOUSE COMPETITIONS



National Hiking Day Monday 17th November 2025!

Monday is National Hiking Day, a celebration of getting outdoors, exploring nature, and enjoying the crisp beauty of mid-November hills. Whether you're an early riser catching the dawn stretching over sleepy peaks or heading home under a sky brushed with flamingo pinks and oranges, there's no better time to lace up your boots and hit the trail (headtorch recommended!).



STUDENT TASK: You are invited to **send in photos from their hikes** or **share maps of your routes** to inspire others to get outside and explore. Your journey could encourage someone else to discover the joy of the trail!

HOW TO ENTER: Submit your entry to housesystem@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk. Ensure your entry is accompanied by your **full name** and **tutor group**.

Prizes will be awarded to outstanding entries!



Marathon March Success for Ted Rowe

Back in October 2025, Ted Rowe, Year 8, from Eagle House took on an incredible challenge — walking 26.2 miles in the Marathon March alongside around 250 other participants. Ted completed the marathon-distance walk in just 7 hours and 45 minutes including rest stops, and his efforts have truly paid off.

Ted raised an impressive £1,101 for the Palace for Life Foundation, a fantastic charity that supports young people across South London. This achievement far exceeded his original fundraising goal of £600 - a testament to his dedication and community spirit.

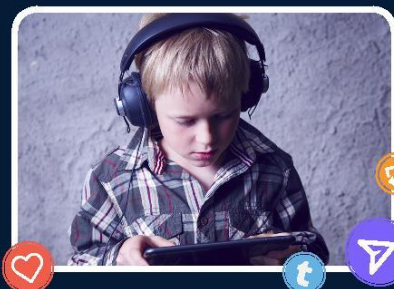
The Palace for Life Foundation has been working with young people for over 25 years, using the power of sport and the influence of Crystal Palace Football Club to help inspire healthier, happier lives and make a real difference in the community.

In addition to completing the Marathon March, Ted also organised a sweet sale at Kingsdale, raising an extra £150 to support the charity's work.

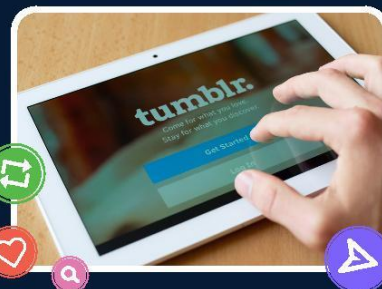
A huge congratulations to Ted for his determination, generosity, and outstanding contribution to such a worthy cause!



Tumblr is a popular social media platform and microblogging site with over 463 million blogs on its platform. In Europe you must be over 16 to sign up, but the age limit is just 13 elsewhere. However, in both cases, age verification is limited. The platform is designed to share different types of content, such as videos, photos or short articles. People can react to each other's content, share items they like, and even interact through the platform with direct messages.



What parents need to know about TUMBLR



WATCH OUT FOR ADULT CONTENT

You can post almost anything on Tumblr, so it's important you're aware of what your child is exposed to. In fact, it was briefly removed from the Apple store when it was found users were sharing illegal content involving the sexual abuse of children. There has since been a ban on being able to share 'adult' material, but some material still slips through the net.

A BROAD SEARCH FUNCTION

The broad search tool on Tumblr makes it very easy for anyone to find almost any kind of content. In fact, an NSPCC investigation found there to be content about eating disorders and self-harm that could be damaging to a young person's mental health. There is no easy way to stop this broad search function, so it pays to educate your child on the risk of searching for such topics.

MISLEADING TAGS / ACRONYMS

The 'tagging' function on Tumblr allows users to label relevant content and makes searching more effective. However, such tags often employ words with a dual meaning or strange acronyms that can lead to inappropriate content being associated with something innocent.

BE AWARE OF OVERSHARING

Tumblr is a public platform and anything that's shared on it can be viewed by anyone with a Tumblr account. It's important your child understands people they do not know could comment on what they share. You should remind your child not to share anything they would not be happy for everyone to see.

PROFILES AREN'T CLEAR

Due to the vague nature of the profile function on Tumblr, it's easy to remain quite anonymous. This means it's difficult for your children to be clear about whom they're interacting with. This increases the potential for cyber-bullying or grooming.

IT'S EASY TO POST 'FAKE NEWS'

It's easy for anyone to create and share information on Tumblr, whether it's true or not. Sometimes, this is done as a joke. Other times, it's done to be malicious or support an ideological or political agenda. It's important to understand your child could be exposed to this misinformation and take steps to encourage them to question it.



Top Tips to Protect Your Child



1 FILTER CONTENT

It's not possible to filter out all mentions of a potential harmful phrase, but you can filter out certain posts that are tagged with the phrase. You can do this in your account settings.



2 ACTIVATE SAFE MODE

You can turn on 'Safe Mode', which will hide sensitive content, however it's equally important to monitor your child. If you see their behaviour changing, calmly offer support and ask them if something is bothering them.

SAFE MODE



3 KEEP YOUR CHILD INFORMED

Encourage your child to seek alternative opinions and news stories and not rely on a single source for information, especially if it appears to be unsupported.



4 REPORT & BLOCK USERS

Show your child how to report and block specific content that is potentially harmful or upsetting. You can find details of how to on the 'Community Guidelines' page. Though blocking can be effective, you're only able to block a single post. To block a user, you must add them to the block list of each post.



5 RESPECT ORIGINAL CONTENT

It's easy to repost any content on Tumblr so it appears as your own. To avoid your child falling foul of any copyright or trademark infringements, make sure they understand the importance of citing the original author of anything they wish to share.



6 PROTECT THEIR PRIVACY

Check your child's Tumblr account settings to make sure they're hidden from all internal and external search engines. Turn off the autoplay function on all media and set it so only approved friends can message your child. Setting strong passwords and two-factor authentication will also make it especially difficult for anyone other than your child to access their Tumblr account.



Meet our expert

Claire Woffenden has been a technology journalist since 1998 with a specialism in consumer technology (apps, websites, home computing and digital devices). As a Mum of two young children - aged 8 and 6 - Claire is passionate about helping to keep children safe online.



SOURCES: <https://www.tumblr.com/policy/en/terms-of-service>, <https://www.teensafe.com/blog/everything-a-parent-needs-to-know-about-tumblr/>, <https://smartsocial.com/what-is-tumblr-parent-teacher-guide/>, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FbUlmJMNRN8>, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y6ag9n4_w, <https://www.fastcompany.com/90304153/seven-weeks-after-nsw-ban-tumblr-still-bulges-with-porn>, <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/08/06/instagram-tumblr-allowing-extremely-dangerous-self-harm-images/>

SPORTS FIXTURES

Monday 17th November 2025

- Under-12s Girls' Football Away Match v Prendergast Ladywell School. Leave school at 2pm. Start 3.30pm. Return at 5pm approx.: **Ms McManus/Ms Jaymes**

Tuesday 18th November 2025

- Under-12s 15s Girls' Cricket Taster Day with Surrey Cricket in the Sports Hall. 9am-2.45pm: **PE Staff**
- Under-18s Girls Hockey Away Match v St Dunstan's College. Leave school at 3pm. Start 4.30pm. Return at 6.30pm approx.: **Ms Jaymes**
- Under-15s Girls' Football A Team Home Match v James Allyn's Girls School (JAGS). Leave school at 1.50pm. Start 2.30pm. Return at 4.30pm approx.: **Mr Jones**
- Under-14s Boys' Rugby League Tournament at Streatham & Croydon RFU. Leave school at 1pm. Start 2pm. Return at 5pm approx.: **Mr Lord**
- Under-13s Girls' Netball Away Match v Queens College. Leave school at 1pm. Start 2.30pm. Return at 5.30pm approx.: **Ms McErlain/Mr Foster**

Wednesday 19th November 2025

- Under-15s Boys' Football Away Match v Bishop Thomas Grant School. Leave school at 1pm. Start 2.15pm. Return at 4.45pm approx.: **Mr Hall**
- Under-12s Girls' Netball Away Match v St Margaret's School, Bushey. Leave school at 1pm. Start 3pm. Return at 6.15pm approx.: **Ms McErlain /Mr Foster**
- Under-15s Boys' Rugby League Festival at Streatham & Croydon RFU. Leave school at 1pm. Start 2pm. Return at 5pm approx.: **Mr McWhirter**

Thursday 20th November 2025

- Under-13s & 14s Boys' Rugby Matches at Streatham & Croydon RFU against Carshalton Boys' School. Leave school at 1pm. Start 2.30pm. Return at 5.15pm approx.: **Mr Lord**

Friday 21st November 2025

- Under-15s Boys' Indoor Surrey Cricket Competition at Allyn's School. Leave school at 12 noon. Start 1pm. Return at 5pm approx.: **Mr Price**
- Under-16s Girls' Basketball Away Match v Globe Academy. Leave school at 2pm. Start 3pm. Return at 6pm approx.: **Mr Roberts plus driver**
- Under-14s Boys' Basketball Away Match v Whitgift School. Leave school at 3pm. Start 4.30pm. Return at 6.45pm approx.: **Mr Hall plus driver**

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

All fixtures can be viewed via the link below:

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

HOUSE NEWS

Online Safety Corner

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

Please read! Remember to keep an open dialogue with your child about their activities online. **See Page 18 above.**

The House Leader Board 2025-26

Week ending
14th November 2025

- 1st Place – Swift 32,868 points
- 2nd Place – Dove 32,803 points
- 3rd Place – Albatross 32,182 points
- 4th Place – Eagle 31,909 points
- 5th Place – Falcon 31,995 points



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.

