

Parent Newsletter - 12th Sept 2025

The Kingsdown Wheel of Excellence

The wheel of Excellence is a visual representation of our pledge to our students and parents. We remain deeply committed to championing your child every step of the way.

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RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

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COMMITMENT

Assembly messages this week

My assemblies last week were all about the leadership focus of Steven Bartlett - an entrepreneur. He talks about the importance of not focusing on being the best but on being better - being 1% better every day. Thank you for asking your child about my assembly message and asking them about what they have done this week to be 1% better. Steven says that "being better is forever".

Here's to a super term of all our students firmly joining the Kingsdown 1% club!

New Group Reading Test (NGRT)

Please note Year 7 - 10 students will be taking their NGRT assessment next week. The purpose of these tests is to measure and track students' reading and comprehension skills.

The tests will be carried out during English lessons and can be any day (Mon-Fri) at the teachers discretion. To ensure the smooth running of these tests can you please ensure that all students have a fully charged Chromebook and if possible a pair of headphones every day next week.

Book your Future

Reading is a cornerstone of success in all subjects, as well as a great way to relax and practice mindfulness. Next week, we're excited to relaunch our Book Your Future tutor reading program. This initiative will support students' wellbeing at the start of the day, build stronger connections within tutor groups, and develop the reading skills needed for success at GCSE. We encourage you to ask your child about the book their tutor group is reading and what's happening in the story each week. For students who want to read more, our school library is an excellent resource for borrowing books.

New Senior Leader

My name is Mrs Koza, and I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Assistant Headteacher for Teaching and Learning. My role is to work closely with all our teachers to ensure that every student receives engaging lessons and has the opportunity to learn and grow. I am also a passionate Maths teacher and look forward to sharing my love for the subject with our students. My favourite Kingsdown BEAT is Stretch, as I love seeing students achieve things they once

Working together for our school community

As partners in your child's education, we value the positive and supportive relationship we have with our families. Respectful communication is vital to our school community's success. As partners in your child's education, we value our positive relationship with families and kindly ask that all interactions with staff and other parents—in person, by phone, or in writing uphold a respectful and collaborative tone. By working together with mutual respect, we ensure a safe and productive learning environment for all students. We appreciate your ongoing support.

Absence from school

thought were

impossible.

If your child is absent from school please contact school before 7.30 am either by telephoning the absence line on 01793 837134 or email attendance@kingsdownschool.co.uk



Safeguarding







Mrs Agambar Designated Safeguarding Lead



MIss Coles Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

We champion each and every student

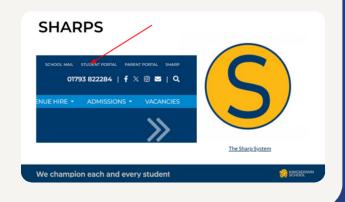
l every student

Safeguarding Team

Safeguarding at Kingsdown
School is led by Mrs Agambar
our Designated Safeguarding
Lead and we have two Deputy
Designated Safeguarding leads
Mr Hathaway and Miss Coles.
Please do not hesitate to
contact them should you have
any worries or need some
reassurance regarding your
child
cp@kingsdownschool.co.uk

SHARPs

Likewise, if your child has a worry or a concern they can use the schools online safeguarding system for students SHARPS. This can be accessed via the student portal and can be anonymous or the student can leave their name for one of the safeguarding team to get back to them.



My Child at School (MCAS)

MyChildAtSchool is an online portal that enables parents to view their child's performance at school in real time via any modern web browser (e.g. Edge, Firefox, Chrome, Safari etc.) and for today's busy parents, an app (for android or ios) which of



parents, an app (for android or ios) which offers the same features.

Year 7: All parents & carers have received an email with the initial login details for the MCAS App. If you haven't received it or need any extra help, please email itsupport@kingsdownschool.co.uk

All year groups: There is a dedicated section in the Parent Portal where you can find a step-by-step guide: Welcome to KDS System

Future events and important dates

- 18.09.25 Year 11 Information evening for parents Main Hall - 5.30pm - 7pm - no booking required
- 25.09.25 Open Evening 5.00 7.00pm school closes to students at 12.15pm,
- 16.10.25 Year 7 Meet the tutor evening Main Hall 5.30pm 6.30pm no booking required
- 22.10.25 End of term 1 school finishes at 2.45pm
- 03.11. 25 T D Day / River Learning Trust whole school meetings school closed to students
- 04.11. 25 Start of term 2 All students return at 8.15am and go to their roll call areas
- 10.11.25 Literature Festival (all week)



With our continued thanks.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need any further information.

Please be reminded that we have a 5 day response time.

Mrs Leigh-Bennett Headteacher

