



KINGSDOWN SCHOOL

Personal Development Student Experience



We champion each and every student

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Our BEATs:

pride

*I am proud of who I am
and our school.
I take advantage
of every opportunity*

ambition

*I expect the best
from myself.
I have ambitious
aspirations for my future.*

stretch

*I really want to learn
and will stretch myself
to achieve what
I didn't think possible.*

challenge

*I am curious, determined
and resilient.
Set me a challenge
and I will always rise to it.*

respect

*I am considerate.
I care about others and
my surroundings.
I encourage and expect
others to do the same.*

responsibility

*We are all part of
something special and I am
not going to let us down.
My attendance
really matters.*

The BEATs are at the heart of all we do at Kingsdown school; students are **taught** about the BEATs through peer education, assemblies and the tutor programme. They form the basis of our character education: this is **caught** through the role-modelling of the BEATs by our staff and students. The BEATs are also **sought**: we provide our student with a number of opportunities to put the BEATs into action every day from in their lessons, beyond their lessons and in the wider school community. We reward students' attitude, engagement and achievement through the BEATs.

Our BEATs not only provide our students with character education and a moral guidance, but they provide life skills which enhance any application for college and jobs in the future.



Character education



**Peer education of the
BEATs**

A Rights Respecting School:

Kingsdown School is becoming a Rights Respecting School this means:

- Our students learn **about** rights
- Our students learn **through** rights
- Our students are the ambassadors **for** the rights of others



As part of being **educated** about what rights all children should enjoy, our students and staff have the opportunities to **model** these rights each and every day through demonstrating our **BEATs** (character education). Moreover, our students have the opportunity to reflect on the impact these rights have on them and others in the world, as well as the impact of not all enjoying these rights.

Our students also have the opportunity to take a greater role in learning **about** rights in becoming a **peer educator** on rights to younger students.

They also have the opportunity to join the **steering group** which will create resources to educate as well as run campaigns to highlight local and national issues. This ensure that as a school we are ambassadors **for** the rights of others.



Student Leadership: Structure

Our student leadership programme allows students from all year groups to take an active role in the school, its development and decision making. From year 7 to year 11 there are opportunities to be involved. All students have the **BEAT award** which they can work towards as well as **leadership programmes** they can join to develop leadership skills. All students can put themselves forward to be on the **year** or **school council**. Even if they are not successful they can put their ideas forward in **tutor discussions** to have their voice heard.

Students of all years can put themselves forward to be part of the **Rights respecting steering group**, or become a **Champion of Change**

There are also year specific groups:
Year 7 Transition Ambassadors,
Year 8 Sports Leaders
Year 9/10/11 Prefects
Year 9/10/11 Here to hear
Year 10 into 11 Senior Students
Elected - Head Students

Head Students

Senior Students

School council / Steering Group

Prefects / Here to hear / Peer educators

Year councils / Champions of Change / Sports leaders / transition ambassadors

Aspiring leaders, sports leaders, becoming leaders, senior leader programmes

BEAT award - BEAT badges

Student Leadership: School council

Article 12 of the UNCRC says every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously.



At Kingsdown School we take this right of all our young people seriously in lessons, beyond lessons and in the wider community. One of our vehicles to ensure our students have a clear voice and are consulted in all things is our **school council**. The school council is led by our **head students** and involves **2 students from each year group** as well as representatives from **Champions of Change** group, **Here to Hear** prefects, and our **Rights Respecting steering group**. There are a number of sub groups from the council who put into action council ideas such as our **charity group** and **eco group**.

Our **student leaders** set the agenda for every cycle, they **chair the meetings** and **take recommendations to SLT**. Following actioning by SLT this is **fed back** to all students. There are **6 cycles a year: 1 per term**.



Student Leadership: Groups

There are also a number of groups our students can join to develop their leadership skills and take a larger role within our school community.

Champions of Change Yr 7-11

This group, which is led by head students, takes a role in educating and celebrating diversity. They have led assemblies and created resources for the student bulletin. Some members also represent the group on the school Equality Diversity and Inclusion group chaired by the Chair of Governors.

Prefects Yr 9-11

These students apply for the position of prefect and as part of this role they undertake duties on a weekly basis, support at evening events and go into tutor groups to work with younger students and support them by hearing them read.



Here to Hear Yr 9-11

This group which is led by head students promote anti-bullying in school. They have been involved in assemblies and anti-bullying messaging as well as undertaking a lunch or break duty where they are available to listen to and support all students in school. They are safeguarding and anti-bullying trained and have undertaken mental health training.

Peer Educators Yr 9-11

Our group of peer educators, led by our head students, have written lessons and trained others to deliver the BEATs, Rights Respecting education and anti-bullying education. They have then gone into tutor groups and delivered these lessons to younger students in school.



Student Leadership: Extra-curricular



We provide a number of opportunities for students to be involved with from year 7 to year 11 and we encourage students from all year groups to be actively involved in leading their school. As such we have a number of leadership courses which are run as extra-curricular opportunities for students to develop the vital leadership skills.

Year 7 - Transition Ambassadors / Peer educator

Year 7 students can put themselves forward to be transition ambassadors or peer educators. Students develop skills comprising of group work skills, decision making, leading others and collaborative work. This leads to students supporting Year 6 students on their transition days.



Year 8 - Sports leaders

This builds on what students have done as transition ambassadors and on the aspiring leaders course. This allows students to refine their communication, planning and leading others skills. As part of this they will run sporting events for younger students.



Year 9 - Becoming leaders

Building further on students taking responsibility, this is preparing students to be prefects, peer educators, drawing on interpersonal skills as well as public speaking.



Year 10 - Senior leaders

The year 10 programme is aimed at supporting students stepping up to being a head / senior students. This programme supports skills to run meetings, organise others, lead assemblies and publically speak.

Student Leadership:

BEAT Award

Our BEAT award is the highest award we give as a school as this rewards students for all they do to put the BEATs into action inside the classroom, beyond the classroom and in the wider community. There is a different award for each year group which references the different opportunities available as well as progression from one year to the next.

Year 7 - BEAT Award

To achieve this BEAT award you must complete the First criteria for each BEAT and then 10 others from all areas to achieve the BEAT badge you must complete all from a section.

	Achievement	Date	Tutor
Pride	I have a completed a reward card		
	I have kept a positive point balance for 3 terms		
	I have no conduct points for my uniform in 3 terms		
	I have 3 gold cards from 3 different subjects		
Ambition	My ATL is always good/outstanding on 3 reports.		
	I have earned a lion badge		
	I have attended a careers event		
	I have become a student ambassador		
Stretch	My HL is always good/outstanding on 3 reports.		
	I have completed 3 stretch and challenge HL		
	I have attended an extra-curricular activity regularly for 3 terms		
	I have become a champion for change or completed a voluntary activity (Swindon Lions)		
Challenge	I have read and successfully quizzed 3 books a term for 3 terms		
	I have taken part in a show/recital/exhibition		
	I take part in an activity/ club outside of school regularly and I have shared this with my tutor group.		
	I have taken an active role in an assembly or peer education		
Respect	My conduct card has been empty for 3 terms		
	I have had no detentions for 3 terms.		
	I have taken an active role in rights education – assembly, display or slide for the student bulletin		
	I have participated in a gratitude event		
Responsibility	My attendance is 95% or higher for 3 terms		
	I have been a tutor rep or taken an active role in discussions		
	I have been awarded a BEAT certificate		
	I have been involved in a student voice / student panel meeting		

Senior Student BEAT Award

To achieve the BEATs award you must complete the First for each BEAT and then 10 others.

	Achievement	Date	Tutor
KS4 - BEAT Award	You must complete the First criteria for each BEAT and then 10 others to achieve the BEAT badge you must complete all from a section.		
Year 9 - BEAT Award	You must complete the First criteria for each BEAT and then 10 others to achieve the BEAT badge you must complete all from a section.		
Year 8 - BEAT Award	You must complete the First criteria for each BEAT and then 10 others to achieve the BEAT badge you must complete all from a section.		

Our Enrichment Days:

Over the year students will have opportunities for drop down mornings. These mornings allow for students to experience:

Trips and visits

STEM activities

Develop hobbies and interests

Explore different cultures

Reflect on Rights Respecting schools

Develop First Aid skills

Stay safe - with input from the police

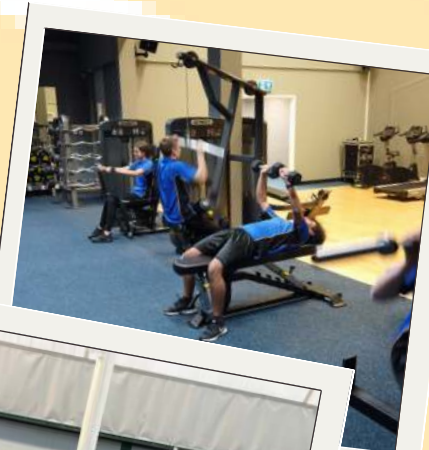


Extra-curricular: Sports

We offer a range of sports throughout the year for students of all year groups. The school teams get a regular opportunity to compete against other schools both in Swindon and beyond.

Rugby
Football
Netball
Basketball

Cross country
Badminton



**Year 7 Football team
'Swindon Champions'**



Basketball



**Year 7/8 Netball
team**



Athletics

Cricket
Athletics
Rounders
Softball
Fitness Club

Tennis
Dodgeball
Cheerleading
Dance

Extra-curricular: Music

Outside of lessons there are a number of enrichment opportunities within music. There are also a number of opportunities to showcase talent at the recitals throughout the year as well as a weekly school choir practice and keyboard club.



Recital evening



Recital evening

Students are also able to participate in peripatetic music lessons for the following instruments:

- Brass
- Piano / Keyboard
- Drums
- Guitar
- Singing
- Violin



**Visit to hear an ensemble from
Bournemouth Symphony
Orchestra**

Extra-curricular: Drama



**Little Shop of Horrors
2019**



**Grease
2020**



**Beauty and the Beast
2023**

Beyond lessons students from years 7-11 have had the chance to be involved in the annual school production.



**An Inspector calls
2021**



**Aladdin
2022**

There are other opportunities to visit theatres both to see shows and find out how things work backstage. We have also had productions visit us so all students can see what theatre has to offer.



**Theatre visit to
An Inspector Calls**



**Behind the scenes trip to
the Wyvern theatre**



**Watermill theatre
visit Kingsdown
'The Sleeping Sword'**

Extra-curricular: Art



**Year 8 trip to the
Ashmolean and Pitt Rivers Museums**

As well as being able to study both Art and Photography to GCSE, our students can enjoy opportunities week in both KS3 and KS4 Art clubs, visits to galleries, visiting artists as well as being able to exhibit their work.



**Exhibition of students
work**



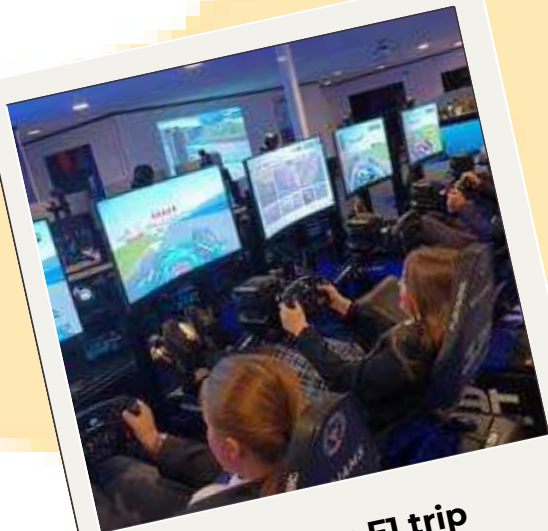
**Visit to the Tate Modern
Your paragraph text**



Visiting artist workshop



Extra-curricular: STEM



Williams F1 trip

STEM trips to:

Williams F1
Microsoft
Renishaw



**Royal Navy STEM
workshops in school**

Visitors into school have included:

- McLaren presentation and car
- Full STEAM ahead workshops though study higher
- RAF STEM workshops
- Army STEM workshops
- Navy STEM workshops
- Kwik Fit workshops
- Microsoft virtual sessions



**Catalent workshop and
presentation**

Clubs in school:

- DT club
- KS3 Science club
- Mathswatch support
- Mathswatch masters programme



Lego Robots

Other opportunities:

- Maths challenge
- Maths League

Duke of Edinburgh

We offer our students the opportunity to undertake the **Bronze award in Year 9** and the **Silver in Year 10**

Students undertake 4 different activities to achieve this award:

Volunteering
Physical
Skills
Expedition

"I have taken part in Duke of Edinburgh this year; it was very challenging but great fun and helped me push myself."



Finding the way



Camping



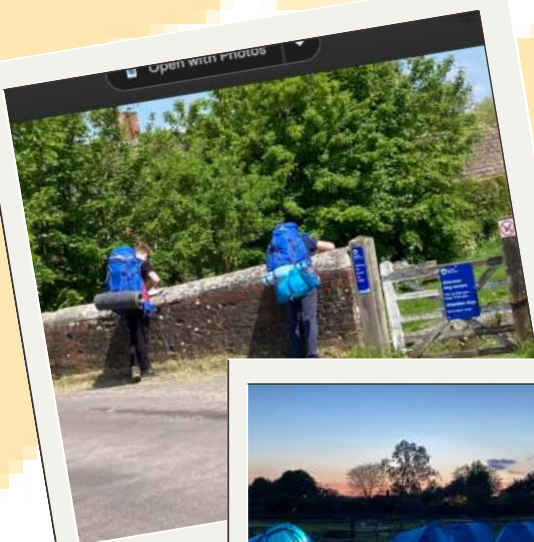
Camping

Duke of Edinburgh

“DofE has enabled me to learn new skills. One of these skills for me was the tutoring I conducted as part of my volunteering section. The hardest bit for me was probably the expedition but it showed me a completely different side of life. I think everyone should take part in DofE, solely to experience the challenges, as they are definitely things you remember.”



Finding the way



Camping



Teamwork

Extra-curricular: Other Clubs

We also offer a number of opportunities at lunchtime:

Board games
Card games
Table tennis
Haven
Games and socialising in the library
Football
Chess
Netball
Maths club
Basketball
Philosophy



Chess club



Football

Other clubs afterschool:

Mock trial
Debating
Manga/Anime/Cartoon Club
Dungeons and Dragons
Culture club (trips out)

Other learning opportunities

Learning lounge
KS4 support for sport studies
KS4 interventions
Tassomai
Book Your Future
World book Day
Sparx
Quizlet
Seneca
Book quizzes



Mock trial team

Trips and visits

There are a number of opportunities for students to go on trips:

Theatre trips
Museum visits

Art galleries
Geography trips
Sporting events
Brunel Centre



Year 7 Charles Dickens Museum

Science Museum
Wyvern Theatre
Harry Potter World

Reward trips:

Cinema
Thorpe Park
Chessington
Cotswold Wildlife Park
Freedog
Bowling



Basketball trip



River Cole



Geography trip to Bristol

“The school provides a lot of opportunities for trips. I have been on The Geography trips which were entertaining and educational”

“Every year we have the chance to go on reward trips I chose Thorpe Park and had a great time - a brilliant way to end the year”



Year 8 London trip, Natural History and London Eye

Trips and visits: Residentials

Over their time at Kingsdown School, students have a number of opportunities to go on a residential visit.

Annually

Year 8 Pencelli
Year 9/10 Normandy
French trip

Bi-annually

Barcelona sports tour
travelling Oct 24, 26, 28

"Going to France was a really good experience, It was incredible to use my French language skills to talk to people and be understood. Everyone was so helpful"

"In Barcelona we had the opportunity to play against a Spanish academy. This was a great insight on how the English and Spanish are brought up into different footballing cultures."



Year 8 Pencelli



Year 8 Pencelli



Barcelona



Other events and experiences



Presentation skills



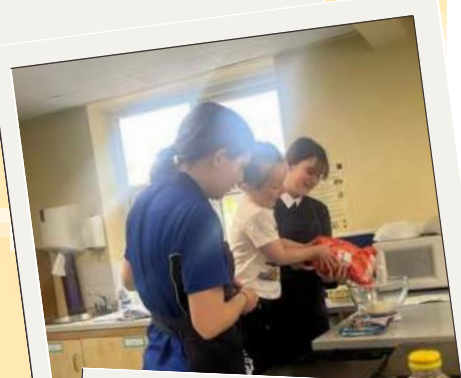
Presentation skills



DT projects



Christmas cake decoration



Health and Social care

Other events and experiences



Year 7 Disco



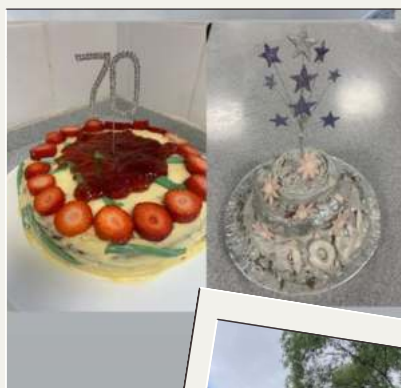
Year 7 cinema



Year 7 Quiz night



Remembrance Day



Jubilee



Children in Need



Food bank



Ukraine

Engaging with charities

Visitors to school

Throughout their time at Kingsdown students have a number of opportunities to engage with a wide variety of visiting speakers within Personal Development such as:

Humanutopia
Just a Guy Foundation
Gangline
Cameron Parker
Mclaren
University of Gloucester
Cirencester college
New College
Police
Fire and Rescue Service
Diana Award

Employer talks
Post 16 and 18 talks



**Just A Guy Foundation
Year 11 talk on resilience**



**Sheldon Thomas
from Gangline**



Cameron Parker



STEM Visit from McLaren



**Kathryn Burn workshop with
business students**

Our Library



The library at Kingsdown School is open to all students and staff during breaks and lunch times. Here we provide a 'Quiet Room' for those students wishing to escape the hustle and bustle of secondary school, read or to complete homework, and a 'Social Room' for those who want to play board games or just relax and talk with their friends. Chess has been a particular favourite, with students often challenging (and occasionally beating) staff members.

To support students' reading we use a programme called Accelerated Reader; a tried and tested piece of software that enables students to choose from over a thousand fictional books, which have been carefully organised according to their level of difficulty. Accelerated Reader allows staff to monitor and track students' reading progress, as every book has a quiz attached, which students can access by logging onto their own Accelerated Reader account. Our goal is for every student to be reading. Now, with Accelerated Reader on students' Chromebooks, the opportunity for further quiz taking and reading progress at home has been made possible.

Every year, Kingsdown School participates in the Swindon Youth Literature Festival. For one week each year, authors from around the country come into schools to speak to students about writing, getting their work published and life as an author, before showcasing their work.

The festival also includes trips to the Wyvern Theatre and a secondary school book quiz, where students from each school meet and compete.



Careers opportunities

Careers education, support and guidance plays a significant role for students throughout their time at Kingsdown. All students have careers lessons as part of their Personal Development curriculum and they have access from career pilot from year 7 onwards. As part of this programme students are exposed to talks from a variety of employers as well as post 16 and 18 options including technical education and apprenticeships.

All KS3 students participate in careers fair during careers week:

All year 10 students have opportunities to undertake virtual work experience as well as engage in Aspirations Week. Where appropriate students go out on work experience.

All year 11 students have a 1:1 interview with our careers advisor and support for applications for post 16 providers



Use of career pilot



Aspirations Week

**Workshops and engagement
from a number of employers and
post 18 providers**



Workshops

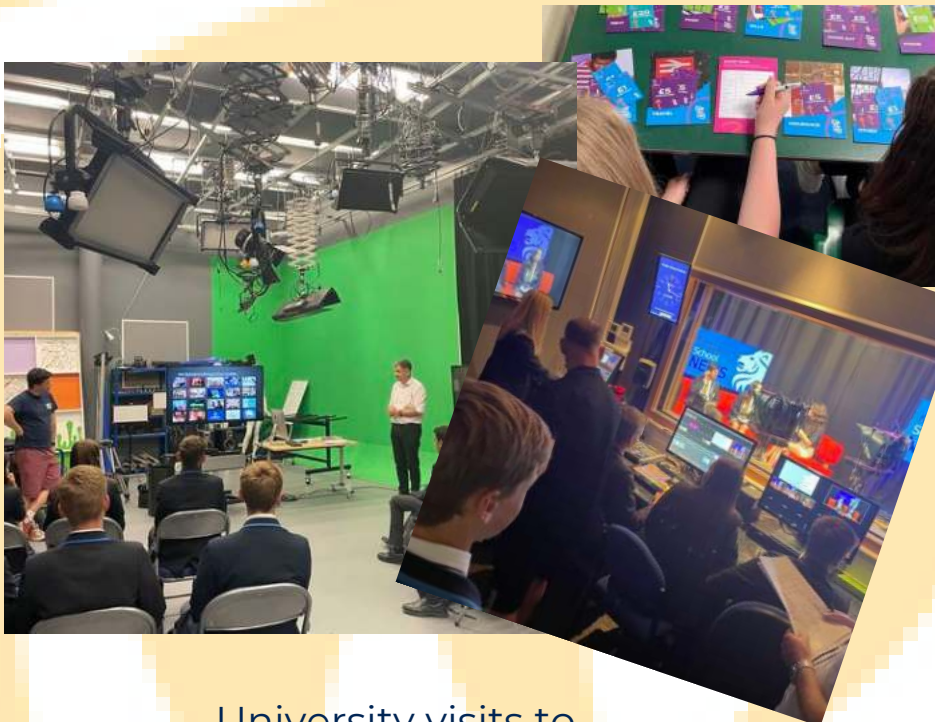
Monday - University
visit / workshops

**Tuesday/
Wednesday** -
workshops

Thursday - college
visit

Friday - mock
interviews

University of Reading
Royal Agricultural University
Bucks New University
University of South Wales
University of Portsmouth
Access Creative college
Nationwide Building Society
Jacobs Engineering
Beard Construction
Coles Scaffolding
Gel Studios
Amazon
Great Western Hospital
Royal Navy
RAF
Army
Kwik Fit
Wiltshire FA
SWIOT
Web design



Mock interviews

University visits to
Oxford Brooks
University of Gloucester
Royal Agricultural University

Recognition

It is really important that students are recognised for their efforts outside of the their lessons as well as what they do in the curriculum.

Every club attended, every book read, every stretch and challenge home learning completed, every attendance at councils and any engagement with student leadership gives students points towards the BEAT certificate.

Every time students engage with opportunities, their rewards contribute to the BEAT award. Every position held is recognised with badges.

Most importantly, students' enrolment in wider school activities leads to more employable students with experiences which support any CV and college application.



Head student whole school assembly and awards

“I have enjoyed being on the school council. It is a good way to stretch yourself and make new friends. It is also a way to boost your confidence and a good way to help the school”

“Aspirations week was great. It gave us an insight to life after school. We were able to learn about different subjects and activities we could do at college and university. The workshops helped us understand what possible careers there were for us”

“Being a transition ambassador was good because I got the chance to show people what Kingsdown School is like. Showing and helping people around the school felt good”

“I only started my student involvement in year 10 because of the encouragement of my champion. I am so happy I did as the community I gained from becoming a tutor representative and then a deputy head student was amazing and made the school feel like a second home.”

“I have loved all of the clubs I have been able to join like Netball and Rounders. It has been amazing to go on Geography trip last year and the reward trips to Thorpe Park. It has helped me feel part of the school”



**KINGSDOWN
SCHOOL**