

7th March 2025

Dear Parents / Carers

Kingsdown is part of the RLT - The River Learning Trust. Each year there is a Stakeholder survey which includes surveys for students, parents, staff and governors. It provides the RLT schools with very useful feedback. These surveys are anonymous and there are short answer questions and one longer question with an option for free text.

The link here is to a short video from Paul James - CEO - [Parents and carers](#)

The link here is for the parent / carer survey for 2025 - [Parents and carers](#)

Thank you for taking the time to complete and adding any comments that you so wish. Your feedback is much appreciated and valued. The deadline for the surveys to be completed is 21st March. If you have more than one child at the school you are very welcome to complete a survey for each.

Surveys provide an opportunity for us to reflect. If you have any concerns that you need and wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me at head@kingsdownschool.co.uk. At Kingsdown we have a 48 hour response rate to acknowledge receipt of an email and we have a 5 day period to investigate and respond.

Paul James and the RLT will share feedback from the surveys with parents / carers later in the year.

Attendance

Attendance year to date = 91.9 % Persistent Absence year to date = 23.5 % [less than 90%] Lates = 3.3%			
Year Group	YTD	PA	Lates
Year 7	93.4%	19.6%	1.6%
Year 8	92.1%	22.8%	2.8%
Year 9	91.7%	25.7%	4.2%
Year 10	91.7%	22.4%	3.7%
Year 11	89.6%	28.9%	5.2%

Parent Portal - Curriculum maps - what they are and where to find them

If you wish to track what your child is learning in a subject at any stage of the academic year, please refer to our subject curriculum maps which are on our Parent Portal. To access any of these, go to the Parent Portal, click on the **curriculum** icon and then click on the icon titled **subject information**. This will bring up a list of all the subjects we offer at Kingsdown, where you will be able to click on a curriculum map of your choice. Each curriculum map will specify what unit is being studied in each term and the sub-topics within this. Please use these to check in with your child about what they are learning.

Year 10 Mocks

Parents and Carers of Year 10 students will receive a separate communication regarding arrangements for the exams and all the information, along with the exam time table, is on the [Year 10 Parent Portal](#).

Year 11 Mocks

Our Year 11 students have been amazing over the last couple of weeks of exams. They have been well supported by Mr Coomber and his team of invigilators and Mrs Crawford with her team of Year 11 tutors. Results will be published on 26th March and some parents will be invited to attend the 'Steps to Success' evening on 27th March.

Breakfast Club

The breakfast club is growing in popularity and students that attend feel well supported and a sense of belonging. We would like to invite more students to attend the breakfast club and benefit from a free breakfast and a warm and welcoming chat to start the day.

When: Monday - Friday (7:45am-8:15am)

Where: The Annexe

Who: Leanne Newman

Year 10 Art - Visiting artist Laurie Plant

Laurie Plant is an artist, painter, and sculptor based in Cirencester who works with clients on commissioned work and educational projects. As part of their preparation for their GCSE portfolio Year 10 students had a wonderful day working in the studios at Kingsdown School with Laurie. Students explored a variety of different drawing materials, working at different scales to look at organic form. This then led them to look at abstraction and how to develop shapes into surface patterns. Working on canvas's students are now moving forward to complete a painting which will become part of a sustained outcome.

Currently Laurie is holding a free exhibition of his work at The Bingham Hall, Cirencester.

A great day was had by all. #Ambition

"I really enjoyed working with Laurie and seeing his passion for art. I surprised myself and enjoyed the drawing and painting, especially on the canvas"

"It was amazing to have a real artist in school"



Champion of Champions #pride #ambition #modeling our Kingsdown BEATs

Each Monday during our staff briefing we have shoutouts for our champion of champions, please see below some of our incredible students who have recently had a shoutout:

Connor - Plays for Swindon Wildcats U14s. He travelled to Oxford to play in a tournament against Slough, Cardiff and Oxford. They won 2 out of 3 games only losing to Cardiff. Connor received the

'Spirit of the Game' puck. This was awarded to the player who never gave up and was respectful to all opponents. A wonderful achievement.

Olivia - Well done on winning Gold in her figure skating competition last weekend. A fantastic achievement.

Bleu - Qualified for Junior Darts Corporation. He is currently training but will be travelling the country competing in nationwide events soon. An incredible achievement.

Liam - Liam has always had a passion for football. He is currently part of the Year 8 football team. He recently played in a league fixture against Swindon Academy. The team lost 4-3 in an extremely close game. Liam displayed fantastic attitude and sportsmanship, whilst also putting in a fantastic performance playing in defence. Most importantly, his attitude was exemplary, and he demonstrated the beats at all times. Our next game is against Dorcan, which he will be starting. Well done Liam.

Paige - This Sunday Paige will be competing with her dogs, Maggie and Simba, at this year's Crufts. They are both Rough Collies and will compete in the best of class. Maggie was 4th last time so here's hoping for 3 better.

We congratulate all these students and we always want to hear from you as parents / carers about the creative and active achievements your children are doing outside of school. Please do share via head@kingsdownschool.co.uk

Future Events

10th March 2025 - Year 9 Careers Fair - students will attend for 30 minutes with their teacher

w/c 10th March 2025 - Annual RLT Stakeholder Survey

18th March 2025 - Recital Evening 6.30pm

19th March - 28th March - Year 10 Mocks

1st April 2025 - ASC Coffee Afternoon

4th April 2025 - Non Uniform Day in aid of Cancer Research

4th April 2025 - End of term - students finish at 12.05pm

22nd April 2025 - Start of term at 8.15am

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

Mrs Leigh-Bennett

Headteacher