

8th March 2024

Dear Parents / Carers

RLT Annual Survey

Kingsdown is part of the River Learning Trust which has been a huge support in our journey over the last 7 years. Here is a video from the CEO, Paul James - [RLT Stakeholder Survey March 2024-2.webm](#). Thank you for taking 2 minutes to watch and then a few minutes to complete this survey which is attached here -

[.https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdGq5hn4pOwtlwVytjG3tVrHkuuT59xMul3-geel6M2MewHGQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdGq5hn4pOwtlwVytjG3tVrHkuuT59xMul3-geel6M2MewHGQ/viewform)

Our students will be completing their survey next week. We are looking forward to reading the results and further developing our plans to improve Kingsdown further.

Year 10 Mocks

Year 10 students will begin their exams on Monday 18th March. They will be receiving information from subject teachers about what to revise and they should remind themselves of their ELEVATE session from January which was all about exam preparation and revision techniques. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to email your child's subject teacher.

Attendance

Currently attendance for the whole school is 91.2% with a persistent absence of 25.1%. If your child's attendance is below 90% you will receive a letter to inform you of this that your child's attendance has been raised as a concern.

Last year our GCSE students who attended for 95% or more went onto achieve one grade higher in their final GCSE examinations. Can we ask you to please keep sending your children into school each and every day - attendance really does matter.

Year Group	Attendance Year to date	Persistent Absence(Below 90%) Year to date
7	92.9 %	19.8 %
8	92.8 %	22.7 %
9	89.5 %	31.9 %
10	90.7 %	25.5 %
11	89.1 %	27.2 %

Events this week

On Monday and Thursday we welcomed over 15 visitors to the school from a variety of colleagues, training providers and apprenticeship programmes. Students in years 9 and 10 had the opportunity to explore the wide range of exciting courses in our town as well as listen to inspirational employability options also available in our town. Do please talk to your children about what they learned and do encourage them to use Careers Pilot - an online careers toolkit to help young people think about potential career aspirations.

Today we welcomed Justin Tomlinson, MP for North Swindon, to Kingsdown. He joins with over 30 girls playing football at lunchtime as we celebrate 'Let Girls Play'. Thank you for continuing to encourage your children to engage in an active and healthy lifestyle.

Last week our potential new Head Students presented their manifestos and pledges to the rest of the school. All 12 candidates spoke with clarity, conviction and passion. Voting has now closed

which involved every student across the school. This week the candidates have been involved in a fish bowl exercise to test their communication and leadership skills. Next week sees the final interviews and then the appointments.

On Tuesday we thoroughly enjoyed our Term 4 Recital Evening. With many thanks to all the students and staff with all the hours and hours of practising that goes on behind the scenes.

On Monday we welcome six reviewers to the school as part of our annual Peer Review. With thanks for ensuring that your child is in full school uniform / full PE uniform, equipped for the day and ready to truly engage with their learning. The focus of our Peer Review is on the Curriculum and how this is being taught in lessons and how it is leading to long term memory and remembering. The reviewers will be visiting lessons, looking at books and google classrooms and talking to many students. I look forward to sharing the key headlines with you before the end of term.

Register for Elevate's Parent Webinar Series

We were pleased to get positive feedback from Parents and Carers of Year 10 & 11 students who have attended the Elevate Parent Webinars. There is one more session next week which we know parents and carers will find useful

Upcoming Webinar:

How You Can Support Your Child During Exams - 19th March 6:00pm

Register for the series by clicking the link below and learn some great practical strategies to help support your child this year. <https://go.elevateeducation.com/ukschoolwebinar>

Events for term 3

Tues 12th March	: Lockdown Drill 2.30pm
Thurs 14th March	: English KS4 Macbeth Trip 5.15pm -11.15pm
w/c 18th March	: Year 10 Mocks for 2 weeks
Weds 20th March	: Pencelli Parents' Evening - 6pm
26th March	: Year 11 Mock Results Assembly
27th March	: Year 11 Parents' and Carers' Steps to Success evening - invitation only
28th March	: End of Term - Students finish at 12.00pm
w/c 15th April	: Reports sent home Year 7 - 11
15th April	: Start of Term - 8.30am on site / all students to go to roll call

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