

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been an absolute pleasure putting together this latest newsletter. This term has been packed with a fantastic variety of extra-curricular opportunities.

Kingsbridge Celebrates Christmas – What a Cracker!

Our festive extravaganza was a roaring success, raising a total of **£6,790** for Friends of KCC! From raffle tickets and non-uniform day to hot chocolate, mulled cider, and student-run stalls, you all helped turn Christmas cheer into funds to benefit students at the college. A huge THANK YOU to Friends of KCC and everyone who made this happen. And for the five tutor groups who each raised over £500. They jingled all the way to the cinema for a well-deserved festive treat on Wednesday of this week.

The **Winter Concert** this week was also a real highlight. Seeing so many students performing was a wonderful reminder of the incredible talent we have here at the college - it truly was a privilege to watch, and I loved seeing so many of you there.

As we approach the end of term, we say goodbye to Mr Puttock (Maths) and Miss Donlin (RE). We thank them for their contributions and wish them every success in the future. Further staff changes include Ms Lee who is our new Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) and Owen Styler who will be taking over as Team Leader for PE for the remainder of the term. We welcome Miss Gardener to the staff team in January as Year 8 Inclusion Lead and Mr Norton to the Teaching Assistant Team. Mrs Thomson, Ms Morrissey and Mr Bark all return to teach Philosophy, RE and Maths.

Preparations for **Challenge Week 2026** are well underway. Residential trip places have been allocated, and deposits have been received from parents. We still have a few spaces available on the Rockley Water Sports trip. If you're interested, you can find full details in the Challenge Week Residential Brochure. [Challenge Week Residential Brochure](#). Previously, we indicated that information about daily trips would be shared sooner. Please note these details will now be published in January.

Finally, thank you for your continued support in helping your children thrive. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a joyful holiday season. We look forward to welcoming students back on **Monday 5 January**.

Kind regards

Tina Graham.

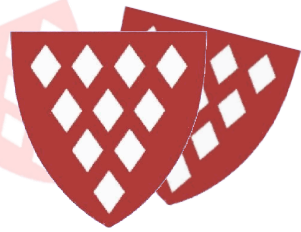
Going for Gold: KCC Students Complete Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Over the summer, students from KCC took part in their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award final expedition in the Peak District. For three students, this expedition marked the completion of their entire Gold Award journey. KCC will soon be celebrating the achievements of Abigail Lethbridge, Islay Box, and Isabel Farley, who will attend official presentations to receive their awards.

This is a remarkable accomplishment, requiring significant dedication and commitment. To achieve the Gold Award, students must complete twelve months of volunteering, twelve months in either a physical or skills activity, and six months in the remaining section. In addition, participants must complete a residential experience: a five-day, four-night placement spent in an unfamiliar environment with new people. During this time, students take part in purposeful, group-based, unpaid activities such as conservation projects, volunteering, or training courses, all designed to build independence and essential life skills.

This outstanding achievement reflects the hard work and perseverance of the students involved, and we look forward to hearing about their experiences at the upcoming presentations. I am so grateful to Mr Powell for making the Gold Award part of our KCC offer to students.

Successful, **C**onsiderate, **H**ard-working, **O**ur best selves, **L**eaders, **A**spirational, **R**esilient



Balkwill Road – unofficial one-way system for parents picking up and dropping off

A reminder for those parents who collect students at the end of the college day please can we request the following in order to ensure the safety of our students:

- Please drive around the site slowly – we have noticed an increase in cars speeding when passing the college.
- Refrain from parking immediately outside of college on any of the double yellow lines.
- If collecting, approach college via Ashleigh Road and turn right up towards the buses to re-join the main road. This will also enable us to maintain a continuous flow of traffic therefore helping our neighbours to have access to their properties at all times.
- Please can I also remind parents once again to be mindful of our neighbours when you are parked waiting for your children around the college site. We value our good relationships with our neighbours and appreciate your support with this. This is especially difficult whilst an increasing number of parents are choosing to collect students rather than use college transport.

The best way that you are able to help is to collect from the Cattle Market car park. Students can exit from the astro gate and this removes the congestion from the main entrance and prevents you getting caught up as the buses leave.

Lost Property

We currently have a rather impressive collection of lost property in the Library including trousers, coats, trainers, blazers, and even the occasional lonely shoe. We have encouraged students to come and reunite these items with their rightful owners, but if parents and carers could give them a gentle nudge to pop by the Library and have a look, we would be very grateful.

Year 10 Geography GCSE Fieldwork in Plymouth

The Year 10 GCSE Geography students embarked on their first fieldwork investigation in Plymouth. They were assessing the need for regeneration in Union Street. They compare past and present photos of Union Street, Millbay and Drake Circus to see how urban change had affected the built environment. They collected data on Environmental Quality, Pedestrian Flows and public opinion through a questionnaire. The students will collate and analyse the results in preparation for Paper 3 next year.

Glitch Gremlins Shine in CyberFirst Girls Competition

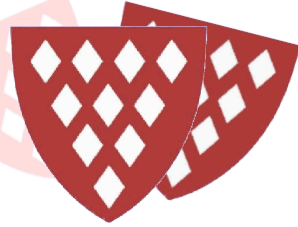
The CyberFirst Girls Competition aims to inspire girls with an interest in technology to consider a future career in cyber security. This national team-based event is open to Year 8 girls.

This year, students Elinor Toorneini, Lily Trought, Hayley-Rose Little and Millie Garton took on the challenge as a team called The Glitch Gremlins.

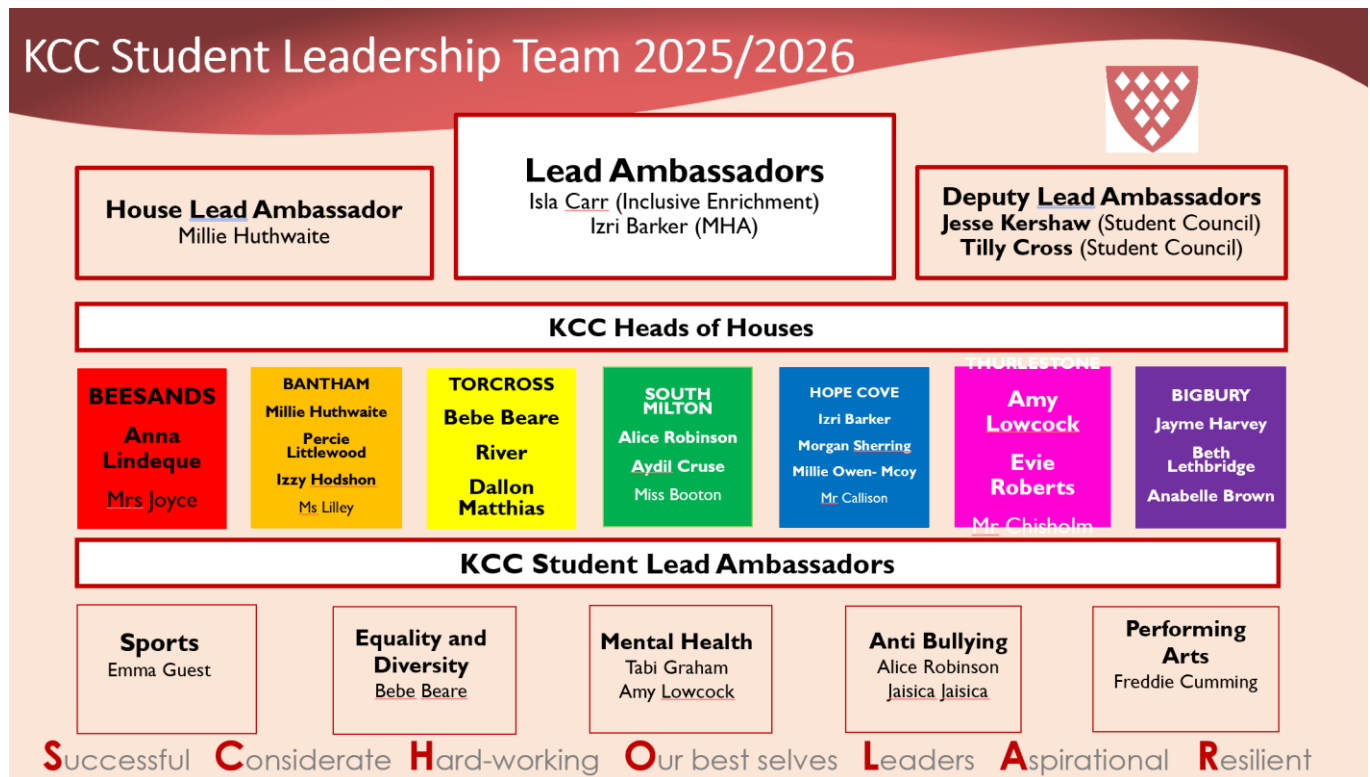
Over a ten-day period, the girls attended IT sessions during both break times to tackle a range of demanding challenges. These included coding, encryption, solving complex puzzles and modifying webpages. Throughout the competition, all team members demonstrated excellent resilience and determination, often continuing the work at home. The team achieved an impressive total of 4,738 points, surpassing the scores of last year's teams. There was also a closely contested race for the highest individual score, with Elinor securing the top position.

Although the team did not progress to the regional finals, they should be extremely proud of their commitment, teamwork and outstanding achievements.





Student leadership at KCC



Our student leadership team have been incredibly busy since their appointment in the summer. They actively contribute to the life of the college, championing equality, creativity, and community engagement, whilst giving them opportunities for their own personal development gaining skills that help to prepare them for future success, both within and beyond education. We are so proud of our team and all they do for our school community

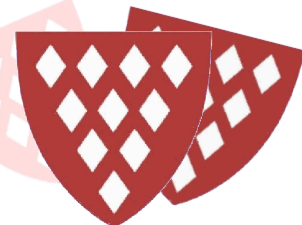
Below is a snapshot of the contributions they have made so far:

- Supporting the Year 6 induction days
- Attending and presenting at the ESW leadership conference
- Running the stalls for the year 7 Freshers Fair
- Tours for open mornings for prospective Year 7 students and parents and carers
- Sixth form open evening speeches and support
- Organising and running Hello Yellow Day
- Providing tours and participating in Q and A open mornings for our Sixth Form open mornings

In addition, the student leaders are involved in daily college life:

School Council: Regular meetings enable students to represent their peers, discuss issues, and influence decisions related to school improvement, environment, and well-being.

Extra-curricular Leadership: Students take active roles in organising clubs, events, and enrichment activities, encouraging wider participation across the college.



Equality and Diversity: Student ambassadors promote inclusivity raising awareness through whole college events, assemblies, and offering support in a weekly lunch club. The aim this year is to seek ways to encourage a culture of upstanders.

Mental Health Ambassadors: NHS MHST trained Sixth Form students support the well-being of lower school students through peer mentoring.

Sports and Performing Arts Leaders: Students support the organisation of sports teams, performances, and events, developing leadership through creativity and teamwork.

Anti-Bullying Leaders: Weekly meetings and peer support activities continue to strengthen the college's commitment to a safe and inclusive environment. Providing a safe space for students to share their concerns.

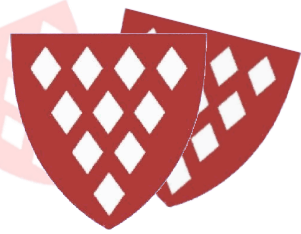
House Leaders: House Leaders promote community spirit through inter-house competitions and charity events. They act as role models for younger students, fostering collaboration and a sense of belonging across year groups.

Bold Voices – Gender Equality Programme: The college is proud to have been awarded a fully funded place on the Bold Voices programme, which empowers students to challenge gender stereotypes and promote equality. Student leaders will deliver workshops and awareness campaigns to their peers. Bold Voices is an award-winning social enterprise that works with schools, colleges (and other education settings) across the UK to **prepare and empower school communities** to recognise and challenge gender inequality and gender-based violence.

We are delighted to announce that we have achieved accreditation as a Young Enterprise Centre of Excellence for Financial Education presented at the Young Enterprise Conference in London on 2nd December.

We have been awarded this for taking part in the fully funded Young Enterprise Programme. The aim was to embed high-quality financial education across the whole college, equip young people with lifelong financial capability, help level the playing field for students from disadvantaged backgrounds, who may have fewer opportunities to learn about money at home and promote social mobility by giving all young people access to essential life skills. This work has been developed across eleven year groups in PSHE, Maths, and during Year 10 Discovery week.

We are looking forward to working with Young Enterprise on another fully funded project to continue to develop financial education at KCC.



Vex Robotics Club Newsletter

As we reach the end of a fantastic first term at Robotics Club, we'd love to share what our students have been up to using VEX Robotics.

This Term's Focus: Build & Race

This term has been all about **hands-on engineering**. Students worked in teams to:

- Learn how different VEX components fit together
- Build stable and competitive robot designs
- Test, modify, and improve their robots
- Take part in **robot races and time challenges**

Highlights from This Term

- Some impressively fast and durable robot builds
- Excellent teamwork and collaboration
- Growing resilience when designs didn't work first time
- Growing confidence with tools and mechanical construction



The Race is on in Robotics!

Congratulations to Team 1 [Josh, Fred, Jim, Dexter, Aiden] who were the standout winners in the races! Team 2 [Dougie, Dan, Joseph, Ed & Ben] I know are already planning their revenge with a more attacking style of robot next term!

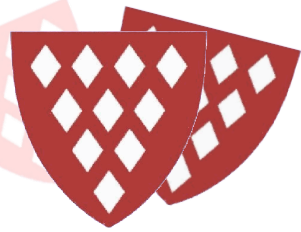
Looking Ahead to Next Term: Programming Begins

Next term, students will take the exciting step into programming their robots. They will:

- Learn how to control movement using code
- Use sensors for smarter decision-making
- Combine mechanical design with software control
- Tackle new automated and competitive challenges

This will build directly on the strong construction skills developed this term.





"Red sky at night, shepherd's delight. Red sky in the morning, shepherd's warning"

As you can see in the photo, we had a fantastic red sunrise over the Science Department at KCC on the Wednesday before Christmas. But how does this happen and why could such beauty first thing in the morning, be a warning of bad weather to come? To understand this, we need to go back to school and have a peek into the KCC year 8 Science lessons on light and year 7 lessons on pressure!

Light travels from the Sun in waves. Light that looks white to us, is actually made up of many different colours of differing wavelengths. Blue has a short wavelength, while red is created by longer wavelengths.

Low atmospheric pressure causes air to converge (to try to "fill" the low), and causes upward motion, which in turn produces clouds and rain. In contrast, air diverges from the centre of a high-pressure area. This causes downward air motion, which stops cloud formation and traps dirty air containing suspensions of soot, dust, and other particles (known as aerosols) near the surface.

Dust or aerosols refract (bent or scatter) the longer red wavelengths of light more than the shorter blue wavelengths. This means that more red light bends down towards our eyes on the Earth's surface, whilst the blue light carries on back out into space. Therefore, sunlight travelling through a long path of high pressure, dirty atmosphere at sunrise or sunset is made up of primarily the reddish wavelengths when it reaches the observer.

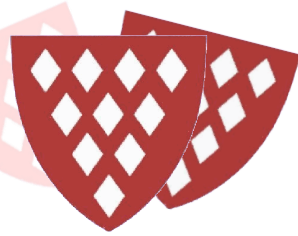
When weather systems predominantly come from the west as they do here in Devon "Red sky at night, shepherds delight" can often be true, since red sky at night means high pressure is moving in from the west, where the sun is setting, so therefore the next day will usually be dry and pleasant. However, "Red sky in the morning, shepherds warning" means a red sky appears in the east, where the sun is rising, due to the high-pressure weather system having already moved east meaning the good weather has passed, most likely making way for a wet and windy low-pressure system to inevitably come next.

It chucked it down for the rest of the day.

Dr Pemberton

(references: <https://weather.metoffice.gov.uk/learn-about/weather/how-weather-works/red-sky-at-night> and <https://gml.noaa.gov/grad/about/redsky/>)





Kingsbridge Music Centre

Kingsbridge Music Centre was established in September to enable young musicians in the Kingsbridge area to learn orchestral instruments in a fun and affordable way. It is currently available to children in years 4-7 and we offer small group violin, viola, flute and clarinet tuition, music theory fun and an opportunity to play as an ensemble. Complete beginners are welcomed and those who already play an instrument up to grade 4 are welcome to join us for the ensemble session. The centre takes place on a Wednesday from 4-6pm in the KCC music department.



The project is part funded by a grant from Devon Music Education Hub / Arts Council England and the two hour session costs £7.00. Our amazing group of 17 members have made huge progress this term and we are very proud of them. The sessions are run by Hayley Lowcock and we are so grateful to her for her dedication and enthusiasm.

In the future we would like to increase our offer to other instruments and year groups and would love to hear if you are interested in a specific instrument or are able to offer support in any other way, eg. we are very keen to locate a brass tutor. If you would like to make contact, please do so via kingsbridgemusiccentre@gmail.com or find us on social media.

Young Dart Voices

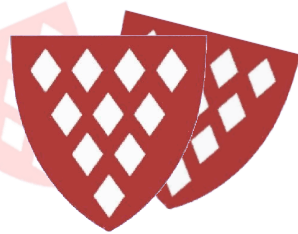
Young Dart Voices, a brand-new youth choir for ages 11-19, will launch in January 2026 at The Flavel Arts Centre in Dartmouth. Led by Jeremy Kenyon, the new Director of Music for the Benefice of Dartmouth and Elle Miles, the choir will offer an uplifting and inclusive space for young people to sing music from a variety of genres, build confidence, and make new friends through music.

🎵 Key details:

1. Free to join – no previous singing experience required
2. Ages: 11–19
3. When: Monday evenings at 17.00 from January 12th, 2026
4. Where: The Flavel Arts Centre, Dartmouth
5. Led by experienced choir director Jeremy Kenyon

The project is part of The Flavel's ongoing commitment to supporting arts and culture in Dartmouth, and we hope *Young Dart Voices* will become a vibrant part of local life.

For more details or to register interest, please contact: info@theflavel.org.uk, jjkenyon77@gmail.com or SarahE@theflavel.org.uk



Admissions Policy for 2027-28: Annual Consultation

Along with all other schools and academies in Devon, we are consulting on an admission policy for 2027-28. The Local Authority is also consulting on its arrangements – the admissions schemes through which you can apply. You are invited to look at the proposal new policies which are based on policies for this year and next year and to have your say on them.

Our proposed policy is on our admission page and you can see all policies at <http://devon.cc/schoolpolicy>
Further information is here: www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements

The consultation runs between 10th November 2025 and 16 January 2026.

Policies will be determined by the end of February and published in the same places by 15 March 2026. You can comment at schoolsadmissionpolicy-mailbox@devon.gov.uk or by emailing the school.
No changes are being proposed.

A public consultation poster for the School Admissions Policy. It features three stylized human figures in blue, each with a speech bubble above them. The text is in red and blue. The poster includes the Devon School Admissions Service logo in the top left corner.

Devon School Admissions Service

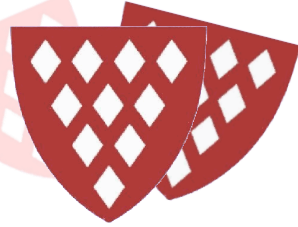
PUBLIC CONSULTATION

School Admissions Policy

10 November 2025 to 16 January 2026*

You are invited to review the proposed 2027-28 admission arrangements for state-funded schools in Devon and those in Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole, Cornwall, Dorset, Plymouth, Somerset and Torbay supported by the Devon School Admissions Service at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements

*Blackdown Education Partnership will consult 25 November to 16 January.



FRIENDS OF KCC

Who we are and how you can get involved

We are a small group of parent and staff volunteers who give their time to create better learning experiences for our children. As well as raising much needed funds that improve our college, the social events we run bring the whole community together, and links with teachers help to give all parents a say in their child's education.

Join our Team:

We welcome new volunteers – if you are willing to help out here are some of the ways you can get involved:

- Helping at the Christmas Fayre
- Helping with College productions
- Fundraising initiatives
- Submitting a grant funding application

If you would like more information, please email: kcc.ptfa@gmail.com or come along to our next meeting in the College Library on **Tuesday 13th January at 6.30.**

Friends of KCC meeting dates for your diary

All meetings are held in the Library at KCC on a Tuesday evening and start at 6.30pm. Please come and join us in supporting the college. Many hands make light work, and we have a lot of fun.

13th January, 17th March, 21st April, 19th May and 9th June.



Friends of KCC is the charity created out of the former PTFA to increase community partnership. We are working towards getting hundreds of businesses connected to the college and our students so everyone can win. We ask for your participation and collaboration.

Can You Get Involved? IT'S AS SIMPLE AS ABC

- A) Register your interest and support at the Friends of KCC website www.fokcc.org or email discovery@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
- B) Sign up to one of our existing programs
 - Careers Fair, Career Panel, Work Experience, Career Story Presentation, Entrepreneurs Training
- c) Post your jobs on our jobs board

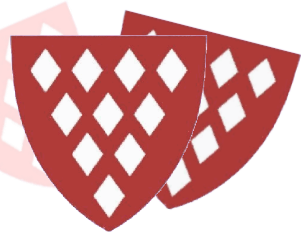


We cannot wait to work more closely with you and make our community an even better place to grow up, work and live.

KINGSBRIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWSLETTER – December 2025

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www.kingsbridgecollege.org.uk



Dates for the term 2025/26:

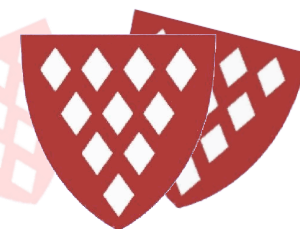
January:	13 th January 22 nd January 20 th January	Friends of KCC (6.30-8.00) Year 9 Options Fair LGB Meeting (5.00-7.00)
February:	12 th February	Year 9 Parents' Evening
March:	13 rd March 17 th March 26 th March 30 th March to 2 nd April	LGB Meeting (5.00-7.00) Friends of KCC (6.30-8.00) Year 8 Parents' Evening Billy Elliot (7.00 start)
April:	21 st April 28 th April	Friends of KCC (6.30-8.00) LGB Meeting (5.00-7.00)
May:	TBC 14 th May 19 th May	Summer Garden Party Year 10 Parents' Evening Friends of KCC (6.30-8.00)
June:	4 th June 11 th June 12 th June 9 th June 16 th June TBC 23 rd June	Year 6 Open Morning Year 7 Parents' Evening Open Morning Friends of KCC (6.30-8.00) LGB Meeting (5.00-7.00) Year 11 Prom (6.00-9.30) Year 13 Prom (Cliff House)
July:	1 st and 2 nd July TBC TBC TBC Monday 13 th - 17 th	Year 6 Induction Summer Soiree Year 7 and 8 Sports Day Year 9 and 10 Sports Day Challenge Week
August	3 rd to 7 th August	The Big Step (transition programme)

Term Dates 2025-2026:

	School holidays
	Bank Holidays
	Non-pupil days - INSET
	Non pupils days from twilighted training
	Non-pupil days - occasional days

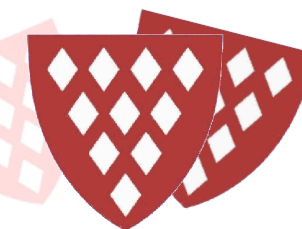
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	Sep-2025						Oct-2025					Nov-2025					
Monday	01	08	15	22	29		06	13	20	27		03	10	17	24		
Tuesday	02	09	16	23	30		07	14	21	28		04	11	18	25		
Wednesday	03	10	17	24			01	08	15	22	29		05	12	19	26	
Thursday	04	11	18	25			02	09	16	23	30		06	13	20	27	
Friday	05	12	19	26			03	10	17	24	31		07	14	21	28	
Saturday	06	13	20	27			04	11	18	25		01	08	15	22	29	
Sunday	07	14	21	28			05	12	19	26		02	09	16	23	30	
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	Dec-2025						Jan-2026					Feb-2026					
Monday	01	08	15	22	29		05	12	19	26		02	09	16	23		
Tuesday	02	09	16	23	30		06	13	20	27		03	10	17	24		
Wednesday	03	10	17	24	31		07	14	21	28		04	11	18	25		
Thursday	04	11	18	25			01	08	15	22	29		05	12	19	26	
Friday	05	12	19	26			02	09	16	23	30		06	13	20	27	
Saturday	06	13	20	27			03	10	17	24	31		07	14	21	28	
Sunday	07	14	21	28			04	11	18	25		01	08	15	22	01	
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	Mar-2026						Apr-2026					May-2026					
Monday	02	09	16	23	30		06	13	20	27		04	11	18	25		
Tuesday	03	10	17	24	31		07	14	21	28		05	12	19	26		
Wednesday	04	11	18	25			01	08	15	22	29		06	13	20	27	
Thursday	05	12	19	26			02	09	16	23	30		07	14	21	28	
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Saturday	07	14	21	28			04	11	18	25		02	09	16	23	30	
Sunday	08	15	22	29			05	12	19	26		03	10	17	24	31	
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	Jun-2026						Jul-2026					Aug-2026					
Monday	01	08	15	22	29		06	13	20	27		03	10	17	24		
Tuesday	02	09	16	23	30		07	14	21	28		04	11	18	25		
Wednesday	03	10	17	24			01	08	15	22	29		05	12	19	26	
Thursday	04	11	18	25			02	09	16	23	30		06	13	20	27	
Friday	05	12	19	26			03	10	17	24	31		07	14	21	28	
Saturday	06	13	20	27			04	11	18	25		01	08	15	22	29	
Sunday	07	14	21	28			05	12	19	26		02	09	16	23	30	

Successful, Considerate, Hard-working, Our best selves, Leaders, Aspirational, Resilient



Subject Team Leaders Contact Details:

Department	Team Leader	Email Address
Art & Photography	Mrs Ryrie	Natalie.Ryrie@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
Design Technology	Mr Taylor	Matt.TAYLOR@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
Drama & Music	Mr Smith	ben.smith@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
English	Mrs Renshaw	liz.renshaw@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
Geography	Mr Fitzpatrick	dylan.fitzpatrick@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
History	Mr Lambshead	sam.lambshead@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
IT	Mr Courtice	rob.courtice@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
Maths	Mrs Ford	alison.ford@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
Media	Mr Kirby	Wat.kirby@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
MFL	Mrs Mayo	dragica.mayo@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
PE	Mrs Meatyard	tom.meatyard@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
PSHE	Mrs Joyce	lorien.joyce@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
RE	Mr Bentham	paul.bentham@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
Psychology	Mrs Edwards	Rachael.EDWARDS@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
Science	Mr Hamilton	Matthew.Hamilton@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
Biology	Miss Walsh	emma.walsh@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
Chemistry	Miss Stephenson	Angela.Stephenson@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
Physics	Mr Barnicott	george.barnicott@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk



Raising Standards and Inclusion Leads

Year Group	RSL and Inclusion Lead	Email Address
Year 7	Mrs Claydon – Raising Standards Lead Miss Richards – Inclusion Lead	Hannah.CLAYDON@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk Kirsty.RICHARDS@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
Year 8	Mrs Lennon – Raising Standards Lead Miss Gardener – Inclusion Lead	Laura.LENNON1@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk Jazmyn.GARDENER@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
Year 9	Mrs Lennon – Raising Standards Lead Miss Hackley – Inclusion Lead	Laura.LENNON1@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk Faith.HACKLEY@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
Year 10	Miss Thomas – Raising Standards Lead Mrs Herselman – Inclusion Lead	Jade.THOMAS@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk Marijke.HERSELMAN@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk
Year 11	Mr Hart – Raising Standards Lead Mr Drew – Inclusion Lead	Alex.HART@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk Chris.DREW@kingsbridgecollege.org.uk