

19 July 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

September 2022 will see a fresh beginning at Kingsmeadow following this 'transition year' where we moved from lockdown mode to semi-normality, with adapted exams consisting of Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGS) making up student outcomes. Our Year 11 and 13 students saw the return of terminal external examinations and will be looking forward to their results in August. It has been a tough year for the whole of the Kingsmeadow Community, staff and students alike, but together we have got there.

I would like to take this opportunity to mention those Year 11 and Year 13 students who are coming to the end of their time at Kingsmeadow. After three years without a Year 11 Prom nor a Year 13 leaving celebration, it was fantastic to be able to see these return and say goodbye to those students moving on to new challenges from next year. The Year 11 enjoyed a wonderful evening at the Kingsmeadow Class of 2022 Prom and the Year 13 went out for dinner and promised not to leave any staff locked away in their Escape Room challenge. A good time was had by all.

For these year groups in particular it has been a difficult period to be going through school. I know how hard both cohorts have worked along with their teachers and tutors to ensure the best possible outcomes in their summer exams. I would like to wish both Year 11 and 13 well on the next stage of their journey. I am looking forward to welcoming those members of our Year 11 who will be returning into our Sixth Form next year. I know that our new students joining us in September 2022 will bring many talents to continue the increased success that the school has enjoyed over the course of the last few years.

Once again we are oversubscribed, with almost 200 students putting Kingsmeadow as their first or second choice school, and over 350 students naming us amongst their top 3 choices. Year 7 in September will be busy as we welcome a year group of 190 students.

I look forward to seeing you all then for a new year at Kingsmeadow Community School.

Last day of Term

The last day of term is Friday 22 July. Term will resume in September 2022, as outlined below.

Summer Results

A Level results will be available on Thursday 18 August. GCSE results will be available from school on Thursday 25 August. Please see the school website for detailed opening times. I look forward to celebrating the success of our students.

National Tutoring Programme

As part of the Education Recovery programme, the government has invested £1bn nationwide to support up to six million, 15-hour tutoring packages for students who need support in their learning, due to the impact of lockdown. This summer, Kingsmeadow has been able to secure funding as part of The National Tutoring Programme to offer identified students, following Key Assessment 3, individual support through an external registered National Tutoring Programme provider, Purple Ruler. Over 300 students have been identified and have been invited to take part in the sessions over the summer break. If your child has been invited you will have received information explaining how this will be co-ordinated and delivered by Purple Ruler. It is a great opportunity to support your child in trying to make up some of the gaps identified in Key Assessment 3 in Maths, English and the Sciences.

For September 2022:

Uniform and Sixth Form Dress Code

The uniform will be unchanged in September. All students in Years 7 - 11 must follow this. Details are available on the school [website](#). I ask for your continued support in ensuring that your child comes to school in the correct uniform. All students should be wearing a Kingsmeadow tank top and blazer and only plain black, polishable shoes are permitted.

We have a Sixth Form dress code in place as outlined to all post-16 students. Please support the school in this by ensuring that your child is appropriately dressed for a working environment.

Attendance

At Kingsmeadow School we give high priority to improving school attendance and punctuality. Our aim is to raise student and parent/carer awareness of this issue and the benefits of good attendance for the school and wider community.

As I am sure you are aware, it is important that students maintain regular school attendance, as any absence may interrupt academic progress and may have an effect on maintaining friendships. You should also be aware that regular attendance is a legal requirement. Under the Education Act 1996, parents and carers have a duty to make sure their children regularly attend school. If parents or carers fail to do this, they can be prosecuted.

Recent exceptions due to Covid have made it difficult for families to comply with this, which the Department for Education has acknowledged, though the requirement for full attendance has not changed, other than during lockdown.

From September 2022 we will expect the full attendance of all students unless there is a medical reason.

Please take note of the term dates for the coming year when booking holidays. We are unable to sanction any holidays taken during term time, but more specifically, Year 11 and 13 students will potentially be involved in terminal examinations from Monday 25 April until Friday 30 June 2023. Actual dates will be available when released by the Exam Boards in the Autumn term.

New Staff

We will be saying goodbye to a small number of staff and welcoming new members of staff to Kingsmeadow School in the new academic year. While it is always difficult to see members of our community move on, we wish them all well in the future. I know that our new members of staff are both positive and productive additions to our school community. Information about staff will be available on the school website.

Reminder of change to Tuesday finish from September 2022.

As I wrote in the Hedateacher's Update, 24 May 2022, due to the changes dictated by the newly published education white paper – *Opportunity for all: strong schools with great teachers for your child*, 28 March 2022, Tuesdays will now have to fall in line with the rest of the school week, finishing at 3:15pm, as all schools must ensure that the students have a school week of 32.5



hours. After school Pd6 support and study sessions will continue to take place, now running from 3:15 to 4:15 on a selection of days as agreed through departments.

Arrangements for the start of term

Monday 5 September	Staff training day - school closed to students.
Tuesday 6 September	Year 7 only. Yr 12 enrollment
Wednesday 7 September	All students, Years 7-13, in school.

Year 12 enrolment will take place on Tuesday 6 September with Yr 12 and Year 13 starting normal lessons along with all year groups on Wednesday 7 September. Further details will be issued by Mrs Rafferty, Head of Post 16 on the school website.

Please keep a close eye on the school website which will have all updates and guidance.

I would like to wish you all a safe and restful summer and look forward to seeing you and your families in the new term.

Yours faithfully

Mr Volpe
Headteacher