



Kingsmeadow news

Year 11 - Easter 2026

As the year has brightened into spring, the students of Kingsmeadow Community School have continued to impress me with their dedication, resilience and efforts. This half term has seen:

- Excellent results from year 9 and year 7 key assessments
- Teachers predicting very positive academic results from our year 10 students
- Visits from schools, improvement partners and the local authority praising students' learning behaviours and academic efforts in the classroom
- Students giving themselves the best chances of success with some record weeks of attendance



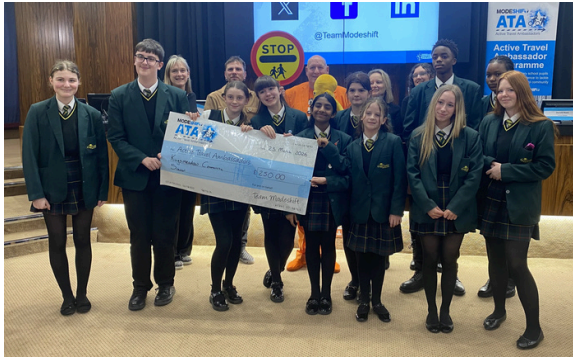
Mr Barrett
Headteacher

All across the school, students and staff are working together to ensure that every student gets the best possible results in order to create future opportunities. This could not be done without the support of parents, carers and the community. We have seen record attendance at our morning coffee forums, where parents and carers give us direct feedback and ideas about school improvements. Despite a cold and damp evening, we had excellent attendance at the year 11 and year 13 parents' and carers' evening. We have also seen increased community involvement with some of the community organisations which use our facilities - such as Burnopfield Cricket Club and Dunston Juniors FC.

The year 9 options evening was particularly impressive. There was a real buzz around the place as students, parents and carers learned about the wide range of options subjects available here at Kingsmeadow. With support and guidance, I am sure students will make the right choices that will help them to go on and continue to be successful here at Kingsmeadow.

Of course, academic excellence is only part of the story. At Kingsmeadow Community School we firmly believe in the social and character development of our students. Our extra curricular offer is impressive and broadening. Our myriad of sports clubs have been joined by a darts club, and our girls' rugby club played in their first competitive game. Our Duke of Edinburgh students completed their practice walk and as I write this, our music and drama club are rehearsing for High School Musical - our school's first full scale musical production in over 8 years - which is being performed to a sell out crowd at the end of the half term. On top of that we have seen rewards events take sixth form students to an Escape Room and year 7 and 10 students bowling. Year 9 students have taken part in a Humanutopia wellbeing day, we have had a year 8 Girl Tech day, an indoor rowing competition and more.

Whether your Easter is bringing you exciting breaks, relaxation or just too much chocolate - I hope it goes well. I look forward to welcoming all students back in two weeks, safe and rested, ready for the vital third and final term of the year.



Student ambassadors celebrate active travel funding success

Congratulations to our Student Ambassadors who were awarded £250 to deliver the school's Active Travel Project, funded by Gateshead Council and Modeshift.

Our ambassadors delivered an excellent presentation to the judging panel in the Council Chamber at Gateshead Civic Centre on Tuesday 24 March. They spoke confidently about their ideas and plans to encourage more active and sustainable travel within our school community.

Modeshift supports projects that promote safer, healthier, and more sustainable journeys. Their work helps schools develop initiatives that encourage people to walk, wheel, ride, or use public transport for everyday journeys.

We are incredibly proud of our ambassadors for representing the school so well and for showing fantastic teamwork, confidence, and presentation skills. Well done to everyone involved!



Our latest Ofsted rating and report

We are pleased and proud to be sharing Kingsmeadow Community School's latest Ofsted Inspection Report with you. After just over a year of improving standards and outcomes, it was great to be able to share our successes with the Ofsted inspection team.

Having six green standards, representing all of the core areas of the school, is an excellent achievement in such a short space of time. Our improvement work on the sixth form is ongoing and we are confident that this area will also turn green when Ofsted next visit in around 12-18 months time. This is representative not only of the hard work of staff, but also of the efforts of students, parents, carers and the community in embracing our changes and putting in great effort to ensure that every child gets the best possible educational experience at Kingsmeadow Community School.

More information, and a short video that further explains the grades, the school's current position, and the new Ofsted framework is available on our website. [Click here to read more.](#)



NEW! **Our teachers' blog spot**

Education is more than lessons, textbooks, and exams, it's about connection, curiosity, and continuous growth.

Our blog spot is a new space where our teachers share, explore, and reflect upon the meaningful moments and insights, both inside and outside the classroom.

The first blog piece is from Mrs McGarry, our Head of English. You can read her blog at <https://www.kingsmeadow.org.uk/our-school/our-teachers-blog-spot/>



Hello from Miss Hornsby, Head of Year 11

As we approach the summer examination period, I would like to remind students and families that exams begin on 5 May, with the first full cohort examination taking place on 11 May. This is a crucial time in the academic year, and we encourage all students to make the most of the support available to them.

Over the Easter break, we are hosting a range of revision sessions, and attendance is strongly encouraged. These sessions are designed to reinforce key knowledge, build confidence, and provide valuable guidance from subject specialists. In addition, students should take full advantage of our Period 6 revision programme, which continues to offer structured support across a variety of subjects.

To further support independent study, students are reminded to engage with the 'Beat the Forgetting Curve' resources that are available on our website. These materials are specifically designed to help with long-term retention and effective revision strategies.

Finally, for those students who have not yet finalised their Post-16 pathway, we strongly recommend booking an appointment with either myself, or our Careers and Post-16 Advisor, Mrs Bell. We are both available to provide guidance and support to help students make informed decisions about their next steps.

With consistent effort, effective use of available resources, and a positive mindset, we are confident that all students can approach the exam season with confidence and success, and then relax and look forward to the upcoming Prom on Friday 3 July 2026.

The hottest ticket in town!



Meet our Student Leaders



We are proud to introduce our student leaders who are stepping up, taking the initiative, and inspiring others at Kingmeadow.

Our student leaders are role models in and out of the classroom and they demonstrate this through their commitment to their studies while actively contributing to school life.

A key part of student leadership is ensuring that every student feels heard, and through our Student Voice programme, our student leaders are working closely with staff to share ideas, and help to shape decisions.

Being a student leader is not just about helping others, it's also a journey of personal growth. Through their roles, our student leaders are developing their confidence, resilience, and valuable life skills.

As they continue to inspire those around them, our student leaders are bringing fresh ideas, energy, and perspective – proving that age is no barrier to making an impact. We thank them for the energy, dedication, and positivity that they bring every day!

Pictured left to right, our student leaders are: Front row – Mark W (Year 12), Lewis M (Year 13), Jayden C (Year 13), Ryan L (Year 13), Fearne S (Year 12). Back row – Ewan F (Year 12), Udita V (Year 13), Teri B (Year 12)



**Record demand
for our Sixth Form**

We are delighted to share the exciting news that this year we have received a record number of applications for entry into our Sixth Form.

The unprecedented level of interest reflects the continued strength of our academic results, the breadth of our A Level and Level 3 course offerings, and the supportive environment we provide for students preparing for university, apprenticeships, and future careers. It is incredibly encouraging to see so many students choosing to continue their post-16 education with us.

Mr Barrett, Headteacher said: “We are incredibly proud of the growing demand for our Sixth Form and excited about what the future holds. This surge in applications highlights our strong academic reputation and excellent examination outcomes, alongside the wide range of A Level and vocational pathways, exceptional enrichment opportunities, leadership roles, and our dedicated pastoral support.”

The admissions process remains focused on ensuring that every student offered a place is well-suited to their chosen courses and able to thrive within our Sixth Form community. We would like to thank all applicants for the time and care taken in submitting their applications. We are currently reviewing submissions and look forward to welcoming the next cohort of ambitious, motivated students in September.

Making the most of the Easter break

Many students look forward to a well-earned break at Easter, however, this period offers a valuable opportunity to prepare for upcoming exams. Our Easter revision sessions play a key role in boosting confidence, improving understanding, and helping students achieve their academic goals. Our revision timetable is below.

Morning sessions - 10am to 12 noon

Date	Subject	Year group	Location
Tuesday 7 April	Psychology Geography Independent study	13 11 All	S01 S02 Sixth Form study room
Wednesday 8 April	Sociology Chemistry / Physics Independent study	11 13 All	Learning Zone S02 Sixth Form study room
Thursday 9 April	iMedia Independent study	11 All	E02 Sixth Form study room
Friday 10 April	Music Independent study	11 All	E02 Sixth Form study room

Afternoon sessions - 12.30 to 2.30pm

Date	Subject	Year group	Location
Tuesday 7 April	Psychology Sport Independent study	13 11 All	S01 S02 Sixth Form study room
Wednesday 8 April	Criminology Science (higher) Science (foundation) Independent study	12 11 11 All	S01 S02 Learning Zone Sixth Form study room
Thursday 9 April	Computer Science English NEA Independent study	11 13 All	E02 Learning Zone Sixth Form study room
Friday 10 April	Music Independent study	11 All	E02 Sixth Form study room

Morning sessions - 10am to 12 noon

Date	Subject	Year group	Location
Monday 13 April	History - Paper 1 Medicine Independent study	11 All	S01 Sixth Form study room
Tuesday 14 April	Engineering Child Development / DT Independent study	11 11 and 10 All	E02 Learning Zone Sixth Form study room
Wednesday 15 April	English Independent study	11 All	Learning Zone Sixth Form study room
Thursday 16 April	Art Photography Biology Independent study	11 11 13 All	Learning Zone Learning Zone S01 Sixth Form study room

Afternoon sessions - 12.30 to 2.30pm

Date	Subject	Year group	Location
Tuesday 14 April	Engineering Child Development / DT Independent study	11 11 and 10 All	E02 E02 Sixth Form study room
Thursday 16 April	Art Photography Independent study	11 11 All	Learning Zone Learning Zone Sixth Form study room

Thank you Team Kingsmeadow!



Well done to our boys Year 11 football team who this half term played their last match for Kingsmeadow.

Quite rightly, their energy and focus is now fully on the upcoming exam season.

We wish them all well and thank them for their skills and football talent over the last five years. Thank you team!



HAF Plus is back for Easter 2026

HAF Plus is Gateshead Council's free holiday activities and food programme for children in years 9, 10 and 11 who are in receipt of benefits related free school meals.


What's on offer?

Five days of free bus travel in the holidays

Bookable activities - Escape Rooms, Darts, Drumming, Photography/influencer workshop, Italian cooking experience, Barista experience, Board game hangout, Crochet hangout

Perks - including cinema tickets, bowling vouchers and much more.

Don't miss out. Download the HAF Plus app at www.gateshead.gov.uk/HAFplus and register using the e-voucher codes emailed to parents and carers from Holiday Activities.



**Wishing you a
very happy and
peaceful Easter,
from all of the
staff at
Kingsmeadow
Community
School**