



Kingsmeadow news

Year 8 - 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



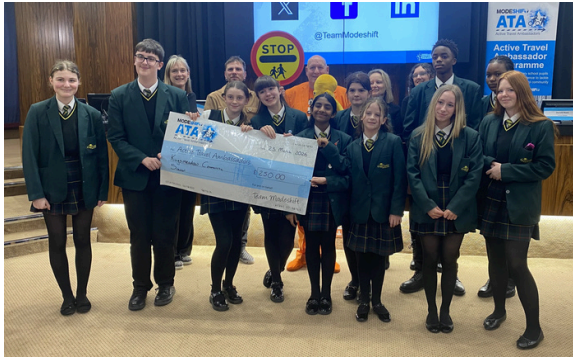
Mr Barrett
Headteacher

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 Mrs Taylor, Head of Year 8

As we approach the final weeks of this term, I would like to take a moment to highlight the importance of strong attendance in school, particularly with the upcoming Year 8 Key Assessments in April. Being present in lessons every day gives students the best opportunity to learn, practise key skills, and feel confident when assessments arrive. Even missing a small amount of school can mean missing important explanations, feedback, or preparation that supports success.

Regular attendance also helps students develop positive habits that will benefit them throughout their education. Arriving on time, being ready to learn, and participating fully in lessons all contribute to building resilience, confidence, and strong academic progress.

I would also like to recognise how proud we are of our students. Over the past weeks, they have demonstrated excellent behaviour, maturity, and commitment to their learning across the school. Their positive attitude towards lessons and the wider school community has not gone unnoticed, and they should feel proud of the standards they are setting.

With the Easter holiday break approaching, students have certainly earned a well-deserved rest. This will be a great opportunity for everyone to relax, recharge, and return refreshed for the busy assessment period ahead.

Thank you to all families for continuing to support good attendance and the high expectations we have for our students. Working together ensures that every student has the best possible chance to succeed.



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



Poppy shines in first elite cheerleading season

Our Year 7 student, and elite level cheerleader Poppy is celebrating an incredible milestone after helping her team claim a major competition title.

Poppy, who joined Kingsmeadow in September 2025, and trains with North East Cheer, recently took to the floor at the Winter Gardens Blackpool for Jamfest Northern, one of the UK's most exciting cheerleading competitions. Performing with her Level 2 Under-14 team Glamour, Poppy and her teammates delivered an outstanding routine that impressed the judges and secured them 1st place in their division.

The win marks a special moment for Poppy, as this is her first year competing as an elite athlete. For the previous two seasons she competed in the Prep division, where athletes develop the foundations of cheerleading such as stunts, tumbling and performance skills. Moving into the elite division is a big step up, and competing on the famous Empress Ballroom floor at the Winter Gardens with faster routines, more complex stunts and tougher competition, makes Glamour's victory even more impressive.

Mr Barrett, Headteacher said: "I am very proud of Poppy's achievement. Competing internationally is a huge achievement for any young person and will give Poppy the chance to perform against teams from across Europe on one of cheerleading's biggest stages.

"With a title already under her belt and international competition on the horizon, Poppy's first elite season is shaping up to be an unforgettable one. As she continues to work hard at school, and train with her teammates, there is no doubt she will be one to watch."

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)