Kingsmeadow

Integrity, Resilience, Respect

Our school prospectus

“Positive relationships, built on respect and integrity, characterise the culture around school.”

Ofsted 2026

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Welcome to our school

Mr Barrett
Headteacher

I hope you enjoy reading all about our school community, and the endless opportunities available to your child at Kingsmeadow.

We promote our core values of respect, integrity, and resilience in all aspects of school life. These values underpin our commitment to develop the whole student, so that we can nurture character and personal development alongside their academic success. Students experience this in action on a daily basis through our active character curriculum, and through the wide range of the extra-curricular activities we offer.

Our students thrive on the high aspirations set for them by a team of committed and dedicated staff who are driven by an unwavering belief in the potential of our students, fostering a culture where all grow to become members of the community in the fullest sense.

There is a proud sense of community in Dunston and the surrounding areas. As our community grows, thanks to the development of new housing and industry in Gateshead, we are equally proud to welcome new and existing families to our Community School.

I'd like to thank you in advance for considering Kingsmeadow Community School, and I hope that we can work together to secure the best possible outcomes for your child during their time in our care.

About our school

Kingsmeadow Community School is a smaller than average, co-educational 11 – 18 secondary school. We build positive relationships and offer a personal approach to each of our students and families. Our status as the last maintained secondary school in Gateshead means that we are not bound by the rules of a larger trust or academy chain. Every decision we make is closely tailored to the needs of our students, their families, and the local community.

We take pride in offering a highly ambitious academic curriculum. This is centred on what the government describes as 'the strong academic core for all that supports life chances'. This strong academic core ensures that more young people secure the expected standards in Maths and English, whilst also giving them the opportunity to study subjects that interest and inspire them. Across all key stages we deliver a rich variety of learning opportunities in arts, science, technology, humanities, sport and performing arts

This high level of expectation continues into our sixth form, where we offer a wide range of level 3 qualifications for further study. We are delighted that the increasing numbers of pupils who choose Kingsmeadow Community School as their provider for key stage five education are enjoying learning in a new sixth form centre that opened in 2025. All our sixth form students move on to the university course or career of their choice when they leave us.

Set in a professional and well-maintained environment, our school provides a collegiate and supportive atmosphere where the highest standards are set. Our staff are driven by an unwavering belief in the potential of our students, fostering a culture where all grow to become members of the community in the fullest sense.

Moving from primary to secondary school

We are delighted that you are considering Kingsmeadow Community School for your child where we work hard to develop a positive and supportive relationship with you to ensure your child is happy and successful in our school.

A smooth transition between schools is important in preparing students for their learning. While moving to secondary school is exciting, it is also a change, and it is natural that students and parents and carers can feel anxious about the process.

Addressing anxiety

We appreciate that students, and their parents and carers may feel anxious about the move to another school. We are always here to help.

A supportive process

Our aim is to make the transition as easy and informative as possible.

Contact information

It is important for parents and carers to provide the school with accurate contact details so we can reach out promptly with any queries.

'Pupils enjoy their learning.'

Ofsted 2026

'Pupil and staff have a shared understanding of the school's values'.

Ofsted 2026

Our vision

We at Kingsmeadow Community School work closely with students, parents, carers and the community to open future doors of opportunity for all of our young people. Working together, we develop their character and skills whilst striving for academic excellence at the height of their ability, so that they can enjoy success and positively contribute to the community and wider society.

Our core values

Integrity

Being honest with yourself. Accepting your own criticism. Doing what is right because it is right, e.g. trying your hardest.

Resilience

Helping you to achieve small successes. Value effort over achievement and accept failure as a necessary part of learning. See asking for help as a strength. Develop your literacy skills to improve in every area.

Respect

Learn to respect yourselves. Keep an open and inviting mind to other ideas and ways of doing. Understand that education is a shared responsibility between school, students and home.

Safeguarding at Kingsmeadow

The safety, health and wellbeing of our students is always our primary concern. We work in partnership with parents and carers to ensure that our everyday practices keep students safe and well.

Our staff receive regular safeguarding training. They have the skills and knowledge to spot concerns and know how to report these when appropriate. We do not promise confidentiality to any young person and, where possible, always share concerns with parents or carers so we can work closely to address the problem or issue.

Our students' safety is our number one priority, from security of the site to the welfare of each individual. We ensure that all staff, volunteers and visitors have current DBS checks before working with our students.

The school's Designated Safeguarding Lead is supported by four Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads who are responsible for Key Stage 3, 4, and 5 students, alongside a nominated Governor for Safeguarding, a health and safety coordinator and online safety coordinator.

'Staff are always on hand to help when pupils need it.'
Ofsted 2026

Our staff are fully trained in recognising and reporting safeguarding issues

All staff are aware of their statutory responsibilities with respect to safeguarding

Appropriate action is taken in a timely manner to safeguard and promote the welfare of our students

Our school day

Our school day begins with registration at 8.45am and finishes at 3.15pm.
Students are expected to be onsite by 8.40am so they are on time for morning registration.

Time	Years 8, 9 and 11	Time	Years 7 and 10
8.45 – 9am	Registration	8.45 – 9am	Registration
9 – 10am	Period 1	9 – 10am	Period 1
10 – 10.15am	Break	10 – 11am	Period 2
10.15 – 11.15am	Period 2	11 – 11.15am	Break
11.15am – 12.15pm	Period 3	11.15am – 12.15pm	Period 3
12.15 – 12.45pm	Lunch	12.15 – 12.45pm	Thrive session
12.45 – 1.15pm	Thrive session	12.45 – 1.15pm	Lunch
1.15 – 2.15pm	Period 4	1.15 – 2.15pm	Period 4
2.15 – 3.15pm	Period 5	2.15 – 3.15pm	Period 5

Celebrating our students

Celebrating achievement

From fantastic key assessment results, to dazzling performances in art, music, and more, our young achievers regularly receive recognition through the school's Culture of Praise.

Our students inspire us every day with their dedication and creativity, and it's not just their successes in academic excellence, but in leadership, effort, and community spirit too. With the school's continued support and encouragement, we are proud to celebrate each and every one of our students, whether their achievement is big or small.

Recognising good attendance

Statistically, students who attend school regularly achieve much more highly at the end of their time in school. At Kingsmeadow Community School, students who attend more than 95% of the time achieve results above the national average and, therefore, better than they would in many other schools.

We recognise that illness and accidents can happen and that, for some students, the effort they put into getting into school each day is huge. For this reason, we run weekly attendance rewards. Every time a student has 100% attendance across a week they receive a ticket into the 'In It to Win It' prize draw - which has included prizes such as a St James' Park Stadium tour, Amazon gift cards, a Smart watch and a family Escape Room visit.

Our students are inspired by a range of recognition and praise. These include everything from receiving a Praise Postcard for excellent effort in the classroom, a free exciting year group activity for great attitude towards key assessments, right through to a nomination at our annual prestigious Kingsmeadow Awards evening. At Kingsmeadow Community School we understand and utilise the power of reinforcement and positive praise.

Enrichment and extracurricular opportunities

Enrichment and extracurricular activities offer numerous benefits, including improved academic performance, enhanced social skills like teamwork and communication, and boosted confidence and self-esteem. They foster creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving, while supporting physical health and overall well-being.

Our enrichment opportunities

Our enrichment programme develops our students' skills and qualities and enhances their application to universities. The programme provides opportunities to extend our students' academic development and help them prepare for their next steps in their educational journey. Educational trips to Barcelona, Poland, Croatia, and Disneyland Paris are some of the recent opportunities we have offered to students.

Our extracurricular activities

Taking part in extracurricular activities allows for a short break from studies and the opportunity to return to learning refreshed. They are also a great way to demonstrate transferable skills such as communication, teamwork, leadership and problem-solving to future employers and further education providers. Activities on our timetable include rugby, football, trampolining, dodgeball, Kingsmeadow band and choir, games club, VEX robotics, and many more.

Our school uniform

We set high standards for our school uniform. It identifies Kingsmeadow Community School students as proud members of the school and community. At all times students are to wear their uniform with pride, and respect everything it represents.

Our school's uniform is compulsory for all Year 7 to 11 students

- Kingsmeadow green blazer
- White shirt which fastens at the neck and is tucked in (no polo type shirts)
- Kingsmeadow tie clipped on correctly
- Formal black school trousers, formal black school shorts or Kingsmeadow skirt (no "skinny" fit trousers, flairs, sports shorts or leggings)
- Kingsmeadow tank top (the Headteacher will inform students if they can be removed due to temperature)
- Plain black formal shoes (no trainers, plimsolls, heels)

Our PE uniform

- Kingsmeadow PE t-shirt (quarter zip is an appropriate alternative)
- Black bottoms suitable for PE and sport (shorts, tracksuit bottoms, sport leggings)
- Trainers suitable for PE and sport (any colour is allowed)
- Additional optional items such as football boots, shin pads, gum shield etc., are sport specific.

If a student is missing an item of uniform the school will endeavour to loan an item for that day. Refusal to correct uniform will result in a Level 4 sanction.

Our school uniform is supplied by Michael Sehgal and Sons Ltd. Many parents and carers prefer to choose a preloved school uniform for their child. The Gateshead West Uniform Scheme offers Kingsmeadow uniform items.

Our school catering

Our dining hall provides a modern catering concept designed by students to recreate the look and feel of a top food court. Key Stage 4 students also have access to lunch time snacks and street food from the Grab-and-Go catering pod situated in their yard. Key Stage 5 students have their own dining area situated in the sixth form block.

Students can choose from a daily two-course special which is freshly cooked on site every day; Pasta King and Curry Pot meals, fresh pizza, Grab and Go sandwiches and wraps, filled jacket potatoes and salads - all at affordable prices served in a relaxed, and informal setting. Students are equally welcome to bring a packed lunch from home and eat it in our dining hall.

Medical and alternative dietary requirements

The catering team is passionate about ensuring every pupil has the same opportunity to eat school food regardless of their religious and dietary views. If your child has a special dietary requirement - such as diabetic, coeliac, low fat and dairy intolerances or a food allergy the catering team will be happy to plan and provide a school meal that meets your child's needs. The team can also adapt menus to meet religious needs.

Our exam performance

It is always a pleasure to welcome back our Year 11 and Year 13 students as they return to school in the summer to collect their exam results. We share in their joy at their success and provide them with advice, support and contact information to help them on their next steps. We are so proud of everything that they achieve during their time with us at Kingsmeadow.

Record results for Year 11

Recent results at Key Stage 4 demonstrated an excellent performance across the whole year group. We are so pleased to see our year 11 students achieving what they need to move on to their chosen next steps in education or employment. We are also delighted that 58 students chose to come back to join our Sixth Form and be part of the school's largest ever Year 12 cohort.

At Key Stage 5 we were also very proud that every student achieved enough to move on to their next step in life - be that university, high-level apprenticeships or employment. The year group achievement meant that university was an option for every year 13 student, with 88% of them getting into their first choice.

'Across the school, pupils including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, build their knowledge from firm foundations to enable them to access the ambitious curriculum.' Ofsted 2026

Our Sixth Form

‘Students attend well and enjoy life in the sixth form.’

Ofsted 2026

‘The post-16 study programme positively promotes students' personal development.’

Ofsted 2026

All of our year 13 students achieved what they needed to attend their chosen universities.

There are significant improvements in the achievement of students in the sixth form

Our Sixth Form offers a range of academic A-Levels and vocational subjects, and we keep class sizes small to ensure that every student has the dedicated time and focus they need.

Students tell us that they enjoy their time with us and their experiences, including comprehensive enrichment and careers guidance packages, making them attractive candidates for employers and universities.

High expectations are placed upon our students, in both work and behaviour. We trust them to respect the increased freedom they will experience throughout their A-level studies and expect the demonstration of high levels of self-reliance and maturity.

We are proud of our new Sixth Form and classroom block. This facility is providing students with modern facilities to flourish in their learning and grow in their character.

Our character curriculum

We empower our students with the understanding that their character is equally as important to their future happiness and success in life as academic learning and qualifications

Every interaction is an opportunity to develop the good character of our students, and the promotion of positive attitudes, skills and behaviours such as self-control, confidence, motivation and resilience feature heavily in our curriculum. These essential life skills give our students the ability to work well with others, build relationships, manage emotions, and cope with difficult situations, or respond to setbacks when they occur.

Our character curriculum is taught through assemblies, 30 minutes of daily Thrive time, our subjects and living and learning the school's values.

Careers advice and guidance at Kingsmeadow

Our Careers, Education, Information, Advice and Guidance programme supports our students to identify their future aspirations by exploring potential progression routes and help them to make informed decisions that affect their future education, training, and employment opportunities.

High quality careers education helps our students raise their aspirations, confidence, skills, and knowledge. It increases the students' motivation by linking activities in school with preparation for life post-16 and post-18.

Our comprehensive careers programme is delivered to students in every year group. It is integral to the curriculum and includes aspects of work-related learning, enterprise education and option choices. Students in our Sixth Form are expertly guided in making applications to university, applying for Higher Level Apprenticeships and other non-University post-18 pathways.

What our parents, carers and students say

"I think the teachers make the difference. I can't praise them enough for all of their help this year." Parent

"Thank you for helping my child to transition and settle in to Kingsmeadow. I couldn't have picked a better school for my child." Parent

"Kingsmeadow school may be small but has a powerful influence which drives students to become the best they can be." Riley B - Year 8

"I can't thank the school enough for their continued support with my child's disability and wellbeing. It is helpful and the staff are always willing to support." Parent

"Kingsmeadow is an ethical school where appropriate manners are gained by the students." Parent

"I really enjoy coming to school and receiving praise, and recognition of my efforts." Callum C - Year 7

"Kingsmeadow is a great place for us to thrive and grow as a community." Emily H - Year 7

"I can't fault any of the staff they have all been amazing with my two boys who were very nervous and shy at starting Kingsmeadow. They have collectively looked out for my boys, which I will be eternally grateful for." Parent

"Kingsmeadow is amazing! I am grateful to have such a wonderful school and I know that new pupils will enjoy it too." Jewana H - Year 8

"We've always been very happy with the school and our kids are doing well." Parent

"My experience at Kingsmeadow has been a fun journey with all of my friends and teachers. They help you through your work and achieve your goals." Lucy O'S - Year 8

"My child is happy and eager to go to school." Parent

Useful links

Get Information about Schools - UK Government information

https://get-information-schools.service.gov.uk/Establishments/Establishment/Details/108410

Compare schools - UK Government information

https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk

Ofsted

https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk

Gateshead Council

https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/education-and-schools

Your notes

Kingsmeadow Community School works closely with parents and carers to **open future doors of opportunities** for all of its students. Working together, we develop our **students' character and skills** whilst striving for **academic excellence** so that they can **enjoy success and positively contribute** to the community and wider society.

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