



Important Information for New Year 7 Parents/Carers


Ofsted
Good
Provider

Welcome from the Head of School and Assistant Headteacher



Head of School
Mr D Pinto



Assistant
Headteacher
Mrs N Martinson

On behalf of the school community, we are pleased to welcome you to The King's School at the beginning of what will be an exciting and successful journey. As a parent/carer that is new to The King's School, we hope that you will find this booklet a useful start point for supporting your child's transition to secondary school. In here, you will find some key information to share with your child and to refer to throughout the upcoming academic year. Should you need any additional information or support please do not hesitate to contact us.

Behaviour for Learning: delivering results, delivering success

A calm, purposeful atmosphere for learning delivers results. Underpinning this is the Behaviour for Learning (BfL) Policy. This is central to our mantra - 'Culture + Consistency = Excellence'.

The policy ensures that students understand our high expectations and the consequences of not meeting these. Crucially, whatever the lesson or whoever the teacher, the expectations and consequences are exactly the same. However, at the core of this approach is a focus on rewarding those students who meet these high expectations.

Rewards - we run a range of rewards initiatives throughout the academic year as a way to motivate and acknowledge students for the great things that they do. This involves termly reward assemblies led by Key Stage Leaders, end of year assemblies led by Senior Leaders and immediate praise in lessons and corridors delivered through an online system which tracks student rewards and makes celebrating their achievements easy.

Behaviour Points – These are recorded as a consequence of not meeting expectations. Behaviour Points allow us to track and support students to improve their behaviour and get every day right.

Students record their rewards and behaviour points in their planner and it is a great way to celebrate their successes. Equally, plans will be put in place should a student not be meeting expectations.

Low level disruption in classrooms has a huge impact on learning. The Consequence system helps to eliminate this and ensure students can focus on learning and teachers can focus on teaching excellent lessons. The C System: A C1 represents a verbal warning, a C2 a behaviour point and a C3 a detention. These detentions will be recorded in the student's planner and will last for a minimum of one hour. If a student continues to be disruptive they will receive a 'Red Card' and be removed from the classroom to ensure other students can continue to learn. If students fail to attend a one hour detention, they receive a two hour detention the next day.

Students and staff understand this system, and these clear, high expectations ensure a purposeful and calm environment for learning - and success.

The King's School - Term and INSET Dates 2020 – 2021

September 2020		February 2021	
Monday 7th September	INSET – School open to staff	Friday 12th February	School closes - Half Term
Tuesday 8th September	INSET – School open to staff	Monday 22nd February	School opens
Wednesday 9th September	School open for pupils	March 2021	
October 2020		Friday 26th March	School closes - Easter
Friday 23rd October	School closes - Half Term	April 2021	
November 2020		Monday 12th April	School opens
Monday 2nd November	School opens	May 2021	
December 2020		Monday 3rd May	Bank holiday
Thursday 17th December	School closes to pupils - Christmas	Friday 28th May	School closes - Half Term
Friday 18th December	INSET – School open for staff	June 2021	
January 2021		Monday 7th June	School opens
Monday 4th January	School opens	Friday 25th June	INSET- School open to staff
		July 2021	
		Friday 23rd July	School closes to pupils - Summer
		Monday 26th July	INSET – School open to staff

Please also remember that holidays during term-time will not be authorised. Please ensure that you check our dates carefully before making any bookings.

Student Non-negotiables

All students are asked to meet the following Student Non-negotiables:

- ✓ Follow staff instructions first time and without question.
We do not want students ignoring or arguing with staff.
- ✓ Endeavour to speak clearly, correctly and in full sentences.
We want students to develop effective communication skills.
- ✓ Be punctual in the morning and to all lessons with a full set of equipment.
We want to ensure students have good, strong habits and do not miss any learning.
- ✓ Walk calmly and quietly around the building; do not have inappropriate physical contact with other students.
Students are expected to have regard for their own safety and that of others. This applies to movement around the building, throughout the day and during social times. This creates an orderly environment.
- ✓ Always have a polite and positive attitude towards staff and peers.
Manners are really important and create a positive environment for students that is respectful and polite.
- ✓ Respect the building – never drop or leave litter.
Students are expected to treat the school building and its contents with respect.
- ✓ In all lessons have your planner out on the desk, record homework and complete it on time.
This enables staff to easily communicate rewards or concerns with parents/carers.
- ✓ Speak only with the teacher's permission during lessons.
Students should follow the teacher's instructions in relation to speaking in class which may vary depending on the focus of the lesson. There will, of course, be lots of discussion in class, but focused on learning.

The Behaviour for Learning Policy underpins the above non-negotiables and all aspects of school. We have high standards and expectations of all students and the Behaviour for Learning Policy reflects these. Support and plans will be put in place should a student not be meeting expectations, and reasonable adjustments made for students with specific needs.

THE CORE UNIFORM

Our students are expected to achieve standards of excellence in all areas of school life, including appearance. An excellent standard of uniform supports excellent behaviour, equality amongst young people and reflects the pride that our students have in being part of the school community.

Correct uniform must be worn at all times. If a student wears incorrect pieces of uniform, or wears an item inappropriately, sanctions will be put in place, and parents / carers will be contacted.

We are using local uniform stockists due to feedback from parents. The full uniform list and details of the official school uniform suppliers can be downloaded from our website: www.kings.patrust.org.uk/uniform



COATS AND OUTDOOR JACKETS

If the weather requires an additional layer to be worn over their uniform, students should wear a suitable 'outside' coat or jacket. This must be worn over the blazer.

- Outdoor coats must not be worn indoors.
- Hoodies and denim jackets are not allowed in school.

JEWELLERY, HAIR AND MAKE-UP

Students should be well presented at all times. Hair should be a natural colour. Extreme hairstyles including shaved heads, shaved lines and unnatural colours are not permitted.

- Subtle make-up is permitted - this should be subdued and natural. If staff feel it is excessive then students will be asked to remove it.
- Students may wear a wristwatch and one plain silver or gold stud can be worn in the lobe of each ear. No other piercings are allowed, and must be removed. They must not be left in and covered with plasters.
- Nail varnish or false nails are not allowed, and students will be required to remove these immediately using products supplied by the school.

MAKE THE RIGHT FOOTWEAR CHOICES....

Parents / carers should be aware that only plain black shoes are permitted in the school - there must be no white/coloured labels, logos, markings, or studs. Shoes must be leather or leather look. Please note that suede footwear is not allowed. A general guide is to ask if the shoe would be considered appropriate for a professional office environment and would be worn with a suit.

Footwear must be sensible. Pumps, high heels, trainers, sandals or boots of any kind are not allowed; the images below provide some examples. If you are unsure, please contact the school to clarify before making a purchase. This is not an exhaustive list and is designed to provide a guide. Please note that students wearing shoes that do not meet the Uniform Policy will be loaned a pair for the day and parents / carers will be contacted.



LOGOED SKIRTS

In September 2019 we introduced the mandatory logoed skirt. This was in response to feedback from parents around the challenges of purchasing the correct one. The logoed skirt is available from our local suppliers and is available in a variety of lengths to ensure consistency.

Please note students who do not attend in an appropriate skirt will be loaned one for the day from school stocks and parents / carers will be contacted.

UNIFORM CHECKLIST

ITEM	PHOTO
<p>Blazer* Navy Blue with school logo</p> <p>Shirt White with a pointed collar and no logo. The shirt may have long or short sleeves.</p>	
<p>Trousers Black tailored formal style, these should not be skinny leg, stretchy, patterned, decorated, jeans, flares, boot-legged, tracksuit bottoms or leggings.</p> <p>Trousers should not have decorative buttons, buckles or fashion belts.</p> <p>Skirt* Black tailored knee length with school logo.</p> <p>The school's official uniform suppliers retail a skirt that meets these requirements.</p>	
<p>Legwear Black Opaque Tights (40+denier) Black Socks</p> <p>Ties* Clip on Blue, Red and White Stripe</p> <p>Sweater* (optional) V Neck Navy</p>	

PE KIT

<p>Shorts* Navy Microtech shorts with school logo</p>	<p>Skort* - optional Navy with school logo</p>	
<p>Reversible Rugby Top* Maroon / Navy with the school logo</p> <p>Fleece*(optional): Navy with white piping with school logo</p>	<p>Polo Shirt* Maroon with the school logo</p>	
<p>Socks* Navy</p>	<p>Footwear Indoor Trainers - not pumps Football boots, Rugby boots, Hockey Boots</p>	

*Denotes that this item of school uniform must be purchased from the official King's School uniform suppliers.

Pastoral Structure

Each year group is supported by a Key Stage Leader along with a Student Liaison Officer. They will work as a team supporting their year group in terms of academic, pastoral and personal development. There are other support staff within school supporting students with issues, including attendance and welfare and we also work closely with a range of external agencies.

The School Day

Our school day has been planned with Year 7 in mind and aims to ease transition by giving them more space at lunch and break time. During break they have access to a Year 7 only area and at lunch they enjoy the opportunity to socialise as a single year group. Across the school this reduces congestion in corridors and allows students to be supervised more effectively.

Registration	09:00 – 09:20	All Years		
Period 1	09:20 – 10:20	All Years		
		Y8 & Y10	Y7	Y9 & Y11
Period 2 / Break	10:20 – 10:35	Break	Break	Period 2
	10:35 – 11:35	Period 2	Period 2	
	11:20 – 11:35			Break
Period 3	11:35 – 12:35	All Years		
Split Lunch				
		Y8 & Y10	Y7	Y9 & Y11
Period 4 / Lunch	12:35 - 13:05	Lunch	Period 4a	Period 4
	13:05 - 13:35	Period 4	Lunch	
	13:35 - 14:05		Period 4b	Lunch
Period 5	14:05 - 15:05	All Years		
Achieve Sessions	15:05 – 16:05	Targeted Intervention		

Physical Environment

A fundamental finding of educational research is that the quality of the learning environment broadly correlates with student outcomes, such as attendance, behaviour and achievement. Poor environments can bring about negative effects and positive environments can enhance teaching and learning.

We have invested funding into improving the internal learning environment, which has included refurbishment of teaching spaces, the Main Hall and corridors, to ensure that our facilities provide a first class experience for all students.



Attendance and Absence

We expect students to strive to achieve attendance of 97% or above, although we recognise that in some instances due to medical conditions this is difficult. This reflects our commitment to excellence and ensuring that every student meets their potential. Educational research finds that every 5% drop in attendance can result in a lost grade which significantly impacts student progress over time.

Text messages will be sent out to the first mobile contact if an absent mark has been entered onto the register in a school day. Following this, as part of our safeguarding and wellbeing procedure, you may receive a telephone call from one of the Attendance Team, the Student Liaison Officer or Key Stage Leader to enquire about the absence and any support that we can offer.

If a student is unwell and unable to attend school a parent/carer should ring **01977 601701** before 8.55am.



The King's School,
Mill Hill Lane
Pontefract, West Yorkshire,
WF8 4JF (SatNav WF8 4EU)

Tel: 01977 601701
Fax: 01977 601710
Email: admin@kings.patrust.org.uk
