



THE KING'S
SCHOOL

YEAR 6 TRANSITION 2026



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Welcome

Hello & welcome

On behalf of all at The King's School, I am delighted to welcome you to our community at the start of your very exciting journey. We know that along the way you will be met with some wonderful opportunities and experiences and our staff here look forward to sharing these with you. As you embark on this journey, our role here is to support and nurture you so that your transition to The King's School is a successful and happy one. I hope that you find this booklet useful within this process and that it provides you with really important information for the weeks and months ahead. It is a document that you will be able to refer to throughout your first year at the school. In the meantime, should you find that you need any further support or information, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school.

Good luck – I cannot wait to meet and get to know you!

Ms L Harris
Principal



Our team

Ms Lyndsay Harris, Principal

Mrs H Norman, Vice Principal

Mrs L O'Connor, Vice Principal

Mrs H Gilder, Assistant Principal

Mr C Fawcett, Assistant Principal

Mrs E Phelan, Assistant Principal

Mr J Hayward, Assistant Principal (SENDCo)

What our students have to say about life at The King's School:

Hello Year 6,

I am sure you are all very nervous about leaving your primary schools, having to adapt to a completely new environment can be truly nerve-racking. However, I believe that The King's School is going to be a great place for you to thrive. Throughout my time here, the school has provided me with so many opportunities, both academically and through many enrichment activities I have been lucky to be part of. Each and every person at The King's School is unique in their own way, both staff and students, which I believe is fantastic.

I will be forever grateful for the opportunities the school has provided me, whether that has been representing the school at sport, either as a player or a leader or through the commitment and encouragement the teachers show daily. I personally believe that the school has shaped the person that I am today and I am sure it will do the same for you too.

Hannah Hall, Year 10



"A big difference for me between Primary School and Secondary School is the amount of new things you can get involved in. I love playing rugby and The Sports Academy means I get to take part in rugby every day. It makes me feel really special and I am proud to represent the school sports teams."

"I love it here at The King's School. The range of activities that we can do after school is fantastic. My favourite part of Year 7 so far was being part of Oliver. I was really nervous before the show but I feel really proud of being part of it now."

"The best thing about starting at The King's School in Year 7, has definitely been the amount of different lessons on offer. I love Design Technology, PE and Art."

"If you're worried about coming to The King's School as it seems so big compared to your primary school then please don't worry. There will be lots of people to help you find your way around and everyone is really kind and helpful."





Our core mission & vision

At The King's School we make no apologies for our aspiration: to become a beacon of educational excellence that makes positive change to the lives of the children we serve. We are proud to have inherited a rich heritage of over 400 years of history and, as one of the oldest secondary schools in the country, we are excited by the challenge of leaving a lasting legacy for many more years to come.

Our mission and visions are simple and act as a springboard for student success:

Respect

We treat others how we would like to be treated, showing kindness and good manners. We are honest, demonstrate good morals and do the right thing even when no one is watching.

Responsibility

We are responsible for the choices we make and believe that taking responsibility for our actions wins the day. We learn from our mistakes, move forward and improve.

Determination

We believe in ourselves to be the best that we can be and do not give up. At all times we display a 'whatever it takes' attitude; we get on, do it and make it happen.

Excellence

We value our education and aspire to excellence in everything we do. We have high expectations of ourselves, our work and our behaviour, always committed to pushing ourselves to do our absolute best.



High standards and high expectations

Our senior leadership team know from long experience that there's no limit on what can be achieved if teachers can truly focus on their teaching and students on their learning. But that cannot be done without a commitment to the very highest of standards from teachers and students alike.

Excellent behaviour at all times is paramount at The King's School. We set clear boundaries and apply standards consistently and fairly at all levels of the school. We believe students work best in an environment where there is consistency alongside a culture of praise and encouragement.

Our school 'non-negotiables' are displayed in each classroom, so all our students understand our high expectations and how to meet them. A 'Consequence Board' sets out clearly what will happen on occasions when they fall short.

Non-negotiables at The King's School

- Follow staff instructions first time and without question.
- Be punctual in the morning and to all lessons with a full set of equipment.
- Always have a polite and positive attitude towards staff and peers.
- In all lessons have your planner out on the desks, record homework and complete it on time.
- Speak only with the teacher's permission during lessons.
- Endeavour to speak clearly, correctly and in full sentences.
- Walk calmly and quietly around the school; do not make physical contact with others.
- Respect your environment. Never drop or leave litter.

It is important to stress, though, that we approach our commitment to the highest standards in a

constructive way, celebrating the positive. Students who consistently meet our expectations, produce something exceptional or go the extra mile receive Achievement Points, which add up towards certificates and prizes. Kings Points are displayed in the classroom. On average, a student at The King's School is 12 times more likely to receive Kings Points than sanctions.

Every half term we hold a rewards assembly, putting motivation and achievement at the heart of our culture.

Uniform

Our uniform is a sign that we are all part of a community at The King's School, and in this, like in everything else we do, we aim for the highest standards. A smart, correct uniform reflects pride in who we are and shows respect for others, and we expect all our students to wear the right uniform at all times.

Attendance

Research links a good attendance record with academic and social achievement. We encourage all our students to work towards 100% attendance, with a minimum target of 97% (equivalent to the top 25% of UK secondary schools). Punctuality matters, too. Arriving ten minutes late each day adds up to a loss of six whole school days each year. We expect all students to be with us on time every morning. Excellent attendance is celebrated at our awards assembly each term.



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, appropriate sanctions will be put in place, and parents/carers will be contacted.

There are several local uniform stockists. The full uniform list and details of the official school uniform supplier 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-groomed at all times. Hair should be of natural colour. Extreme hairstyles including shaved heads, skin fade haircuts, haircuts which are shaven on a number 1 or less 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.

School uniform may be ordered from the following supplier:

Better & Bright Schoolwear

19 Salter Row, Pontefract, WF8 1BA

The core uniform



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. 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.

Branded skirts

Skirts must have The King's School logo on and are available from our local supplier in a variety of lengths.

Ties

The school tie is red with the a blue, gold and white stripe.

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 Guide - The King's School		
Uniform Checklist		
<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. Trousers should not have decorative buttons, buckles or fashion belts.</p>	<p>Skirt* Black tailored knee length with school identification. The school's official uniform supplier retails a skirt that meets these requirements.</p>	
<p>Legwear Black opaque tights (40+ denier) or black socks.</p>	<p>Ties* Clip on red tie with blue, gold and white stripe. Sweater* (optional) V neck navy.</p>	

PE kit		
<p>Shorts Unisex navy sports shorts.</p>	<p>Skort (optional) Navy. Unbranded navy / black sports leggings are permitted underneath.</p>	
<p>Reversible rugby top* Maroon / navy with the school logo. Fleece (optional): Navy, full zip or half zip.</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 an official The King's School uniform supplier.

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.



Co-curricular

Along with our focus on academic achievement in the classroom, we firmly believe that opportunities beyond it play a critical part in the development and achievement of our students. These broaden horizons, grow essential life skills, build self-confidence and resilience, increase friendship groups and most importantly they're fun and build life long memories.



Period	Time	Y8 & Y10	Y7	Y9 & Y11
Students to arrive at school by 8:25				
Form Time	08:30 - 08:50	All years		
Period 1	08:50 - 09:50	All years		
Period 2 / Break	09:50 - 10:05	Break	Break	Period 2
	10:05 - 10:50	Period 2	Period 2	Break
	10:50 - 11:05			
Period 3	11:05 - 12:05	All years		
Period 4 / Lunch	12:05 - 12:35	Lunch	Period 4A	Period 4
	12:35 - 13:05	Period 4	Lunch	
	13:05 - 13:35		Period 4B	Lunch
Period 5	13:35 - 14:35	All years		

The King's School has a strong and proud tradition of offering a wide range of trips and residential visits for students to enhance their academic and life experiences. A visit to the Battlefields of Belgium, Snow sports to Pila in Italy, an environmental awareness trip to Year 7 PGL Residential, Snow Sports Trip, GCSE Geography Field Trip, New York, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, The Great Yorkshire Show are just a few of those highly successful and exciting trips from recent years. Various day trips are planned as both rewards and as part of the curriculum to Theatres for Drama and coastlines for Geography providing vital knowledge which can be used in the classroom. Trips and visits are of educational value but also provide students with the experiences of a lifetime which we hope will stay with them forever.

The King's School Rugby Programme is one of the leading school rugby programmes in the North of England, recognised for its strength, tradition, and commitment to both excellence both on and off the field.

The programme is led by former dual-code rugby professional Tony O'Brien. At The King's School, we currently have 13 boys' and girls' teams competing to a very high standard against both state and independent schools across the country.

The programme runs throughout the academic year, beginning with the full-sided game from September to January, before transitioning into rugby sevens from February to May, and touch rugby from May to July. Throughout each phase of the season, all teams continue to train and develop their skills through regular coaching and practice sessions.

A day in the life



Before school

We aim to create a calm and purposeful start to the day ensuring expectations and standards are high. Additionally, we offer co-curricular opportunities before school.

- On entry to school, we are in full school uniform, equipped for the day and ensure our personal devices are off and out of sight.
- We report to our year group waiting area before lining up to go to our form lesson.
- We are calm and do not run.
- We speak in normal conversational voices.
- We arrive to form rooms at 8.25am.
- If we do co-curricular activities before school we have the appropriate kit and our uniform to change into afterwards.

Corridor expectations

To ensure that our corridors and stairwells are clean, calm, safe and pleasant for all students and staff.

- We speak in normal conversational voices.
- We walk on the left and do not block corridors.
- We transition to lessons with purpose and use the most direct route.
- We do not eat.

- We ensure that there are multiple opportunities throughout the day for students to use the toilets, including during social times and between lessons, in order to maximise their learning time. Of course, where there are specific medical needs, toilet passes can be issued for students who need them. Please speak to our pastoral team if you have concerns.
- We do not make physical contact.
- We never drop litter.
- We are calm and considerate of others.
- One way system

Break and lunchtime

We aim to ensure that break and lunches are calm, safe and are productive times of the school day when students can prepare for afternoon lessons.

- We enter the social areas in a calm manner.
- We use conversational voices at all times.
- We queue patiently until served and thank the catering staff.
- We ensure all of our rubbish is placed into the bins and our tables are clear.
- We are always considerate of others on break and lunch and treat everyone respectfully.
- We wait to be dismissed to leave for lessons and do so calmly.

End of day expectations

To ensure a calm and safe end to the school day.

- We exit the building through the quickest route.
- We speak in normal conversational voices.
- We walk calmly and do not run or push.
- We ensure our uniform is perfect as we leave the building.
- When we have a detention, we go directly to it.
- When we have an co-curricular activity, we go directly to it.

In the community expectations

To ensure that we are safe and represent school positively in the local community.

- We wear our uniform perfectly and with pride; we do not wear hoodies.
- If we use the shop we enter in groups of no more than three.
- When we wait for the bus we let elderly people, people with disabilities and people with young children onto the bus before us.
- When we cross roads, we wait for the lights at the crossing and walk calmly.
- We never graffiti or damage property.

On trips and co-curricular activities

To ensure that we are safe and represent school positively.

- We are polite, courteous and we treat every member of the public with respect.
- We wear appropriate clothing, kit or uniform.
- We behave exceptionally at all times.

During lessons

- I walk to my lesson following the corridor expectations.
- I line up outside my classroom waiting quietly and making sure I am not blocking the corridor.
- I enter the classroom in a sensible manner.
- I move towards the seat my teacher has assigned to me.
- I get out my equipment, planner and books and put them on my desk.
- I sit down and make sure my bag is under the desk and out of the way.
- I work through the Planner, Copy, Do activity which is displayed on the board.
- I make sure my planner is out and open on the correct week.
- I write the date and title in my book and underline these with a ruler.
- I begin answering the red, amber, green and purple questions. I put as much detail as possible in the time I have been given.
- I listen carefully for my teacher to read my name from the register. I answer the register clearly so I am marked as present.

Throughout the activities of the lesson I

- Always try my best and never give up.
- Follow any instructions given by the teacher first time and without question.
- Speak only with the teacher's permission.
- Raise my hand if I need to ask a question.
- Endeavour to speak clearly, correctly and in full sentences.
- Take pride in my work, writing neatly and presenting my book to a high standard.

At the end of the lesson I

- Pack up my equipment, planner and book into my bag.
- Check my uniform is correct and stand behind my chair without talking.
- Wait for my teacher to dismiss the row which I am seated on.
- Leave the classroom in an orderly fashion.
- Walk to my next lesson following the corridor expectations.



The King's School term and inset dates

2026/2027

Autumn Term	Start	End
Autumn Term 1	Tuesday 1st September	Friday 23rd October
Half Term Holiday	Monday 26th October	Friday 30th October
Autumn Term 2	Monday 2nd November	Friday 18th December
Christmas Holiday	Monday 21st December	Friday 1st January

Spring Term	Start	End
Spring Term 3	Monday 4th January	Friday 12th February
Half Term Holiday	Monday 15th February	Friday 19th February
Spring Term 4	Monday 22nd February	Thursday 25th March
Easter Holiday	Friday 26th March	Friday 9th April

Summer Term	Start	End
Summer Term 5	Monday 12th April	Friday 28th May
Half Term Holiday	Monday 31st May	Friday 4th June
Summer Term 6	Monday 7th June	Wednesday 21st July
Summer Holiday	Thursday 22nd July	

INSET/Training Days	
Tuesday 1st September 2026	Friday 11th December 2026
Wednesday 2nd September 2026	Monday 4th January 2027
Friday 18th September 2026	Friday 12th February 2027
Friday 16th October 2026	Friday 12th March 2027
Monday 2nd November 2026	Friday 2nd July 2027

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 the Student Liaison Officer or Year 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 601 701** before 8.55am.

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 Year 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.



THE KING'S
SCHOOL

The King's School, Mill Hill Lane, Pontefract WF8 4JF
Visitor entrance: The King's School, Ackworth Road, Pontefract, WF8 4EU

Tel: 01977 601701