

Kings Langley Sixth Form

Head of Sixth Form Fortnightly Bulletin: Week 14 - 2023/24

This bulletin, written by the Head of Sixth Form, provides a brief summary of updates, upcoming events, and useful information for students and their home. Further information can be found on our website www.kls.herts.sch.uk and clarification of policy can be found in the sixth form handbook.



Introduction

As we reach the end of the first term of the academic year 2023/24, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our students, people at home, staff, and our local community, my sincere thanks for what has been, an incredible term. There has been a lot of achievements and positive events that have taken place already this year and whilst the new building has been a significant element of this success, it is the students that really make this Sixth Form what it is. A culture can only be created if everyone is on board with what is mission and values that we promote; our students create this culture and I am proud of the many ways that they have contributed to Kings Langley Sixth Form.

Our student leadership team continue to play a vital role in the development of the Sixth Form and I extend specific thanks to this body of students who work on behalf of the wider student body. This work is not always visible to the majority of others but behind the scenes they are help shape the amazing provision we have. My sincere thanks to the student leadership team, led by two really hard working and admirable students, Arianna and Samaira.

I give my best wishes for a happy, enjoyable and restful holiday period for all our students and their families, whether this involves Christmas or not. I look forward to welcoming students back in January 2024.

Study Leave

Many students and parents have been asking about study leave and when this is given to students. Full guidance and our policy on study leave can be found on **page 44** of the Sixth Form handbook but in summary:

- Students in Yr12 are not given study leave. This is consistent with the majority of post-16 settings.
- Students in Yr13 are only given study leave for their final, terminal examinations which take place in Summer.

Students are advised that subject areas are not to issue homework or independent work, other than examination preparation, one week prior to examination periods and during these periods.

Please refer to the guidance in the Sixth Form handbook for the full rationale of this. Students should also be aware of the impact of absence during the examination period.

Festive fun and holiday wishes from the Sixth

Form team:

Hopefully our students and their families have learnt that our Sixth Form team are not all about studying and enjoy rewarding our students with fun events and activities to ensure our students enjoy their time at Kings Langley Sixth Form.

On the last day of term, Mr Tubb dressed as The Grinch, Mrs Battaglia dressed as Mrs Claus, Mr Scott dressed as Santa, and Miss Allan dressed as an elf, put on a festive event for sixth form students to mark the end of term one of 2023/24.

This event was a thank you to all our students for the hard work put in over the term and to provide an opportunity for our students to commence their two week break from studying.



KLSix Influencers Wanted!

We are proud of our Sixth Form and want to encourage others to find out about what we do and why they should consider study at Kings Langley Sixth Form. We want to recruit our own group of 'influencers'...

...Do you think you can take photos or videos that can help advertise all the different aspects of our Sixth Form? Mention us in your stories or send us your creative photos or videos to be in the chance of winning a £50 gift voucher.



@klsixthform

Planned Absence Form

We are aware of the need for students to occasionally need to attend appointments, interviews, driving lessons, and other events which cannot be arranged outside of school hours. In circumstances such as these, please ensure that you complete a 'Planned Absence Form'. To make it easier for you, we have now made this digital so that you can submit them electronically.

Please follow the link below or scan the QR code to access this form. Please be advised, submission of a form does not automatically mean authorisation is given. A response will be emailed to your school email address and if appropriate, to your parent/carer/guardian. The form should only be used for planned absences (including medical) and not illnesses.



<https://forms.office.com/e/gDy4f2mFnp>



Yr13 Trial Exams:

Year 13 examination timetables have now been published. Click below for the online letter and timetable:

[Year 13 Examinations - Kings Langley Secondary School - Unlocking Potential for Life](https://www.kls.herts.sch.uk/Year_13_Examinations_-_Kings_Langley_Secondary_School_-_Unlocking_Potential_for_Life)
([kls.herts.sch.uk](https://www.kls.herts.sch.uk))

During the Yr13 trial examination period, the sound proofing doors will be put in place so that the remaining students can still utilise the comfortable seating areas and other parts of the Sixth Form building. Students will need to observe the 'silent working' signs when an exam is taking place, which may continue into break and lunch periods.

We are aware of the stress and anxiety that comes with sitting exams and we would like to advocate the communication of any concerns or issues by asking students (and home if appropriate), to contact the form tutor in the first instance or alternatively, Mrs Battaglia (KS5 Pastoral Leader). The following organisations also provide superb advice, guidance and support:



[Web-link](#)



[Web-link](#)



[Web-link](#)

Upcoming events and diary dates:

8th January—Yr13 trial examinations commence

8th January—SENDCo Surgery, 3.30-5.30pm

23rd January—Yr12 & Yr13 Drama theatre trip

25th January—Burns Night (Day) Sixth Form event

30th January—Sixth Form Leadership visit Eton College



We want to ensure that we provide the best student experience possible at Kings Langley Sixth Form. We would love to hear from you about what events, activities and experiences we can organise and put on for our students. Please speak to a member of the Sixth Form with your ideas.

Dress Code

As a Sixth Form, we believe our dress code allows our students to express themselves as individuals and is a reflection of contemporary working practice where people that wear suits and formal wear are in decline. We do however, require our students to be dressed appropriately for a Sixth Form studying environment. Dressing appropriately shows that you are committed to working with the Sixth Form values and wish to be considered as an adult with the aspirations for success.

Students are also reminded that whilst we have our own building, we still have our lessons and other activities in the main school building where our younger people are required to adhere to a uniform policy. Our Sixth Formers are therefore role models to our younger students.

A reminder that students are not permitted to wear trainers (unless for medical reasons, supported with a medical note), and must not wear hoodies in the main school building. We appreciate that some weather conditions may necessitate more appropriate footwear and additional layers and it is perfectly acceptable to wear these items into Sixth Form however, they must be removed once students have arrived to Sixth Form.

Hoodies are not conducive or appropriate clothing for studying or moving around the wider school site and I do not want any of my team to have to confiscate hoodies. Please select other layers of clothing to support comfort and warmth.

Teaching & Learning

Students may have noticed Mr Tubb and Mr Scott coming into lessons recently. We are currently working on a strategy called 'Educational Excellence' and we are looking into learning styles and how students participate and take responsibility for their learning. Please do not feel alarmed if you see us asking students questions about their studying; this is all in aid of developing a strategy to ensure we meet our foremost priority of educational excellence.



Parent & Carers Engagement Forum

Kings Langley Sixth Form

As a Sixth Form we have a Parent and Carers Engagement Forum where we invite parents and carers of students currently in the sixth form, to be part of the continuous development and progression of the sixth form.

The purpose of this forum is to increase the opportunity for parents and carers to be part of the consultation and development of sixth form policies, as well as identify how parents and carers may want to contribute to the sixth form provision. It will also offer an additional form of communication between the sixth form team and home.

These informal forum meetings will be chaired by Mr Tubb, Head of Sixth Form, and parents and carers are invited to attend as frequently as they wish; membership is not required, and contributions are entirely discretionary. Each forum has a focus and enables the sixth form to inform parents about our approach and rationale behind policies and procedures. Parents and carers can also identify areas that they wish the sixth form to consider or explore.

Next meeting agenda—Examination preparation and support, fund-raising, and identifying ways of supporting young people with the demands of today's society.

We advocate positive, future-orientated discussions at these meetings and focus on how improvements can be made across the sixth form community whilst remaining entirely student-centred. This forum is not for individual student issues or concerns, and we politely ask that these are directed to the appropriate member of the sixth form team in the normal manner.

The next meeting will be held on:
Wednesday 24th January, 5-6pm.

**For more information or to express an interest in attending,
please contact Mr Tubb directly on tubbj@kls.herts.sch.uk**

Young Carers

Mrs Battaglia has been working with Mrs Rennick (Yr10 Pastoral Leader) to ensure that our students who play a vital and important caring role at home, are recognised and get the support that they need.

A questionnaire went out to Sixth Form students and we hope that we have captured the information we need to put in place, advice, guidance and support.

We wish to communicate to our students and people at home, that they should not feel worried about perceived stigma or that we will be intrusive. Our intention is to provide the support that can make life easier and consequently, make us more understandable with challenges or impact on studying or aspects such as punctuality.

Off-Site, Self-Supported Study

From January Yr12 students will be able to access off-site, self-supported study from 12.50pm (if they do not have lessons period 5 or 6, and if there are no scheduled activities or events). This is dependant on meeting the off-site, self-supported study criteria (see page 23-24 of the Sixth Form Handbook [Student Handbook & Guidance - Kings Langley Secondary School - Unlocking Potential for Life \(kls.herts.sch.uk\)](#)) for further information.

Students are reminded that they can only access this if they have returned a hand-signed permission slip. Email and digital permissions are not accepted.

Students in Yr12 are only granted this privilege if there are no concerns with regards to attainment, progress, attendance and/or punctuality. Students and people at home are advised to read through the guidance in the Sixth Form Handbook – link above.

Who to contact in sixth form:

Attendance & Punctuality—Mrs Battaglia (KS5 Pastoral Leader)

Academic and Curriculum—Mr Scott (KS5 Curriculum Leader)

General Enquiries—Miss Allan (KS5 Administrator)

Wellbeing—Mrs Battaglia (KS5 Pastoral Leader)

Leadership and management—Mr Tubb (Principal Assistant Headteacher & Head of Sixth Form)

Safeguarding—Mr Tubb (Principal Assistant Headteacher & Head of Sixth Form)



Sixth Form Handbook:

Please refer to the sixth form handbook for our policies and procedures (scan the QR code). If you still have questions, please contact the sixth form office on 6form@kls.herts.sch.uk or 01923 264504



Community Spirit and Volunteering



We are incredibly proud of a large number of our students who participate in the community events and volunteering opportunities that we hold at the Sixth Form. On Sunday 17th December, we had the privilege of a group of local residents of a senior age, join us for a Christmas afternoon tea through the charity Re-engage. At this event, several of our students served refreshments to our visitors and enjoyed chatting to them, as well as enjoying games of bingo and producing some art. A HUGE thank you to all our students who attended; our visitors were extremely grateful.



FREE!

Throughout November-February, sixth form students are invited to join us for **FREE** porridge and fruit in the sixth form lounge between 8-8.30am, daily.

It is important that you start the day with fuel and energy for your studies, and get warmed up from the cold weather



SUPPORTING

YOU WITH THE

COST OF LIVING

Action on Bullying & Anti-Social Behaviours

We have an outstanding community of staff and sixth formers at Kings Langley Sixth Form where everyone can expect to study, work, and enjoy an environment where they are safe, happy and respect one another. Bullying and peer-on-peer abuse is never ok, and Kings Langley Sixth Form does not tolerate it.



Need support with your wellbeing?

At Kings Langley Sixth Form we believe strongly that positive emotional wellbeing and mental wellness are not only crucial in enabling students to feel happy and fulfilled within themselves as individuals, but also in enabling them to thrive and flourish during their time with us here at school. Students who enjoy positive mental health and wellbeing are better able to cope with the normal stresses of life, work productively and fruitfully, fulfil their own potential and make a contribution to their wider community.



Safeguarding

If you or someone you know is at risk of harm (emotionally, physically, mentally or sexually) to themselves or to others, please ensure that you report this to a member of staff immediately. If outside of sixth form or school, you can report concerns to the police by dialling 999.

FRANK

0800 77 66 00 talktofrank.com
Friendly, confidential drugs advice


Switchboard
LGBT+ helpline

0800 0119 100



Gamblers Anonymous
Phone: 0330 094 0322

Feeling low?

Anxious?

Struggling to cope?

Text
SHOUT
to **85258**
for free,
confidential
support, 24/7

The Sandbox

Online mental health support
for Children and Young People



fearless

part of Crimestoppers

0800 555 111

100% anonymous. Always.

Reporting Crimes inc.
County Lines