

Kings Langley Sixth Form

Head of Sixth Form Fortnightly Bulletin: Week 6 -

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:

The first half term is almost over and it is surprising how quick time goes. The first half term has seen us move into the new sixth form building and the start of a very positive and product year already. I am pleased to share further updates with you in this fortnightly bulletin.

Sixth Form Building Update:

The main work on the building has now been fully completed and any final snagging and replacement of faulty elements (flooring, door handles, etc.) has now been completed. As we enter the colder, winter months, we will continue to monitor the building as, with all new buildings, the temperature and weather impacts a building differently. We have got underfloor heating as well as radiators so we foresee the building to be nice and warm over the colder autumn,/winter months.

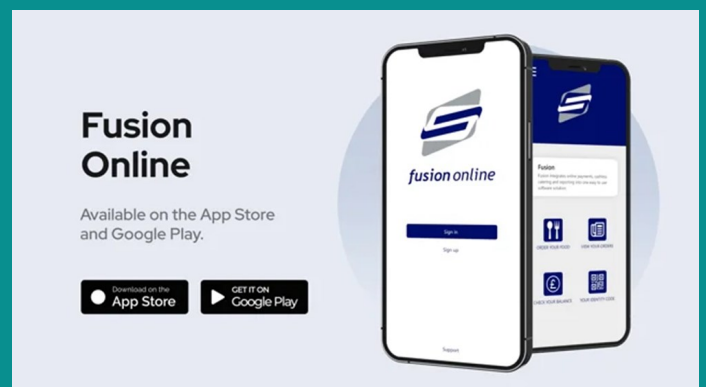
Student facilities:

Since the last bulletin there have been some new additions and improvements to the facilities of the building. The garden has now had fencing erected and the grass seeds have grown nicely. This enables us to move forward with having the sixth form study and wellbeing garden installed.

As part of the World Mental Health Day activities, house plants have been introduced to the building alongside some other wellbeing items including, an oil mood diffuser, colouring books with coloured pencils, giant outdoor beanbags, and the arrival of our bean-to-cup coffee and hot chocolate machine.

We are looking for volunteers from our sixth form student body to run a snack-shop in the kitchen servery area where students will be able to purchase cut-price refreshments. Students should speak to Mrs Battaglia about volunteering.

Students can now order lunch using the ordering app. Students can pre-order their lunch and pick it up from the café hatch area of the sixth form block, making it easier and more convenient to eat at lunch. The food app can be downloaded from the Apple or Google store by searching for Fusion Online. Students have been provided with an



FREE!



KINGS LANGLEY SCHOOL
SIXTH FORM
READY FOR YOUR FUTURE

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

Trial Exams:

Yr13 exam timetables will be published by the exams officer on Friday 8th December. A copy of this will also be placed on the sixth form website under 'Student Information'.

Yr13 Trial exam season is almost upon us (January is not that far away in terms of education timescales), and therefore we will be providing all students with examination preparation sessions and encourage our students to prepare for the exams. Yr13 students will receive these sessions **Wednesday registration on Week 1** timetable, starting from Autumn Half Term 2.

KS5 teachers will also be providing students with revision techniques and preparing students in lessons.

This year we are exploring how we can best support our students in the run up to these exams including diet advice, support with employers recognising the importance of the exams, and how students can put in place exam preparation timetables. Further information will be posted on our website and Instagram.

Attendance & Punctuality:

Some messages from Mrs Battaglia regarding attendance and punctuality:

- If a student is ill, we do not expect them in for the whole day. If they are too ill to come into sixth form in the morning (missing lessons), then please keep them off all day to ensure that they have time to recover fully. We would rather students fully recovered than needing to take more time off.
- If a student is ill, please follow the normal way of reporting this via the school's attendance number.
- A reminder of the attendance expectations of 95% for an A Level student to achieve their full potential.
- Where possible, please book doctors, dentist and other appointments outside of sixth form hours. We appreciate that this is not always possible (particularly hospital appointments), however, we have seen an increase in appointments being taken during the sixth form day.
- After half-term, Y13 students with off-site learning will also be allowed to leave site if they do not have a taught lesson during period 6.

Social & Community Events:

'Sleep Out to Help Out' is taking place on **FRIDAY 3RD NOVEMBER, 7pm-7am.**

Students will sleep outside the sixth form building in just sleeping bags on cardboard for the night. This raises awareness of homelessness and give the students an opportunity to show their empathy to those less fortunate than themselves. The event is an opportunity to raise money and donate items of clothing, food, and toiletries to a long standing partnership with the local homeless charity, DENS.



We have had a really good response to this already with over 30 students signing up to take part. A recommended kit list is provided below and a letter will be sent out to let everyone know the arrangements.

It is recommended that you bring the following with you for the sleep out:

Sleeping bag, large sheet of cardboard to lay on, two pairs of socks, thermal skins, gloves, warm hat, two hoodies/sweaters, thermos flask, pillow, umbrella, some snacks, water, torch, a toothbrush and toothpaste, deodorant.

Social & Community Events:

World Mental Health Day 2023 was a huge success and we are really pleased with how our young people engaged with this awareness day. Thank you to all the students who wore yellow on this day and who participated so enthusiastically in the activities. We hope that students continue to practise some of the activities we set out and consider how they can take steps towards achieving positive mental health and wellbeing.

Some photographs of the event are provided on our website but also below:



#HelloYellow



Social & Community Events:

Creative Pumpkin Festival 2023 started on Monday 16th October where students were invited to either bring in a decorated pumpkin from home or join in with a creativity session during the day. We have been impressed by some of the entries but also impressed with the participation of students in this activity which supports our drive on creativity and wellbeing activities. See below for some of the creations.





Sleep Out to Help Out Friday 3rd Nov. 7pm-7am

Are you prepared to spend the night sleeping outside the sixth form building with just a sleeping bag and a sheet of cardboard?

Kings Langley Sixth Form are raising awareness and empathy towards those who are homeless or less fortunate. Homeless is a reality for many and the rates of homelessness in your local area is on the increase.

Collect sponsorship and collect high-need items such as toiletries and warm clothing to donate to DENS.

It was reported that 502 people were homeless in Dacorum on any given night in 2022 – including 205 children. This was equivalent to one in every 309 people in the area. (National Office of Statistics, 2023)





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 will have a focus and will enable the sixth form to inform parents about our approach and rationale behind policies and procedures. Parents and carers will also be able to identify areas that they wish the sixth form to consider.

Next meeting agenda—Wellbeing Charter, Post-18 Advice, Excellence in Education Charter

We will 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 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 22nd November, 5-6pm. We will also be broadcasting this via Zoom if you are unable to attend in person.

Meeting ID: 763 3752 0535

Passcode: G3N9rH

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

Upcoming events and diary dates:

19th October—Yr12 ATL grade reports published

3rd November—'Sleep Out to Help Out' charity event

9th November—Year 13 Parent Consultation Evening

14th November—Men's Mental Health Awareness event

21st November—British Film Festival

22nd November—6th Form Open Evening (prospective new students)



Character in Action:

The Sixth Form Team have been creating a Character in Action programme which will be launched for sixth form students after half term. All Year 12 students will be assigned to a Character in Action activity which will take place on a Wednesday morning during form time. The activities, which the students have been able to choose from, include supporting younger pupils (e.g. in the SEN department, with paired reading or as learning mentors), assisting in areas of the school (e.g. the library, sixth form) or engaging with established programmes (e.g. recycling, student leadership). Many Year 13 students will also engage in the Character in Action programme or will be using this time to help develop revision and study techniques as they prepare for final examinations.

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



Wellbeing Request



If you would like some advice, information, guidance or support relating to your wellbeing, please speak to the sixth form office or scan this QR code to request some support.

Please be aware that this request form is not to be used for any safeguarding concerns or if you or someone is in immediate danger or at risk of harm. You should report your concerns immediately to a member of school staff and in emergencies, contact the emergency services by telephoning 999.

Student Parking:

Students wishing to park on school property, will need to ensure that they complete the online application and await their allocated parking bay.

UCAS Early Applications:

We are pleased to announce that we have sent off early applicants before the deadline. A reminder for students that if you wish your application to go off before Christmas, you need to have paid and send by 25th November. We encourage all university applications to be submitted by this date so that students can concentrate on their revision for their exams in January. Applications submitted after this date will not be guaranteed to be sent off before the Christmas break.

Subject Folders:

We would like to ensure that students are fully prepared for learning and set up with a subject lever-arch folder for each subject. They should also have a day folder that they can use to transfer items to their subject folders as well as organise their general studies. Subject folders are looked at by form tutors at least every Friday morning.

Mr Tubb and Mr Scott will be reviewing students subject folders across all subjects in the first week back after half term.

Lockers:

Lockers are available to hire, speak to the sixth form office about these.

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