



The Hollyfield School e-bulletin
 Surbiton Hill Road, Surbiton, KT6 4TU
 020 8339 4500

“There is a distinct sense of community in the school” Ofsted 2020

Head's Line:

Dear Hollyfield Community

We hope this bulletin finds you well. We've had another great week at Hollyfield. Ms Paterson has organised a range of special assemblies and workshops for our students, linked to the PSHE curriculum and our safeguarding priorities. These have included sessions from MPath, around mental health and masculinity - and how these things can impact on all our students. The feedback has been great and the workshop leader was full of praise for our well behaved and respectful students. Next week, our school nurse will begin a series of assemblies on health and wellbeing, with a different focus for each year group.

We have also begun our options interviews for Year 9 students, organised by Ms Janse as part of the options process. Parents, carers and students have received a really comprehensive Options Booklet and taken part in an Options Information Evening, which was very well attended. This phase of our plan to support students in making the right decisions involves each Year 9 student having an interview with a senior leader, to discuss possible selections and to offer advice and guidance. On February 11, Year 9 students will take part in a 'taster day', where they can sample some of the options subjects, before making their final choices. It is a very exciting term!

Yesterday evening, we welcomed Year 11 parents and carers to the Year 11 Parents' Evening. It was very well attended and feedback from staff has been great. They really appreciated a chance to talk to students and parents at this crucial time. As ever, we welcome your feedback, too. Next week, Mr Warren and the sixth form team will interview our current Year 11 students. We hope that the majority of them will choose to continue their education at Hollyfield and we want to hear from them about the courses they would like to pursue. We will, of course, make sure that all Year 11 students receive high quality careers guidance and advice from our dedicated careers team, and they will be told about the range of options open to them post-16.

We have been having a real push with students and teachers regarding extracurricular clubs and activities this term. Please take a look at the latest weekly schedules on our website - and also the updated Performing Arts website, which Miss Neville has created for us. You will find both of these in the [Personal Development](#) section of the website.

Miss O'Shea has been in touch with all parents and carers, inviting them to take part in our [Parent/Carer Survey 2025](#) and the responses so far have been really pleasing. If you haven't yet had the chance, please could we encourage you to complete it on or before Monday 20 January.

Thank you - and have a great weekend.

Amy Jackson
Headteacher



Term Dates

Autumn Term 2024

2 September to 19 December
 (Inset Day – 2-3 Sept, 7-8 Nov
 - except Y11 & 6 Dec)

Half Term

28 October - 6 November (see above)

Christmas Holiday

20 December - 3 January 2025

Spring Term 2025

6 January – 4 April
 (Inset Day – 24 Feb)

Half Term

17-21 February (see above)

Easter Holiday

7 April – 21 April (Bank Hol 18 & 21 Apr)

Summer Term 2025

22 April – 18 July (Bank Hol 5 & 26 May)

Half Term

26 - 30 May

..... Stop Press.....

- 20 & 23/1–Y11 Sixth Form Interviews
- 23/1 – Y9 Fulham Workshop and Player Appearance
- 23/1 – Y7 Equality and Diversity Role Models Workshop
- 27/1–Y12 Report Emailed Home
- 29/1 – UCAS Deadline
- 29/1– Y9-10 Int Maths Challenge
- 31/1 – Y11 Int Maths Challenge

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OTHER NOTICES

Reporting your child's absence

When reporting your child's absence from school on the dedicated absence line - 0208 339 4518 preferably before 8.30am on the morning of your child's absence from school. Please leave their name, spelling out any unusual names, year group and the reason for their absence and your details. Alternatively, you can email the school attendance@hollyfield.kingston.sch.uk.

Valuables in school

The school policy and guidance with regard to pupil possessions is clear that they are brought into school at their own risk. The Hollyfield School does not accept liability for any items that may be lost, damaged or stolen. While theft is taken extremely seriously and thoroughly investigated, the school is not in a position to cover the cost of any item stolen.

Of course, with respect to the last point, steps and measures are put in place to mitigate against such circumstances, especially during PE and Games lessons, where pupils' items are locked in the changing rooms. While this is standard procedure, there may be some extenuating circumstances where this cannot always be guaranteed. Therefore, I would urge your son/daughter not to bring expensive items into school.

Medical Health Care Plans

Can we please request that you complete the following medical information collection form if your child has any medical conditions, no matter how small. If your child has a new diagnosis we ask you to also complete this form even if you have already done so for a different medical condition to ensure we have the most up-to-date information. Form: <https://forms.gle/pxTajACe1yUNSKdx9>.

Changed your address/email/phone number????

If you have changed your contact details, please email the school office on office@hollyfield.kingston.sch.uk stating your child's name and form and the change of details. It is important to keep these details up to date in case of an emergency. Don't forget to update your Parentmail account with your new details.

Water Bottles

Please ensure your child brings a water bottle with them to school every day, it is even more important during hot weather. Our water fountains can be used to refill bottles as necessary during break and lunch, it is not possible to drink from the fountains direct and we do not have bottles or cups to give out to students. Alternatively, bottles of water can be purchased (and refilled) in the cafeteria, please ensure your Parentmail account has enough funds to enable this.

Surbiton Hill Road Entrance for cars

If you drive/collect students to or from school the visitor's car park/Surbiton Hill Road entrance **should not be used to drop off students**. This causes congestion for people entering the site and staff access, cars travelling on Surbiton Hill Road and is potentially dangerous for pedestrians.

Dinner Money Top Up

Please ensure funds are available 24 hours before they are required when topping up your child's dinner money on Parentmail. If you add funds on the day they are to be used we will not be able to see the credit instantly until the system has processed it, therefore creating a delay in your child buying food at the canteen.

Contribution to the School Fund

Standing Order Contributions to School Fund

In January, we will no longer be using our current system to process standing order donations as our contract has come to an end. This means we will not be able to claim gift aid on donations. Gift aid brings us an extra 25p on every £1 donated.

If you already donate to the school by standing order, please consider setting up a direct debit donation on our new platform Enthuse and cancelling your current standing order with your bank. This will maximise your donation as gift aid will be claimed automatically, and reduces administration time for the school. Links to the Enthuse donation platform for both Main School and 6th form can be found [here](#).

All contributions received are very much appreciated and directly benefit all students within the school. We value each and every pound donated to provide a better education experience for our students.

If you would like to help contribute to the school fund to provide additional facilities to the school and students, please click [here](#) for more information. We acknowledge that not all of our parents can make a commitment on a monthly basis. Having listened to those parents we also understand that some would like to make a contribution whenever they can. A donation payment link is available in your ParentMail account. We are grateful for any contribution you can make, regardless of the amount. Every penny will be spent improving students' experiences. Like the monthly contributions, your donation will go into the school fund. It will be used in accordance with the guidance given to schools regarding parental contributions.

Open Door

Ms Jackson holds Parent Clinics on Thursday afternoon during term time. These are from 3.00pm-4.30pm for parents/carers to speak directly to her regarding any unresolved concerns/ suggestions. Please contact Louise Sutton to arrange an appointment on 0208 339 4500 or email lsutton@hollyfield.kingston.sch.uk.

SAFE HANDS

Once again, for your information, the key contacts are:

School - Get in touch with the Designated Safeguarding Team

Ms Patel: spatel@hollyfield.kingston.sch.uk

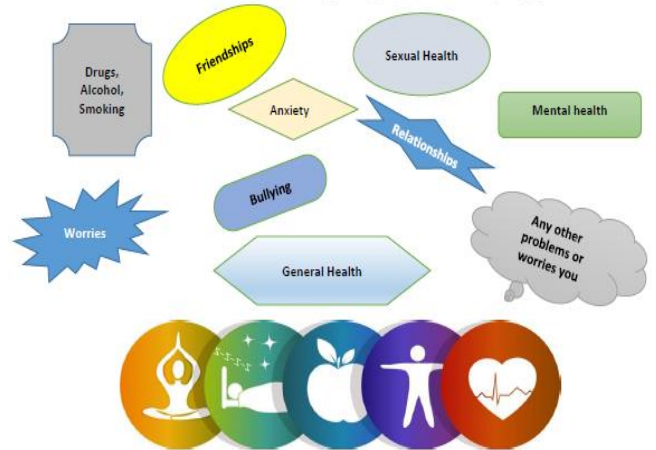
Mr Buckman: nbuckman@hollyfield.kingston.sch.uk

Single Point of Access 020 8547 5008.

SCHOOL HEALTH DROP- IN

WHEN: Tuesday Lunch time 11.40 -1.10PM
WHERE: Room A12 (Top floor of ALBURY)

Come along for a **CONFIDENTIAL** chat with your School Health Practitioner about anything that is worrying you....



The Mental Health Support Team (MHST)

Parent Webinars on:

- Worries and anxiety
- Screen time and social media
- Understanding changes in the adolescent brain
- Sleep Difficulties
- Friendship difficulties and bullying
- Self-harm and suicidal thoughts
- Low mood and depressive feelings

[Click here to book](#)

[Click here to book](#)

[Click here for a current list of workshops](#)



HOLLYFIELD PTA NEWS

Next PTA Meeting - Hollyfest Kick Off Meeting Tuesday 21.01.25

We will start the planning for Hollyfest 2025! Everyone is welcome! The more people involved the more fun and less work for each!

Everyone is welcome! Join us, find out how you can get involved and have fun whilst helping with events and raising funds for the school!

Join us at, 7:30pm - At Hollyfield School - exact venue at the school will be confirmed on Monday. We are looking forward to seeing you there! [We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of every month.]

An additional note: would you like to join in to help with upcoming events or generally just kept in the loop, but unable to attend meetings? If so, please email us at ptahollyfield@gmail.com, with your number. We can then add you to the general PTA WhatsApp Community.

Pre-loved Uniform Store Next session: TBC

At the old Music Building, Next to the Dome, Close to the Lamberts Road Gate
[What three words location: begin.tigers.atom]

Anyone is welcome to pop in and take what items they need.

If your child has lost or outgrown their uniform or PE kit please drop in and see if we can help. We have a large stock of items of uniform (particularly trousers) and PE kit including some shoes, football boots and trainers. **Availability varies.** We operate a donation system for those that can afford to contribute.

Everyone Welcome - it is best the items get used, rather than sit in a store or be thrown away!

Any donations of uniform too small for your child would also be appreciated! These can be dropped at the collection point at the entrance to Albury

Easy Fundraising

Please support The Hollyfield School PTA - Surbiton on #easyfundraising, you'll raise FREE donations for us with your everyday shopping.

This is a really simple way to help raise funds for the PTA in order to support the school and students. Easyfundraising partners with over 7,000 brands who will donate part of what you spend to a cause of your choice. It won't cost you any extra. The cost is covered by the brand.

Follow this link to register and start raising some much needed funding : Select The Hollyfield School PTA, Surbiton: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1>

There are lots of ways of finding out about the PTA and what we are up to - website, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and two email addresses.... they are all linked at the foot of each page....



@hollyfieldpta



@hollyfield_pta



@TheHollyfieldSchoolPTA



ptahollyfield@gmail.com



www.hollyfieldpta.org

THIS WEEK.....




TOP ATTENDERS

The year group with the highest overall attendance so far this year is Year 7 with a total of 95.11%. The top form group within each year this week is:

7LGR= 97.42%
 8RAL = 98.44%
 9SDA = 99.03%
 10EPA= 96.13%
 11KEM = 98.44%

Well done to all these students, keep up the excellent work.

HOUSE POINTS

	 Eagle	 Falcon	 Osprey
Year 7	6981	6981	6981
Year 8	7832	7832	7832
Year 9	7417	7417	7417
Year 10	6435	6435	6435
Year 11	5885	5885	5885
Total	7131	7131	7131

NEXT WEEK

Monday 20 January	Year 12 Assembly – Common Room Year 11 Assembly (Healthy Relationships) – Dining Hall Year 11 Sixth Form Interviews (4.00-6.30pm)
Tuesday 21 January	Year 13 Assembly – Common Room Year 8 Assembly (Healthy Relationships) – Dining Hall Year 10 STEM Workshop (Army) PTA Mtg (7.30pm)
Wednesday 22 January	Year 7 Assembly (Healthy Relationships) – Dining Hall
Thursday 23 January	Year 9 Assembly (Healthy Relationships) – Dining Hall ISSP Languages Day Year 9 Fulham Workshop and Player Appearance
Friday 24 January	Year 7 Equality and Diversity Role Models Workshop Year 10 Assembly (Healthy Relationships) – Dining Hall Year 11 Sixth Form Interviews (4.00-6.30pm)

FORTHCOMING DATES

20 & 23 January – Year 11 Sixth Form Interviews
 23 January – Year 9 Fulham Workshop and Player Appearance
 23 January – Year 7 Equality and Diversity Role Models Workshop (Carousel)
 27 January – Year 12 Report Emailed Home
 29 January – UCAS Deadline

29 January – Year 9-10 Intermediate Maths Challenge
 31 January – Year 11 Intermediate Maths Challenge
 3 February – Year 7 Kingston University Trip
 6 February – Year 13 Parent Consultation evening - 4.00pm
 7 February - GCSE Science Live
 10-15 February – Year 13 Retake Trial Exams
 13 February - Year 8 Sandown Park – Numeracy in a real life context

17-21 February 2024 – Half Term
24/2 – Inset day

ACHIEVEMENT POINTS

Achievement and behaviour points are awarded every day at Hollyfield in line with our school policy and are a fundamental part of school life. We want students to be the best versions of themselves and we explicitly teach the behaviour we want our young people to develop through our GO BIG character virtues (Good Communication / Organisation / Bouncebackability / Initiative / Gratitude). Students are therefore rewarded for when they demonstrate these character virtues either in class, around our school environment and even outside of school. The school also gives out termly prizes for great progress, engagement in learning, attendance and also contribution to school life. We also continually try to celebrate the successes of our students outside of school life and encourage all students to be proud of their successes in whatever area they come from.

Behaviour points are given to students in line with our behaviour policy. At the heart of our behaviour policy is restorative approaches which is a strategy the school uses to allow students to discuss their behaviours with one another and also key staff and to move past incidents in a non-judgemental way.

Both of the school's rewards and behaviour policies can be found on the school website and if you have any questions about them please don't hesitate to contact Miss Patel (Assistant Headteacher).

The year group weekly totals are below:

Year 7 909 **Year 8** 1040 **Year 9** 714 **Year 10** 520 **Year 11** 485

The top performing forms per year group in terms of overall achievements were:

7RCL 191 **8VVA** 233 **9NLU** 148 **10WGO** 200 **11DMI** 131

The top performing students from each year were:

Year 7 Max G **Year 9** Oliver R **Year 11** Tandice Y
Year 8 Charlie L **Year 10** Lucas F

TEACHING & LEARNING

Music

Musical Instrument Lessons at Hollyfield



With Kingston Music Service



About instrument lessons at Hollyfield...

At Hollyfield we recognise the importance of Music and know that students who learn musical instruments are shown to do better across their subjects (it has been proven that learning to play an instrument stimulates the

brain, improving functions like memory and abstract reasoning skills). It is also a great way for students to make new friends at school by being able to participate in our Rock School, Swing Band and Orchestra. If students would like to have individual music lessons on an instrument during the school day we offer a range of different instruments with our fabulous team of peripatetic teaching staff. The instrument lessons are 25 minutes each and organised on a rotation timetable.

INSTRUMENTS and teachers...

All instruments can be applied for (even if not currently taught here). Currently we have the following brilliant team of tutors:

Onna Benson: Piano	Sharon Taylor: Piano
Tom Early: Drum kit/Percussion	Tino Rainone: Guitar
Andy Brown: Guitar	Tom Marshall: Guitar
Neil Thomas: Piano & Brass	Deborah Chalmers: Violin
Linley Weir: Voice	

We would love more woodwind and brass players and there are schemes that Kingston Music Service can offer to support these lessons. In some instances we can also offer funded lessons to support talented students where finance is a barrier.

Applying for instrument lessons...

<https://www.kingston.gov.uk/music-service-1/music-lessons/2>

Please follow the link to apply and to see prices.



Science and Technology Competition

This week, Issy and Milo in Year 10 had an exciting opportunity to represent Hollyfield at the Southern Finals of the Science and Technology Competition at the University of Greenwich in Chatham. Facing tough competition from 12 schools, they worked alongside their Grey Court teammates programming a Lego robot to navigate a challenging maze. While they didn't claim victory, Issy and Milo were fantastic representatives of our school and gained valuable experience of problem-solving, teamwork and robotics in a university setting. We are incredibly proud of them.



CAREERS



Careers Briefing 17 January 2025
Mr Poole & Miss Corrighan (Careers team)

Year 9 - Key Stage 4 Options process

Year 9 had an opportunity to access the [Unifrog](#) which is the careers platform students use to explore different careers pathways. It is valuable online as it provides the chance for students to research up their favourite subjects and explore different future career pathways.

Parents can also have your own Unifrog account. You'll be able to research careers, attend webinars delivered by employers and universities to learn more about their opportunities, and compare pathways so you can support your child in making an informed decision about their next steps. The sign up code you need is: **HYFDPARENTS** and sign up here: www.unifrog.org/code You can also sign up to Unifrog's newsletter when you first sign in to get expert advice and guidance on supporting your child with their next steps.

Subject Tasters & Speed Networking Day - 11 February 2025

Students will have the opportunity to take part in a number of subject tasters and a careers speed networking event. Students will be meeting people from a range of career sectors. The aim of the event is to provide students with an opportunity to broaden their understanding of the world of work; give them an insight into the future careers options and inspire them in their future choices. Choosing their KS4 options is not an isolated event, but part of a journey all students are on and they should be beginning to think about future education and employment. An important part of any successful careers programme is to give students the opportunity to have a number of employer encounters during their time at school and it is our aim at Hollyfield to do this.



We need Volunteers! We already have a number of volunteers but would welcome more volunteers from parents and alumni. Obviously, many people are at work but if you are available to come in and take part in the networking event either in the morning; the afternoon or all day on Tues 11th Feb, please contact Mr Poole who is organising the event: ipoole@hollyfield.kingston.sch.uk .



Year 10

Army and STEM Careers Day - Tuesday 21 January

One of the aims of providing outstanding careers education is to ensure that during their time at a school every student in the school has a number of opportunities to learn from different employers about work, employment and workplace skills. Next week we have the Army Outreach team coming into school to work with Year 10s on a variety of different challenging activities. They will learn about opportunities in the army but also be taking part in a variety of interactive team building and leadership tasks.



Year 11

Year 11 students - are you interested in apprenticeships?

We are looking to take a group of students to the Way2work apprenticeship event in Twickenham on Thursday 6th February.

At Way2Work we deliver apprenticeships in:

Business administration Events, housing, marketing, digital and IT, sales and distribution

Customer service Social services, PA roles fitness technology, aerospace, finance

Early years educator or early years practitioner Day nurseries, private nurseries

Teaching assistant Primary, secondary & special schools

The open day will be filled with information about apprenticeships and career opportunities. This event is

perfect for anyone interested in exploring different career paths. Discover the benefits of apprenticeships, meet ex apprentices, receive careers advice and join in with our competitions!

So if you are interested in those career areas please sign up via the google form:

<https://forms.gle/bigdSn9rE8B7ZT4k6> **By Tuesday 21st January at the latest.** If we don't have enough interest then students can attend independently after school.

College applications and interviews

Many students have applied to their colleges and sixth forms. Hollyfield sixth form will have their interviews in January and most other colleges have interviews ongoing. ***There is still time to apply to colleges and we encourage you to apply to 2-3 places to ensure you have a range of options.*** Please see this useful article about: [How to ace your UK college interview : Unifrog Blog](#) If any year 11 students/parents would like support with this please contact the careers team: ipool@hollyfield.kingston.sch.uk and we can book a meeting to support you.

Kingston College Open Event - Saturday 25th January 10am-1pm

The college is a part of the South Thames College Group. If students are not planning to stay at Hollyfield School next year and have not already applied to a college there are a number of open evenings in the next few weeks. If you want to go you have to register. See links below.

Kingston College	Saturday 25 January, 10am-1pm	Register here
Merton College	Wednesday 5 February, 5pm-7pm	Register here
Carshalton College	Wednesday 26 February, 5pm-7pm	Register here
South Thames College	Wednesday 5 March, 5pm-7pm	Register here

Careers opportunities



We want to ensure we are promoting a range of opportunities for our students to explore their career ideas. Sixth formers should be accessing this on a weekly basis and is posted to their google classrooms. Please see below some of the highlights below and for much more please see our weekly opportunities bulletin: [17 January 2025 Sixth Form Careers opportunities](#)

Year Group	Description	Link
10-13	<p>National Apprenticeship Week - 10th-16th February</p> <p>Unifrog is hosting an online apprenticeship fair which you can log onto on the 7th February 4.30-7pm. To help your students prepare, remind them to fill out the pre-fair worksheet so they log on with a plan of sessions and employers' booths to visit.</p>	<p>Sign up: Unifrog Apprenticeships Fair 7 Feb, 4:30–7pm Download the student worksheet</p>
10 - 13	<p>INVESTIN Careers programmes</p> <p>SPRING WEEKEND PROGRAMME DATES</p> <p>9th March 2025 - London or Live Online Doctor Architect Entrepreneur Computer Scientist Artist</p> <p>16th March 2025 - London or Live Online Lawyer Dentist Engineer Filmmaker Forensic Scientist</p> <p>23rd March 2025 - London or Live Online Banker Psychologist International Politics Fashion Designer Vet</p> <p>These are PAID for programmes but the feedback is always very positive. Programmes include: Vet, Medicine, STEM, Psychology, Investment Banking, Architect, Computer Science, Fashion Designer, Forensic Scientist and many more... See all the information: EMAIL PDF SPRING WEEKEND 09 07.pdf</p>	<p>Gain 10% off with our code: HOLLYFIELD10 Weekend Programmes – InvestIN Education</p>
12 & 13	<p>The Telegraph's Media Literacy Programme provides an insight into what it's like to be a journalist at an award-winning multimedia news brand. The programme is open to 16-18 year olds across the UK. It highlights the importance of trusted and accountable news and equips you with some of the tools and skills to think critically about world events. The programme will help you understand the different roles in the newsroom and provide information on how to get a career in journalism.</p> <p>What to expect Online sessions with a range of journalists from departments across the business including news, sports, beauty, music, and social media. Each week, you will get the chance to practise skills such as headline writing, interviewing and travel writing.</p> <p>When The online programme will run for four weeks, beginning on Tuesday 4th March 2025. Sessions will run from 4 - 5 pm every Tuesday.</p> <p>Completing the programme If you take part in all four sessions, you will receive a Telegraph Media Literacy Journalism Certificate. You will also have the option to join our future talent pool to stay up-to-date with entry-level opportunities at the Telegraph.</p>	<p>How to apply The Telegraph Media Literacy Programme 2025 :: Telegraph Media Group Jobs The deadline for applications is 5:00 pm, 14th February 2025</p> <p>To submit your application, go to our website. As a cover letter for your application, we would like you to write 100 words on why you would like to take part. Please ensure you use your school email address and state the name and location of your school. When submitting your application, please provide the contact details of a teacher. You will be notified of next steps once your</p>

		application has been reviewed.
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GETTING TO KNOW.....

Data Department:

Debbie O'Donnell – Cover & Data Manager

I have been working here for over 6 ½ years. As the Cover Manager my day starts at 7am here at school. I make sure all classes are covered if a teacher is off for any reason. I work closely with our 2 lovely cover supervisors, Mr Kang and Mrs Arul. I was also a student here many years ago and met my now husband here when we were both students at Hollyfield. We have been happily married for over 33 years. My favourite time of the year is Christmas and I like to spread a little Christmas cheer in my office by getting the decorations up nice and early.

Examinations Department:

Examinations Manager, Sumangali Ganendiran

Sumangali Ganendiran has been working at Hollyfield for than 20 years. The Exams Department is one of the busiest department at Hollyfield School. She deals with all the entries relating to internal and external examinations for year 11, 12 and 13 students. Any queries from parents, students and Awarding bodies relating to exams are processed by the Exams Manager. She enjoys spending time with friends and gardening.

Examination and Data Assistant – Maria Reynolds

Maria Reynolds is our Data and Exams Assistant who started working at Holyfield as a temp in April 2022 and became a permanent member in May 2022! Maria creates mark sheets for the teachers to enter their data for their students with set deadlines and chases the data for all year groups and produces school reports and send home to parents. Maria also assists the exams manager by producing student timetables, completing seating plans and help prepare documents for each exam throughout the year.

IT Technical Support

The IT team at Hollyfield consists of two highly skilled professionals dedicated to ensuring the school's technology infrastructure is always current, secure, and fully operational. They are the go-to experts for troubleshooting technical issues and managing the school's network and servers. Whether it's assisting teachers with setting up classroom technology, ensuring students have access to essential digital resources, or resolving technical problems, the team is focused on delivering high-quality support across the entire school. Their expertise and commitment to staying ahead of technological trends make them a crucial asset to the school's continued success.

IT Manager- Noohad Khan

I joined this school as a fresh-faced postgraduate, stepping into a world of desktop computers that could heat a room, bulky projectors, and software that could test anyone's ability to stay calm. Two decades later, I'm still here, proudly serving as IT Manager - making sure our technology stays ahead of the curve and doesn't require a "Have you tried turning it off and on again?" for every problem.

Since then, I've had the privilege of guiding the school through an incredible tech transformation. Most recently, we've invested thousands in new servers, upgraded IT network infrastructure, and modern devices to ensure our staff and students have the very best tools at their fingertips. Whether it's managing these upgrades, keeping everything running

smoothly, or solving the occasional “why won’t it print?” mystery, I’m proud to play a key role in supporting the school’s day-to-day operations.

Having been a student here, it’s been a unique experience to watch the school evolve. What started with me holding things together with little more than duct tape and hope has now blossomed into a high-tech, well-equipped learning environment. It’s incredibly fulfilling to see how these changes empower both staff and students, even if it means occasionally reminding someone that the computer won’t turn on because the monitor power button hasn’t been pressed.

And no, I don’t have magical powers - but for some reason, the tech just seems to work better when I’m watching.

IT Technician – Sunny Curtis

I joined the team in October with previous experience as an IT technician, where I gained strong skills in troubleshooting, system maintenance, and user support. Under the guidance of Noohad, the IT Manager, I’ve been able to refine my abilities and further develop my technical expertise. I’m always eager to learn and stay updated on the latest technologies, which helps me bring fresh solutions to the challenges that arise in the IT environment. My goal is to ensure seamless technology experiences for everyone at the school, whether it’s resolving issues quickly or proactively preventing problems.

Outside of work, I enjoy gaming, reading science fiction books, and spending time with my cat. I’m excited to contribute to the team and help ensure that technology runs smoothly, enhancing the learning experience for both staff and students. I look forward to continuing to support the team and make a positive impact on the school’s IT systems and infrastructure.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Links to Useful Information

[Term Dates 2024-2025](#)

[Uniform List](#)

[Extra-Curricular Activities](#)

[Severe Weather Procedure](#)

[Form Tutor List](#)

[The School Day Times](#)

[Student well-being and safety](#)

[Donation to School Fund](#)

[Key Dates](#)

[Menus](#)

[Staff List and Structure](#)

Important reminders for PE clubs:

- students receive 1 achievement point for attending
- clubs are free and no pre sign is required
- clubs at the school field will have a coach to drop them off and pick them up or students can make their own way home using public transport
- PE kit is not required for clubs during lunchtime
- For after school clubs, students should bring PE kit to get changed after 3.05pm unless they are already wearing their PE kit for their PE lesson that day
- If a student has a repair, they need to attend the repair as the priority

Resilience in Children

If you are interested in further reading around building resilience in children this article is worth a read.

<https://cmom.org/press/the-british-psychological-society-five-ways-to-boost-resilience-in-children/>

LOCAL INFORMATION

Kooth

Kooth is an online crisis messenger service that Children and young people can access for free online mental health support with a professional counsellor - www.Kooth.com.

Mental Health Resource sites

- Mind in Kingston: run daily activities on zoom. Email RachelDykins@mindinkingston.org.uk for details.
- Childline: information and advice on a range of topics including feelings, relationships, family and schools. Childline is there to help anyone under 19 in the UK with any issue they're going through. Call: 0800 1111.
- Anna Freud Centre: 90 resources and strategies <https://www.annafreud.org/selfcare/>.
- Samaritans: Samaritans a safe place for you to talk any time you like, in your own way, about whatever's getting to you. Call: 116 123.
- Shout - Shout is the UK's first free 24/7 text service for anyone in crisis anytime, anywhere. Text Shout to 85258.
- National Domestic Abuse Helpline: We are a team of highly-trained, female advisers. We won't judge you or tell you what to do; we are here to listen. Call: 0808 2000 247/online chat.

Information for adults

Young Minds - Parents Helpline - Worried about a child or young person's behaviour or mental health? Call the free helpline for confidential, expert advice. For more information visit: www.youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/. Call 0808 802 5544.



Counseling and Therapy

Morag Shrafeddin is a qualified Counsellor with a Masters from Roehampton University in Integrative Counselling and Psychotherapy specialising in work with Children, Adolescents and Families. She also works in Fulham as a School Project Manager with the school counselling service Place2Be.

Morag is dedicated to supporting children and adolescents with their emotional well-being and personal growth. With a compassionate and client-centred approach, she aims to empower children and young people to overcome challenges and thrive in their lives.

Morag Shrafeddin
Specialist in Children and Adolescent Therapy
(MA Roehampton University)

(M) 079 5639 2216
(E) morag@shrafeddins-therapy.co.uk
(W) shrafeddins-therapy.co.uk



LIFE COACHING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

In Thames Ditton

AVAILABLE SESSIONS FROM NOVEMBER

When?
Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9am and 2pm (term time)

Where?
In the heart of Thames Ditton, in a warm and comfortable home office



Who?
Sessions are run by Nathalie Hamberger, the founder of Spaceforcourage.com. Nathalie is a certified coach. She has worked in mental health and wellbeing for the past four years both in educational settings and in her private practice. Prior to this Nathalie taught for over two decades in secondary and higher education. Nathalie is DBS checked.

What?

- 1:1 coaching sessions (45 mins)
- A safe space and relaxed atmosphere to explore your needs and your goals
- Support, strategies and reassurance to help teenagers and young adults develop healthy habits, reduce stress, maximise potential, and improve overall wellbeing.

LIMITED SPACES

FREE initial consultation

BOOK HERE

WWW.SPACEFORCOURAGE.COM

New courses for adults starting in January

As part of Kingston Council, Kingston Adult Education offers a diverse range of courses for people aged 19 and over. Some of their courses are free and take place in school hours.

Here is a selection of their courses starting in January:

- A series of 90-minute workshops to support individuals considering self-employment. Sessions will explore turning your creative talents into a business, becoming a virtual assistant, home-based tutoring and online teaching, and freelance content creation (writing, blogging and video creation)
- Accredited qualifications in Bookkeeping; Childcare; Community Interpreting; Counselling; Information, Advice and Guidance; and Understanding Mental Health.
- English, maths and digital skills, from entry level through to GCSE
- A plethora of wellbeing and creative skills classes, including painting and drawing, upcycling clothes, stained glass making, languages, and tai chi.

See their latest prospectus for full details:
bit.ly/KAE-2425prospectus



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KINGSTON ADULT EDUCATION

Learn • Achieve • Progress

Maths for Parents: Secondary School Maths

Want to support your child with their maths schoolwork?

Join our **FREE** course.

Over 6 sessions, you will:

- Review the key maths topics covered in secondary school
- Practise the same maths and methods taught in schools
- Discover helpful maths resources

This course is available to all adults aged 19 years or over living in London. There is no requirement to be the parent or guardian of a school aged child to join this course. No prior learning is required.

Dates: Tuesday 7 January to 11 February 2025

Time: 10:15 to 12:15

Location: Hook Centre, Chessington KT9 1EJ

Cost: FREE

To enrol or find out more details:

- Email - skillsforworkandlife@kingston.gov.uk
- Visit - bit.ly/multiply-kae
- Call - 07511 045124
- Scan the QR code

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See our full range of courses at www.kingston.gov.uk/adulteducation

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High-Energy Fitness Dance Class For All Levels



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For more information: ekremalkoc@gmail.com



10:30 AM BERRYLANDS, SURBITON, KT5 8JT

OLD KINGSTONIAN HC



JUNIOR HOCKEY TRIALS

FREE TRIALS FOR ALL AGE GROUPS & ABILITIES



AGE GROUPS	LOCATION	DATES
RECEPTION TO YEAR 11 (AGE 4-16)	TIFFIN GIRLS' SCHOOL & KGS SPORTS GROUNDS	15 DEC 24 12 JAN 25 26 JAN 25

FOR MORE DETAILS & REGISTRATION VISIT:



WWW.OKHOCKEY.COM



administrator@okhockey.com

KINGSTONIAN CRICKET CLUB PRESENTS

JUNIOR CRICKET TASTER SESSION



WE ARE RUNNING WINTER CRICKET SESSIONS ON SUNDAYS 12TH JAN FROM 10-11.30AM FOR U9-12 [Y4-Y6] & U13-18 [Y7-Y11] FROM 11.30AM-1PM AT SHREWSBURY HOUSE SCHOOL

PLEASE REGISTER YOUR INTEREST HERE:
<https://rb.gy/6fgxh4>

EMAIL: KINGSTONIANCC@GMAIL.COM

NEW YOUTH CLUB OPENING!

Do you want a safe place where you can...

take part in sports, play games, chill with your friends, listen to music and more?

School Years 7 to 11

Then look no further.

Tolworth has a new youth club located at Sunray Community Centre, Knollmead KT5 9PH

Thursdays
7pm to 8.30pm
Term time



For more information and to find out how to get involved please email: youth.services@achievingforchildren.org.uk








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How We Teach

Our unique step-by-step teaching method, means we're able to cover advanced techniques & subjects, even with our youngest students. Projects are carefully designed to impart core skills that can be used for a lifetime.

Term Time Classes

2 Ewell Rd, Long Ditton, Surbiton KT6 5LE

Each term covers a new exciting theme, where students will have the chance to explore an array of different styles & mediums.

For current class details, visit our website.

Holiday Workshops

Every half term and school holiday, Cygnets run a series of fantastic workshops for ages 5+. There are two classes on each day, so students can attend individual classes, or bring a packed lunch and stay for both! Please see website for upcoming classes.



Private Tuition & Classes

Private one-to-one or group tuition for ages 5+ at your home, with one of our experienced artist-teachers. Ideal for scholarship application, or just for fun!