



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

“Pupils’ behaviour is exemplary, and they demonstrate exceptional attitudes to learning” Ofsted 2025

Head’s line...

Dear Hollyfield Community

I hope you are well and enjoying this sunny afternoon, after quite a soggy week. We had an excellent turnout for yesterday's Year 9 Options Evening, with record numbers of students and their parents and carers coming along to hear about the options process and to speak to Heads of Department about the wonderful opportunities waiting for them in Year 10. This event will be followed by one-to-one meetings with the senior and pastoral team, so that each Year 9 student can ask us any questions they might still have before making those all important decisions.

Parents and carers of students in Years 8 to 13 will have received a Parentmail this week from our Visual and Performing Arts Faculty about an event coming up in February: Hollyfield's first VPA alumni event. We have invited back a number of former students, who have successful careers in the arts (including illustrators, sound engineers, textiles designers, musicians, actors, directors and producers). They will meet our students and their families and take part in panel discussions, chaired by the relevant Head of Department. We are all very excited about the event - and the VPA team looks forward to your expressions of interest, so that they can plan the best possible event.

We continue to have high expectations of all students, in terms of their conduct and commitment to learning. This includes their uniform, which sends a clear message to everyone they encounter at school. If you could support us by ensuring that your children leave for school smartly dressed in the correct uniform, we'd really appreciate it. We have noticed there are a large number of parents and carers bringing in lunches, PE kits, blazers and school work. While this is very much appreciated, please can I ask parents and carers to speak to their child/ren about good organisation and being prepared for school. Hopefully, this will ease the burden on parents and the stress for our students.

There are a growing number of articles and posts online that discuss 'autistic burnout' and what it can do to a young person and their families. It is a very real concern and at Hollyfield we aim to support our students as much as possible with the responsibilities and demands placed on them as they move through secondary education. To continue to support them, Mr Dowdle, our SENCO, has created a [presentation](#) for families and staff that outlines what burnout means, what the signs are and how we can help young people engage with education again. He has also included his sources so that you may seek further information or support if needed. The presentation will be available through the link on the SEN Section at the top of page 2 for future reference ”.

And finally, following last year’s successful recruitment campaign, which saw four new governors join our governing body, you will find in this week’s e-bulletin details of an additional vacancy for a governor with a finance/accountancy background to join the team. If you’ve ever wondered what a governor does, 2026 could be the chance to discover how rewarding volunteering for just a few hours a month in the local community can be.

Thanks, everyone, and I look forward to bringing you more news next week.

Amy Jackson, Headteacher



Term Dates

Autumn Term 2025

1 September to 19 December
 (Inset Day – 1-2 Sept, 6-7 Nov & 5 Dec)

Half Term

27 October - 7 November

Christmas Holiday

22 December - 2 January 2026

Spring Term 2026

5 January – 27 March
 (Inset Day – 23 Feb)

Half Term

16-20 February (see above)

Easter Holiday

30 March – 10 April (Bank Hol 3 & 5 Apr)

Summer Term 2026

13 April – 17 July (Bank Hol 4 & 25 May)

Half Term

25 - 29 May

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

- 19/1 - Y9 Holocaust Memorial Day Visit – 8.30am-12.30pm
- 20/1 - DofE Parent Evening (On Line) (7pm)
- 21/1 - Y9 Fulham Premier League Inspires Workshop (12.00-3.30pm)
- 22/1 – Y12 National Portrait Gallery Trip
- 22/1 – Y11 BFI Southbank Trip

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“Pupils achieve very well in their examinations. This is because the school delivers an ambitious and balanced curriculum, underpinned by the highest expectations for all pupils. This includes the popular and successful sixth form.” Ofsted 2025

OTHER NOTICES

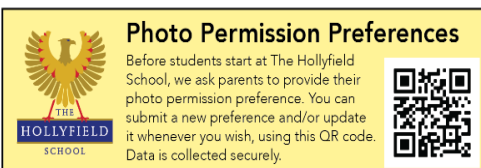


Photo Permission Preferences

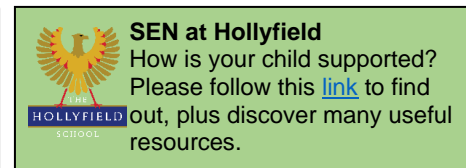
Before students start at The Hollyfield School, we ask parents to provide their photo permission preference. You can submit a new preference and/or update it whenever you wish, using this QR code. Data is collected securely.



Free School Meals

Is your child eligible for Free School Meals?

A small percentage of eligible students do not claim them. We email parents frequently to let them know. During the term, eligible students can claim a nutritious hot meal, drink or delicious dessert every day. If they are entitled, make sure your child is claiming theirs. If you need further assistance, please contact us.



SEN at Hollyfield

How is your child supported? Please follow this [link](#) to find out, plus discover many useful resources.

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 Condition(s) and Individual Healthcare 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>. Once complete, this will form part of your child's Individual Healthcare Plan which will be sent to you for approval, the communication will come from noreply@medicaltracker.co.uk. Please allow emails from this address.

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

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.

**DO YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR
FINANCE... AND EDUCATION?**

GOVERNOR VACANCY

All training and support provided
with no prior experience necessary!

Our friendly and supportive governing
body is looking for someone with an
accountancy/finance background who can
give a few hours a month to the school
community in return for the opportunity to
shape the school's future.



**JOIN US AT AN EXCITING TIME IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF
HOLLYFIELD AS IT CONTINUES TO BUILD ON A RECENT SUCCESSFUL
OFSTED INSPECTION AND SPECTACULAR EXAM RESULTS.**

Whether you're a parent or professional looking to give back,
if you possess the following, we'd love to hear from you!

- ✓ Finance background
- ✓ Commitment to your local community
- ✓ Ability to support with budget planning and financial overview

Interested?

Visit the [Hollyfield School website](#) for more information on the role of the governing body, [full vacancy details](#) and to [apply online](#).

Alternatively, for an informal chat about the role, please contact Jemma at clerk@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 view workshops and book](#)



HOLLYFIELD PTA NEWS

Pre-loved Uniform Store

Date: Saturday 17 January 26

Time: 10am to 12pm

Location: Hollyfield School 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 uniforms too small for your child would also be appreciated! These can be dropped at the collection point at the entrance to Albury

PTA next meeting – All are welcome!

Come along to our next meeting, find out a bit more about us and what exciting plans we have for the year ahead and planning for Hollyfest!

Date: Tuesday 20 January 26

Time: 7.00pm

Location: Hollyfield School

Whether you're a regular volunteer or just curious about how the PTA works, **everyone is welcome**. It's a great opportunity to meet other parents & carers, hear about how the money we raise is used, and discover if you might like to get involved — even in a small way. **Coming soon.....**

February - Quiz Night for Adults only - date TBC

After the success of our Year 7 Quiz in November we will be holding an adults only quiz night in February.

Volunteers wanted - We are looking for budding quiz masters to put some mind boggling questions together! If you are up to the task and interested please drop us an email ptahollyfield@gmail.com.

April - We are delighted to share that our school has secured a place in next year's London Marathon! The place has been offered to our staff team and one brave and dedicated runner will be taking on the challenge to raise vital funds for the school in April. Stay tuned—full details will be revealed shortly!



@hollyfieldpta



@hollyfield_pta



@TheHollyfieldSchoolPTA



ptahollyfield@gmail.com



www.hollyfieldpta.org

Join the Hollyfield PTA – Make a Difference!

We are a group of parent and carer volunteers creating fun and fundraising events that directly benefit the school. Help shape how funds are spent and make a real difference to our children's experience.

Get Involved:

- Volunteer your time 🕒 at events and stalls.
- Attend PTA events 🎉 — fun and fundraising combined!
- Come to monthly meetings 📅 (usually the 3rd Tuesday).
- Stay updated via:



Get Regular Updates [Join the WhatsApp Community](#) for the PTA



Follow us on Instagram [@hollyfield_pta](#) for the latest news



Drop us an email ptahollyfield@gmail.com to find out more

Register for Easy Fundraising before starting your online shopping and raise money for Hollyfield School 🎁

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>



[@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 8 with a total of 95.42%. The top form group within each year this week is:

7RSA= 97.93%
 8RAL= 98.28%
 9SCM = 97.1%
 10DMI = 98.18%
 11JLU = 94.83%

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

HOUSE POINTS

	 Eagle	 Falcon	 Osprey
Year 7	5774	6531	7312
Year 8	6104	6153	4195
Year 9	5566	5538	6477
Year 10	3675	3904	5387
Year 11	1835	3093	2080
Total	22954	25219	25451

NEXT WEEK

Monday 19 January	Year 11 Interventions (All Week) Year 9 Holocaust Memorial Day (Kingston Synagogue) (8.30am-12.30pm) Year 7 Assembly (Culture Day) – Dining Hall Year 12 Assembly – Common Room
Tuesday 20 January	Year 8 Assembly (Culture Day) – Dining Hall Year 13 Assembly – Common Room Year 10 Supporting Your Child's DofE Journey Parent Mtg (On Line) (7pm)
Wednesday 21 January	Year 9 Assembly (Culture Day) – Dining Hall Year 10 Army Skills Workshop Year 9 Fulham Premier League Inspires Workshop (Motspur Park) (12-3.30pm)
Thursday 22 January	Year 10 Assembly (Culture Day) – Dining Hall Year 11 BFI Southbank Trip (GCSE French) Year 12 National Portrait Gallery
Friday 23 January	Year 11 Assembly (Culture Day) – Dining Hall Year 10 GCSE Science Live Conference (Apollo Victoria Theatre) Year 12 & 13 BTEC Exam End Date

FORTHCOMING DATES

19 January – Year 9 Holocaust Memorial Day Visit – 8.30am-12.30pm
 20 January - Supporting Your Child's DofE Journey Parent Evening (On Line) (7pm)
 21 January - Year 9 Fulham Premier League Inspires Workshop (12.00-3.30pm)
 22 January – Year 12 National Portrait Gallery Trip

22 January – Year 11 BFI Southbank Trip
 26 January – 14 February – Year 7-9 Assessments
 28 January – Year 9-11 Intermediate Maths Challenge
 26 & 29 January – Sixth Form Interviews (4.00-6.30pm)
 28 January – Y10/11 Intermediate Maths Challenge
 29 January – Year 11 Poetry Live Trip
 2-13 February – Year 11 Trial Exams
 3 February - Year 7 Kingston University Trip
 12 February – Year 10 & 11 My Neighbour Totoro (GCSE Drama Live Theatre Visit)
 9-13 February – Year 12-13 Retake Trial Exams
 9 February – Year 9 Options Taster Day
 11 February – Year 9 Career Networking Event
 12 February – Year 12-13 Parent Consultation evening - 4.00pm
 13 February – Year 12 Report Emailed Home
 13 February - Year 12 Kingston Hospital Visit

16-20 February 2026 – Half Term

23 February – Inset Day – School Closed

3-6 March – Year 11 GCSE Food Practical Exam

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 7 995 Year 8 559 Year 9 442 Year 10 470 Year 11 285

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

7GKE 251 8RAL 166 9MCO 148 10DMI 205 11HBL 90

The top performing students from each year were:

Year 7 Ollie T Year 9 Sarah Jane S Year 11 Sam N
 Year 8 Max G Year 10 Thomas H

TEACHING & LEARNING

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

Matthew Cooper: Brass & Piano

Tom Early: Drum kit/Percussion

Tino Rainone: Guitar

Linley Weir: Voice

Andy Brown: Guitar

Tom Marshall: Guitar

Deborah Chalmers: Violin

Theodora Stamoulaki: Piano

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.



GETTING TO KNOW.....

Cover, Data, Exams and IT Department

Debbie O'Donnell – Cover & Data Manager

I have been working here for over 7 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 34 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 Manager - Sumangali Ganendiran

Sumangali Ganendiran has been working at Hollyfield for more than 20 years. The Exams Department is one of the busiest departments 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 dress making, gardening and playing badminton in her spare time.

Data/Examination Assistant – Maria Reynolds

Maria Reynolds is our Data and Exams Assistant. She 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 2024 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.

CAREERS



Careers Briefing 16 January 2026 Mr Poole & Miss Corrighan (Careers team)

The Hollyfield Sixth Form Interviews - 26th and 29th January 4 pm-6pm

The Hollyfield Sixth Form is inviting every student in Year 11 for a Sixth Form Interview. The interview is a chance for students and parents to discuss what subjects they could study at Hollyfield Sixth Form or to offer support and guidance for those who will not stay on next year. The interviews are compulsory for all Y11's, and preferably we would like parents to attend with their son/daughter.

Students and parents will be notified of their interview date and time in mid-January. If parents are not able to attend the time allocated you will be given the opportunity to contact the sixth form and we will be able to arrange another time to conduct the interview during these evenings.

Year 11 Sixth form & college applications for Sept 2026

If students are not planning to go to the Hollyfield Sixth Form next year there is still time to apply to college. Many students may decide to stay in the Hollyfield Sixth Form but you need to apply to college to ensure you have a back-up plan. Kingston College, NESCOL, Richmond upon Thames and others are still taking applications so if you have not applied yet you need to do so. If your predicted grades are not secure i.e. you are on track to achieve more than 5 GCSEs at grade 4 including English and Maths, you need to have a realistic plan B. It is not too late to apply. If you are not sure how to apply, speak to Mr Poole or Miss Corrighan in Albury.

There are a number of college open events coming up in January:



Spring Term Open Events for September 2026

Kingston College	Saturday 24 January, 10am-1pm	Register here
Carshalton College	Wednesday 25 February, 5pm-7pm	Register here
	Apprenticeship event 12 Feb 4.30-6.30pm	Apprenticeship Information Evening
South Thames College	Wednesday 4 March, 4.30pm-6.30pm	Register here
Merton College	Wednesday 11 March, 5pm-7pm	Register here
Kingston College	Wednesday 18 March, 4.30pm-6.30pm	Register here



NESCOT also have an open evening in early March [Nescot Open Events](#)



Richmond upon Thames College in Twickenham has a Parents tour in Jan and an open event in March [Events | Richmond Upon Thames College](#)

Options

Year 9 Options Choices

Over the next month, Year 9s will be in the process of choosing their Key Stage 4 options for year 10/11.

On the **9 February**, there will be a Careers and Taster day when Year 9s will have a chance to take part in some KS4 Subject taster lessons and there will also be a careers speed networking event. This event will allow students to meet with representatives from different businesses and industries to talk about their experiences of education and employment, and hopefully get some good advice about career choices for the future. **The final deadline for handing in options forms is 27th February**, so there is plenty of time to ask questions and make well-informed choices.

If any Year 9s are struggling with their choices, they can always request a careers interview by speaking to their tutor and Mr Poole or Ms Corrighan will see them for a meeting.

TALKING FUTURES

Talking futures is a great resource to inform parents and carers about the options available to their children. It has conversation starters, information about the range of options which include technical qualifications and apprenticeships and more. It is a really good starting point for parents and carers to find out more about what their children can do in this ever-changing education landscape.

Saturday Academies

For 13 to 16 year-olds



NESCOT

NESCOT run many fun activities through their Saturday academies. They are currently taking bookings. The next round of activities begins in February and includes a number of

practical, vocational courses, including animal management, construction and cooking. The price of the 4-week course is £95. See link for details.

<https://www.nescot.ac.uk/saturday-academies/>



Careers opportunities

We encourage sixth form students and parents and carers to access our **weekly Careers Opportunities bulletin**. This is a roundup of the opportunities available to students, this is something students should be checking weekly to build up their knowledge and experience. All of these opportunities allow students to explore their ideas and look great on uni or apprenticeship applications. This includes;

- Work experience
- Careers talks
- University open days and tasters
- Apprenticeships
- Unifrog resources and events
- and much more

Students and parents/carers can access this here:

[Careers opportunities bulletin 15/01/26](#)

Students in year 12 will do a work experience placement in the last week of the summer term - 13-17 July so students should be looking for placements now for that week and once confirmed it needs to be recorded on Unifrog (See more info in the careers opps bulletin).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Links to Useful Information

[Term Dates 2025-2026](#)

[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](tel:08001111).
- 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](tel:116123).
- Shout - Shout is the UK's first free 24/7 text service for anyone in crisis anytime, anywhere. Text Shout to [85258](tel: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](tel:08082000247)/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.

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 - Responding to difficult feelings
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 - Understanding teenage development
 - Parenting styles
 - Praise and criticism
- 3 Communicating with your teenager**
 - Talking and listening
 - Communicating clearly
 - Handling difficult issues
- 4 Managing conflict**
 - Rules and boundaries
 - Choosing how to respond
 - Problem solving

Contact details
 Karen Williams, Parenting Officer
 E: karen.williams@achievingforchildren.org.uk
 T: 020 8547 6965
 M: 07771 974388



Counselling 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

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Parenting Workshop

Helping You Navigate the Challenges of Parenting Adolescents

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- Stressed or overwhelmed by your teenager's behaviour?
- Unsure how to set boundaries that actually work?
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You're not alone. Join our friendly, supportive group for parents of young people aged 11-18.

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Workshop Details

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8-week workshop – £400

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