



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

It's been another busy week for us. We had visitors from The Army on Wednesday, as part of the school's ongoing work to provide employer encounters for all year groups in line with Hollyfield's careers provision. Year 10 students took part in a range of team-building and problem-solving activities, which were likened by our students and staff to The Traitors' challenges. Thanks to Mr Poole for organising the day. Thanks, also, to Ms Cotton and Ms May for leading a great trip to The National Portrait Gallery for Art and Photography students, to Team Science for a great day out for Y10 students at the Science Live event and to our MFL department, who took students to The BFI for a wonderful exploration of identity and culture, linked to their GCSE French studies.

Mr Warren and the sixth form team will be conducting interviews with our Year 11 students next week, ahead of their big decision about life after GCSEs and BTECs. The Senior Leadership Team has also been interviewing our Year 9 students, who are preparing for their own next big steps. There is a real sense of excitement in the year group and the feedback from all the colleagues involved has been glowing. Our students are a very positive and engaged group of young people! Further information can be found in the Careers section.

Parents and carers of students in Years 8 to 13 will have received a Parentmail 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.

Please can I remind parents that if a student is unwell at home, please assess their suitability to attend school. A number of parents are sending students to school who are unwell and requesting they are sent home during the school day. Whilst we appreciate that attendance should remain a priority, if a student is not well enough to attend school they should remain at home. Support with this will be gratefully received as it allows our first aider to focus on medical requirements that happen during school time.

Just a reminder that following the half term break, Monday 23 February is an INSET day for staff. The school will be closed to students in all year groups.

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.

Have a great weekend.

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.....

- 26/1 – 14/2 – Y7-9 Assessments
- 28/1 – Y9-11 Intermediate Maths Challenge
- 26 & 29/1 – Sixth Form Interviews (4.00-6.30pm)
- 28/1 – Y10/11 Intermediate Maths Challenge
- 29/1– Y11 Poetry Live Trip
- 2-13/2 – Y11 Trial Exams
- 3/2 - Y7 Kingston University Trip
- 9/2 – Y9 Options Taster Day
- 9-13/2 – Y12-13 Retake Trial Exams

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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

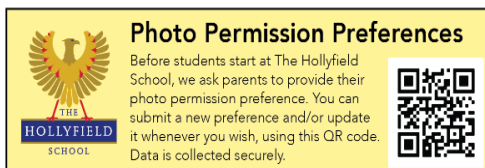



Photo Permission Preferences

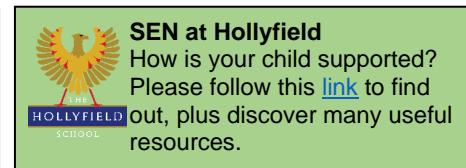
Before students start at The Hollyfield School, we ask parents to provide their photo permission preference. You can submit a new preference and/or update it whenever you wish, using this QR code. Data is collected securely.



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


PTA Hollyfest 2026 – Kick-Off Meeting (All Welcome!)

Hollyfest returns on **4 July 2026**, and we're aiming to make it **bigger and better than ever!**

After the fantastic success of last year—raising just under **£13,000** for the school—we're excited to start planning another amazing event.

This meeting marks the **start of planning for Hollyfest 2026**, and everyone is very welcome to attend. Whether you can help a little or a lot, getting more people involved means more ideas, more fun, and less work for everyone.

Come along, get involved, and help shape Hollyfest 26!

 **Date:** Tuesday 10 February

 **Time:** 7.00pm

 **Location:** TBC

PTA regular meetings

Our meetings usually take place on the 3 Tuesday of every month. Our next general PTA meeting will be Tuesday 17 March.

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

Coming soon.....

March - 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 - interested please drop us an email ptahollyfield@gmail.com.



[@hollyfieldpta](#)



[@hollyfield_pta](#)



[@TheHollyfieldSchoolPTA](#)



ptahollyfield@gmail.com



www.hollyfieldpta.org

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!

Pre-loved Uniform Store

Date: TBC (early in the next term)

Time: 10:00am to 12:00pm

Location: Holyfield School, The Old Music Building, next to the Dome, Close to the Lamberts Road Gate.

[What three words location: [firms.square.energy](https://www.firmsquare.energy/)]

A big thank you to the volunteers and families who came along to our Pre-loved Uniform Store last Saturday. **We raised just over £100 for the school by selling pre-loved uniforms!**

If your child has lost or outgrown their uniform or PE kit please drop in and see if we can help. Anyone is welcome to take what items they need - it is best the items get used rather than sit in a store or be thrown away! We operate a donation system for those that can afford to contribute and we have a large stock of uniform items. Availability varies.

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 95.48%. The top form group within each year this week is:

7GKE= 97.13%
 8PGI = 98.39%
 9SCM = 97.19%
 10DMI = 96.36%
 11AOP = 94.19%

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

HOUSE POINTS

	 Eagle	 Falcon	 Osprey
Year 7	6191	6931	7693
Year 8	6467	6565	4518
Year 9	5910	5816	6844
Year 10	3859	4083	5725
Year 11	1925	3209	2176
Total	24352	26604	26956

NEXT WEEK

Monday 26 January	Year 11 Interventions (All Week) Year 11 Assembly (Holocaust) – Dining Hall Year 12 Assembly – Common Room
	Year 11 Sixth Form Interviews (4.00-6.30pm)
Tuesday 27 January	Year 7 Assembly (Holocaust) – Dining Hall Year 13 Assembly – Common Room Year 7 STEM Workshop – Kingston University
Wednesday 28 January	Year 8 Assembly (Holocaust) – Dining Hall Year 9 & 10 UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge
Thursday 29 January	Year 9 Assembly (Holocaust) – Dining Hall Year 11 Poetry Live Trip Year 11 Sixth Form Interviews (4.00-6.30pm)
Friday 30 January	Year 10 Assembly (Holocaust) – Dining Hall

FORTHCOMING DATES

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
 9 February – Year 9 Options Taster Day

9-13 February – Year 12-13 Retake Trial Exams
 11 February – Year 9 Career Networking Event
 12 February – Year 10 & 11 My Neighbour Totoro (GCSE Drama Live Theatre Visit)
 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 7 741 **Year 8** 901 **Year 9** 545 **Year 10** 523 **Year 11** 170

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

7BRO 165 **8RCL** 178 **9MCO** 164 **10DMI** 189 **11HBL** 53

The top performing students from each year were:

Year 7 Neve SG **Year 9** Stirling S **Year 11** Ali K
Year 8 Aaeroohi C **Year 10** Joshua M

TEACHING & LEARNING

This week A Level Art & Photography students went on a trip to the National Portrait Gallery in London. Students gathered lots of inspiration for their projects and visited The Taylor Wessing Photo Prize. It was a great trip with lots of sketching and photography!



Year 11 French Film Workshop

On Thursday 22 January, nine year 11 students attended a trip to the British Film Institute to attend the workshop *Exploring Identity and Belonging through short film*. The objective of the trip was to enjoy French in a different context, as well as to experience what film study might be like on the A Level course. As usual, our students acted as excellent representatives of Hollyfield and we are extremely proud of how they approached the day.

The students took a train to Waterloo and walked the short distance to the South Bank to begin the workshop. The morning workshop focussed on 3 short films:

- *Les lèvres gercées* - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jTL8rVBr904>
- *Plus que des cheveux* – trailer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qWigmyfWrvE>
- *Madagascar, carnet de voyage* - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jpCpHahontU>

Students really enjoyed watching the short films, working through some tasks in small groups and discussing the key themes.

In the afternoon, students relaxed into their seats to enjoy a full-length film, *Gagarine*, based on a true story. The main character of the film is a 16 year old boy, left by his family to fend for himself, living in an abandoned block of flats. On the way home, students continued to discuss the film, analysing both the soundtrack and the colour palette. Meanwhile the teachers accompanying the group reflected on how the film was “heart-breaking” and “inspiring”.

We will keep our eyes peeled for opportunities to run this trip again in the future and for diverse workshops in Spanish, Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 5 as well.



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

Tom Early: Drum kit/Percussion

Andy Brown: Guitar

Theodora Stamoulaki: Piano

Sharon Taylor: Piano

Tino Rainone: Guitar

Tom Marshall: Guitar

Matthew Cooper: Brass & Piano

Linley Weir: Voice

Deborah Chalmers: Violin

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.....

Name: Miss Belben

Role: Head of French

Where you studied: Paris Sorbonne University, University of Lille and University College of London (UCL)

Hobbies: Music, travelling and learning about cultures and languages (currently learning my fifth language!)

Fun fact: I have been to 80 concerts across 7 countries and I have visited 12 countries!

Name: Miss Keruzec

Role: Second in charge of MFL - Acting Head of Spanish

Where you studied: University of Western Brittany, Universidad de Burgos, University Rennes 2 and University of Roehampton

Hobbies: Muay Thai, Boxing, trekking and travelling

Fun fact: While backpacking through Mexico, I found myself stranded in the middle of nowhere when my transport broke down. A kind family offered to help me reach the nearest city in exchange for a four-hour French lesson, as the city was quite far away. Ten years later, I am still in touch with them.

Name: Miss White

Role: Teacher of Spanish and French

Where you studied: Coventry University, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris 3, Universitat de Valencia, Goldsmiths University

Hobbies: Film, cooking, anime, reading, spending quality time with my son Ethan

Fun fact: I can name all the kings and queens of England from William the Conqueror to King Charles III

Name: Ms Opie

Role: Head of MFL

Where you studied: University of Bath, University College London

Hobbies: Running, swimming, arts & crafts, playing with my kids

Fun fact: I once interpreted for the Honduran police on the border between Honduras and Nicaragua to intercept an illegal vehicle.

Name: Mrs Detrois

Role: Teacher of French and Spanish

Where you studied: Toulouse Business School, University of Sheffield Hallam

Hobbies: Musical theatre dance, playing board games with my family and travelling.

Fun fact: I once arrived at the airport without my passport! Unfortunately, I did not have time to go back home to get it, so the trip got delayed and I had to buy a ticket for the next day.

CAREERS

CAREERS

Careers Briefing 23 January 2026 Mr Poole & Miss Corrighan (Careers team)



Year 10 Army Careers Day - 21 January

Year 10 took part in a Careers day, where students had a presentation about careers in the Army, then, during the rest of the day, students took part in a series of practical team-building and challenge activities. The day aimed to provide students with an opportunity to meet members of the armed forces and gain an insight into the different opportunities for training and adventure. The Army is one of the biggest providers of apprenticeships in the UK and gives training for a wide variety of different jobs. This is part of a wider school careers programme where we seek to provide different employer encounter activities for each year group.



The Hollyfield Sixth Form Interviews - 26 and 29 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 Year 11's, and preferably we would like parents to attend with their child.

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 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 backup 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 not 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, but it is now becoming urgent that you make an application somewhere. If you are not sure how to apply, speak to Mr Poole or Miss Corrighan in Albury.

Several college open events are coming up in January:



South Thames Colleges Group

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](#)

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 Key Stage 4 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 27 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 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.

NESCOT

NESCOT runs 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 complete 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.
- 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.

OLD KINGSTONIAN HC
2026

JUNIOR HOCKEY TRIALS

18 JAN 26 SCHOOL YEARS 1-7 TIFFIN GIRLS' SCHOOL 9:00 U10 9:30 U8 10:30 U12	25 JAN 26 SCHOOL YEARS 8-11 KGS SPORTS GROUNDS 9:30 GIRLS U14&U16 11:00 BOYS U14&U16
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USE THE [BOOKING LINK](#) OR
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- Teddington Town Cricket Club
- 2025 Surrey & Oval Title Winners
- All U11s & U12s Welcome
- First Two Sessions Free!

Indoor training starts Sunday 11th January
5 - 7pm, Shrewsbury House School

Contact Coach Matt; 07810711956
mwthaines@hotmail.com

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**Talking Teens
Four week parent group**

The Talking Teens Parent Group helps deal with your challenges over four sessions, so you can have a calmer, happier family life.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Being a parent of a teenager</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of parents for teenagers • Responding to difficult feelings | <p>3 Communicating with your teenager</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talking and listening • Communicating clearly • Handling difficult issues |
| <p>2 Understanding your teenager</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding teenage development • Parenting styles • Praise and criticism | <p>4 Managing conflict</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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



Parenting Workshop

Helping You Navigate the Challenges of Parenting Adolescents

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>Do you ever feel...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stressed or overwhelmed by your teenager's behaviour? • Unsure how to set boundaries that actually work? • Alone when dealing with school issues or conflict at home? | <p>You Will Learn</p> <p>Proven parenting techniques that build cooperation and respect.
 Strategies to support emotional regulation.
 Insights into teenage brain development — and how it shapes thoughts, feelings, and behaviour.</p> |
|---|--|

You're not alone. Join our friendly, supportive group for parents of young people aged 11–18.

What to Expect

Share practical strategies for positive behaviour management.
 Explore effective communication tools.
 Experience a safe, non-judgemental space to talk and connect.

Workshop Details

Starting Monday the 12th of January to March the 9th 2026 (no workshop during half term).
 Monday mornings 9:15–10:45 AM
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 8-week workshop – £400

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Facilitated by Experienced Children's Counsellors & Psychotherapists

Natalia Watts – MA, HCPC, EMDR Accred.
 Jessica Dahl – MA, MBACP
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Become a member of your local NHS trust

- ✓ Are you interested in **working in healthcare**?
- ✓ Do you have **experience of health services** in Kingston and Richmond?
- ✓ Are you interested in **giving back** to your local community?

If you are **aged 14+** and any of these apply, why not become a member of Kingston and Richmond NHS Foundation Trust.

Benefits include:

- Volunteering opportunities
- Opportunities to access health talks and hear from experts
- Ability to attend Council of Governors meetings and stand for election to the Council of Governors, if you want to!

www.kingstonandrichmond.nhs.uk

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