



King's Academy
Brune Park

Parent Newsletter

Thursday 12th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 9 Options

It was so great to see so many of you attend our Year 9 Guided Choices Evening in January. I am pleased to say that 77% have completed the online form and the remainder have until Monday 23rd February. Whilst some choices [English, Maths and Science], are made for the students, there are other subjects where choices need to be made. For these "options" subjects, foremost in the students' minds must be how much they enjoy a subject. It is also worth remembering that they are potentially choosing subjects they will take forward to college and then university. We encourage our students to speak to their teachers if they need to find out more. Knowing what topics are taught in Years 10 and 11 is often all that is required to make a selection easier.

Year 11: Exam Access

Our mindset for Year 11 students with exam access, such as use of a word processor and reading software, is that correct use of the arrangements makes for a level playing field with the rest of the students. We have been really pleased by how well our exam access students have approached the current round or pre-public exams. However, we are asking for your help if you have a child whose exam access is being able to type. We need these students to be typing in every lesson from now on so if your child has a chromebook, or similar, please do what you can to ensure they bring it to school. Our aim is for our typing students to be fully up to speed and confident with their keyboard skills, so that they can focus on the demands of the questions in their forthcoming exams. Having exam access arrangements has nothing to do with a student's ability in a subject and it's vital that we support them to make the best use of any arrangements in place.

Inset Day on Friday February 13th

School is closed to students on this day but it's a busy day for our teachers. The whole trust is meeting online for presentations from the Chief Executive and keynote speakers. This is followed by smaller group sessions covering topics such as reading and oracy. Finally, time is given over in the afternoon for the moderation of our exam papers. We hope you are able to enjoy an early start to the half term holiday with your child.

Wishing you all the best for a happy half term and hopefully some drier, brighter weather!

Kerry Payne

Headteacher



Celebration Thursday:

We are so proud to celebrate the students nominated for Celebration Thursday!

These outstanding individuals have been recognised for their kindness, dedication and hard work. Whether they are lending a helping hand, showing respect to others or giving their best effort in everything they do! Keep shining, keep striving, and thank you for being such positive role models for us all!



Attendance:

Unmissable Moments: Celebrating Attendance & Success at KABP

It has been a fantastic end to the half-term as we celebrated our final "Unmissable Day" of the half term. The energy across the school has been brilliant, and it was a pleasure to recognise the students who show the courage and commitment to show up and give their best every day.

Year 8 Champions:

A massive congratulations to **805**, our winning Year 8 tutor group! They kicked off their morning with a well-deserved breakfast treat and were officially presented with the Year 8 Trophy. Their consistency as a tutor group is a brilliant example of our school community at its best.

Attendance Big Prize Draw:

Miss Payne had the exciting task of drawing the winners for our Spring Half Term 1 100% Attendance Awards. A special shout-out to our lucky winners:



Attendance:

1st Place: Natalie Howe (£25 Amazon Voucher)



2nd Place: Caitlyn Collier (£15 Amazon Voucher)



Attendance:

3rd Place: Raven Jones (£10 Amazon Voucher)



Year 9 Breakfast Feast:

The celebrations started yesterday, when over 150 Year 9 pupils joined us for a celebratory breakfast. The hall was buzzing as students enjoyed fresh pastries, bacon rolls, and cereal to mark their ongoing high attendance.

A Note from our Attendance Team:

"We have truly enjoyed congratulating all of our shining stars this week. Rewarding our students for their resilience and the incredible progress they have made with their attendance this year is a highlight for us. Well done to everyone for showing such dedication!"

Shining Stars:

ATTENDANCE SHINING STARS

KINGS ACADEMY BRUNE PARK

YEAR 7

Imogen Adkins

Violet Clark

Lucas Knight

YEAR 8

★ ★

Megan Smith

Filip Wasilewski

YEAR 9

★ ★

Miley Hayward

Esmee Harvey

YEAR 10

★ ★

Jessica Metcalfe

Charlie Paddock

YEAR 11

★ ★

Ollie Wariwck

Brooklyn Norbury

KINGS ACADEMY BRUNE

PARK would like to

congratulate all students for
their excellent attendance and
commitment to learning.

Keep up the great work!

Behaviour :

Positive behaviour at KABP:

Total points: 315,140

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
72,527	56,017	70,232	61,655	54,709
Top Tutor Group	Top Tutor Group	Top Tutor Group	Top Tutor Group	Top Student
701	708	810	703	702
10,751 pts	10,344 pts	9,747 pts	9,577 pts	9,267 pts
Krubally, Fatoumatta	Stone, Toya	Slepko, Kinga	Huntingford, Aali	Baglow, Bobby
728 pts	599 pts	589 pts	559 pts	559 pts
Krubally, 728 pts	Stone, Toya 599 pts	Slepko, Kinga 589 pts	Huntingford, Aali 559 pts	Baglow, Bobby 559 pts



Teaching & Learning:

At the heart of our school's success is a commitment to continuous improvement. While our students enjoy a day away from the classroom during our upcoming **INSET day, Friday 13th February**, our staff will be hard at work as learners themselves.

We wanted to share a brief look behind the scenes at what our Teaching and Learning team will be focusing on to ensure we continue providing the highest quality education for your children.

A Day of Professional Growth

Our schedule is packed with collaborative sessions designed to sharpen our classroom practice. The day kicks off with a celebration of our **International Dimension**, followed by a formal welcome from Nick Cross (CEO of King's Group) and Sarah Brinkley (Deputy CEO).

We are particularly excited to welcome our keynote speaker, **Jon Hutchinson**. Jon is a renowned figure in the education sector, recognised for his expertise in curriculum design and teacher development. His insights will help set the tone for a day focused on academic excellence.

Key Focus Areas:

- **Adaptive Planning & Responsive Teaching:** Our first major session is linked directly to our Academy Improvement Plan. Staff will be working on "Adaptive Planning"—the art of tailoring lessons in real-time to meet the specific needs of every student in the room.
- **Specialised Choice Sessions:** In the afternoon, teachers will choose from various expert-led online seminars, allowing them to dive deep into specific pedagogical interests that benefit their unique subject areas.
- **Subject & Phase Collaboration:** The day concludes with departmental and phase-specific workshops, where teachers collaborate on the finest details of the curriculum to ensure a seamless learning journey for our pupils.

Why This Matters

An INSET day is more than just a "training day." It is a vital opportunity for our staff to reflect, refine their skills, and bring fresh, evidence-based strategies back into the classroom. By investing in our teachers, we are directly investing in the progress and well-being of your children.

We look forward to welcoming students back with refreshed energy and new ideas!

National School Governors Awareness Day-

12/02/26:

On 12th February we join schools across the country in celebrating **National School Governors Awareness Day**. At Kings' Group Academies we want to take this opportunity to celebrate and thank our local governors.

At King's Academy Brune Park our Local Governing Body is chaired by Mr Michael Robinson. Our governors are all volunteers, generously giving their time and expertise to support KABP to ensure every pupil receives the best education.

Beyond formal meetings, our governors are an active part of our academy community. This year, they have supported academy leaders in critical areas including safeguarding, community engagement, and educational outcomes. They have also spent time on-site, meeting with pupils and immersing themselves in the daily lives of our staff to truly understand the heartbeat of our academy.

Our governors offer bespoke insights drawn from their own professional and personal expertise, alongside countless hours spent scrutinising reports to provide both supportive challenge and strategic guidance.

Governance is about more than oversight; it is about holding our Trust accountable to the communities we serve. It ensures that all voices are heard and represented in every key decision. Ultimately, it is about making a lasting difference to the people and places that matter most.

Interested in making a difference? If you would like to find out more about governance at King's Group Academies, please contact Fiona Stanton, Lead Governance Professional, at fiona.stanton@kingsacademies.uk

National School Governors Awareness Day 2026

Want to be one of the 100? We're looking for new governors to join us! 📧 Email: fiona.stanton@kingsacademies.uk

'..The school approached me to become a governor, I didn't hesitate. I wanted to be supportive and to help make a difference..' **Secondary school governor.**

#CommunityHeroes #SchoolLife #Volunteer #ThankYou
#NSGAD #Portsmouth #Gosport #Reading #Bracknell
#EastSussex

Did you know that across our 15 @KingsGroupAcademies, we have a "volunteer army" of over 100 governors?

This year alone, they've spent over **600 hours** inside our schools—walking the corridors, speaking with parents, and seeing first-hand the amazing work our staff and pupils do every day. ✨

Add to that over **1,200 hours** of strategic planning and decision-making, and you see the true heart of our Trust. Our governors don't just oversee; they *immerse* themselves in our community to make sure every child's voice is heard.

To all our governors: Thank you for every hour, every visit, and every bit of expertise you share. 🌟



Opportunity and success on a global stage

Options:

Thank you to all families who attended our Year 9 Options Evening on Thursday. The turnout and engagement throughout the evening was fantastic, and it was genuinely encouraging to see so many thoughtful conversations between students, parents and staff about next steps into KS4.

Next steps and key dates:

- Options process opens: Thursday 22 January 2026
- Options choice window closes: Monday 23 February 2026

To support you in making an informed choice, all key information is available online, including the option blocks, subject information, and guidance on how choices are allocated:

- Options information page: [KGABP-Options-Website](#)
- Options selection form: [KGABP-Options-Selection-Form](#)

A few helpful reminders:

- Take time to talk through strengths, interests and future aspirations with your child.
- Encourage your child to ask questions of subject teachers over the coming weeks.

If you have any questions or would like further support, please contact the school and we will be happy to help.

Thank you again for your time and for the positive support you give your child as they make these important decisions.

Mobile Phone procedure update:

To support a calm, safe and focused learning environment, we are updating our mobile phone procedure in line with the Department for Education's updated guidance, which sets an expectation that schools are mobile phone-free by default. ([GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk))

Why we are doing this?

A phone-free school day helps students to:

- stay focused in lessons and between lessons
- reduce disruption to learning
- reduce the risk of bullying and unkind online behaviour during the school day
- build positive relationships and wellbeing through more face-to-face interaction ([GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk))

Our procedure

- Mobile phones must be switched off and put away in bags at all times while on the school site.
- If a student is seen with a phone out, the phone will be confiscated and taken to reception.
- Phones will be stored securely in a locked safe.
- The phone must be collected by a parent or carer from reception at the end of the school day.

Working with families

We know that many families want their child to have a phone for the journey to and from school. This procedure allows students to keep their phone with them for travel, while removing the distraction and risks during the school day.

If you need to get an urgent message to your child during the school day, please contact reception and we will ensure it is passed on promptly.

Thank you for your support. By working together, we can keep our school safe, calm and ready for learning.

Safer Internet Day 2026: Smart Tech, Safe Choices

This week, KGA Brune Park joined millions globally to celebrate Safer Internet Day. This year's theme focused on **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** helping our students navigate the opportunities and risks of AI and the internet

Key Topics Covered:

- **Understanding AI:** We explored how AI shapes student experiences, from recommendation algorithms on TikTok and Netflix to generative tools like ChatGPT.
- **Critical Thinking:** Students discussed the rise of "Deepfakes" and the importance of questioning whether online content is real or manipulated.
- **Data Privacy:** A reminder that AI tools "learn" from what we tell them; students should never share personal secrets, addresses, or photos with chatbots.
- **Environmental Impact:** We highlighted that AI requires significant energy and water resources, encouraging more mindful tech use.

The Student "AI Checklist":

1. **Verify:** AI isn't always right. Fact check important information.
2. **Protect:** Keep personal details private from AI tools.
3. **Be Kind:** Consider if AI generated content could spread misinformation or hurt others.
4. **Integrity:** Use AI to assist learning, not to replace original thinking or honesty in schoolwork.
5. **Speak Up:** Always report harmful AI use or deepfakes to a trusted adult.

Our KGA Values in the Digital World: We are encouraging students to show **Honesty** in their work, **Faith** in our school community for support, and the **Courage** to say "no" to negative digital trends.

Parental Challenge: Please take five minutes this week to ask your child how they use AI. If they ever encounter something concerning online, our tutors and pastoral teams are here to help.

Staff Shout-Outs :

Prior to the Component 2 Scripted Drama Exam on 26th January, the Year 11 Drama students had an idea to bring in their childhood teddies from home to watch them in their Drama performances so lots of the students and teachers brought in their teddies for the exam day.

Miss Ritchie sent in a 'break a leg' video message to wish the students good luck before the exam and let them know her teddy was watching from home!



Staff Shout-Outs :

I have had some wonderful chats with my tutor group over the last week, as a class and on a 1:1 basis with some who are needing guidance with their options. I had a lovely chat with one of my students :

Miss, I am in a dilemma of which career path I want to take, I have two in mind, a degree in engineering which will earn me a bigger salary so I can retire at forty, or a degree in philosophy where I can become a lecturer and write a book on it, which is my dream.

After further conversation he decided he could do both, study engineering and earn enough for a comfortable lifestyle, then later on study philosophy and write his book.

This made me smile as he talked so passionately about his future and I've no doubt he will strive to make it happen.

Retiring at forty sounds like a great plan when you're fourteen.... forty seems a lifetime away at this age, and we know life can begin then :)

Ms Henderson

IOYI has been working really hard on writing literature essays this week.

We have continued to write and improve, write and improve.

Today, I marked around 7/8 essays (I'm doing the rest tomorrow) and the improvement was HUGE! There were marks of 25/30, 26/30. They have finally clicked on speaking about Priestley and HIS decisions instead of talking about the characters as though they are sentient beings. I am SO proud of them. Their essays are excellent!

Ms Astley

It is always a privilege to spend time with our students in a more relaxed way. During my break duties, I am able to speak to students outside of my year group.

"Well done Bradley YII for keeping our shared spaces tidy and disposing of your table's rubbish from footlights. Great community spirit".

Ms Walmsley - Head of Year 10

Big Sister Project @ Gosport Leisure Centre :

'The Big Sister Project helps girls aged 9-15 in target areas feel 'sport ready' by recruiting a network of 'Big Sisters' – peer leaders and supporters from sport, school and community organisations. Sport leaders will be trained on the emotional and physical barriers girls face.

As part of our commitment to helping girls get into activity we are offering a **free** membership to girls who meet the eligibility criteria*, or a **50% discounted membership** for all other girls, which includes:

- Unlimited gym use during Junior Gym hours, which includes a gym induction (11-15 year olds)
- Unlimited swimming
- Age appropriate group workout classes including exclusive We Move classes
- Friendly on-site team, to support you through your activity
- Free access to Places Leisure App and Virtual Studio which includes a Big Sister channel

If families are in receipt of benefits such as Universal Credit, membership is free.'

Please see this [link](#) to sign up!



Places Leisure
proud to be part of the Big Sister project

DisneyLand Trip 2026

Science Behind the Magic: Our Trip to Disneyland Paris

From the mechanics of the "Tower of Terror" to the chemistry of the nightly fireworks, our recent international science trip to **Disneyland Paris** was a soaring success! Our students traded the classroom for the park, proving that physics and engineering are much more than just numbers on a whiteboard.

Beyond the Lab

Beyond the academic focus, the trip was a wonderful opportunity for students to practice their French, navigate a major international travel hub, and build lasting friendships across different year groups. Their conduct was exemplary, representing our school with pride on the international stage.



'The Greatest Show' Auditions:

Open auditions for this year's one-night showcase will take place on Wednesday 25th February in the Main Hall.

All students who audition will be involved in the final performance.

Students wishing to audition for a solo should prepare one of the following songs:

- Male soloists: "Sandy" from Grease
- Female soloists: "Hopelessly Devoted to You" from Grease

We look forward to seeing you there!

The Performing Arts Faculty



Year 7 News :

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 7 continue to lead the way with excellent attendance – well done to all our students for their commitment and positivity.

Our amazing attendance winners so far are:

Abbie Ellie – Henry, Olly McCormick Oscar Usher

Congratulations to the Year 7 girls who won their football match convincingly. A fantastic team effort and a result to be proud of.

Well done to everyone for a great half term. We hope you all have a lovely and restful break.

Kind regards,

Mr Cole, Miss Townend and Miss Demuth

Year 8 News :

Ms Anderson has been telling us in the Year Office about the fantastic work that has been taking place with the JET group. She says that the JET students took part in a workshop looking at resilience and goal setting. It was great to see them getting stuck into the team building activities and taking time to reflect on what they would like to achieve in life. We have also put forward our students for a scholarship to attend space camp in Alabama this summer, competition will be tough but we have our fingers crossed!



After a very close attendance race the winning tutor group were Ms Hollis' 805 with a fantastic 95.41% attendance for the week!

For their treat they had a celebration breakfast laid on in Footlights of bacon rolls served by Mr Coles and Ms Jewitt.

During the week the tutor groups also had dodgeball competitions in the gym.

Year 9 News :

It was wonderful to start the day on Thursday with such a positive atmosphere in the hall.. We were delighted to welcome over 130 Year 9 students to celebrate their excellent commitment to school, with every attendee currently maintaining over 95% attendance.

It was great to see so many smiling faces enjoying a well-deserved treat. The students tucked into a spread of bacon rolls, warm bagels, cereal, and fruit, enjoying a chance to socialise with friends and staff before lessons began.

A huge well done to all the students involved. Your reliability and dedication set a brilliant example for the rest of the school. Keep up the great work!



Year 10 News :

We are so proud of the commitment and effort year 10 have shown to their learning this half term; they should be incredibly proud of themselves. We look forward to seeing this momentum continue into the next half term.

As we head into the half term break, we encourage students to maintain their consistency with Tassomai by keeping with their daily goals. While rest is the priority, this 'low-stakes, high-impact' habit only takes a few minutes a day, balancing plenty of downtime with short bursts of revision is the best way to ensure that students return feeling both refreshed and prepared for the term ahead.

Finally, we have drawn the winners of this half term's 'Don't Miss Out' challenge. Miss Walmsley had the pleasure of delivering the prizes to each of the winners this afternoon. Congratulations also go to 10W9 for winning this half term's tutor attendance race. We are incredibly proud of all our attendance prize-winners; stay tuned for more exciting attendance initiatives starting next half term.

Year II News:

This week marked the second week of mock examinations for Year II, and we would like to commend students for the mature and focused way they have approached this important milestone. Attendance, punctuality and conduct have all been strong, and many students have spoken positively about how the mocks have helped them identify strengths as well as areas to focus on as they move closer to their final exams.

Alongside the mock exams, it has been particularly encouraging to see such positive engagement with Tassomai. Students have been using the platform consistently and purposefully, both in school and at home. Tassomai's adaptive questioning has helped students target gaps in knowledge, revisit key concepts and build confidence through regular retrieval practice. Many students have commented that they like the immediate feedback and the sense of progress it provides.

For parents who may be less familiar with it, Tassomai was created by a Scottish maths teacher who wanted a smarter way to help students revise effectively. Built on research into memory and learning, the platform uses algorithms to personalise revision, ensuring students focus on what they need most at the right time. What started as a small idea in a classroom has grown into a widely used tool supporting students across the country.

Now that the mock exam period has come to an end, Year II students have a well-earned opportunity to rest and recharge. Taking a short break is an important part of maintaining wellbeing and motivation, and we encourage students to enjoy this pause before the next stage begins.

After this rest, we will be entering the final countdown to the summer exams. With clear feedback from the mocks, continued use of Tassomai, and the ongoing support of staff and families, students are well placed to make strong progress in the weeks ahead. We are proud of their efforts so far and look forward to supporting them through this final stretch.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Top of the Tassomai Tables this week:

English - Hollie B.

Maths - Bobby B.

Science - Lily C.

History - Melina O.

Geography - Bobby B.



Post 16 Support:

For any post 16 information please refer to this link [here](#).

Advice on how to support your children to chat about Post 16 choices and where to start.

Important decisions

Please see the link below to an infinite guide on how to support students from Year 9 choosing options, Year 10 with Work Experience and Year 11 with exams and Post 16 choices all the way to University, what do the grades mean?

- What does Level 2 or Level 3 mean?
- What's an apprenticeship?
- Who provides apprenticeships?
- What are UCAS points?

Everything you need to know about Post 16 options is in here

<https://online.fliphtml5.com/okfun/czdo/#p=1>

Your step-by-step guide to - APPLYING FOR AN APPRENTICESHIP

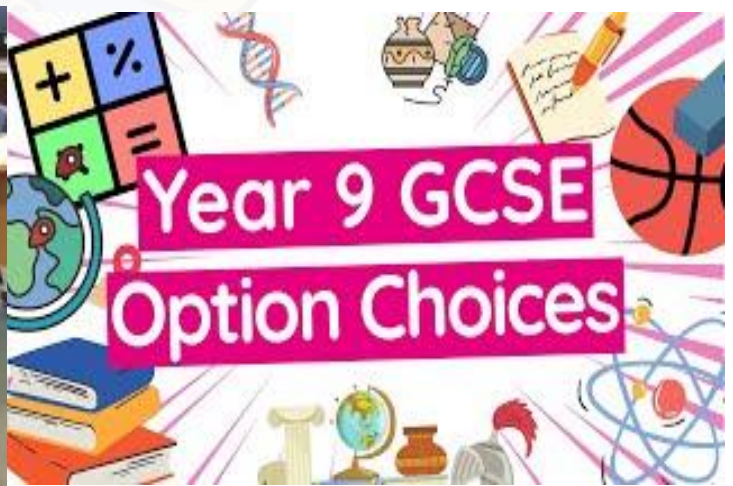
Year 9 - Choosing options support -

[What GCSE options are there? - BBC Bitesize](#)

[Careerpilot : Get information : GCSEs : Choosing your GCSEs](#)

[Year 9 Options 2026 - CXK](#)

[Careerpilot : Parent zone : All questions : How can I help my child make their option choices in Year 9 \(some schools make option choices in Y8\)](#)





**St Vincent
Sixth Form
College**

Proud to be part of LLT



**WEDNESDAY
25TH FEBRUARY
4:15PM - 5:45PM**



Grab your spot! Scan the QR code
to try a taster session before
applications open in September.

Choose from:

Criminology
Law
Sociology
Psychology
Business
Graphics
Photography
Sport
Health & Social Care
Education/Early Years



Prom Dress and Suit Event

Saturday 28th February

2026

1pm till 3pm

Find Your Perfect Look for Free!

We have a variety of sizes and styles to help you feel your best at prom, all kindly donated.

Prefer a private fitting? Email us or call to book a one-on-one appointment at your convenience

For questions or to book an appointment, email us at gospotcommunityhub@kgahampshire.uk or call 02392 616017

**The Gosport Community Hub,
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