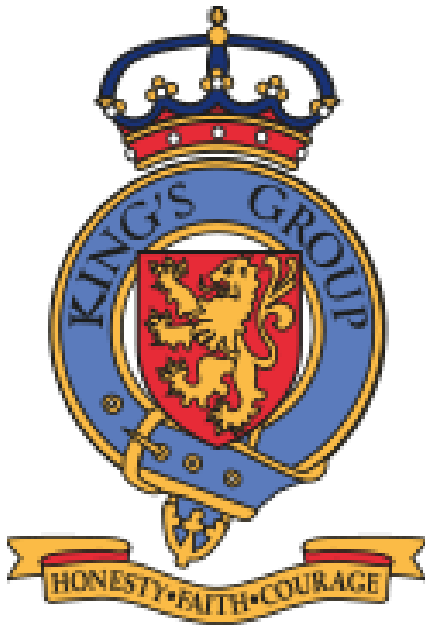




KINGS ACADEMY BINFIELD SECONDARY NEWSLETTER

[Link to dates for the diary](#)



MESSAGE FROM MRS BENDALL AND MRS TAYLOR

Dear parents and carers

We are entering our final week before the Christmas break. We have lots to celebrate next week and look forward to a positive final week of term with the students.

On Thursday 12th December our Year 11 students had a Theatre Production for Jekyll and Hyde. This is a book they study in English Literature GCSE and it is great they can see it brought to life. We know that there is not a simple video to watch for this book and some of the students are visual learners so rather than just reading the book, they can see the actors in front of them. Another way we are trying to help our Year 11 students revise!

We also hosted Year 11 parents evening this week. Following the PPEs the teachers had lots of feedback to give to students and parents about what went well and areas for improvement ahead of the next set of PPEs in February. Lots of hints and tips about revision resources were shared and it was lovely to see so many parents and carers join us.

On Monday 16th December we are looking forward to the Winter Showcase. Our performing arts team has been working hard with the students, who have been busy rehearsing this week. We are very much looking forward to watching the show!

On Thursday 19th December we also have Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch! We encourage as many students (and staff!) to wear their festive jumper in support of Winston's Wish charity.

Finally term finishes on Friday 20th December at 12.45pm. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support this term and to wish you a happy and restful Christmas.

Best wishes,

Mrs Bendall and Mrs Taylor
Vice Principals



CONTACT INFO

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KAB UPDATES

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY - THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER



This year our Christmas Jumper Day takes place on Thursday 19th December, the same day as our Christmas Dinner Day! On this day the children can come to school dressed in their uniform but with a festive jumper rather than the academy jumper or blazer.

We will be raising money for Winston's Wish, a childhood bereavement charity that provides support to students within our school community. Donations can be made online and we encourage everyone to contribute generously to this worthy cause. We look forward to seeing all of the wonderful Christmas jumpers and thank you in advance for your support

MESSAGES TO MRS MOORE



Following the sad news that Mrs Moore will be stepping down as our Executive Principal, we will be putting together a message book to hand over to her to read at her leisure.

Should you wish to write a personal message to Mrs Moore, to be included in the message book, please email FAO Miss Hetherington to admin.bi@kingsacademies.uk by Tuesday 17th December.

PE UPDATES

THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER – WEDNESDAY 11TH DECEMBER



PANATHLON

The Panathlon team went to Bracknell Leisure centre to compete in the Panathlon games against various other schools from around the area. The team did superb and won the event against 10 other teams.

This means that the squad will now go onto competing in the National competition later on in the academic year.

This is a remarkable achievement considering how many teams were competing across all the Bracknell Secondary Schools. Their attitude and commitment was outstanding and they represented themselves impeccably. The squad showed unbelievable DARE values throughout and put in a remarkable performance.



UNDER 15 GIRLS FOOTBALL

This week the U15 girls football squad played in their first 6 a-side football competition. The competition involved all secondary schools in the borough. It was an extremely high standard competition with some outstanding games. The KAB squad were outstanding in their dedication and conducted themselves in an exemplary manner. Their level of skill, conduct and demonstration of the DARE values bodes well for the season ahead that starts fully in January.

Our U15s Girls Football team played in the first round of the Berkshire County Cup this week against Bohunt. The girls started strong, and found themselves 3-0 up, thanks to a quick hattrick from Jess W. Just before half-time, Bohunt settled into the game and managed to pull 2 goals back. KAB came back strong in the second half, with two fantastic goals from Izzy R and Livvy D, leading to a final score of 5-3 to KAB.



YEAR 7 BOYS FOOTBALL

The Year 7 football squad competed in their first competition of the season in the opening 5 -a-side tournament. The squad played against all the secondary schools within the borough. The conduct of the squad was excellent and they produced some excellent team performances. Their team spirit was outstanding and they consistently demonstrated a good level of overall ability. This bodes well for the official start to the school football season after the Christmas break.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

| DATES FOR THE DIARY | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Monday 16th December | Winter Showcase - 6pm - 10pm |
| Thursday 19th December | Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day |
| Friday 20th December | End of term. Finish at 12.45pm |
| Monday 6th January 2025 | Back to school. Start of new term |

Last Day of Term – Friday 20th December

On the last day of term, the secondary phase will close at 12:45pm. Food will be available at break time only on this day. Students will return to school on Monday 6th January 2025 at normal time.

**Attachments and
promotional posters to follow**



Bracknell Christmas Toy Bank

If Christmas brings financial hardship and worry, and a little extra support could be helpful for your family, the Toy Bank is here for you.

We invite you to come along and choose from a selection of kindly donated toys for FREE.

The Toy Bank is an inclusive space for anyone in the community who needs help to make Christmas extra special this year. Come and visit us:

**Saturday 14th December, 12pm-4pm
Involve Community Services, RG12 1AE
(opposite Bracknell library)**

If you have any queries, please email bracknelltoybank@gmail.com



Bracknell

Foodbank

Together with Trussell

Festive Season Opening Times:

Monday 23/12/24

18:00 - 19:30

Tuesday 24/12/24

10:30 - 12:00

CLOSED: 25 Dec - 2 Jan

Reopening for 2025:

Friday 3 January 2025

10:30 - 12:00

**Tel: 01344 862699
foodbank@kerith.church**

COPING AT CHRISTMAS

The Added Pressures of Christmas can be Tough, but it's Important to know there's always Someone you can Talk to...

NHS 111 online

Call 111 & select option 2 to speak to the NHS Mental Health Crisis Response Service 24/7

[Nhs.uk/mental-health](https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health)



Under 35s can Call 0800 068 4141, Text: 88247 or Email: pat@papyrus-uk.org 24/7

[Papyrus-uk.org](https://www.papyrus-uk.org)

SAMARITANS

Call 116 123 to talk to Samaritans, or email: jo@samaritans.org for a reply within 24 hours

[Samaritans.org](https://www.samaritans.org)



Call MIND's Mental Health Helpline 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on 0800 414 8247

[Mind.org.uk](https://www.mind.org.uk)



Text "SHOUT" to 85258 to contact the Shout Crisis Text Line, or text "YM" if you're under 19

[Giveusashout.org](https://www.giveusashout.org)



Mental Health Forum & Chat for Men from 5pm - midnight every day Call or Watsapp 0800 585858

[Thecalmzone.net](https://www.thecalmzone.net)

[ChristmasCountdown.uk](https://www.ChristmasCountdown.uk)

Dear parent/carer,

Please find below a letter from Kooth about wellbeing support for students and families during the holiday period.

With the winter break fast approaching, at Kooth Digital Health we appreciate there will be some young people who may struggle during the holidays without the access to the daily pastoral support, teaching staff and friends that the school community provides. Seasonal illness and the closure of many services at this time of year can also lead to extended wait times for support across both adult and young people's NHS and community services.

WE ARE STILL HERE.

Kooth Digital Health offers free, therapeutic mental health and wellbeing support to young people in [East Berkshire](#) aged between [\[11-17\]](#). Funded and endorsed by the [\[NHS East Berkshire Integrated Care Board\]](#), our services remain available over the winter period, offering wellbeing support from the comfort of your own home, via any web-enabled device via the following referral form-

Ages [\[11-17 East Berkshire\]](#) [referral form](#)



Kooth offers free access to online text-based practitioner chats, self help tools and activities, journal spaces and advice from our non-judgemental, safe and moderated peer:peer communities.

With no threshold, waiting list processes, young people in East Berkshire can access support for ANY issues they may be experiencing. These may include; body image, self-esteem, loneliness, bereavement, academic pressures, stress, anxiety, friendships, sexuality, life changes etc.

The registration process is quick and safe, simply by [registering with the referral form](#)

Kooth delivers 1000's of online wellbeing sessions each year in Local Authorities across the UK. As 50% of referrals to CAMHS are unfortunately deemed inappropriate to their criteria, Kooth gives schools, professionals and families an alternative way of ensuring children and young people can access free support when they need it, in a way that they find comfortable to access, via any web-enabled device.

If you have any questions regarding the service, please contact Kooth directly. Simply email parents@kooth.com. A selection of Parent/Carer resources can be accessed using this link: [Kooth Parent & Carer resources](#)

Kind Regards

Have your say on the proposed school attendance strategy.



Parents/carers, schools, children and young people are invited to complete an online survey about school attendance.

The strategy proposes priority areas, including:

- ensuring clear roles and responsibilities for all partners
- consistency with shared approach and training
- supporting the most vulnerable
- meeting the needs of the local community

Complete the survey by **17 January** using the QR code or attend one of the online sessions on:

10 January from 10am to 11am
15 January from 12 noon to 1pm



To book a session contact:
Education.Welfare-Services@Bracknell-Forest.gov.uk

E-SCOOTERS

What you need to know



It's illegal to ride a privately owned electric scooter in public

Did you know it's illegal to ride a privately owned electric scooter (e-scooter) in public?



That's because e-scooters are classed as motor vehicles in law. So, in theory, this means that you need an MOT, road tax and insurance to use one, however it isn't currently possible to register e-scooters in this way.

Privately owned e-scooters can only be used on private land, with the permission of the landowner.

You cannot use a privately owned e-scooter on the road, pavement or in a public space. If you do then you risk receiving a large fine, points on your driving licence and your e-scooter could be seized.

Some parts of the UK are running government trials of rental e-scooters. If you're over 16 and have a full or provisional driving licence, then you can use these on public roads and cycle paths.

Just check that your driving licence covers categories AM, A or B.



E-BIKES

What you need to know



You can only ride an e-bike if it (and you!) meet certain requirements.



Did you know you can only ride an e-bike if it meets certain requirements and you are 14 years or over?

Electric bikes are also known as 'electronically assisted pedal cycles (EAPC)' or e-bikes. E-bikes must have pedals that can be used to propel it, and it must show either the power output, or manufacturer of the motor **and** either the batteries voltage, or maximum speed of the bike.

The electric motor must have a maximum power output of 250W, and should not be able to propel the bike when it is travelling more than 15.5mph.

If an e-bike does not meet these requirements then it is classed as a motorcycle or moped, and needs to be registered, taxed and insured, you also need a driving licence and to wear a helmet.

If you are riding an e-bike which does not meet these requirements and it is not registered, taxed or insured, your e-bike could be seized.

