



King James's School

Almondbury, Huddersfield



Parent/Carer Booklet



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Principal's Welcome



Thank you for taking an interest in our school. King James's School is an extremely popular and successful 11-16 mixed comprehensive, serving south-eastern Huddersfield and surrounding villages.

The essence of our school is built around three **Hs**:

- our distinguished **H**istory;
- our **H**olistic provision, which develops students both academically and pastorally;
- our **H**igh expectations and aspirations.

Our ethos, summarised in the King James's Way, demands the best from everyone through key values:

- **K**indness and compassion,
- **I**nclusion and tolerance,
- **N**urture and innovation,
- **G**reatness and aspiration.

Our highly professional staff share a passion for learning and a determination to inspire and support all our students to be successful and to develop into confident young adults ready for life after King James's.



School Values

A SCHOOL FOR OUR COMMUNITY

CURRICULUM INTENT

SKILLS

KNOW WELL



THINK WELL



COMMUNICATE WELL



PASTORAL INTENT

QUALITIES

BE KIND AND INCLUSIVE



BE RESILIENT AND DETERMINED



BE CONFIDENT AND AMBITIOUS



Ambition + Character = Excellence (ACE)

King James's School values are built around our desire to provide a first-class secondary education for our community.

Owing to school reorganisation within the Local Authority in 2020, we now are the sole secondary in the area, a responsibility we take very seriously. Our context has changed and we now, for the first time, sit at the centre of our Priority Admission Area.

We have adapted our offer in response to these local, as well as national, societal changes, to ensure

we meet the needs of those for whom we provide secondary schooling.

Our **Curriculum Intent** sets out the skills, and our **Pastoral Intent** the qualities, we want our children to develop

They work in tandem, supported by our **ACE strategy** and a number of other approaches, to deliver the very best for students at King James's School.

SCHOOL CALENDAR (TERM DATES)

FOR KING JAMES'S SCHOOL

ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026									
AUTUMN TERM			SPRING TERM			SUMMER TERM			
40 Days		35 Days		30 Days		25 Days		29 Days	
FIRST DAY	HALF TERM	LAST DAY	FIRST DAY	HALF TERM	LAST DAY	FIRST DAY	HALF TERM	LAST DAY	
Mon 1 Sep 2025	Mon 27 – Fri 31 Oct 2025	Fri 19 Dec 2025	Mon 5 Jan 2026	Mon 16 – Fri 20 Feb 2026	Fri 27 Mar 2026	Mon 13 Apr 2026	Mon 25 – Fri 29 May 2026	Mon 20 Jul 2026	

Inset Days

DAY	DATE	MONTH	YEAR	DISAGGREGATED
Mon	1	Sep	2025	No
Fri	10	Oct	2025	No
Fri	5	Dec	2025	No
Fri	6	Feb	2026	No
Mon	20	Jul	2026	Yes

Bank Holidays

August Bank Holiday	Monday 25th August 2025
Christmas	Thursday 25 December 2025
Christmas	Friday 26th December 2025
New Years Day	Thursday 1 January 2026
Good Friday	Friday 3 April 2026
Easter Monday	Monday 6 April 2026
May Day	Monday 4 May 2026
Spring Bank	Monday 25 May 2026

Year 6 Transition Day – Tuesday 7 July 2026



► Important Contacts

<p>Principal</p>	<p>Mr I Rimmer</p>	
<p>Vice Principal Quality of Education</p>	<p>Mr B Streets</p>	
<p>Vice Principal Safeguarding & Inclusion</p>	<p>Mrs R Walton</p>	
<p>Senior Assistant Principal Curriculum Impact: Data & Reporting</p>	<p>Mr S McNamara</p>	
<p>Assistant Principal Curriculum structure and design, Pathways & Literacy Lead</p>	<p>Mrs P Kang</p>	
<p>Assistant Principal Personal Development</p>	<p>Mrs A Terry</p>	

► Pastoral Support



Rebecca Walton
Vice Principal
Safeguarding & Inclusion



Jackie Addy
Deputy DSL
Pastoral Leader



Janette Haworth
Deputy DSL
Pastoral Leader



Olivia Clifton
Deputy DSL
Pastoral Leader



Charlotte Dodsworth
Pastoral Leader



Sophie Brook
Pastoral Leader



Naila Nawaz
Medical Officer
First Aid Lead



Janine Dean
Student Support Manager



Sarah Norton
Well-being Mentor



Sandra Quarmby
SENDCO



Abigail Williams
SEMH/Thrive Mentor



Joanne Williams
APSO



The School Day

King James's School operates a 50 period fortnight timetable, with five 1-hour periods per day.

Registration/assembly runs from 8.35 to 8.55am.

This is followed by two periods before break and two further periods before lunch in the morning session. There is one period in the afternoon session.

Break runs from 10.55 to 11.15am and lunch is between 1.15 and 2.00pm.

School finishes at 3.00pm.

The total time this amounts to in a typical week is 32.5 hours

TIME	ACTIVITY
8.30-8.55	Registration /Assembly
8.55-9.55	Lesson 1
9.55-10.55	Lesson 2
10.55-11.15	Break
11.15-12.15	Lesson 3
12.15-1.15	Lesson 4
1.15-2.00	Lunch
2.00-3.00	Lesson 5
4.00	Late bus departs (Tues to Thu)

LUNCHES AND LUNCHTIME

Lunches are served on a cafeteria system, and full meals, sandwiches, snacks and salads are available. From September a full meal will cost £3.00. Students may choose to bring a packed lunch.

In the cafeteria, students can purchase meals and drinks, students are also able to sit outside under cover in the dining shelter area. Additionally, we have the lower dining hall, there is the grab and go service which also has additional seating outside.

We expect students to stay on site at lunchtime. Only in exceptional circumstances will a student be given permission to go out of school during the lunch break and then only with suitable parental permission.

Payment for lunches is made via ParentPay. Please contact Mrs Hyland, Head of Kitchen on 01484 427372 if you have any queries.

PARENTPAY

All payments for trips, ties, calculators etc. must be made by ParentPay. The Finance Office does not accept cash/cheques. All parents identified as the highest priority contact will be issued with a unique username/password to open an account. This is expected to be available for parents to collect at the Parents' Transition Evening on Monday 30th June.

Already have a ParentPay Account? If you already have a ParentPay account, either with our school or another ParentPay school, you can simply login to that account and add your other children via the Add a child tab on your home page. You will need the activation username and password to do this.

Contact Mrs Murphy (staff.EMurphy@kingjames.school) in the Finance Office with any ParentPay queries.

If your child qualifies for free school meals, the daily allowance is £3.00. If your child doesn't spend the full daily allowance, the balance does not carry forward to the following day. If your child spends over the daily allowance and their account isn't topped up, it starts to accumulate as a debt. To avoid this happening, we ask that you top up your child's account at the start of the year by £10 and that you regularly monitor this.



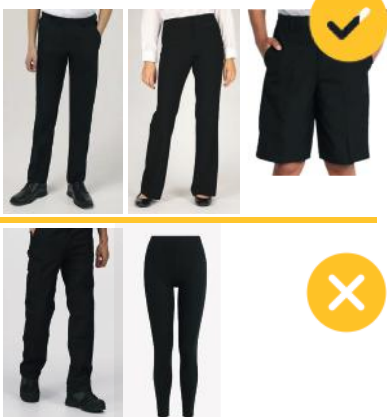
Uniform Policy

All King James's School uniform including PE kit is available from Term Time Wear and Natasha's in Huddersfield. Also available from Smart Uniforms WWW.SMARTUNIFORMS.CO.UK However, please note that their trousers, skirts and shoes may not comply with our strict uniform policy so please check below.

- **School tie** – Clip on tie is compulsory for students and is to be worn at all times.
- **Sweatshirt** – Black V-neck, with school embossed logo, is compulsory.
- **Shirts/blouses** – White with a button up collar, suitable to be worn with a tie. Polo shirts are not acceptable.
- **Socks/Tights** – Plain black socks or tights.

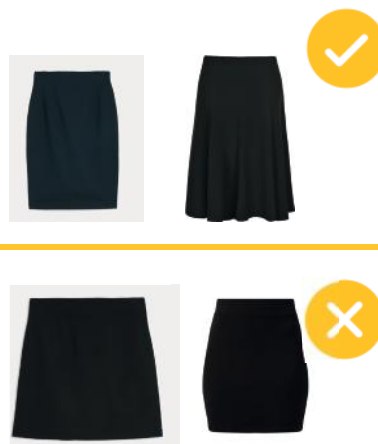
- Trousers - Black, loose fitting/straight legged of regulation material. Jeans (style), combat trousers, leggings and track suit bottoms are not allowed
- Shorts – Black, tailored shorts of regulation material and knee length

TROUSERS



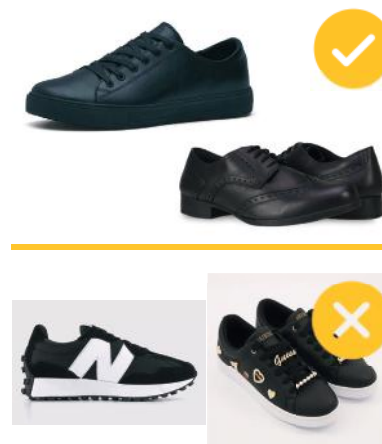
- Skirts - Straight or flared and of regulation material and knee length. Tight fitting and short skirts are not allowed.

SKIRTS



- Footwear – Plain, black, sensible footwear. No coloured logos or markings.

FOOTWEAR



- **Jewellery** – For reasons concerning health and safety, jewellery should be minimal and must be removed for PE lessons. Small, discrete piercings are allowed. A watch is allowed (exercise monitoring watches are suitable but other smart watches are not allowed).
- **Belts** – Plain black to be worn under sweatshirts.
- **Hair** – Conventional colour and style. Unnatural hair colours e.g. blue/purple are not allowed. Plain, discrete hair accessories are allowed.
- **Make-up** – Discrete foundation/concealer is allowed, but no other make-up is allowed. Nail varnish, false nails and false eye lashes are not allowed.
- **Outer Garments** – Coats and hoodies can be worn to and from school, but not in the classroom. Sweatshirts, non-school jumpers, and hats/caps are not allowed in school.
- **Cultural/Religious Headwear** – Must be plain, preferably black but muted colours are allowed. No bright colours/patterns.

Compulsory PE items	Additional PE optional extra items
New PE KJS logo T-shirt, (Falcon Amber/Black honeycomb)	KJS scort logo (Falcon Amber/Black honeycomb)
Plain black shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms	KJS logo rugby top KJS logo leggings Plain black football socks
Plain black football socks	KJS logo hoody
Sports trainers must be coloured (not plain black). Students are required to have a separate pair of trainers to change into from the footwear they wear during the school day.	KJS logo leggings
	Plain black bottoms/plain black skins in winter
	A pair of football boots - a moulded stud is recommended but there are no strict rules with regard to style and colour

EQUIPMENT

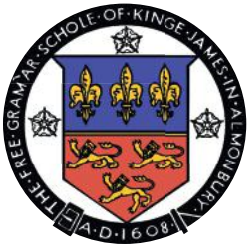
Students should arrive to school and every lesson fully prepared with the following:

- School bag – specifically designed and large enough, to carry and keep in good condition books and appropriate equipment. Not handbags.
- Planner.
- Pencil case containing pens (at least 2 black ink), pencils, pencil sharpener, 30cm ruler, coloured crayons, small pair of scissors with rounded edges, glue stick, scientific calculator (the Maths Department recommend New Casio FX-83GTX Scientific Calculator), protractor and eraser.
- KS3 students must also have a reading book every day.

STUDENT PLANNER/STUDENT APP

Students can access their timetable, attendance, achievements, reports, homework, school diary through the Student App and we highly recommend that your child has access to this. All students will be issued with a planner at the start of the

year. Parents/staff can write messages in the weekly diary section for communication. Students who don't activate the Student App must record details of homework in their planner.



VALUABLES AND CARE OF BELONGINGS

Whilst we appreciate that the majority of students carry mobile phones and personal items, we would like to point out this is entirely at their own risk and King James's School accepts no responsibility for the loss of such items.

Mobile phones must be on silence/turned off and away in the school bag, not pockets. Students must not get their mobile phone out during tutor-time or lessons unless directly instructed by the teacher. Also, students are not allowed mobile phones out walking between lessons. They are allowed to use them before the start of the school day, break, lunchtime and at the end of the school day. If mobile is used at an inappropriate time this will

result in confiscation until the end of the day. If the student argues then they will be placed in isolation. For repeat offences then it will be kept until the following day/end of the week unless a parent can collect it. Earphones should not be visible and again will be confiscated if on show. Items left in form rooms is done so at the students' own risk and the form tutor/teacher is not responsible for any items left in classrooms. The misuse of mobile phones in and out of school hours, to bully, intimidate, harass or embarrass others is unacceptable. If students are found to be misusing their mobile phone it can lead to severe sanctions. Our Mobile Phone Policy can be found on the school website 'About Us > Policies'.

► House System

On entry to school each student is assigned to a 'house'. We have four houses, Dartmouth, Fenay, Jessop and Siddon.



► Homework

Homework is a major part of school life at King James's School. From the start students will be given homework on most evenings. If your child repeatedly says that there is no homework or that they have done it, then it is likely that it has not been done properly or not been done at all.

Here are a few basic pieces of advice that you may find helpful in supporting your child:

- Homework will be set by subject staff via the Parent/Student App. This will detail the task(s) to be completed and the date by which the work set is due for submission. By logging into Parent App, parents/carers will be able to see what has been set and support your child in completing the work. Please support us by checking the app daily and monitor that your child is completing the work set.
- All students will be given a Student Notebook in which to log any additional information relating to homework or school activities.
- Make sure that your child has a suitable place in which to work. It is difficult to concentrate if there are constant interruptions.
- Make sure that your child has the basic equipment needed, such as pen, pencil, ruler, eraser and calculator.
- Try to set aside a time for homework. It is important that this time is recognised and respected by all members of the family.
- Show a positive interest in the work that your child brings home by asking them what they have to do.
- Keep the question of homework in perspective. Although study is important, so is recreation. What matters is getting the balance right.
- Some parents feel there is little they can do to help with homework, but in fact there are many ways you can help. Encourage and support them; check their presentation, handwriting and spelling, test what has been set for learning, listen to them read what they have written, ask them to explain what they have been studying. These are all ways of helping your child to appreciate the importance of homework.

• Finally, if there is a repeated problem over homework, please get in touch with your child's form tutor in the first instance. In return, we shall get in touch with you if we feel there are frequent problems over homework which you could help resolve.

CONTACT WITH THE SCHOOL

Contacting the School

If you telephone school, between 8:00am and 4:15pm, you will get through to the school office. (Outside these times you will get the answer machine). If you have an urgent message for your child, then this can be done swiftly via the office. If you have any queries or problems, it is usually appropriate to request that the Form Tutor be informed. More serious issues may be addressed to their Pastoral Leader. It may not be possible to speak to one of these people immediately, but they will call you back as soon as they are free. Alternatively, if you would like an appointment to discuss any issue then please contact the relevant person. Staff will return calls/emails within 48 hours (school days). Parents must not turn up at the school demanding to see a member of staff as they might not be free and this can cause further upset. Always arrange an appointment first.

For all other information, such as Emergencies, Enquires, Concerns and Complaints, please see our website.

COMMUNICATION

Contacting Home

General communication will go to all those who have parental responsibility. We use email, phone calls and SMS text messages via Bromcom. It is therefore crucial that we have your correct telephone number and email address.

MyChildAtSchool (MCAS)app

MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) is a portal enabling parents to view their child's academic performance in real-time via web browser or mobile app. This facility allows exclusive access to your child's attendance, assessment and behaviour whenever you wish. As well as student performance data. The portal also provides general useful information such as the Academic Calendar and Announcements.

We strongly encourage all parents to download the free MCAS app. This is the quickest and easiest way for us to communicate with parents and it will be our preferred method of communication. The app is a free download. We can provide support for parents to help them set this up if required.

Newsletters

A termly newsletter is published at the end of each term and emailed to parents. The

Newsletter contains the latest news from the school and reports of interest. The Newsletter is available on our website.

Parent Bulletin

We keep in contact with parents through our weekly e-bulletin. This is available electronically. We know how easy it is for information sheets to go missing in your child's school bag and, for those parents who want to receive regular e-bulletins, we will ask for email addresses, so you do not miss any news. The e-bulletin is available on our website every Friday.

SAFEGUARDING

The safeguarding of all our students is King James's School's first and foremost responsibility. If a child is not safe and secure, in school and at home, then they will not be able to flourish. King James's School has a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Mrs R Walton, Vice Principal, and 6 deputy DSLs. All safeguarding concerns are dealt with thoroughly, compassionately and recorded on CPOMs to ensure King James School's students are not suffering from harm. For full details please refer to the Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy.

PARENTS' EVENINGS, REPORTS AND PROGRESS REVIEWS

Each year group has a full Parents' Evening with subject teachers. We use an online Parents' Evening Booking System, so that parents and carers no longer need to rely on their child to make appointments. You can choose which teachers you want to see, select your own appointment times, amend those appointments if required and receive an email confirmation of your finalised appointments.

We will text and email parents to advise when the Booking System is open. It is crucial that your child is also present as it is their future that will be discussed and for them to listen to the advice given by their subject teachers. We encourage you to only make an appointment with a subject teacher if you have any concerns. There are limited spaces and we strongly recommend you book early to secure an appointment.

In addition to the 'in person' subject Parents' and Carers' Evenings, students in Year 7 will have a Virtual 'Settling In' Parents' and Carers' Evening with Form Tutors only, and following the Year 11 Mocks, there will be a Virtual Year 11 'Accelerate' evening which will be available for the parents and carer of identified students who may require additional support.

Each student receives three full Progress Review updates each academic year. Students' Progress Reviews report attainment and class and homework effort grades in each subject. Year 7 students also receive an additional 'settling in' effort only Progress Review following their first half term at the school. The dates for the issue of Reports and Progress Reviews will be published in September. These are published via the MYCAS and Bromcom Student Apps.

EXAMS

At KS3 and KS4 all students have exams in all subjects excluding PSHCE. Most exams are in a formal setting in the Sports Hall. Whilst most

students take exams in the Sports Hall, we work hard to ensure that students who are entitled to access arrangements receive them. Entitlement to access arrangements needs to be carefully validated and evidenced. It also needs to be established that the arrangement requested is a student's normal way of working.

At KS4, exams are geared towards GCSE (or equivalent) requirements in terms of questions and time. Y11 have mock exams after Christmas to ensure that the full course content can be assessed appropriately. These are particularly important, as the mock grades are used on college applications as students plan their future Post-16.

All students are supported to achieve the best grades possible. Four weeks before the exams, students are given an 'Exam Topic Booklet'. Students also have assemblies and tutor time activities. One week before the exams, all subjects engage in a 'revision week', in which all lessons are geared towards the exams.

Parent Governors

Parent Governors represent the parents' perspective on school management issues. More information can be found on our website. Social Media

Instagram - this will include lots of news and updates from King James's School. Our account name is: kjs_1608.

Also keep an eye out for school departments, such as performance and science as well as the KJSPTFA.

Facebook - this will include lots of news and updates from King James's School. Our account name is: King James's School, Almondbury.

Attendance

It is extremely important for your child to have good attendance. Frequent absences cause breaks in their learning and can cause significant difficulties. We look at patterns of attendance closely and we will contact you if we feel that your child is absent too often. Obviously, there will be times when your child is unwell and should be at home (please help us by telephoning school on the first morning of illness followed by a phone call on the morning of any further days of illness). For further information, please refer to our 'Attendance Policy' on the school's website. If your child is late, they must sign in at Pastoral Base. Parents/carers must phone into school and report absence/illness before 8.15am.

If your child fails to register then truancy message will be sent out via text asking parents to contact school immediately to explain your child's absence. If you do not respond, all contacts that school has will be rung; and if there is no response after 24 hours, school will send our Attendance and Pupil Support Officer (APSO) to the house and will contact the police if no contact is made.

Punctuality to school and lessons is important. Students who are 10 minutes late with no valid reason, will be sanctioned. Parents must contact school if their child is going to be more than 10 minutes late.

For more information regarding

- Authorised and Unauthorised Absences
- Leaving the Site for Appointments
- Term Time Holidays

Please see the policies on the school website.

Parents/Carers Code of Conduct

At King James's School, we strive to build a strong relationship with parents/carers to help create a stimulating learning environment that continues from school to home, providing all students with the opportunity to achieve to the best of their ability.

To create a welcoming and safe learning environment, the school implements a specifically designed set of rules regarding behaviour and conduct which parents/carers are expected to act in accordance with. All members of the school community have the right to work without fear of violence or abuse; therefore, physical attacks, threatening behaviour, and abusive or insulting language towards staff members, governors, visitors, students or other parents/carers may result in individuals being removed from the premises.

Our Parent/Carer Code of Conduct can be found on the school website 'About Us > Policies'.

Behaviour & Rewards

We believe that every child (and adult) should always try to be the best version of themselves that they can be. We expect good manners and kindness to be shown to everyone connected to our school at all times. Whilst we support and care deeply for all, we are not afraid to challenge behaviour that falls below our expectations.

Negative behaviour incidents can lead to a variety of consequences from informal conversations/reminders, restoratives, detentions, reflection room time or fixed term suspension/permanent exclusion. Each incident is discussed with the student and is recorded on Bromcom so that parents/carers are informed.

We understand that students do make mistakes, but we hope that they learn from them. Respecting each other and their own learning is key.



Our Rewards strategy was developed in conjunction with our Senior Student Rewards Committee and incorporates student voice, staff voice and feedback from parents and carers.

The King James's Foundation Trust sponsor our ACE shop which enables staff to reward students in a consistent manner when they reflect our ACE strategy: **Ambition + Character = Excellence.**

Throughout the year students have multiple opportunities to be rewarded, for example:

- Every lesson: achievement points and ACE vouchers
- Every fortnight: Strive Champion and Marvellous Monday's winners
- Every half term: Tutee of the Half Term
- Rewards assemblies: Curriculum Student of the Term, Pastoral Awards and Principals awards
- Celebration Evening
- Reward Trips

See Behaviour policy for more information.

Inclusion

King James's School prides itself on an Inclusive approach in order to ensure that all students can access mainstream education, that all students feel welcomed and valued and that all students are offered the right support to help them fulfil their potential academically, personally and emotionally.

Mrs Walton, Vice Principal, holds responsibility for Inclusion alongside Mrs Quarmby, SENDCo. The school offers a Student Support Centre to support both KS3 and KS4 students who have identified additional needs including learning needs, medical issues and social or emotional concerns. This learning area is a positive, welcoming and safe environment where the individual needs of the student comes first. The priority within this learning environment is to meet the needs of students through an individualised, bespoke programme of work underpinned by a graduated approach – assess, plan, do, review. Students are supported by a dedicated Inclusion staff team:



Mrs Dean
Student Support Manager



Mrs Gatenby
Academic Support Worker



Mrs Williams
Emotional Support Worker

Specialist support from external agencies may also be included in a programme of support for the young people alongside other support from staff within school including the Well-Being Mentor, Medical Officer and Educational support staff team.

WELL-BEING MENTOR

Mrs Norton



King James's has a school-based Wellbeing Mentor, who has recognised qualifications for counselling, and works five days a week to support students throughout their time at the school. Whilst Pastoral Leaders remain the first port of call, they may refer students to be seen by the Wellbeing Mentor, either if they feel they are struggling personally or when concerns have been raised by staff or parents. This support may be on an individual basis or as part of a small group.

If you are concerned about your child's well-being, either within or outside of school, please contact their Pastoral Leader and they will discuss a referral to the Well-being Mentor, if appropriate.

Although there are obvious exceptions due to safeguarding and child protection, as a rule, it is vital that our school Wellbeing Mentor is able to offer your child confidentiality, therefore your permission will be taken as implicit. Your child's attendance at sessions will only be shared with the school's safeguarding team. Any data collected by the Wellbeing Mentor including reasons for counselling, is anonymous; collated only to track referral patterns, and will not be passed on to any third parties or other institutions without consent. It does not form part of your child's academic record. The only exception to this would be, as with the rest of the school, if there is a safeguarding concern.



Medical Officer

Mrs Nawaz



As part of the Well-being Hub at King James's we have a dedicated Welfare Room. Miss Nawaz, our Medical Officer is available during school hours and will generally deal with any minor accidents, illnesses or any other welfare issues.

If as a parent/carer you feel there are any medical issues you think we should be aware of, or if you would like to talk over an issue concerning your child's health, you can contact Miss Nawaz at staff.nnawaz@kingjames.school or contact school by phone.

We also have several trained First Aiders in school who will be able to provide initial First Aid to a student should they require it.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS & DISABILITIES

Mrs Quarmby



Assessment

On entry to school in September all students undergo a number of assessments. From these assessments we are able to determine the specific needs for your child. Any students who appear to have difficulties are further tested by the SEND Department. An appropriate intervention programme can then be put into place, if necessary.

Intervention

Students may be withdrawn from class in order to access a range of support programmes in our Group Room. These may occur on a daily basis for those students in most need or just once or twice a week for those students needing a boost with key areas of learning such as spelling or reading. In addition to this, students may be supported in lessons by an additional adult.

SEND Register

Students who receive support from the SEND Department may be placed on the SEND Register, with the consent of parents. All students who receive additional support will have a Pupil Passport, ensuring staff are aware of which students require special consideration in their lessons. Learners with specific needs will also have a support plan, known as an iAPDR. A small number of students with the greatest needs will have an EHCP, produced by the local authority. This specifically targets areas for improvement and strategies to help the student progress. All plans are circulated to staff who monitor and feedback on the student's progress. Parents and students are also invited to review and contribute to the writing of support plans.

Pastoral Care

At King James's School we are proud of our distinguished history, working closely with families over many generations to provide a high-quality education, in a caring and supportive environment. We aim to achieve this through providing all students, regardless of their background, with a rigorous and academic education, supported by outstanding pastoral care.

We pride ourselves on the strong relationships that are formed between all our staff and the students they encounter. Form tutors and Pastoral Leaders are together for the full five years to ensure that each student has that constant, familiar face whilst they develop into young adults and the challenges that they face as young people.

Social and emotional needs are supported by staff in the Student Support Centre and our

PASTORAL INTENT

QUALITIES

BE KIND AND INCLUSIVE



BE RESILIENT AND DETERMINED



BE CONFIDENT AND AMBITIOUS



Well-being Mentor, whilst referring students to outside agencies. Students with learning needs are overseen by our SENDCO and supported by the team of Learning Support Assistants, whether it is in class or in the SEND Intervention room.



Pupil Premium

Pupil Premium is a government initiative which was introduced in April 2011. The Pupil Premium has one central aim: to improve outcomes for all socio-economically disadvantaged pupils. The Pupil Premium funding will be used to help close the attainment gap between learners using a tiered approach including high quality teaching, targeted academic support, and supporting wider strategies.

Pupil Premium funding is allocated to schools based on the number of;

- Pupils who are recorded as eligible for free school meals, or have been recorded as eligible in the past 6 years. (Referred to as Ever 6 FSM).
- Children previously looked after by a local authority or other state care, including children adopted from state care or equivalent from outside England and Wales.
- Service Pupil Premium is additional funding for schools with pupils who have parents serving in the armed forces.

Pupil Premium is not a personal budget for individual pupils, and schools do not have to spend Pupil Premium so that it solely benefits pupils who meet the above funding criteria. Our school has a Pupil Premium strategy that is shared on our website and we regularly monitor our strategy to ensure it is inclusive and impactful for as many students as possible. Some of the things our Pupil Premium funding has covered this year;

- Breakfast being provided for Pupil Premium students daily.
- Support with curriculum trips (looked at on a case by case basis).
- Small group work in English and Maths for students to close learning gaps.
- Workshops to develop student oracy.
- The Brilliant Club to promote further Education pathways with students.
- Support with uniform costs (on a case by case basis)

Our Pupil Premium statement will show that we research all our strategies and we choose strategies that are proven to have the greatest impact on improving progress at school on a national basis. We take time to evaluate our support by frequently talking to Pupil Premium students in all year groups about what makes the biggest difference for them at school and best supports their learning.

If you wish to find out more or would like to apply for Free School Meals, please go to:

<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/schools/free-school-meals.aspx#>

Please be aware that as of 2025 you must now re-apply for FSM if your child is moving from Primary school to Middle/ High School.





► Curriculum Offer

As an academy, we have the National Curriculum at heart. Our curriculum offer is broad and balanced to ensure that every child has the opportunity to study both academic and practical courses. Students will follow a three year Key Stage 3 program, where they study the foundations of each subjects to allow them to make informed choices in Year 9 about subjects they wish to study in KS4.

At the heart of our Key Stage 4 curriculum is a strong academic core grounded in EBacc subjects. In Years 10 and 11, students study English Language & English Literature, Mathematics, Double Science (as a minimum), History or Geography, Core RSE and Core Physical Education. They can then choose up to four subjects, depending on their Pathways Gate from the below:

- GCSE: Art, Business Studies, 3D Design, French, Food & Nutrition, Graphics, Music, PE, Separate Sciences and Spanish.
- Vocational: Creative Imedia, Drama and Health and Social Care.

The table below highlights the lesson allocations per year.

YEAR GROUP	ENGLISH	LITERACY	MATHS	SCIENCE	LANGUAGES	HISTORY	GEOGRAPHY	RE/PHSCE	GRAPHICS/RM	FOOD/TEXTILES	ART	COMPUTING	MUSIC	DRAMA	PE/CORE	FORM TIME
7	7	1	7	7	5	3	3	2	7				2	2	4	0.5
8	7	1	7	7	4	3	3	2	8				2	2	4	0.5
9	7		7	7	5	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	0.5
10	8		8	10	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	0.5
11	8		8	10	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	0.5

As a school we continually recognise that there are students, across all Year groups, who struggle to meet the demands of a full academic curriculum. These students may not possess the foundation skills which enables them to access the wider curriculum.

The Activate curriculum is a programme of intervention designed to meet the challenging and complex needs of some of our most vulnerable young people within King James's School. The programme centres around the delivery of an Alternative Curriculum which will include academic, vocational, Life Skills and Personal Development.

Teaching & Learning



At King James's School we have shared principles of effective teacher practice, that act as a strong framework to ensure good learning and progress in all lessons. Lessons have a clear starter activity that encourages recall and secures understanding over time. All lessons highlight **Golden Knowledge** which is really important content for students to understand as linked to assessments students will take and reflects areas students need to remember. Teaching staff make regular use of modelling, to ensure students always see what good answers look like and can then develop their own skills by having clear models to learn from. In our lessons teachers use questioning to ensure students are challenged to think, teachers will use a variety of questioning methods to ensure all students are included in our lessons.

We set high standards but in a framework of support in learning, ensuring all students are expected to contribute in lessons and make the best progress. We aim to set a positive and can do atmosphere in every lesson for our students.

Through the use of our Pupil Premium budget we aim to improve outcomes and close the attainment gap between learners using a tiered approach including high quality teaching, targeted academic support, and supporting wider strategies. We choose strategies that are proven to have the greatest impact on improving progress at school. We take time to evaluate our support by frequently talking to Pupil Premium students in all year groups about what makes the biggest difference for them at school and best supports their learning.

ILC

The Independent Learning Centre is open to all students every break and lunchtime. Students have access to newly published fiction and non-fiction books for all abilities and subjects. Computers are readily available. Homework Club runs every day between 3-4pm when students are given the opportunity to research and complete their work in a quiet environment and make use of the printing services. Many of our students use this facility after school and then take advantage of the late bus



Personal Development



Abigail Terry
Assistant Principal

The Personal Development of students is very important at King James's School and encompasses a wide range of areas:

Careers and preparation for life after King James's School

We work closely with C+K Careers and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to provide first class Careers support and are especially proud of the different careers events that are organised throughout the school year, for example, our Aspirations Fair, mock interviews, Apprenticeship Fair and work experience.

We were delighted to achieve the Quality in Careers Standard in Autumn 2024, receiving due recognition for how we support our students with decision making and planning for the next steps.

Citizenship and fundamental British values

British values underpin what it means to be a British citizen and this is something that we as a school reinforce through our curriculum and our tutor time programme. British values are:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect
- tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

Knowing and understanding British values enables students prepare for life in a diverse and multicultural country, once they leave us at the end of Year 11.

Community links

We are proud to be a Democracy Friendly School and our work with local counsellors goes from strength to strength. Previously, we have taken part in a national conference looking at how we can make changes in our local areas and a current long-term focus is looking at safer travel and how we can link and lead other schools so that they can also be democracy friendly.

Enrichment and extracurricular activities

Our enrichment provision is underpinned by student voice and we work together as a staff and student team to organise different opportunities, experiences and activities.

Our enrichment offer is regularly reviewed and updated timetables are included on our school website. We also welcome different visitors in to work with students in curriculum areas and for whole year group presentations.

In addition to this, we have a school-wide focus on experiences with organised trips and visits based on cultural experiences, curriculum, unique experiences and rewards.

Health and wellbeing

The health and wellbeing of our whole school community is central to our wellbeing team. We have different staff and students who support this in their varied roles including:

- ELSA mentors
- Learning mentor
- Medical officer
- Mental health first aiders
- Senior Mental Health lead
- Senior Student wellbeing leaders
- Thrive mentor
- Wellbeing mentor

We work closely with Kirklees Keep in Mind and we are looking forward to working with the Carnegie School of Education at Leeds Beckett University so that we can achieve our School Mental Health Award.

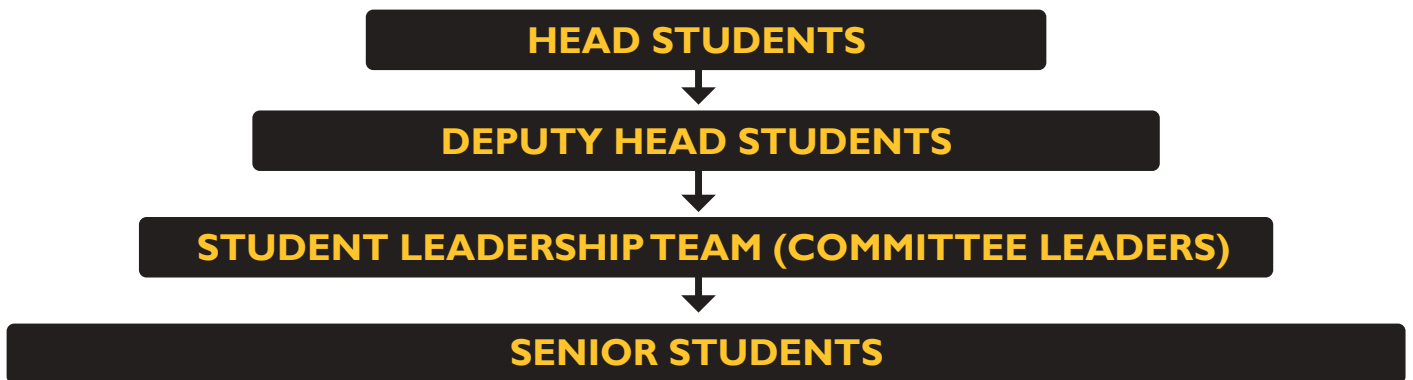
Student Leadership



Student Leadership is an opportunity that is open to all students – if they have a passion and want to make a difference, they are encouraged by the Senior Student Leadership Team.

Our Senior Students have an overview of Leaders in lower years and support them to succeed. Some leadership teams are Curriculum based while other leadership teams are based on personal development themes.

OUR STUDENT LEADER STRUCTURE



SUBJECT LEADERS	INTEREST & SUPPORT	REPRESENTATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language Ambassadors • Literacy Leaders • Power of 2 (Maths) • Science leaders • Sports Leaders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-bullying Committee • Charity and fundraising committee • Diversity Committee • Duke of Edinburgh • Environmental awareness group • LGBTQ+ • Mental Health Committee • Rewards Committee • Year 7 Peer mentors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage Weekend representatives • Interview panels • Prom Committee • Student Council • Yearbook Committee • Youth Council

Careers Guidance



Our Ambition curriculum is designed to encourage students to consider and reflect on the different options for **life after King James's** and to enable them to set themselves aspirational goals which match their potential. One of the ways we do this is through our Careers programme.

In key stage 3, students study a unit of work in PSHCE in the Autumn term where they look at themes such as:

- **Year 7:** Employability skills, Labour market information and Choices at Post 16 and Post 18
- **Year 8:** Stereotyping in the workplace, job sectors in West Yorkshire and jobs and careers of the future
- **Year 9:** Pathways at KJS, different types of courses, jobs and careers linked to different courses.

In key stage 4, students study PPI6 which is Preparation for Post 16. This is a series of units looking at:

- Attributes and skills
- Application forms, CV's, personal statements and cover letters
- Interviews
- Work experience

In the tutor time programme and the assembly programme we look at themes such as:

- What are my options when I leave KJS?
- National Apprenticeship Week
- Celebrating our Alumni
- Labour Market Information – what is out there?

As a school, we work closely with C+K Careers, the Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership, local Post 16 providers, apprenticeship providers and employers which allows students the opportunity to consider the different options available to them, the different ways that students can explore their potential and how they can learn about various routes and career paths. Throughout the year, we have different careers aspirations events that involve students and parents to ensure that everyone is aware of the different opportunities available once students leave King James's School.



Facilities

The school consists of the original main building dating back to 1760 with classrooms added over the years. There is also a new block with 10 classrooms which was occupied from April 2022.

Our site provides an ideal environment for students, with a range of specialist teaching facilities. We have up to date computer suites and interactive whiteboards through the school.

We have a sports hall, a gym, an all-weather surface, four football pitches (various sizes), a rugby pitch and tennis/netball courts. We offer these facilities to external affiliated clubs within the community.



LINKS WITH OTHERS

ALMONDBURIANS' SOCIETY (AS)

The Almondburians' Society (AS) is comprised of former students and staff of King James's School. Established to uphold the honour and status of the School and to provide a means of contact between members, the society meets regularly to plan social events and maintain links with the school. Every student and staff member is automatically entitled to become a member.

KJSPTFA

A team of staff and parents aiming to raise funds for school.

For all statutory policies please see the website.



King James's School,
St Helens Gate,
Almondbury,
Huddersfield HD4 6SG
T: 01484-412990
E: office@kingjames.school