



Kingsthorpe  
College

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Headteacher : Jennie Giovannelli

8th September 2017

Dear Parent / Guardian:

It's been another summer of success at Kingsthorpe College with our GCSE and A level students celebrating some wonderful achievements this summer. This positivity has continued throughout the first week, and we have really enjoyed welcoming back all of our students as we start the Autumn Term. We are looking forward to continuing to inspire all of our young people to achieve athletic, artistic, and academic excellence throughout the year.

Here at Kingsthorpe College, we are proud of the high expectations we have of our students. As much as we make certain that our students gain the qualifications that they need for the next stage of their life, we are equally focused on making certain that our students have the character that we know they also need to succeed. Hard work, determination, resilience, and creativity are qualities we value highly, alongside good manners, respect, and the ability to empathise with others. It is these uncompromising expectations which allow all our students to achieve beyond their potential, and which mean that Kingsthorpe College is an oversubscribed school within Northampton town.

I would like to take this opportunity at the start of the new academic year to remind you of some of our expectations, as well as share some important information with you. We continue to have the very highest expectations for all our young people, and we are encouraging them to play their part in our journey by taking responsibility for their own behaviour and learning.

### **Honours Roll 2017-18**

We very much believe in celebrating and rewarding students where they demonstrate the qualities which we value highly, and we have many ways of doing this within the College.

This year we are launching our KC Honours Roll. We are excited that our new system will ensure that our students are rewarded for all their hard work and effort. Students will receive achievement points for many different reasons such as completing excellent pieces of classwork or homework, making positive contributions to school life, and taking part in extra-curricular activities. These points will then unlock different honours for the students



from Copper through to Platinum. Rewards such as free queue jump passes for the dining hall, movie afternoons, and lunch with the Headteacher will be available. We very much look forward to congratulating your child as they work towards collecting their achievement points this year.

### **Behaviour Expectations**

Every student at Kingsthorpe College deserves the right to be able to learn productively in a supportive, yet challenging environment. With this in mind, we take any disruption to the learning environment extremely seriously – both inside and outside of lessons. We have a very clear consequences system in place which guarantees that all students are treated fairly and consistently, and which means disruption to the learning of others is minimal. Students are given the opportunity to prevent escalation to the formal consequence system by a verbal warning – if students choose to ignore this, the consequences of their actions will result in a variety of sanctions. Details of these can be found in students' planners.

#### **Kingsthorpe College students should:**

- **Attend school at all times:** The College's expectation in relation to attendance is that all students have an attendance figure of at least 96%. If attendance falls below this figure, the impact on a student's learning and achievement is significant. We would ask that any medical appointments are made outside of the school day. Further details about how to report an absence, and our expectations in relation to requests for a child to be absent from College, can be found in the leaflet enclosed with this letter.
- **Be on time to school:** The school day starts at 8.30am for all students and we expect students to be in their first lesson by 8.40am. In order to keep our students safe, and make sure that they can be welcomed each day by senior staff, the College gate opens at 8:15am for a formal entry into the College. We know we have students who use our LRC and breakfast facilities before this time, but so that we are aware from a health and safety perspective who is on site at any given point, we will be asking all students to let us know if they intend to be on site before 8:15am. These students will be issued with a pass and will access the College building through reception.
- **Be on time to lessons:** Students who arrive at lessons after the majority of the class will be registered as late to lesson.
- **Be in uniform:** Please make sure your child is kitted out with full school uniform. Bags must be able to fit an A4 file. Please take a moment to remind yourself of our uniform expectations – in particular the parts relating to extreme hair-cuts, jewellery, and shoes. These can be found on the College website. We expect all our students to wear the correct and full uniform at all times throughout the school day. It is important to us that our students understand the importance that first impressions make, and wearing our uniform correctly, and with pride, says much

about our students. If students arrive without the full uniform, including blazers and shoes, unless they accept the numerous spares that we have on offer, they will have their free time at break and lunch taken away until the uniform issue has been corrected.

- **Be equipped:** Please make sure your child is fully equipped with a well-stocked pencil case including 2 pens, pencil, ruler and rubber. Your child will also need a scientific calculator and a geometry set for their mathematics lessons.
  - **Planners** are a vital tool for learning at Kingsthorpe College. Not only are they used to record and manage homework, but they are also an instant communication tool between College and home. Teachers and tutors will use the planner to record students' successes, as well as letting you know where students have not met our expectations. It is therefore a non-negotiable that all students bring their planner to school, and students will be expected to show that they have this when they enter the College in the morning. The College provides all students with a planner at the start of the year and it is the student's responsibility to look after this. If a student loses their planner, they will be expected to purchase another one at a small cost. A student must replace their planner immediately so that they are able to gain entry to the College at the start of the day. Students will only be given a temporary planner for 24 hours.
- **Use mobile phones responsibly:** Mobile phones and tablets are to be used responsibly during breaks and lunches.

### **Partnership Working**

The partnership between College and parents is absolutely crucial in making sure our high expectations enable all students to learn and exceed their potential. I would like to reiterate our desire for the very best communication between the College and home, and our openness and determination to engage with everyone within KC's community.

It is always our intention that decisions taken in relation to a student's conduct are fair, appropriate, and applied consistently. As Headteacher, my duty is to make sure that every young person and all of our staff members are able to learn and teach to the very best of their ability. Decisions in relation to conduct are always made with both the individual student in mind, but also the needs of the whole community. I would ask that you trust us with the decisions that we make, and trust that these have been taken to ensure the very best for all our students.

It is really important to us that we make communication as easy as possible, and we would always encourage you to get in touch with the College if you have any concerns. Attached to this letter is a list of key contacts to help make sure you can get the right help from the right person in a timely manner.

There are lots of opportunities throughout the year to keep up to date with how your son or daughter is progressing. Following feedback from parents last year, we have introduced a Meet the Tutor Evening for all students early on this term so that you can

establish a relationship with your child's tutor at the start of the year, and hear how they have settled in. Further details are attached to this letter, including details of the system we use to book parents' evenings.

### **Keeping Informed**

We have many ways that you can keep in touch with what is going on in the College, and we would encourage you to explore and use these.

- **Website** – our website contains a wealth of useful information and we ensure that all key dates and documents are available for you to view at [www.kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](http://www.kingsthorpecollege.org.uk).
- **Newsletter** – each week the College publishes a newsletter which shares and celebrates what has been going on each week, including a message from myself. You can find the newsletter on our website, and you can also sign up so that it is automatically emailed to you.
- **Twitter** – the College regularly shares information via our Twitter feed which can be found at @KingsthorpeC

### **Getting Involved**

We are looking to further develop our links with the community and local and national businesses this year, as well as continuing to strengthen our links with parents and benefitting from the experience and feedback you can give us. If you would like to be involved with helping us on our journey to excellence, please contact Mrs Julie Ricketts, Director of Operations.

I look forward to working closely with you and your son or daughter this academic year. Please do get in touch with me if I can be of any assistance.

Yours faithfully



Mrs J Giovanelli  
Headteacher

## **KEY CONTACTS**

[Year7team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:Year7team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk) - Mr Butlin, Mrs Read & Ms Taylor

[Year8team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:Year8team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk) - Mr Hill, Mrs VanGeijlswijk & Mr Baines

[Year9team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:Year9team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk) - Mr Smith, Mr Baron & Mr Wade

[Year10team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:Year10team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk) - Mrs Watts, Mrs Patel & Mr Hancock

[Year11team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:Year11team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk) - Miss Old, Mr Heffernan & Mr Hartnett

[sixthformteam@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:sixthformteam@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk) - Mr Pomerantz, Ms Wainwright, Mr Campbell & Mr Sim

[attendance@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:attendance@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk) - Mrs Williams & Mr Hancock

### **English**

Learning Director: Mrs Kinsella – [laura.kinsella@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:laura.kinsella@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)

Leadership Team Link: Mr Baines – [ben.baines@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:ben.baines@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)

### **Maths**

Learning Director: Miss Bailey – [louise.bailey@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:louise.bailey@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)

Leadership Team Link: Mrs Gant – [rhiannon.gant@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:rhiannon.gant@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)

### **Science**

Learning Director: Mr Cox – [joseph.cox@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:joseph.cox@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)

Leadership Team Link: Mr Hartnett – [james.hartnett@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:james.hartnett@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)

### **Humanities**

Learning Director: Mrs Paice – [gail.paice@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:gail.paice@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)

Leadership Team Link: Mr Sim – [daniel.sim@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:daniel.sim@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)

### **Modern Foreign Languages**

Leadership Team Link: Ms Taylor – [alison.taylor@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:alison.taylor@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)

### **ICT and Business**

Learning Director: Mr Anawka – [eric.anawka@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:eric.anawka@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)

Leadership Team Link: Mr Wade – [scott.wade@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:scott.wade@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)

### **Vocational**

Learning Director: Mr Ingram – [david.ingram@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:david.ingram@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)

Leadership Team Link: – [daniel.sim@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:daniel.sim@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)

### **Visual Arts and Technology**

Learning Director: Mr Jones – [nigel.jones@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:nigel.jones@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)

Leadership Team Link: Mr Wade – [scott.wade@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:scott.wade@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)

### **PE and Performing Arts**

Learning Director: Ms Newell – [victoria.newell@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:victoria.newell@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)

Leadership Team Link: Mr Hancock – [paul.hancock@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:paul.hancock@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)

### **Special Educational Needs**

Learning Director: Mr O'Leary – [david.o'leary@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:david.o'leary@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)

Leadership Team Link: Mrs Gant – [rhiannon.gant@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk](mailto:rhiannon.gant@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk)