

KINGS **ACADEMY**



**A - Z FOR PARENTS
2021 – 2022**

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021 - 2022

AUTUMN TERM	
Inset Days	Monday 6 and Tuesday 7 September 2021
Return to the Academy	Year 9 and Year 12 Students Wednesday 8 September 2021
Return to the Academy	All Students Thursday 9 September 2021
Inset Day	Friday 22 October 2021
HALF TERM	Monday 25 October 2021 – Wednesday 3 November 2021 inclusive
Academy Starts	Thursday 4 November 2021
Last Day of Term	Friday 17 December 2021
SPRING TERM	
Bank Holiday	Monday 3 January 2022
Inset Day	Tuesday 4 January 2022
Academy Starts	Wednesday 5 January 2022
HALF TERM	Monday 21 February 2022 – Friday 25 February 2022 inclusive
Academy Starts	Monday 28 February 2022
EASTER HOLIDAY	Monday 11 April 2022 – Friday 22 April 2022 inclusive
SUMMER TERM	
Academy Starts	Monday 25 April 2022
BANK HOLIDAY	Monday 2 May 2022
HALF TERM	Monday 30 May 2022 – Friday 3 June 2022 inclusive
Academy Starts	Monday 6 June 2022
Last Day of Term	Friday 22 July 2022
Inset Days	Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 July 2022

September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: A – Z for Parents 2021 – 2022

I am delighted to introduce this A – Z for Parents for the 2021-2022 academic year which provides you with the essential information about our Academy.

We are very much looking forward to this academic year, welcoming the return of all our students. We are also excited at the prospect of welcoming parents and carers, both of current and future students, back through the doors of Kings.

Here at The Kings of Wessex Academy, we are proud of our reputation for excellence and commitment to providing an exciting and challenging education for our students within a happy learning environment. We have high expectations of all our students and are keen to nurture the whole child.

Experience shows that the needs of young people are best served if there is a positive and involved partnership between parents and teachers and we look forward to working with you this year. In supporting our policies, I assure you we will strive to ensure that your son or daughter achieves their personal best in their schooling at Kings; and has an enjoyable, rewarding and happy education.

Please keep in contact; our staff look forward to meeting you throughout the academic year and are here to support you and your child throughout each step of their education through Kings.

Thank you, once again, for reading this guidance and for referring to it during the academic year. There is also an online version available through the website available [here](#).

Thank you for your support and I wish your child a happy and successful school year here at The Kings of Wessex Academy.

Yours sincerely



DAVID WILTSHIRE
Headteacher

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ABLE STUDENTS

The Academy identifies those students who are gifted and talented through teacher assessment and examination results. The Academy makes use of several strategies which support and challenge able students in their learning.

Teaching considers the needs of the most able by providing opportunities for extension and challenging work. Further measures include setting arrangements, differentiated tasks in class and Triple Sciences at GCSE and/or Further Maths GCSE. Students are encouraged to take part in courses for the exceptionally able. There are also opportunities to become involved in challenging enrichment activities e.g. national competitions. Resources are signposted to inspire able students to go beyond their curriculum.

ABSENCE

Excellent attendance is essential to good progress. It is also a legal requirement that your child attends school. The only acceptable reasons for absence are student illness, family bereavement or an exceptionally significant family event. If your child has an absence for one of these reasons, then it must be reported to the Academy by telephoning the Absence Hotline before 9.00am on 01934 745304 or by emailing absence@kowessex.co.uk on each day of absence explaining the reason. This enables the Academy to keep their records up-to-date and helps alleviate the fear of missing children. In the case of extended or chronic illnesses, please liaise with your child's Head of House for the relevant support and advice which we will be pleased to assist with.

In line with Department for Education regulations we do not authorise term time leave or holidays. Leave during term time may be authorised under very exceptional circumstances which includes illness or a family bereavement. As an Upper School all students are involved in preparation for public examinations. Year 9 students start their GCSE courses on arrival. There is a direct link to underachievement and increased anxiety for examinations where attendance is poor.

Where families do take leave, including holidays in term time, a fixed term penalty fine may follow for each parent or carer of £60 per child.

If a student has a poor attendance record, they may be withdrawn from educational trips or enrichment activities to catch up on missed lessons.

We would also ask that you think carefully before you remove your child from their lessons even for a dental or orthodontic appointment. Where possible, appointments should be made after school hours.

ACADEMY COLOURS

Academy Colours are awarded to students who have made a special contribution to enrichment activities across all the year groups.

Students are presented with a badge and certificate in the End of Term Achievement Assemblies.

Lower school students should wear their badges on their blazer lapels.

ACCELERATE

Kings Academy offers an onsite alternative provision, called 'Accelerate'. Working in Accelerate offers extensive support to students who could be disaffected with school, at risk of exclusion, or it is felt would benefit from extra intervention. The aim is to overcome barriers in education by setting up tailored programmes of support and intervention for individuals, supporting with their studies and advising on work prospects when they leave. This involves working closely with home to develop relationships and improve school attendance, behaviour and outcomes for the students and build resilience for the future.

The bespoke packages on offer help to support students both academically and pastorally across all year groups.

ADDRESS

The Academy address is:

The Kings of Wessex Academy, Station Road, Cheddar, Somerset, BS27 3AQ

Telephone 01934 742608

E-mail: office@kowessex.co.uk and **website:** www.kowessex.co.uk

Twitter and Facebook

ADMISSIONS

Please see our website for our admission arrangements or alternatively please follow the link [here](#).

ALCOHOL

Students are not permitted to bring alcohol onto the premises. Students are not allowed to attend school under the influence of alcohol or consume alcohol at any time during the Academy day, whilst participating in trips and activities or representing the Academy. Students who do so risk being excluded from the Academy.

APPOINTMENTS

Staff will be pleased to meet with you or assist you with any queries. However, please do not arrive at the Academy to meet with a member of staff without arranging an appointment in advance. To avoid disappointment or a frustrating wait, contact the member of staff first: either by email, phone or via reception, and obtain a confirmed date and time before coming in to meet them.

ASSEMBLIES

Assemblies provide an opportunity to take a moment and for students and staff to meet together for Christian worship. This time allows for the whole Academy community to consider aspects of the Christian faith, as well as reflecting on important moral and social issues of the day. House assemblies allow the students to make a valuable contribution to the life of the Academy and to grow in confidence and self-expression. In addition, services are held at St. Andrew's Church to celebrate key Christian festivals. On non-assembly days, students participate in a 'thought for the day' and 'moment of reflection' within the setting of their tutor group. House Assemblies provide an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate achievements, success, participation and attendance for all. House Assemblies embed the students' pride, respect and sense of belonging.

ASSESSMENT

Students are assessed throughout the year to monitor their progress in relation to their GCSE, vocational or A Level courses. Assessment is an important part of lessons at Kings and may be in the form of end of unit tests, assignments or exam papers. To help prepare students for public examinations they will undertake practice exams called PPEs (pre-public examinations). These give students the opportunity to practice exam papers under exam conditions and give teachers a valuable insight into their progress. Students are actively involved in the assessment process and are encouraged to reflect on their performance to establish future targets.

BEHAVIOUR

The Kings of Wessex Academy has high expectations of its students' behaviour in all regards, on the way to and from the Academy, in the classroom, during social time as well as on Academy trips. Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their behaviour. The Academy operates a behaviour stage system which responds to the level of support and intervention needed at each stage. These stages are met by an accumulation of Conduct Behaviour Points.

BICYCLES

Students who travel to the Academy by bicycle can leave them in the bicycle bubble next to the Student Welfare and Inclusion Centre. We are very conscious of the high cost of some bicycles and recommend the use of secure locks. All bicycles are left at school at the students' own risk. For safety reasons, students are not permitted to ride their bicycles on the school site and should enter and exit via the Memorial entrance. Parents/Carers must ensure that bicycles are in a roadworthy condition and that cycle helmets are worn.

BOOKS

Students should ensure that they take good care of books. A charge will be made for lost or damaged books.

BRITISH VALUES

British Values and tolerance are taught through Citizenship and tutor time and other aspects of the curriculum. This includes democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

BULLYING

The Academy is committed to vigorously challenging all forms of bullying and has a Respect Anti Bullying Code that students are expected to adhere to. We will not tolerate any form of verbal, physical or psychological bullying. No student has the right to make other people feel insecure in the school.

The Academy guarantees that:

- Teachers will do their best to prevent bullying and will share responsibility for action if bullying does occur.
- All incidents will be investigated in a firm and fair manner.
- Parents and outside agencies may be involved in any course of action.
- Through the curriculum we will encourage students to talk openly about bullying, to recognise its many forms, to realise its consequences, to encourage incidents to be reported and to discuss ways of handling bullies.
- Sixth Form students attached to tutor groups act as mentors for younger students who may feel vulnerable.
- Senior Sixth Form Ambassadors are trained to act as a critical friend.
- Tell Someone is an online reporting method available for students. They can report anything at any time to the school.

CCTV

The Academy campus operates 24-hour CCTV surveillance.

CAREERS

Careers Education and Guidance forms part of the core curriculum for all students. Careers Education is taught within our Citizenship and tutor programmes throughout the Academy and is further developed through Focus Days.

Specialist Careers Guidance is available to all students throughout the year and on examination results days. Students can request an appointment with our in-school Employability Co-Ordinator, or they can be referred by staff. Year 11 and 12 students are supported through 'careers interviews' with a member of the leadership team and interviews with external professionals. Sixth Form students are supported with UCAS and apprenticeship applications. An annual evening is held to inform parents of the process of applying for a place in higher education and student finance.

An extensive programme of events takes place through the academic year to inform students. Careers events are organised and include careers cafés, careers fayres, visiting speakers and input from local companies and businesses. Each subject department has an area dedicated to careers opportunities within their field and there may be subject-specific industrial visits to employers and universities. A careers library is situated in the Learning Resource Centre together with additional careers information and online resources on Firefly.

In Year 10 all students are involved in a week of work experience, with a “Key Skills at Work” day prior to work experience, providing preparation in skills valued by employers. Students in Year 12 are expected to undertake a further week of work experience in their chosen field, to support applications for employment or University in Year 13.

CATERING

The Kings of Wessex Academy operates in-house catering and is committed to providing a wide range of healthy and nutritional food options at competitive prices.

Our catering complies with the latest nutritional food standards and continues to develop healthy food choices for its students and staff.

The Academy is cashless. This means we do not accept cash at the tills in the Café. Instead, we use biometric technology. The system scans a thumb/finger at the till and debits the students’ account. Money will need to be credited to the students’ account before purchases can be made. This is undertaken by using the online parent payment system known as ParentPay. We set a global maximum spend per day in the Café of £5.00 per student. However, you may wish to change this to an individual daily spend limit by contacting the Catering Manager.

Vending is available for bottled water and sugar free drinks.

CHAPLAIN

Our Chaplain coordinates the Kings’ worship programme, prayer and other special events. We have a purpose-built building called the Sanctuary.

CHARGING

The Academy reserves the right to make a charge for some activities; details of which can be found in the Academy charging policy which is available on our website or, alternatively, [please click here](#).

In cases of financial hardship, it may be possible to provide some assistance. Please contact your child’s Head of House, or Head of Sixth Form in the first instance.

The Academy reserves the right to levy a charge where a student loses a book or piece of equipment or misuses or damages school resources.

CHEWING GUM

Chewing gum is not permitted on Academy premises.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND STATUS

The Kings of Wessex is a Church of England Academy.

The Academy is proud of its tradition of Christian Distinctiveness which is integral to the caring learning environment.

This is achieved through the promotion of our PRIDE Christian Values, which are demonstrated in all our interactions with, and on behalf of, students.

Students are treated with kindness and respect and are expected to treat others with kindness and respect. Students are encouraged and supported to 'Believe and Succeed,' "Blessed are those who have not seen yet Believe." (John 29:20)

Staff want the best for every individual child; love, forgiveness and second chances are promoted. The Academy's ethos is supported by a rich variety of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural activities.

Students attend services at St Andrews Church during the year to celebrate key Anglican events, including Harvest, Remembrance, Christmas, Easter and Ascension. Services are organised and led by our Chaplain.

All students follow a GCSE course in Religion, Philosophy and Ethics which includes a study of key aspects of the Christian faith and responses to modern ethical dilemmas. Students also have the option to study Philosophy and Ethics at A Level.

As a Church of England Academy, Christianity teaches acts of worship in assemblies, and in everyday life in the Academy.

Students are encouraged to be free thinkers within a framework of sensitivity, tolerance and harmony. Self-confidence is encouraged so that students are equipped with the resilience and wisdom to make informed choices in modern society.

SEE VALUES

CITIZENSHIP

Students follow a Citizenship and Personal Social Health Education course which explores many concepts of life necessary to both individuals and as members of society today. Topics include Health Education, Substance Misuse, Sex Education, Relationships, Staying Safe, Careers, Rights and Responsibilities, Bullying and the Law.

The Course is taught within timetabled lessons and Tutor time activities. On our Focus days we invite outside agencies to contribute to the scheme.

COMPLAINTS

If you have any worries, concerns or complaints, please do not hesitate to contact us. Like any organisation, we do not always get things right, but we are keen to hear about ways in which we can improve the quality of our service.

The Complaints Policy is available on the Academy website [please click here](#).

COMPUTERS

Curriculum ICT provision is made through an Academy network. Seven large ICT suites and smaller collections of computers are spread throughout the subject areas. An additional 40 computers are available in the Learning Resource Centre. The Kings Media Suite provides access to Apple Macs with digital media software. Class sets of wireless laptops are used in Science, English and Technology and a set of iPads are available to be used by all subjects.

CURRICULUM

At Kings we have high ambitions for every student. We aim to deliver a broad, innovative and knowledge-rich curriculum that allows all students to fulfil their potential and to be well-equipped for the future.

We strive for all students to:

- maximise their life chances by acquiring powerful knowledge over a broad range of subject disciplines
- be highly aspirational and ambitious
- care about current issues and global challenges and to shape the future of our planet
- develop a life-long passion for learning and desire for knowledge
- become confident, independent learners
- be well prepared for their next steps including education, employment and training
- be able to form successful, caring relationships through demonstrating our Christian (PRIDE) values including respect, equality and empathy
- become active citizens, equipped to play a dynamic role in their community and wider society
- be guided by the British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different beliefs, different faiths and no faith
- adopt lifestyles that promote physical and mental wellbeing
- be high achievers and fulfilling their potential in exams to allow progression to further high-quality courses and training
- develop a sense of responsibility towards themselves, other people and their environment

All students study a core curriculum of English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science, Religion, Philosophy and Ethics (RPE), Citizenship, Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Physical Education.

Most students follow two EBacc GCSE option courses from French, German, Geography and History. Within the options process and liaison with the Middle Schools some students can opt for support programmes including English and Maths Basics or EBacc Booster.

In addition, students can choose two further option subjects from a long list of Enrichment Curriculum subjects: Art, Craft and Design (GCSE), Business Studies (GCSE), Business (BTEC), Computer Science (GCSE), Design and Technology (GCSE), Food Preparation and Nutrition (GCSE), French (GCSE), Geography (GCSE), German (GCSE), History (GCSE), iMedia (OCR Nationals), Music (GCSE), Performing Arts (BTEC), Physical Education (GCSE), Sports Science (OCR Nationals) and Textiles (GCSE).

Most students study Combined Science which gives them two science GCSEs. Some students will study Triple Science which allows them to achieve three science GCSEs in each of the following sciences: Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The Science Faculty monitors progress closely during Key Stage 4 to decide the best Science route for each student.

In addition, some students maybe offered the opportunity to study towards and undertake Further Mathematics GCSE. This is taught in additional time, usually after school.

Important themes are taught across the curriculum including employability, learning to learn and global issues. The curriculum is further enriched with an extensive programme of field trips and clubs.

When students are in Year 11, Sixth-Form Open Evening and Taster Days provide them with information about the exciting opportunities ahead in the Key Stage 5 curriculum.

DAILY TIMETABLE Monday to Thursday Timings:

8.45	Collective Worship/Tutor Time
9.05	Period 1
10.05	Period 2
11.05	Break
11.25	Period 3
12.30	Period 4
1.30	Lunch
2.15	Period 5
3.15	End of School Day

DAILY TIMETABLE Friday Timings:

8.45	Collective Worship/Extended Tutor Time
9.25	Period 1
10.20	Period 2
11.15	Break
11.35	Period 3
12.30	Period 4
1.30	Lunch
2.15	Period 5
3.15	End of School Day

The Academy works a fortnightly timetable, Week A and Week B.

DEODORANTS

Deodorants should be of the 'roll on type' rather than the pressurised cans. Any aerosol type product found in students' possession will be confiscated. Students in the Sixth Form would be expected to use these items in a sensible manner.

DETENTION

We operate a system of detentions for subjects and Heads of Houses. On occasion, Senior Leadership Team detentions may also take place. Parents will be notified if their child is required to attend an after-school detention. We ask for parents' support in ensuring that their child attends this important sanction and is able to get home afterwards. Students who fail to attend after school detentions will normally have to attend a rescheduled detention and may lose social time. Repeated failure to attend detentions may result in internal exclusion. In addition, teachers may give students detentions during the school day to ensure that class or homework is completed to the appropriate standard and that students are not late to school or class.

DISCIPLINE

The Academy believes that good discipline is essential to the wellbeing and education of children. Students are always expected to behave with common sense and consideration for others. If students misbehave, a range of sanctions may be used, including loss of social time, detentions, being placed on report, asked to attend a Governors Disciplinary Hearing and withdrawal from classes. In serious cases a student may be excluded and banned from trips or residential visits, which may involve a financial loss to

parents where payments have already been made. Teachers will keep parents informed of significant disciplinary issues relating to their child.

DRUGS

The use and possession of illegal drugs and legal 'highs' are prohibited. The Academy has a clear policy for dealing with drug-related incidents should they occur during the Academy day or on trips and visits. The dealing in, or possession of, illegal drugs and/or being considered under the influence of such substances will result in an exclusion and in most cases permanent exclusion.

The Academy has several staff who are qualified to use the interactive Somerset substance misuse screening tool. Parents who might wish to discuss these issues may do so in confidence by contacting their child's Head of House.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME

This scheme is open to all students providing the opportunity to progress at Bronze, Silver and Gold. All levels of the award are divided into four areas of experience: service, skill, physical recreation and expedition with an additional residential section at Gold. The Academy has a Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator that supports participants. This is facilitated in weekly 'drop in' sessions. These sessions help to identify appropriate evidence for each area and support when uploading the evidence to DofE. The Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator also sets up expeditions (using an external provider) and assesses presentations.

The scheme is well established and is popular with students providing the opportunity to demonstrate personal achievement and contribution to the community. Duke of Edinburgh Awards are widely recognised by employers and Higher Education.

EATING OUTSIDE OR OUT OF BOUNDS

Eating outside is permitted at the designated picnic benches and in their allocated outside House areas.

ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

Any electronic or expensive equipment brought to school is done so at the students' own risk – students must be responsible for their own property. If any of these items are misused, they will be confiscated and returned on Friday week. Handheld game machines are only to be used at social time; students are not allowed to walk around with their headphones on. Any device brought into the Academy must not be 4G enabled.

EMAIL

The Academy corresponds wherever possible by email to parents. Parents are respectfully requested to inform the Academy of any email changes so that we can maintain our records and communicate effectively. Please contact the main office with any changes to contact details.

EMERGENCY CLOSURE

In the unlikely event of the closure of the Academy due to weather conditions or other emergency situations, an SMS text message and email will be sent to the primary contact who has a registered mobile number or email with the Academy. These details need to be registered and updated on the ParentPay system, as this is the system used to notify you of closures. Details will be available on the Academy website and there will be an answer phone message on the Academy telephone. In addition, information will be available on the Somerset County Council school closure website and local radio stations may also broadcast the information.

EMPLOYABILITY HUB

Kings Academy offers a dedicated hub focusing on careers, curriculum and careers pathways guidance and support. With extensive links to local and national businesses, our Employability Hub is there to help guide and direct students in making informed choices. The Hub is led by an experienced and highly qualified member of staff, working closely with our pastoral and mentoring teams to ensure the best of outcomes and future plans for students in every year group.

ENERGY AND SUGARY DRINKS

These are not permitted at the Academy.

ENRICHMENT

All students are encouraged to be part of the many opportunities available. We also encourage our students to join our various House Committees. Staff and students work together to provide a wide range of clubs and activities that take place throughout the year. Art, Music and Performing Arts departments provide a large programme of musical, dramatic and artistic events and the Physical Education Department organises a comprehensive list of sports fixtures and clubs.

Other enrichment activities on offer include Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Young Enterprise, Public Speaking, IT, Master classes, plus a wide range of trips and visits. We encourage all students to take part in at least one of the activities on offer. Full details of all extra-curricular activities are published annually. Excellent behaviour and cooperation are expected at all times and therefore students may be withdrawn from enrichment activities should their behaviour be of concern. (See Discipline)

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Academy is committed to equal opportunities for all students. This is reflected in access to courses and the content of the curriculum. Learning takes into account the different needs of students and prepares them for life in an ethnically, culturally, globally diverse society.

EQUIPMENT

All students are expected to have their own 'Super Six' pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, calculator and timetable every day for use in lessons. Equipment should be carried in a bag suitable for school, (i.e., large enough to carry an A4 folder). Students are responsible for keeping their own belongings secure. During PE lessons items of value should be handed to the teacher for safe keeping.

EXAMINATIONS

Students are entered for examinations as part of vocational courses and at GCSE and A Level.

As well as public examinations, there are also assessments weeks and/or Pre-Public Exams (PPEs) for all year groups. These provide students with the opportunity to practice the application of their knowledge and skills under exam conditions. We assess students with special educational needs and disabilities to establish whether exam access arrangements are possible.

EXIT ROOMS

In line with The Kings Academy behaviour policy, we have the very highest of expectations to help ensure that each individual and those around them can access their learning without interruption. Students continuing to prevent or interrupt the learning of others will be sent to the 'Exit Room'. Here, they will be expected to review and reflect on the impact on their behaviour. Restorative conversations will be completed with the relevant member of staff during an allocated after school detention and any work missed will be completed during this time.

EXTENDED DAY

To support students in achieving their best in their examinations, an extensive programme of revision sessions take place at lunchtimes and afterschool. Mentors and subject staff will direct students to these sessions.

During preparation for exams, students may be required to attend school until 4.30pm. Parents will be notified in writing regarding these additional revision sessions.

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

The extended project is a qualification which promotes independent and in-depth research into an individual project. Year 12 students can opt to take part in this initiative through the Wednesday afternoon enrichment programme. It usually takes the form of a 5,000-word dissertation and logbook chronicling their progress. Students are assigned a personal supervisor who will facilitate and track their progress through the process. A final presentation is made at the end of March or September of Year 13. The assignments are marked and sent off to the exam board to be moderated and results (A*- E) are issued in the following August or January. Universities welcome this qualification, which carries additional UCAS points for students, so this course comes highly recommended. It gives Sixth Form students an opportunity to study something which really interests them, and which may not be on their curriculum.

FIRE ALARM

In the unlikely event of a fire, the alarm system will sound. This is a continuous ringing bell. Students are required to leave the building by the shortest possible route and in an orderly manner. Students line up in Tutor Groups on the field facing the slope between the end of the Maths block and the Leisure Centre. Students are briefed on our evacuation procedures at the beginning of each academic year and regular practice evacuations take place throughout the year. Five short rings are given to commence the lock down procedure. Students will be directed to the appropriate areas for supervision.

FIREFLY

Firefly is our online learning platform that can be accessed by both parents and students. Firefly works just like any other website. From the homepage you can select tabs that show the subject pages and information on Houses, Clubs, Activities and Student Services.

Teachers use Firefly to set homework tasks. Students can log onto their Firefly account and clearly see what work they need to complete and by when. Alternatively, students can download the Firefly student planner app to their tablet or phone to receive notifications of their homework tasks.

To help you support your child in their work, parents and carers also have an account to log onto Firefly. By logging on to Firefly you will be able to see information regarding your child by selecting the link on their name. In particular:

- Reports
- Homework. You will be able to see a record of the homework that has been set for them. This information will include the date set, date due, the subject, teacher and a description of the task. Any resources such as PowerPoint files or video clips can also be attached. It will also show you if your child has completed each task
- Details of their timetable and teachers

To log onto your Firefly page please visit the website: <https://kow.fireflycloud.net> (there is a link to this from the school website).

1. Select the green box "logging in for the first time? Activate your account". It is located below the

blue login button

2. You will then be asked to enter your email address (the email address that you have registered with the Academy) - this will trigger an email from Firefly containing a link that you can follow
3. Click on the link in the email you will have just received from Firefly
4. You will be asked to create a password for your Firefly account and once you have done this you will be able to view your Firefly homepage

NB. Only one email address can be used to log onto Firefly, and this will be the email of the person registered as the primary contact for your child.

Firefly is continuously updated by staff. Students can access a wide range of revision resources together with the homework tasks that will be set via Firefly. We very much hope that you will take this opportunity to further support your child with their homework and hope you find the information provided by logging onto Firefly useful.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Your child maybe entitled to free school meals if you are eligible for any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16190
- Working Tax Credit run on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit – if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you claim)

Children who are paid these benefits directly, instead of through a Parent or Guardian, can also obtain free school meals.

Applications for Free School Meals are processed by Somerset County Council and can be made online at <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/free-school-meals/>

If you are successful in your application the Academy will be notified by Somerset County Council and your child will have a daily credit applied to their account to enable them to collect food at the Kings Café.

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they will remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling (primary or secondary) that they are in on 31 March 2022.

GOVERNORS

The Governors have responsibility for the overall direction of the Academy. The Governing Body comprises of Governors appointed by the Church of England, Parents and Staff. A list of current Governors can be found on our website.

GRADE REVIEWS AND GRADE REPORTS

The progress of all students is carefully monitored. Parents and carers will receive either a grade review or grade report that provides key assessment data related to their child, three times a year. This data, provided electronically, will give details of performance in all subjects and progress in relation to GCSE, vocational and A Level target grades. The grade report will also identify any areas for improvement.

HEADPHONES AND EAR PODS

For health and safety reasons, headphones and ear pods must be removed once on Academy site. Failure to do so will result in the headphones being confiscated until a week Friday. This is also advised when walking or cycling to school so that students can be alert to the potential hazards around them.

HISTORY

The Academy origins date back to the 18th Century when Hannah Moore established a Church School in Cheddar. The Academy moved to its present location in the early 1960s and stands on the site of an Anglo Saxon Palace. To the front of the Academy a series of square blocks mark the positions of the actual post-holes of the timber framework of the last Palace.

Information from old documents reveals that the site is mentioned in King Alfred's will of 901 A.D. and the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle notes that the Witan (Anglo Saxon Council) met on the site in 942, 956 and 968 A.D. In Norman times, King Henry I and Henry II signed Charters here, and in 1209 King John spent £50 on "the King's houses" before giving the manor to the Bishop of Bath and Wells. The ruined church is that of the chapel of St. Columbanus, which was rebuilt in the 13th Century.

HOMEWORK

The Academy considers homework to be very important for the educational progress of all children and, accordingly, a wide variety of homework tasks are set on a regular basis for all students.

In order to realise the full potential of each student, GCSE students are expected to undertake one to two hours of homework each evening and Sixth Form students can expect a minimum of four to five hours of homework in each subject per week.

All homework is recorded by staff on our learning platform Firefly. Students can log onto their Firefly account and clearly see the work they need to complete and by when. They can also download the Firefly planner app onto their phone or tablet which will notify them of their homework tasks.

For more details on how to access your Firefly account, please see the Firefly section in this document.

As parents, you can support your child by ensuring that homework is completed conscientiously and in the best possible conditions. If a child has a genuine difficulty in completing their homework or in meeting a deadline, they should make sure that they speak to their tutor and subject teacher before it is due to be handed in. If a student fails to complete homework without a valid reason, they will be supervised by their teacher to complete the homework. Support with homework is available most lunchtimes in the Learning Support Department.

HOUSES

Every student is placed in one of four Houses - *Avalon, Camelot, Lyonesse and Tintagel*. The House system promotes a spirit of competitiveness and allows a large number of students to participate in sporting and enrichment activities. Awards are presented at the end of each term to the winning teams and certificates for participants. House points go towards the awarding of the House Cup. Captains are elected from Year 11 and the Sixth Form also have House Captains are part of the Academy Sixth Form Team. Who take on full responsibilities for running and organising activities across a range of subjects and year groups. Other students often take on the responsibilities of team captains and organising teams.

IDENTITY

Staff can be identified by a lanyard which clearly shows they have appropriate Kings of Wessex Academy photo identification. All visitors, including volunteers and governors, must also wear an identity badge. Sixth Form students on roll at Kings are required to wear their personal lanyard for entry to the site, lessons and examinations.

INTERNAL EXCLUSION

Serious incidents may result in a student being placed in 'Internal Exclusion'. In this case, students attend the Accelerate provision where they will reflect on the impact of their behaviour and will be provided with work from lessons to complete. Students are supervised and supported by members of staff who are able to offer bespoke behavioural support and mentoring. Parents of students attending Internal Exclusion are informed by telephone.

JEWELLERY

Students are permitted to wear one pair of small ear studs or small sleeper earrings; one in each earlobe. One *small* ring may be worn on a finger. No other jewellery or decoration is permitted. For reasons of health and safety, facial or body piercings are not allowed, this includes nose studs, eyebrow or tongue rings/bars and belly button rings/bars. Tattoos are also prohibited. Inappropriate jewellery will be confiscated and returned the following Friday week.

KINGS FITNESS AND LEISURE

Kings Fitness and Leisure is a Limited Company wholly owned and managed by the Academy and is available for student use during the day. The facilities include a fitness suite, two studios, sports hall and swimming pool. It is out of bounds to students during school time unless they are taking part in a supervised activity. Kings Fitness and Leisure provides a wide range of activities for students to participate in out of school. Full details are available from the reception at Kings Fitness and Leisure (01934 744939) or access their website at www.kingsfitness.co.uk

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE (LRC)

The Centre is open throughout the day from 8.30am – 4.00pm and provides a wide range of fiction, non-fiction, subject resources, study support and houses a large dynamic shared study space for all students. Students have access to computers for schoolwork, before and after school, and during break and lunchtimes. If demand is high, then a booking system may be operated. LRC staff are on duty during the day to offer advice and assistance to students. There is also a team of student librarians who assist with library work at break and lunchtime.

As students join Kings they are automatically enrolled as members of the LRC. They can borrow up to six items at a time according to their year group and may keep the various resources for periods of up to two weeks. The support of parents is sought in helping to ensure that books are returned on time. Any items that are not returned following three reminders issued within the Academy will have an invoice sent home.

Parents and students can access the LRC catalogue, Eclipse, via the LRC pages on Firefly in the LRC space, or through the Kings of Wessex website. Some items are available as eBooks and can be read online. Other items need to be reserved and collected when next in the Academy.

LEARNING SUPPORT

The learning support team is based in the LRC. The SENCo manages the learning support provision. Those students identified as requiring 'SEN support' may have access to the following, depending on their need:

- Personal learning plans
- Targeted subject or skill specific interventions such as emotional literacy, reading, spelling or numeracy
- Personalised curriculum such as EBacc Booster which includes Life and Living Skills
- Support from a mentor or Kings volunteer
- Equipment such as laptops and iPad

If concern is expressed about a student, Learning Support will undertake an assessment in-line with the Somerset Core standards for SEN and the SEND Code of Practice 2015 and gather information in order to identify need, inform teaching and plan the way forward. Lunchtime study support takes place every day in the LRC where we have a dedicated side room for students who have needs that require them to have time away from the hustle and bustle of the main school. This is an excellent opportunity to complete homework or catch up on other work with help if needed.

If students require access arrangements for examinations, either for significant medical or learning needs, evidence will have been collected over a sustained period of time and the application to JCQ will be processed by the January of Year 11.

To find out more about the provision for and identification of SEN at Kings, see the Learning – SEN Information section of the school website. There you will find the Information Report and Provision Map which will give more detail about how support for SEN works at Kings

LEAVING ACADEMY PREMISES

Students in Years 9 to 11 are not permitted to leave the Academy site without written/telephone permission from parents. Students needing to leave the premises must then sign out at Reception. If a parent requests their child to go home for lunch, at the Academy's discretion, such students are issued with a pass. This is only to be used for having lunch at home. Students who go home for lunch leave the premises by 1.35pm each day and return by 2.10pm for registration. Their pass must be carried with them at all times. Any student misusing this privilege will have their pass removed and be required to remain on site.

Students in Years 9, 10 and 11 who travel to school by bus are not permitted to leave the site, either before, during or at the end of the day. Students once on site in the morning, for safeguarding reasons, must stay on site for the remainder of the day. Students who are found to have left the site, including before registration without staff permission, will receive a sanction. Parents who bring their students into school are asked to 'drop off' in the main car park, to ensure students are on site.

If a student needs to leave for part of the day to attend a pre-arranged medical or dental appointment, they should meet their parents at Reception and sign out.

LIVING SEPARATELY

If parents live separately, we will ask that both parties keep us up-to-date of any change of contact details. In addition, parents are asked to attend parents' evenings or appointments together wherever possible. The Academy does not have the capacity to provide each parent with separate appointments or phone calls.

LOCAL SHOPS

Some local shops are reluctant to serve large groups of children during the school day and, therefore, may choose to refuse access.

LOCKERS

All students can rent a locker for the secure storage of their possessions. There is a single charge of £25 to cover the period the student is on roll. Payment for lockers must be made using the online ParentPay system. If you are unable to pay online, you can pay by cash at a store showing the Paypoint logo. You will need a Paypoint letter which is available from the main office. The letter has a barcode which is unique to this item.

Students need to provide their own padlock. At the end of the summer term students are required to remove their padlocks and empty their lockers to allow for a deep clean. Any lockers which are left locked will have locks removed to enable them to be cleaned.

LOST PROPERTY

In the event of a student losing an item of property they should report to the main office and a member of staff will accompany them to the lost property room.

LUNCH TIME

Food is served from the KOW Café and students may also bring a packed lunch. Food is paid for at the till using the Academy's biometric system. Students may be entitled to free school meals if their parents are in receipt of Income Support, Income Based Jobseekers Allowance and Child Tax Credit, providing that the Working Tax Credit is not also received. Applications for free school meals should be made to Somerset County Council.

During the summer months students may use the outside picnic area to eat their packed lunches. Teaching and support staff are on hand to supervise students throughout the lunch break. Students living locally may go home for lunch providing they are issued with a school lunch pass. Once issued, students should carry the pass at all times. Students going home for lunch should leave promptly at the end of the morning session and return punctually for the afternoon at 2.10pm.

Year 12 and 13 students are free to leave the site at lunch time and break.

MARKING

In each subject a student will be issued with information, which explains the grades to be used. The annotation used for spelling, punctuation and grammar is common to all subjects. Marking stickers are used by staff to comment on a student's achievement and to identify areas for improvement. Students are then given the opportunity to respond to their teachers' feedback.

MEDICAL

First Aid for minor accidents and sickness is provided by a trained First Aider. Students who feel unwell should report to the main office. If your child is too ill to stay at school, we will contact you in order that you may collect your child. For safety reasons students are not permitted to telephone home themselves or just sign themselves out. With all other minor medical issues students will be advised to discuss with their parents and consult a GP if their symptoms persist.

In cases where hospital treatment is required, a student may be taken by ambulance to hospital. It is essential that we have a contact number so we can contact parents in case of medical problems.

Please inform the Academy of any serious medical conditions, e.g. epilepsy, diabetes, asthma, anaphylaxis, prior to your child joining the Academy.

Students requiring medication should leave their medicine in the main office and parents are requested to complete a form with information explaining dosage etc. In cases where students are unable to participate in Physical Education, a medical note or letter from parents should support this.

MENTORING PLUS

The scheme provides students with a professional Mentor who will support and encourage students to achieve their best in their examinations in Year 11. Mentoring is provided for all Year 11 students who meet with their Mentor termly. The Mentor will have current information on progress including predicted grades. The Mentor will assist students in prioritising and organising their work and revision.

MOBILE PHONES

We are committed to Safeguarding our students. Mobile phones and any 4G enabled devices are permitted to be brought into school but must be turned off and kept in school bags once on school site. Students seen with mobile phones during the school day will have their phones confiscated and parents/carers will be informed by letter. The items can only be collected by the parent/carer.

MOPED/SCOOTERS

Students in Year 11 who are eligible for a motorcycle licence are not permitted to bring motorcycles of any type onto the school premises and this includes the Kings Fitness and Leisure car park during Academy hours.

MUSIC TUITION

Music lessons are available for all students and are provided by private teachers on school site. Requests for tuition of any instrument or voice are to be addressed to Ms Righton (Subject Leader for Music) in the first instance. Contact can be made by email: SRighton@kowessex.co.uk

NEWS

The Academy publishes regular news stories on the Academy website.

If parents would like a story to appear about their child's achievements, they can contact the Head's PA at the Academy.

NURSES DROP IN CLINIC

The Academy hosts a young person's NHS clinic during a lunch time, once a week. Students may access this service during their lunch break. Advice can be given on a variety of health subjects including weight management and nutrition, contraceptive and relationship advice.

Parents are requested to write to their child's Head of House should they wish to withdraw their child's access to this service. If they wish to re-engage with the service at a future date the Academy will need to be notified.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

All parents are automatically members of the PTA. The Association supports the Academy through its Enrichment Fund and provides an important forum for discussion of educational issues. Funds are raised by an annual voluntary donation of £10 per family. The PTA also supports Academy functions. The PTA meet half termly and all parents are welcome to attend.

PARENTS' EVENINGS

In each academic year there is a Parents' Evening for each year group where subject staff are available to talk with you about your child's progress.

Parents' evenings are organised by an electronic booking system. Letters will be emailed to the main carer prior to the evening and bookings can be made by parents using Kings of Wessex Firefly. If students have two family homes, we will ask parents to liaise with each other regarding appointments and attend these meetings jointly.

Arrangements can be made at other times to meet the Tutor, Head of House or other teachers if problems arise. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns about your child's education. If there are concerns regarding your son or daughter at home, we would like to be informed as soon as possible. We are always pleased to see parents and carers by appointment.

PERFORMANCES

There are several performance evenings throughout the year where parents can see the work produced in class for BTEC Performing Arts. Some of these are compulsory due to the nature of the course and the assessment requirements. Parents should check the Parent Calendar for events as all dates are published here. These performances take a variety of forms from musical theatre to monologues.

Students interested in contributing to performances who have not opted for BTEC Performing Arts can join the annual school production.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Students taking part in Academy productions or events may be photographed by The Academy as part of recording and celebrating success. Photographs may be used for press releases or on our website. If you would prefer your child's photograph not to be used, please inform the Academy.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

If your child has an illness or injury and they are well enough to be at the Academy, then they are assumed to be well enough to participate in any PE lesson they have on that day. They should bring a note to their PE teacher explaining their illness or injury and must bring their PE kit. There may be limitations to what your child can achieve in that lesson and what role they may adopt, but it is down to the professional skills of their PE teacher to give them differentiated tasks to guarantee a form of participation and maintain their progress. By wearing their kit, it also avoids their uniform getting muddy or wet when lessons are outside. There are many facets to modern physical education and there are endless activities your child can perform with various ailments. During PE lessons items of value should be handed to the teacher for safe keeping. Anything not handed into staff is the responsibility of the student. If a student does not have their PE kit, they will be asked to wear spare PE kit.

POST-16

The Kings of Wessex is a 13-18 years Academy and most students continue their education at Kings through to the age of 18. Under the Government's Raising the Participation Age (RPA) agenda, all students must now be in education or training in some form until the age of 18. The Sixth Form has approximately 300 students and an exciting programme of A Level and vocational subjects is on offer together with a broad enrichment curriculum. Most students continue to further full-time study, at university or an apprenticeship. The guidance and support that our students benefit from is second to none. Students receive detailed information about the Sixth Form in the autumn of Year 11, followed by an open evening for both students and parents in October and a taster day for students in November. The current Sixth Form prospectus and an A-Z of Life in the Sixth Form are available on our website.

PUNCTUALITY

All students need to be on site by 8.40am daily for registration at 8.45am. It is important that students arrive punctually as this is a realistic preparation for employment and adult life. Students arriving after registration must sign in at the student reception to comply with health and safety protocol. Those who arrive late without a valid reason will be spoken to and monitored which may result in a sanction. The morning session starts at 8.45am and the afternoon session at 2.15pm. Lateness is recorded on each student's attendance record.

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Any form of discrimination is taken very seriously at The Kings of Wessex Academy. Students are encouraged to adopt tolerant and sensitive attitudes to each other including those from different cultures, ethnic backgrounds or faith. Racist or extremist behaviour will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action with participation within our restorative justice programme including attendance at a police surgery.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education is taught to all students in Years 9, 10 and 11. Students study Christianity and other world religions. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from this aspect of Academy life. However, we do request that you discuss this fully with the Academy before making a final decision.

RESPECT (Anti Bullying Code)

- We RESPECT each other and celebrate different viewpoints and beliefs
- We RESPECT each other regardless of race, religion, age, nationality, background, gender/orientation
- We RESPECT each other's right to learn, achieve, show ambition and be successful
- We RESPECT each other in how we speak to one another
- We RESPECT each other by valuing other people's personal space
- We RESPECT each other by being fair, showing humanity, by caring, telling the truth, being trusted and respecting the environment we share together
- We RESPECT each other by taking care of other people
- We RESPECT each other by respecting ourselves through letting go of anger, being able to say sorry, showing forgiveness and putting things right
- We RESPECT by REPORTING disrespectful behaviour
- Together we are all one community that shares Christian values

REWARDS

Celebrating achievements is an essential and enjoyable part of life at Kings and students are rewarded in many ways.

Students who produce a good piece of work or contribute to the Academy are rewarded with a House Point, which is uploaded to our student database and are accumulated as follows:

Galahad (100 House points); **Gawain** (200), **Guinevere** (300), **Merlin** (400) and **Arthur** (500).

Students are presented with Special Achievement certificates and badges which they wear on their blazer lapel.

Round Table Awards are presented to students in the lower school and Sixth form every term to reward outstanding progress in subjects.

End of Term assemblies are held in Houses, as well as a whole school assembly at the end of each term.

Praise post cards are also sent home to parents when a student produces an outstanding piece of work.

ROAD SAFETY

Students travelling to school, either on foot or by public transport, at some point in their journey cross roads. You may want to walk the route with your child prior to them starting at Kings to ensure they are confident. Please ensure your child is aware of their personal safety on the roads and that they are clearly visible especially on the dark winter evenings. We advise wearing reflective arm bands or fitting a reflective strip to a school bag or garment to help with this.

SAFEGUARDING

The Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All staff and volunteers, therefore, are responsible for Safeguarding and are uniquely placed as responsible adults outside students' family homes to detect signs of child abuse. All visitors must sign in at Reception. All staff with day-to-day contact

with children provide a positive role in safeguarding, by being able to observe outward signs of abuse, changes of behaviour or failure to develop.

The Academy's safeguarding procedure is available on the Academy website. The Academy's Safeguarding Team can be identified by their green lanyards.

SEX EDUCATION

Sex Education aims to help students prepare for adulthood. It encompasses not only facts about human reproductive processes and behaviour but also broader emotional and ethical dimensions of sexual attitude. Sex Education is taught as part of the Academy's PSHE/Citizenship programme with elements included in Science and Religious Education. The programme reflects the age and maturity of the students. RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) is compulsory from September 2020. Parents can request to withdraw their child from this aspect of the curriculum, but we do request that you discuss this fully with the Academy before making a final decision.

SKATES AND SKATEBOARDS

For the safety of all students, the use of skates or skateboards are not permitted on the Academy site at any time.

SMOKING AND VAPING

The Kings of Wessex Academy has a strict '*No Smoking/Vaping Policy*'. Smoking and/or Vaping are not permitted within the Academy, or in the vicinity of the Academy site. Smoking and Vaping are also forbidden on all out of school visits and activities. Any student who is found to have been smoking, in the company of smokers or in possession of cigarettes on the school site or in the vicinity of the Academy, will receive an exclusion. This includes the use of E-cigarettes which are not permitted at school. All smoking paraphernalia, including E-cigarettes, will be confiscated and not returned to the student. Any student found in the possession of smoking paraphernalia will receive a sanction in-line with Academy policy.

SOCIAL NETWORKING

Students are encouraged to use social networking sites responsibly. E-safety forms part of the curriculum. Parents are advised to monitor internet access and use of social networking sites carefully. Students do not have access to Facebook, ASK FM, Snapchat etc. from school IT equipment. Parents have found that being a 'friend' on Facebook, or other apps, having access to their child's username and passwords to enable random checks and monitoring encourages responsible use and helps to ensure children's safety. This is advisable for any young person under the age of 18. Any form of bullying, including cyber bullying, is taken seriously. Parents are responsible for any misuse of the internet outside of Academy hours. (www.ceop.police.uk and www.thinkuknow.co.uk) are useful information sites and for reporting potential on-line abuse. Recent psychology reports suggest limiting screen time, including sound media and gaming, to under nine hours a week to limit the negative impact of this important aspect of modern living. Additional information on e-safety can be found on our website.

http://www.kowessex.co.uk/downloads/parent_documents/20170517StudentsAcceptableUsePolicy.pdf

SPORTS CLOTHING

SPORTS CLOTHING

Kings of Wessex Academy – Sports Kit Years

	Available at Deane and Sons	Available in High Street stores	Price at Deane and Sons
Navy and purple rugby shirt (boys only)	✓		From £25.10
Navy and purple polo shirt with Sports Academy logo	✓		From £14.90
Navy and purple shorts	✓		From £10.10
Navy and purple skort	✓		From £14.85
Navy and purple sports socks	✓		From £ 5.10
Navy and purple ¼ zip top with Sports Academy logo	✓		From £20.60
Training shoes (non-marking sole)		✓	Various
Football boots		✓	Various
Mouthguards	✓	✓	From £ 3.99

OPTIONAL BUT DESIRABLE

- KOW PE Tracksuit (only available from Deane & Sons)
(*The tracksuit top and bottoms are also available to purchase separately*)
- SKINS compression sleeves/Thermal Garments (these must be able to be worn underneath the Academy sports kit)

The PE Department provides hockey sticks and tennis racquets. Students are very welcome to bring their own to lessons. To avoid any confusion, all items of clothing and equipment should be named. Students must make every effort to take responsibility for their equipment. The Academy does not take responsibility for loss or damage to kit or sports equipment.

STUDENT HOUSE COUNCIL AND HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE

Leadership skills are developed through the student House Representative scheme. Students from Years 9, 10 and 11 are invited to apply for a post of House Representative to represent Kings on committees and the Academy student council. This can involve organising and running special events, projects and representing their house at events/functions, leading charity fundraisers, running Kings Academy fixtures, speaking to adults, operating as Academy tour guides, mentoring other students, undertaking special projects, being a role model and supporting other students. These roles are developed further in the Sixth Form with our senior House Captains and Representatives.

STUDENT WELFARE INCLUSION CENTRE (SWIC)

The Academy has a Student Welfare Inclusion Centre where students can receive support and interventions when required.

TARGET GRADES

At the start of Year 9 your child will be issued with target grades in all GCSE and vocational subjects. These are the minimum grades that your child should attain by the end of these courses. They are calculated based on their performance in the Key Stage 2 SATs taken in Year 6. Students are encouraged to strive to

beat their target grades.

TEACHING GROUPS

In some subjects, students are placed in groups according to their ability in that subject. In other subjects, students are taught in mixed ability classes. Some classes are set based on ability in core subjects. Students' options choices determine which classes they are placed in for other subjects.

TELEPHONE

The office staff can take messages for students from parents but would be grateful if this service is only requested if the message is urgent. Messages are passed on as soon as possible.

TOILETS

Toilets are open throughout the day. To avoid unnecessary disruption, we discourage students from leaving lessons and encourage them to make use of the facilities at break and lunchtime. In the event of a medical problem or emergency, students will be issued with a card which gives them permission to be out of their lesson by their Head of House. Students have access to unisex toilets.

TOP TEN

1. I am a resilient learner - I always try my hardest and learn to the best of my ability
2. I am here to learn - I do as I am asked the first time I am asked
3. I am always in the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing
4. I use appropriate language. I do not shout and I am polite; saying 'please' and 'thank you' when I know I should. I keep inappropriate comments to myself
5. I always have the 'Super Six' for lessons (pen, pencil, ruler, calculator, reading book and timetable)
6. I always look smart and I am ready to learn (correct uniform, no chewing gum, no swinging on chairs, no mobile phones, headphones or iPods)
7. I respect other people and consider the effect of my actions on those around me, including my use of social media
8. I take pride in my work, including presentation
9. I am responsible for my learning and completing my homework on time. I do not disturb or distract others when they are learning
10. I know and understand what my 'Next Steps' are, to be successful in my future life

TOYS

Toys such as Fidget Spinners are a banned item unless specified as part of a specific learning plan.

TRANSPORT

Students in Years 9 to 11 who reside outside a three-mile radius and within the Academy's designated transport area are entitled to free transport. Prior to admission, parents will be informed by letter from Somerset County Council of the route, time and pick-up place. Free transport is not provided for students either living within the three-mile radius or outside the catchment area.

Sixth Form students may be permitted to travel on school transport, subject to places being available. However, a charge is made and you should contact Somerset School Transport in the first instance.

If you require any details regarding school transport or have any complaints, please contact the Transport Officer, County Hall, Taunton - Telephone 01823 355367. Applications for school transport, replacement bus passes and further information can be found on their website

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/school-transport/>

Students are expected to behave in a responsible manner when travelling on school transport. They should remain seated and must always wear a seat belt. In the interest of safety, students who misbehave on coaches could lose their entitlement to a place. Smoking on coaches is forbidden as is eating and drinking.

When travelling by County transport, it is a legal safety requirement that no student, other than those authorised by Somerset County Council, may travel on the bus, or change route without permission. Students should not leave the Academy site when they arrive by coach in the morning and must not leave site before their coach leaves at the end of the school day.

In the event of a student missing their coach in the morning, they should return home and make alternative arrangements to travel to the Academy. Should a student miss a coach on the return journey they should report to the Main Office where the necessary arrangements to contact a Parent/Carer will be made. In the event of delayed transport, students should remain on Academy premises until a relief coach arrives.

TUTOR GROUPS

On entry to the Academy each student is placed in a Tutor Group. The Tutor meets the group every morning and is the main contact for each student. The Tutor's role is to register attendance, monitor progress, help students to organise their work and provide support and guidance. The Head of House is always on hand to provide extra support.

UNIFORM

Kings of Wessex Academy Uniform list and Dress Code

The blazer, tie, skirt and sports kits are available through our uniform supplier. All other items may be purchased from our uniform supplier or high street stores.

Our uniform supplier is:

Deane and Sons, Bath Street, Cheddar, BS27 3AA

Telephone: 01934 742530

There is also an online service at <http://www.deaneandsons.co.uk>

	Available at Deane and Sons	Available in High Street stores	Price at Deane and Sons
Compulsory uniform			
Navy Academy blazer with purple trim and Academy logo	✓		From £35.95
White formal shirt (pack of two)	✓	✓	From £14.95 (Deane and Sons price, also available on High Street)
Mid grey formal school trousers (in line with Kings dress code)	✓	✓	From £15.95 (Deane and Sons price, also available on High Street)
Academy 'house' tie	✓		£6.50
Academy tartan skirt - knee length	✓		From £29.95
Black tights or socks	✓	✓	Various
Plain black shoes (in line with Kings' dress code)		✓	Various

Kings of Wessex Academy – Dress Code

Blazer/Hoodies/Coats

- Navy with purple trim and Academy logo. The blazer should be worn at all times whilst on the school site, and during school trips and activities unless staff have given permission not to wear uniform.
- Hoodies and sweat tops are not permitted to be worn. A plain coloured outdoor coat may be worn over the blazer, not denim or leather. Coats may be worn as an additional item of clothing but not instead of the school blazer.

Shirt

- Plain white formal shirt (long sleeved or short sleeved), with no fashion elements, and a button collar. The top button must be fastened, and shirt tucked in at all times.

Trousers/Skirt

- Mid-grey formal school trousers with no fashion elements and appropriate for an academic working environment. Trousers should cover the ankles and should not be altered to make a 'skinny' trouser appearance. A plain black belt may be worn.
- Academy tartan skirt which must be knee length.

Shoes

- Plain smart black shoes of a suitable design that can be polished. Trainers, daps, sandals, open backed shoes, boots, high heels, platforms, canvas shoes of any kind including sports shoe brands are not acceptable. Shoes with branding/logos are not acceptable.

Jewellery

- Expensive jewellery should not be brought into the Academy. Students may wear one small stud earring in each earlobe plus one small ring on their finger. No other facial piercings are allowed including tongue piercing and piercing retainers. Watches are permitted. However, smart watches are not allowed in exams due to exam board regulations.

Makeup/Nail varnish/Hairstyles

- If worn, makeup must be applied discreetly for a natural look. Nail varnish, including artificial nails, is not allowed. Makeup should not be brought into the Academy.
- Extreme hairstyles (including spiked or shaved heads) and brightly dyed colours are not allowed. Conventional hair colours or highlights are allowed e.g. black, brown or blonde. Nothing shorter than a grade two is permitted.

Please may we ask that all items of uniform are clearly marked with your name and tutor group.

Thank you for supporting our dress code.

VALUABLES

It is important that all children take care of their property. Money should always be kept to a minimum and never left unattended. During PE lessons, items of value should be handed to the teacher for safe keeping. The Academy cannot take responsibility for valuable items not handed into staff.

VALUES

The Kings of Wessex Academy endorses the Christian theme of 'Love Thy Neighbour' and aims to get the best out of everyone.

The Academy's Christian Values

Respecting Ourselves	Treating myself with respect, valuing my own feelings, knowing what I like and dislike, knowing what I think and feel, taking care of myself, knowing what I want to achieve, knowing how I learn and being committed to learning
Respecting Others	Respecting other people, valuing others' differences, taking care of other people, valuing our family, friends and communities, and respecting others' beliefs
Respecting the Environment	Taking care of the environment, conservation and taking careful responsibility for our surroundings
Trustworthiness	Being trusted by others, doing what you will say you will do, keeping promises and being a good friend
Fulfilling our Learning Potential	Finding out what my gifts and talents are, doing my best in everything, setting learning targets, planning what I want to do in the future and learning how I learn

VANDALISM

The Academy has had very few problems of vandalism or graffiti by students. Where damage is done to the Academy buildings, equipment or surroundings by students acting in a careless or thoughtless manner, they are expected to contribute towards repair or replacement. In this way we hope to encourage responsible behaviour.

VISITING

If you need to visit the Academy and meet with staff, please arrive by the front entrance, and sign in at reception. A visitor's lanyard must be worn. Visitors must be always accompanied by a member of staff.

VISITS

The Academy provides excellent opportunities for all students to be involved in a wide range of educational visits. These include visits to the theatre, museums, exhibitions, local fieldwork, sporting events and exam board revision sessions. Kings also offers residential trips with opportunities to travel abroad.

VOLUNTEERS

Do you have a little time each day to listen to a student read? Do you have an interesting job or skill which you would be willing to share in one of our career events? We would be pleased to hear from you. Please call 01934 742608 or e-mail: office@kowessex.co.uk. All volunteers will be subject to the necessary safeguarding checks.

WATER

We encourage students to drink water during the day. The Academy provides drinking fountains for students to use at break and lunchtimes. Students may bring a clear plastic water bottle into the Academy and can drink water from this at any time, providing that it does not disrupt a lesson or compromise health and safety.

WESSEX LEARNING TRUST

The Kings of Wessex Academy is part of the Wessex Learning Trust. For more details, please see their website. Please click [here](#).

WORK EXPERIENCE

Students in both Year 10 and Year 12 undertake a period of work experience during the summer term. This gives students an insight into the world of work and helps them to develop confidence and the skills needed when they leave school. Students are expected to find their own placements, with help and guidance from staff. Year 10 take part in a one-day employment skills conference prior to work experience in preparation for their placement.



Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing resource list for Parents, School Staff & Professionals involved with young people

Updated June 2021

National Charities & Organisations for advice and support:	
Action for Happiness (An organisation promoting happiness and wellbeing) https://www.actionforhappiness.org/	
Action for ME and Chronic Fatigue Tel: 0117 927 9551 (Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm) Email: questions@actionforme.org.uk https://www.actoinforme.org.uk	
Anna Freud National Centre for Children & Families (Excellent resources for parents and now a whole site dedicated to Young People, developed with Young People called 'On My Mind') https://www.annafreud.org/on-my-mind/	
Anxiety UK (Works to relieve and support those living with anxiety and anxiety-based depression by providing information, support and understanding via an extensive range of services, including 1:1 therapy) https://www.anxietyuk.org.uk/about-us/	
BARNARDOS - sex and relationships – recommend the 'WUD U?' app, advice for young people, carers and professionals on Child Sexual Exploitation https://www.barnardos.org.uk/what_we_do/our_work/sexual_exploitation/cse-professionals/wud-u-app.htm	
BBC Bitesize (Excellent resources around exam stress and revision tips from the BBC) https://www.bbc.com/education	
BBC Health (Provides content and articles on a range of health topics including mental health issues and topical news stories) https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health	
Beat (Beating eating disorders – information on all aspects of eating disorders) https://www.beateatingdisorders.org.uk/	Youthline: 0808 801 0711 Youth email: fyp@b-eat.co.uk
Beatbullying - CyberMentors is all about young people helping and supporting each other online, in a safe and supportive forum, that guides people to other help, both online and in person, as needed. https:// www.beatbullying.org	
Bullying UK (Advice, support and guidance around bullying for young people, parents and schools) Also with free resources to promote Anti bullying week held annually in November https://www.bullying.co.uk/	
CEOP (formerly the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre) How to report a crime, information on age-appropriate resources, media, grooming and relationships. Website: https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/for-reporting-online-abuse-or-possible-exploitation-of-the-young-and-vulnerable . https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/ CEOP have recently launched a new Facebook App for young people ClickCEOP Facebook app. Parent Info – from CEOPS and Parent Zone – Information on all kinds of services, breakdown of apps used by children and young people http://parentinfo.org/ http://parentinfo.org/article/the-6-apps-and-services-that-every-parent-should-know-about	
Charlie Waller Memorial Trust (Support, information and advice around depression and mental health with some excellent resources on Exam Wellbeing for parents, pupils and teachers) https://www.cwmt.org.uk/	

Child Line (National Organisation offering free confidential advice and support to children and young people, 24 hours a day) https://www.childline.org.uk/	Tel 0800 1111
C.L.I.C. (Cancer & Leukaemia in Childhood Trust) Tel: 0300 330 0803 Email: reception@clicsargent.org.uk	
Compassionate Friends – Supporting Bereaved Parents National Helpline: 0345 123 2304 Email: info@tcf.org.uk	
CRUSE – Bereavement Care Tel: 01458 898211 (10.30 – 1.30) National Helpline: 0808 808 1677 Email: somerset@cruse.org.uk	
Drugs Advice (A-Z Drugs) Tel: 0300 123 6600 Text: 82111 https://www.talktofrank.com	
FRANK – SUBSTANCES, MISUSE, SUPPORT https:// www.talktofrank.com	
Gender Identity Development Service (GIDS) (A highly specialised clinic for young people presenting with difficulties with their gender identity. http://gids.nhs.uk/about-us	
Grief Encounter (One of the UKs leading bereaved child charities providing free services and support to children and their families) https://www.griefencounter.org.uk/	
Heads Together (Mental Health charity started by the Duke & Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry with a campaign to end the stigma around mental health) https://www.headstogether.org.uk/	
Healthline https:// www.healthline.com	
LGBT – Information and resources to support parents and young people https:// www.2bu-somerset.co.uk	
ME Association Tel: 08445 765326 our helpline is open every day 10am-12 noon, 2pm-4pm and 7pm-9pm. Email: meconnect@meassociation.org.uk	
Meningitis Now Helpline: 0808 8010 388 Email: helpline@meningitisnow.org	
Mental Health Foundation (Dedicated to finding and addressing the sources of Mental Health problems) Lots of downloadable booklets available around self-help, looking after mental health, managing stress & anxiety, wellbeing in the workplace, healthy living & advice on self-harm) https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/	
Mind Charity (One of the UK’s Leading Mental Health Charities providing information, advice and campaigning to promote and protect good mental health for everyone) https://www.mind.org.uk/	
MINDFULL MindFull is a service for 11–17-year-olds, providing support, information and advice about mental health and emotional wellbeing. https://www.mindfull.org	
Mood Juice (Offers self-help around anxiety & depression) http://www.moodjuice.scot.nhs.uk/	
Muslim Youth Helpline (Internet chat available through website; offers support to young Muslims in distress) https://www.myh.org.uk/	Helpline 0808 808 2008 Text: 07860 022 811
National Professionals Online Safety Helpline	

<p>The helpline can support all professionals who work with children and young people, specifically to assist with queries where young people present with online safety issues such as privacy, gaming, grooming, sexting and so on. The helpline can be contacted at helpline@saferinternet.org.uk, or via phone (Monday to Friday 10am-4pm) on 0344 381 4772 https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/professionals-online-safety-helpline</p>
<p>National Self-Harm Network (Monitored forums supporting individuals who self-harm to reduce emotional distress and improve their quality of life) http://www.nshn.co.uk/</p>
<p>NHS Choices Moodzone (Trusted advice from the NHS) https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/</p>
<p>NHS – Live Well The NHS - Live Well site offers advice for parents and young people. All you need to do is put in a topic, search and you will be directed to an NHS appropriate site. Various information and advice from http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Sexandyoungpeople/Pages/Sex-and-young-people-hub.aspx</p>
<p>NSPCC Tel: 0800 1111 NSPCC – CHILDLINE MEDIA https:// www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/?order=-popularity</p>
<p>PACE – Parents against Child Exploitation – Parents and Young people affected by exploitation https:// paceuk.info</p>
<p>PAPYRUS - is dedicated to the prevention of young suicide offering confidential young suicide prevention advice https:// www.papyrus-uk.org</p>
<p>Public Health England Promoting children and young people’s emotional health and wellbeing. Guidance for head teachers and college principals on the 8 principles for promoting emotional health and wellbeing in schools and colleges https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/promoting-children-and-young-peoples-emotional-health-and-wellbeing</p>
<p>Relate Family Counselling Tel: 01934 627206 or 0300 100 1234 (National Helpline) Email: weston.relateavon@btconnect.com https://www.relate-avon.org.uk RELATE – Boundaries for Teenagers – Advice and Guidance https:// www.relate.org.uk/.../behaviour/setting-boundaries-teenagers</p>
<p>RETHINK Tel: (Advice Line) 0300 5000 927 or 01823 356489</p>
<p>Self-harm UK (A national project dedicated to supporting young people aged 11-19 impacted by self-harm) https://www.selfharm.co.uk/</p>
<p>Self-Injury Support (Support aimed at women and girls up to the age of 24) https://www.selfinjurysupport.org.uk/ Helpline Tel: 0808 800 8088 FREE Tuesday to Thursday evenings from 7-9.30pm</p>
<p>SIDAS (Somerset Integrated Domestic Abuse Service) If you or anyone close to you has suffered domestic violence ‘Don’t Suffer in Silence’ Call Freephone 0800 694 9999 (24hr helpline)</p>
<p>SIGNPOST Somerset Health & Community Care Information Service. This is a help line service which deals with any issues related to health or welfare Freephone: 0300 123 2224</p>

Somerset Drug & Alcohol Service (SDAS) Sedgemoor Tel: 01278 456561	
Somerset Partnership NHS & Social Care Trust Tel: 0300 123 2224/01278 720220 Email: childrens@somerset.gov.uk	
Somerset & Wessex Eating Disorders Association (SWEDA) Email: support@sweda.uk.org Tel: 01749 343344 helpline is open Tuesday to Thursday between 9am and 5pm	
South West Integrated Sexual Health Service https://swishservices.co.uk/	
STEM4 (Aims to improve teenage mental health issues at an early stage, has some excellent information for schools) https://stem4.org.uk/	
The Calmzone.net (CALM - Campaign Against Living Miserably) aimed at young men https://www.thecalmzone.net/ Calm Helpline: 0800 585858	
THE CHILDRENS SOCIETY – Information on research, policies, national support. Blogs and real stories. https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/what-we-do	
The Mix (The UK's leading support and advice service for under 25's on a whole range of topics) https://www.themix.org.uk/	Telephone: 0808 808 4994
The Papyrus Charity (National Suicide Prevention charity) https://papyrus-uk.org/	Tel 0800 068 4141
The Royal College of Psychiatrists (Well researched and reliable information about mental health with information for parents, teachers and young people) https://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/	
The Samaritans (Confidential emotional support 24 hours a day) https://www.samaritans.org/	Tel 116 123 Text support number: 07725 90 90 90
The Student Room (All sorts of advice for young people around studying, exams, relationships, careers etc) https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk	
Thinkuknow (An education programme from CEOP, a UK organisation which protects children both online and offline; contains advice about staying safe when you're on a phone, tablet or computer) https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/	
Time to change (An anti-stigma campaign run by the mental health charities Mind and Rethink Mental Illness) https://www.time-to-change.org.uk/	
Young Minds (The UK's leading charity committed to improving emotional wellbeing and mental health of children and young people) https://youngminds.org.uk/	
Youthhealthtalk! (A website with video interviews of young people's real-life experiences on health, wellbeing and lifestyle) http://www.healthtalk.org/	
Winston's Wish (Provide specialist child bereavement support services across the UK, including in-depth therapeutic help in individual groups and residential settings) http://www.winstonswish.org/	Helpline: 08088 020 021
Training, learning & practical resources	
Anna Freud National Centre for Children & Families (School Mind Network – a free to join service which gives access to Mental Health Resources for Schools) https://www.annafreud.org/what-we-do/schools-in-mind/sign-up-and-information/	
ASIST (two day training course that teaches people how to intervene when someone is suicidal) www.prevent-suicide.org.uk/asist_suicide_intervention_skills_training_course.html	

<p>By Their Own Hand: Deliberate Self Harm and Suicidal Ideas in Adolescents; Hawton & Rodham 2006 Practical Advice for teachers, social workers and mental health professionals.</p>
<p>Dove Self-Esteem Project (Educational online programme around Body image with free, evidence based activities and resources for teachers, parents and youth workers) https://www.dove.com/uk/dove-self-esteem-project.html</p>
<p>EHCAP / Mindful Emotion Coaching – innovative solutions for education, health, care and prison services. Mindful Emotion Coaching group site for Professionals with e-learning portal and access to free resources https://emotioncoaching.groupsites.com/</p>
<p>Grassroots Suicide Prevention (A Brighton based charity with training resources on how to intervene if someone is suicidal) https://www.prevent-suicide.org.uk/</p>
<p>Incentive Plus (UKs largest supplier of social, emotional, behavioural, mental health and well-being resources) https://incentiveplus.co.uk/</p>
<p>Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mental-health-and-behaviour-in-schools--2</p>
<p>Mermaids (Charity Supporting Young People and Parents of Young people who may feel at odds with their birth gender) https://www.mermaidsuk.org.uk/</p>
<p>Mindfulness in Schools Project (Course for young people aged 11-18 delivered in the classroom or other small group settings) https://mindfulnessinschools.org</p>
<p>Mentally Healthy Schools (A Campaign by Heads together) Mentally Healthy Schools brings together quality-assured information, advice and resources to help primary schools understand and promote children’s mental health and wellbeing. https://www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/</p>
<p>MIND-UP: a product of the Hawn Foundation (A learning programme for teachers and pupils based on positive psychology and mindfulness) https://mindup.org/u-k/</p>
<p>MyHappyMind (A curriculum to help schools develop resilient children who celebrate themselves and others, build positive relationships and thrive) http://myhappymind.org/</p>
<p>National Online Safety (This Certified School Programme developed by education professionals is a complete solution for schools to implement an effective approach to online safety) https://nationalonlinesafety.com/</p>
<p>Place2Be (Offers counselling support for young people in schools and online resources) https://www.place2be.org.uk/</p>
<p>Samaritans DEAL (Developing Emotional Awareness and Listening) – A free teaching resource aimed at students aged 14 and over. https://www.samaritans.org/your-community/samaritans-education/deal-developing-emotional-awareness-and-listening</p>
<p>Trans Student Educational Resources (A youth-led organization dedicated to transforming the educational environment for trans and gender nonconforming students through advocacy and empowerment http://www.transstudent.org/about/</p>
<p>The ELSA Support Network (Emotional literacy resources available for download and purchase aimed at anyone working with children) www.elsa-support.co.uk/</p>
<p>The Parents Guide to Self-Harm: What Parents need to know by Jane Smith; Lion Hudson 2012</p>
<p>The Rainbow Journal, by Catherine Lucas, 2003; Free to under 18s (£8 for over 18s) Aimed at helping you people move from self-harm to self-care. Available from: https://www.selfinjurysupport.org.uk/what-is-self-injury-and-who-does-it/publications-about-self-injury/</p>
<p>Wellness Recovery Action Planning (WRAP) A comprehensive guide and resource centre for creating a WRAP, a prevention and wellness process.</p>

www.mentalhealthrecovery.com

Local Organisations who can help young people:

Bipolar UK Youth Service –*Yeovil* support groups on the 1st Tuesday of every month (offers services to support people directly affected by mental health issues, their carers and families. Check website to check that groups are running.

<https://www.bipolaruk.org/yeovil-support-group>

Email: youth@bipolaruk.org

Caring Minds – Service in *Taunton Deane* to support young people aged 5-25 living with family members who experience mental health

<http://www.caringminds.co.uk/home>

Connect Centre – Wells, Somerset (Connect Youth provides a safe place where young people can meet, have fun, build relationships, explore life issues, access support and improve skills)

<http://www.connect-centre.org.uk/>

Email: info@connect-centre.org.uk

Cruse – Somerset Area - Bereavement support for children and young people

<https://suicidebereavement.wixsite.com/somerset>

Tel 01458 898211

Email: somerset@cruse.org.uk

Kooth (Free online support and counselling service for young people in Somerset)

www.kooth.com

Mindline Somerset (an out of hours helpline in Somerset that is a confidential listening service providing a safe place to talk)

<http://mindtws.org.uk/our-services/mindlinesomerset/>

Tel: 01823 276 892

Phoenix Project – Support for Children & Young People who have experienced child sexual abuse plus support for families and training for Professionals. Service run by Barnardo's and SARSA

<http://www.barnados.org.uk/somersetphoenixproject.htm>

Email: somersetphoenixproject@barnados.org.uk

P2i (Pathways to Independence) – Works across the county with Somerset County Council Preventing youth homelessness and enabling young people to live independently across Somerset

www.p2i.org.uk/ (see <https://www.p2i.org.uk/hubs-map.asp> for the contact details of each of the five districts)

REACH – Alternative education solutions for individuals and groups of young people in Somerset.

<http://reachyouth.co.uk/>

Somerset Choices (from Somerset County Council) Information for children, young people and families including our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Local Offer

<https://choices.somerset.gov.uk/025/>

Somerset County Council Children & Young People's service (Support schools, colleges, getset services, children's centres and the wider children and young people's workforce to improve the health and wellbeing of children and young people in Somerset.

<https://www.cypsomersethealth.org/>

Life Hacks

<https://www.cypsomersethealth.org/lifehacks>

Mental Health Toolkit

https://www.cypsomersethealth.org/mental_health_toolkit

Somerset Wellbeing Framework & Audit

https://www.cypsomersethealth.org/the_somerset_wellbeing_framework

Young Somerset (formerly Somerset Rural Youth Project)

The largest youth work charity in the county. Encouraging young people to take responsibility for themselves and become actively involved in shaping the communities in which they live. Works across the whole of the county now, not just confined to the more rural areas.

Tel: 01278 722100

Email: admin@youngsomerset.org.uk

Offer includes skills development, social actions and open access youth work. https://www.youngsomerset.org.uk/who-we-are	
Somerset Suicide Bereavement Support Service Offers general Practice and emotional support through 1:1 sessions or new young person's peer support group starting on 2 June 2018 https://suicidebereavement.wixite.com/somerset	
SOMEWHERE House – Counselling and Educational Workshops (based in Burnham on Sea) http://somerwherehousesomerset.org/	
South Somerset Mind -Youth Matters - support groups for young people aged 11-17 & 18-24 who are living with a mental health distress in Mendip and South Somerset: Routes Cafe, Frome – every Wednesday 11am -2pm (BA11 1DS) The Courtyard Café, Yeovil – every Thursday, 11am-1pm (BA21 1HZ) Young People's Centre, Chard (formerly known as The Project) - every Wednesday 6pm-8pm* (TA20 1RH) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Age 11-17 group 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the Month / Age 18- 24 group 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month Ridgway Hall, Langport – every Friday 1pm-4pm (TA10 9PQ) http://www.southsomersetmind.co.uk/youth-matters-11-18.asp	
SWISH – Somerset-Wide Integrated Sexual Health Service https://swishservices.co.uk/	
2BU Somerset (Youth Support Group for LGBTQ+ young people aged 13-25 in Somerset) https://www.2bu-somerset.co.uk/	Tel /Text 07799 136552
The Balsam Centre, Wincanton – Youth Drop-in Café, Tuesday 4pm – 6.30pm and Thursday 3.30-6.30pm http://balsamcentre.org.uk/	
The Space – Weekly drop-in Centre in <i>Cheddar</i> (for young people from 13-18 years) Methodist Hall, Mondays 4-6pm http://cheddarpatientgroup.co.uk/what-is-the-space/	
Young Citizens Advice , Taunton (open Wednesday 1pm to 6.30pm & Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10am -2pm) email: youngcitizensadvice@tauntoncab.org.uk	Tel 03444 889 623 @ycataunton 
Other sources of help & advice:	
CAMHS Single Point of Access (SPA) – 0300 124 5701 CAMHSSPA@sompar.nhs.uk Advice and guidance in how to support any young person and their families/carers but are uncertain about which service may best meet their individual emotional and mental health needs. http://www.sompar.nhs.uk/what-we-do/children-and-young-people/professional/child-and-adolescent-mental-health-service-camhs/camhs-single-point-of-access/	
Early help /Getset Services – The early help offer includes universal and targeted services designed to reduce and prevent problems escalating or becoming entrenched. Early help is delivered by a wide range of partners including health organisations, schools and colleges, district councils, housing associations and voluntary sector groups, as well as Somerset County Council. http://www.somerset.gov.uk/childrens-services/	
The Educational Psychology Service Supporting the development and progress of Somerset's vulnerable learners aged 0-25 years http://www.supportservicesforeducation.co.uk/	
Route 1 Advocacy & Independent visitors – ajhart@somerset.gov.uk Route 1 organises the provision of volunteer advocated to support children and young people in the child protection process. They also provide volunteer Independent Visitors for children in the care of the local authority. http://www.route1advocacy.co.uk/	

School Counsellors – where available	
School Nurses	
SENCOs (Special Educational Needs Coordinators within schools)	
Primary Care Link Workers (through CAMHS)	
PFSA's (Parent & Family Support Advisors within schools)	
Apps for both young people and adults (not all are free to download):	
Cove:	Mood and music journal (free)
Beat Panic	Designed to guide people through a panic attack or raised anxiety (£0.99)
Booster Buddy:	Designed to help teens and young adults improve their mental health (free)
Blue Ice:	An evidence based app to help young people manage their emotions and reduce urges to self-harm (free)
Headspace:	Guided meditation and mindfulness (free)
SAM:	Self help guide for anxiety management developed by UWE, Bristol (free)
Mindshift:	Supports teens and young adults to cope with anxiety (free)
Catch it:	Making sense of your moods (Free)
Calm Harm:	Manage the urge to self-harm (Free)
An approved list of NHS recommended apps to support mental health which includes some of those above and more can be found at: https://apps.beta.nhs.uk/category/mental_health/	

THE KINGS OF WESSEX ACADEMY

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Facebook and Twitter

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The information contained in this booklet was correct at the time of publication but may be subject to change at any time.

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