



**KING EDWARD VI
SHELDON HEATH
ACADEMY**

Educational excellence for our City

Summer Term 2026

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A note from the Editor:

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As another busy summer term draws to a close, it's been fantastic to look back on everything our students have achieved and experienced over the past few months.

This term has been packed full of activities, and it has been a memorable one. From sporting fixtures and competitions to educational trips and visits, our students have embraced every challenge with enthusiasm and determination. We have also been incredibly proud of those who have represented the school in events such as the Spanish Spelling Bee, showcasing not only their language skills but also their confidence and perseverance. Beyond the classroom, students have continued to make a positive difference in the wider community. Mr Cave's litter-picking initiative demonstrated a real commitment to caring for the local environment and highlighted the importance of taking pride in our surroundings. Meanwhile, our talented musicians have entertained audiences through rehearsals, performances and concerts, reminding us of the creativity and dedication that exists across the school. So much has been packed into one term but none of this would have been possible without the energy and involvement of our students, the support of families, and the dedication of staff who help make these experiences happen.

As the school year comes to an end, I hope everyone enjoys a well-deserved break. Best of luck to all of the students collecting their exam results in August, and to our new Year 7s and Year 12s, we are looking forward to welcoming you in September.

~ Miss Williams



Make sure you follow our various school social media accounts to keep up to date with the latest news at KESH:



@KESHAcademy



<https://www.facebook.com/KESHAcademy/>

A message from the Head of School

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Dear Families,

Some highlights from the Academic year

Trips and Visits

We led more than 80 trips and educational visits throughout the academic year, providing an exceptional range of opportunities for students to enrich their learning beyond the classroom. These included theatre and museum visits, fieldwork experiences, concerts and performances, competitions, dance activities, and a wide variety of sporting events.

We are particularly proud of our language students who have recently returned from a residential visit to Barcelona, where they enjoyed a fantastic cultural and educational experience. Congratulations also go to all the students who successfully completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award expedition—a significant achievement that demonstrated resilience, teamwork, and determination.

These opportunities play an important role in broadening horizons, building confidence, and creating lasting memories, and we are delighted to be able to offer them to so many of our students.

Events

It was wonderful to welcome so many families to our music concert last week. Our students performed beautifully, showcasing their talent, dedication, and hard work, and it was a joy to celebrate their achievements together as a school community.

With the end of term approaching fast, there are still plenty of exciting events to look forward to, including our students performing at the Youth Proms at Symphony Hall, our Sports Days, and our Key Stage 3 Awards Evening later this week.

Our Partnerships and Student Support

Through our partnership with **Envision**, students have developed their confidence, leadership and public speaking skills while taking part in a range of community action projects. Highlights have included the creation of our Buddy

Bench – a welcoming space that encourages students to socialise and form new friendships – as well as a wellbeing project, where students designed and delivered a wellbeing quiz, newsletter and survey to promote positive mental health across the school community.

This year, 150 students have also benefited from support from **IntoUniversity**, taking part in engaging workshops designed to raise aspirations and broaden horizons. As part of the programme, students have had the opportunity to visit higher education institutions, helping them to gain a greater understanding of university life and the pathways available to them in the future.

Our sixth form students have received valuable support from **Zero Gravity**, which has provided information, advice and guidance on higher education and career pathways. Students have benefited from tailored support with writing UCAS personal statements and CVs, while the platform has encouraged them to take greater ownership of their future plans by exploring a wide range of opportunities and developing a deeper understanding of potential career routes.

Place2Be has continued to provide bespoke support for students experiencing mental health and wellbeing challenges. Through a dedicated caseload, lunchtime drop-in sessions and targeted interventions, students have been able to access vital support when needed. Place2Be also delivered additional sessions focused on managing exam stress and anxiety, helping students to build resilience and confidence as they prepared for their GCSE examinations.

Together, these partnerships have made a significant contribution to our students' personal development, wellbeing and aspirations, ensuring they are well supported both within and beyond the classroom.

Best wishes,

~ Mr Billyeald



Sheldon Sounds Bring Joy to Local Care Home

On Tuesday 7th July, Sheldon Sounds visited Aran Court Care Home to perform for residents, accompanied by Miss Graham, Miss Dewstow and Mr Jennings. Residents thoroughly enjoyed the energy, enthusiasm and talent displayed by our performers, including wonderful solo performances from Cameron, Eglah and Cydney. As a thank you, the residents kindly baked delicious chocolate cakes for the group, which were greatly appreciated by everyone involved.

Once again, Sheldon Sounds made us incredibly proud. Their outstanding performance was warmly received by residents and staff alike, and we are delighted to have been invited back for future performances. Well done to all involved for representing KESH so positively within our local community.



Cleaning Up KESH

I just wanted to share a quick update following our litter-picking session.

The weather was great, the atmosphere was positive, and the students had a fantastic time working together to help keep our academy grounds clean.

It's amazing what you can find hidden among the litter, and the students approached the task with enthusiasm, curiosity, and a real sense of teamwork. We were especially proud of how engaged they were throughout the activity.

A huge thank you to all the students involved...a brilliant combination of Year 7 and 8 pupils: Sameha, Iqra, Myra, Dimitrie, Scarlett, Marcel, Poppy, and Aimee. They represented the academy wonderfully and should be very proud of themselves.

~ Mr Cave



News from the Academy

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MasterKESH 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who took part in MasterKESH 2026. This wonderful competition brought together students and their parents to cook side-by-side at school, creating a fantastic atmosphere of teamwork, creativity and enjoyment.

We were treated to an incredible variety of dishes representing a wide range of cultures and cuisines. The standard of cooking was exceptionally high, and it was inspiring to see families sharing their culinary skills, traditions and passion for food with our school community.

I am immensely proud of every student and parent who participated. Your enthusiasm, effort and support made MasterKESH 2026 a tremendous success and a memorable event for all involved.

After much deliberation from our judges, I am delighted to announce that the Champion of MasterKESH 2026 is Oliver. Congratulations, Oliver, on this outstanding achievement!

Thank you once again to everyone who contributed to making this competition such a success. I am already looking forward to seeing what amazing creations await us at MasterKESH 2027.

~ Mr Blair

News from the Sixth Form



This academic year has been both fast-paced and highly fulfilling for our Sixth Form community. Students have engaged in a wide range of enriching activities and opportunities throughout the year, including the popular Year 12 vs Year 13 football match.

Our student-led societies have thrived, with Law, Healthcare, Drama, Enterprise, Volunteering, UCAT, Debate, and STEMM societies all delivering a variety of engaging events and activities. These opportunities have enabled students to develop their interests, skills, and leadership abilities beyond the classroom.

In addition, all Sixth Form students had the opportunity to gain valuable First Aid training and benefited from tailored support provided through the generosity of the Rigby Foundation.

For Year 13 students, the year culminated in a fabulous Leavers' Celebration, providing a fitting opportunity to reflect on their achievements and time in the Sixth Form.

Meanwhile, Year 12 students visited Birmingham City University and Aston University, where they gained valuable insights into university life, accessing student finance, and higher education pathways. They also had the opportunity to attend an engaging Psychology lecture exploring the teenage brain.

Overall, it has been an incredibly successful year, filled with opportunities for personal growth, academic development, and memorable experiences for all members of our Sixth Form community.

Awards

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Foundation Awards

A huge KESH congratulations to all of the staff that made the shortlist for the Foundation Awards evening at the Birmingham MAC:

Mrs Jensen – accessibility award

Mr Elcock – integrity award

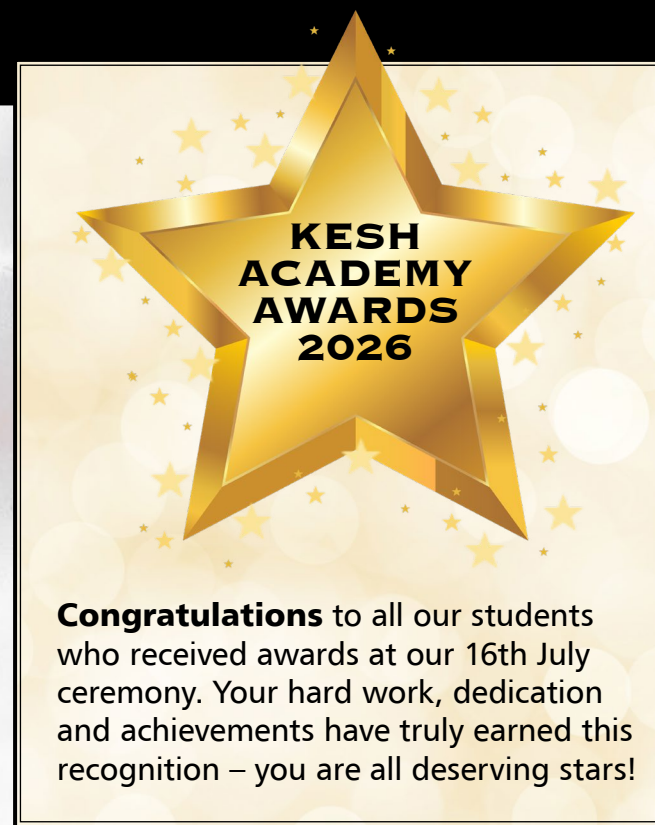
Miss Watkins – excellence award

Ms Hussain – integrity award

Mr Gordon – excellence award

We are thrilled to announce that across a multi academy trust employing more than 2000 people, Ms Hussain was selected as the winner of the integrity award. Congratulations to Ms Hussain, a worthy recipient who is the consummate professional, demonstrating dedication and commitment to the Academy and its students in everything that she does.

~ Mr Billyeald



Staff Awards

Congratulations to our staff award winners 2026. Thank you for going above and beyond to support our amazing KESH community!



Staying Safe in the Summer

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Staying safe in the community

1. Be prepared for anything by checking the weather before you head outside.
2. Lather on sunscreen anytime you're outdoors.
3. Wear the right clothing and accessories.
4. Carry a refillable water bottle
5. Be vigilant about water safety. Never swim anywhere that does not have a lifeguard. It may be hot but the water will always be very cold and can kill
6. Remember stranger danger in public places. If you are concerned take yourself to somewhere very public
7. Don't spend hours inside online or watching TV. This is bad for your mental health and wellbeing
8. Avoid forbidden areas – remember children get seriously injured every year around Britain's canals and trainlines

**MORE THAN 200 PEOPLE
DROWN IN OPEN WATER LIKE
POOLS OR CANALS EACH YEAR**

**Cold water shock can drown
strong swimmers**

**Underwater hazards, pollution
and currents all cause danger
to swimmers.**

Designated Safeguarding Leads: Confidential support



Mr Miller



Ms Hopkins



Mr Elcock

If you are worried during the summer...

You can find help and advice on our website or email us on safeandwell@keshacademy.com

If you have an emergency

Birmingham Childrens Trust Tel 0121 303 1888

West Midlands Police Tel 999 / Non-emergency 101

NSPCC Tel 0808 800 5000

Trips and Visits

Spanish Spelling Bee Celebrating Bilingual Brilliance

After his success, of making it through to the Spelling Bee finals, Zeeshan (Yr 7) attended the Nationals Spanish Spelling Bee Competition at the University of Cambridge, accompanied by his two supporters Layla and Roman (Yr 7)

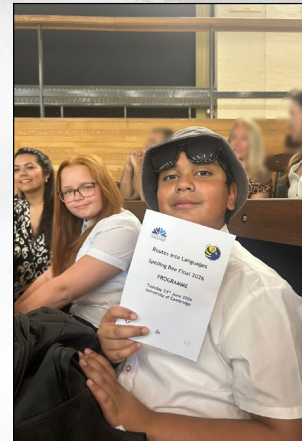
There were another 30 Spanish students competing in the finals, so the competition was tough! Zeeshan had to go up second to last and so the nerves were building up.

Zeeshan was one of 95 final students out of 50 000 ish competitors that started MFL Spelling Bee in schools all around the country for Spanish, French and German.

Sadly, he did not make the top 4 this time, but he is still a winner in our eyes! The fact that he was there and went up in front of approximately 60 people to translate and spell in Spanish, I am in awe! It is not an easy task. He was amazing!

Also, a big thank you to Ms Wheatley and Mr Toal for driving us over to the universities to compete this term. It would not have been possible without your support!!!

~ Miss Paredes



Here are a few photos from the The Duke of Edinburgh's Award expedition last week- they were taken as some groups proudly approached a checkpoint along their route, putting up tents, and an evening game of football. They all did so well!



Trips and Visits



Barcelona Trip

Our pupils had a fantastic time in Barcelona! The trip was packed with activities including taking the cable car up to Montjuïc Castle, where they enjoyed breathtaking views across the city and soaking up the local culture with a visit to the bustling La Boqueria Market. A truly exciting, educational, and fun-filled adventure!



Higher Education Aspiration Programme

A group of our Year 9 students recently attended the King Edward VI Foundation Higher Education Aspiration Programme alongside students from across the Foundation schools.

The programme featured engaging workshops delivered by Foundation staff and colleagues from the University of Oxford, helping students explore higher education opportunities, future aspirations, and pathways beyond GCSEs. Workshops included International Relations, Law and Journalism, Engineering, Creative Arts, and Sports Science.

A highlight of the day was students presenting their work to peers and staff from across the Foundation. They did so with confidence, maturity, and professionalism, reflecting the high standards we expect of our students.

~ Mrs Rai

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Trips and Visits



STEM Challenge Day: Innovate. Create. Conquer.

I took a group of 12 Y9 students to Aston University for a STEM Challenge Day on 17th June. This was a regional competition where students worked together in mixed school teams.

They undertook the following challenges:

- The Robotics Challenge
- The E-fit Forensics Challenge
- The Vehicle Challenge
- The Medical Challenge

Two of our students, Zidane and Mary were part of the winning team for the Vehicle Challenge!

A special mention goes to Archie, Carolina, Ameira and Rajay who were part of the runner up teams for The Robotics and Vehicle Challenge.



~ Mrs Qamar

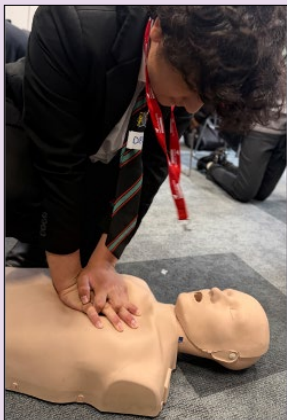


Hall's garden centre visit

A group of our Year 9's went to Hall's garden centre (with the garden centre cat being the main draw).

The aim was to buy plants that will attract pollinators and enhance biodiversity across the playgrounds. The girls, alongside the rest of the EDI team, will plant them into the bench planters on each playground. Hopefully, this will add some summer colour and attract some friendly bees!

~ Mr Toal



Trips and Visits

Hillstone primary school visit

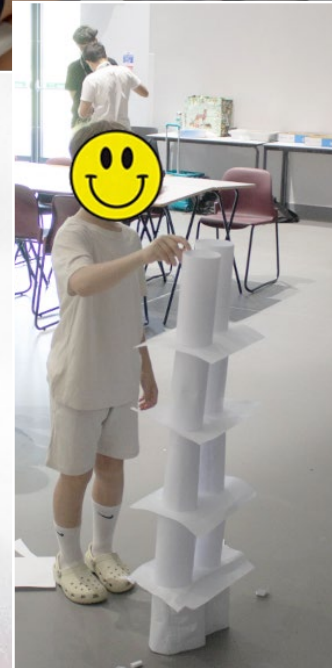
On Thursday 25th June, Year 5 students came over to experience a flavour of learning at our Academy by taking part in two workshops delivered by our staff specialists in Computer Science – Mr Organ and Ms Talbot in Maths. A selection of our post 16 students worked alongside the students to support the workshops.

The visit was a continuation of the King Edward VI Foundations' work on fostering links between primary and secondary schools. The children got to further develop their prior learning and experience of the STEM in specialist zones by taking part in two bespoke Masterclasses. There was an opportunity to learn how to work like an engineer whilst designing and building paper towers. The key was strength and stability: much fun was had trying to secure balance. There was also the opportunity to develop paired programming techniques by building a freestanding tower in Minecraft that could withstand a TNT blast! As you can see from the photos of the sessions, the children enjoyed the experience and their excitement, focused teamwork with our sixth form students and engagement evident!

It was a pleasure having the students from Hillstone spend time with us in our Academy. We look forward



to carrying on making links with a range of primary schools in our area and giving students a taste of what secondary school is like in preparation for making school choices in Year 6.



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Here is what our sixth formers had to say about the Hillstone primary visit...

As part of our youth STEMM award, we greeted 36 Year 5's from Hillstone Primary School, on Thursday 25th June to participate in two events that were designed to test their knowledge of engineering and engage them in thinking like engineers.

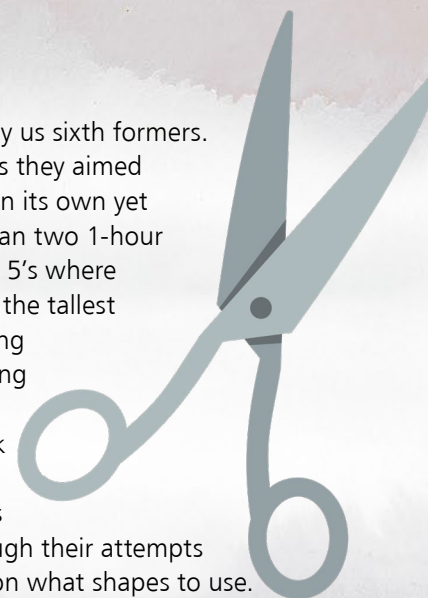
Reaching new heights in Minecraft

During the time the Year 5 students visited the school, they took part in a STEMM activity where the students used Minecraft to build towers. Our role was to support the children by explaining the task, guiding them through the instructions, and answering any questions they had while they were working on their towers. The students worked together very well, planning their designs and experimenting with different blocks to see what would make their towers strong and stable. Throughout this challenge, they learned about basic engineering skills like structure and balance, as well as the importance of teamwork and problem-solving. It was a fun, hands-on activity, and it was great to see how engaged and creative the children were while learning through technology.



SkyPaper Challenge

This group of talented, creative Year 5's attended and attempted a challenge set by us sixth formers. Given nothing but paper, tape and scissors they aimed to build a tower sturdy enough to stand on its own yet tall enough to beat out other teams. We ran two 1-hour sessions with two separate groups of Year 5's where they showed great persistence in building the tallest tower possible. They demonstrated amazing teamwork in delegating and communicating and had great success in their endeavour. They learned proper teamwork and developed knowledge on how engineers planned ahead and tested ideas to solve problems. They showed this through their attempts to build supports and their varying ideas on what shapes to use.



Sixth Form

We, as sixth formers, found guiding the Year 5's without explicitly telling them exactly how to build efficiently, informative in developing skills such as communication and patience. It even helped us develop teamwork between the sixth form team by deciding what hints were allowed to be told without giving too much support to the Year 5's.

Wellbeing Welcomers

ENVISION TEAM MEMBERS:

- Sidiq
- Harrison
- Aadam
- Charlie
- Harry
- Daniel
- Keyaan
- Maisie
- Izaan
- Poppy
- Conner

Our most recent Year 9 Envision cohort have come to the end of their project. They have worked hard in designing and creating a wellbeing quiz as well as wellbeing resources for students, with success in helping students feel more positive.

Unfortunately, KESH did not achieve the double win of the Envision Project this year, however, we have been invited to a second regional event for our school's commitment to social action, so we have another shot at winning!

A huge well done to all the students and an extra congratulations to Harry and Charlie. They had a huge number of lines to memorise and ran the presentation, as BBC News Presenters. The boys told me that they were approached by other schools, who assumed they were from the private schools, but they proudly informed them they were from KESH. They are a real credit to us all.

~ Mrs Qayyum



Head of Year messages

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Mr Blair Head of Year 7

How quickly this year has gone!

When I think back to September, I remember a year group that was quiet, anxious and full of uncertainty. Our students had arrived at a new school and suddenly become the youngest members of the academy. The transition from primary to secondary school is a huge step, but our Year 7 students have handled it exceptionally well.

As the year has progressed, their development has been remarkable. Their confidence, maturity, resilience and positive attitude have grown tremendously, and they should all be incredibly proud of what they have achieved.

Our Year 7 students have shown maturity beyond their years. They have embraced the core values of KESH, supported one another, built positive friendships and developed strong support networks. With the continued support of our families, they have demonstrated a genuine willingness to learn, improve and succeed.

As a year group, they have also achieved an incredible 190,054 house points. This outstanding achievement reflects the hard work, positive attitudes and determination our students demonstrate every day.

Year 7 has fully embraced the wide range of extracurricular opportunities available at KESH. Many students regularly attend clubs such as Sports, Table Tennis, Art, Coding and Manga, while more than 30 students have taken part in the school choir. These opportunities help students develop new skills, strengthen friendships and contribute to the positive culture we are so proud of within our school community.

A huge shout-out goes to all the students who have represented the academy in a variety of competitions and events, including Netball, Wheelchair Basketball, Football, Rugby, the Master KESH Cooking Competition, the Spanish Spelling Bee, the 6888 Battalion Dance Competition and many other enrichment opportunities. They have conducted themselves with maturity, respect and pride, serving as excellent ambassadors for our school.

We look forward to building on these strong foundations as our students move into Year 8. Thank you for all your hard work, commitment and support throughout the year.

Have a wonderful, restful and well-deserved summer holiday!

Head of Year messages

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Ms Stone Head of Year 8

As we come to the end of another successful and eventful year, I would like to take a moment to reflect on all that our Year 8 students have achieved and celebrate the wonderful progress they have made.

Throughout the year, students have worked hard to establish positive habits and routines, while continuing to develop and model our core values of compassion, respect, and equality. It has been fantastic to see so many students growing in confidence, demonstrating kindness towards others, and becoming increasingly aspirational in their approach to both their learning and personal development.

Year 8 have embraced a wide range of opportunities beyond the classroom. Highlights have included taking part in wheelchair basketball, performing the inspiring 6888 Battalion dance, competing in a dance competition, and representing the school in numerous football and netball fixtures. These experiences have allowed students to challenge themselves, work as part of a team and create lasting memories.

One of the most heart-warming moments of the year was our Random Acts of Kindness Competition, where students went above and beyond to support and encourage one another. Their commitment to responding outstandingly has also been exceptional, with Year 8 achieving an incredible 7,500 House Points in just one week—a remarkable accomplishment that reflects their positive attitudes and determination to succeed.

On a personal note, having taken on the role of Head of Year this year, it has been an absolute pleasure to get to know our students and their families. Building strong relationships with both students and parents has been one of the most rewarding aspects of the role, and I have thoroughly enjoyed supporting Year 8 throughout their journey this year.

I would like to thank our students for their enthusiasm, resilience and commitment, and our parents and carers for their continued support. I am incredibly proud of everything Year 8 have achieved and look forward to seeing them continue to grow, thrive, and reach even greater heights in the year ahead.

Head of Year messages

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Mrs Rai Head of Year 9

Having joined the school, later in the academic year as Head of Year 9, it has been a genuine pleasure getting to know such a vibrant and diverse year group. Over the past few months, I have been continually impressed by the character, resilience and individuality displayed by our students. One of the most rewarding aspects of the role has been building relationships with students and discovering the wide range of talents, interests and personalities that make Year 9 such a unique cohort. From celebrating academic achievements and extracurricular successes to supporting students through challenges and watching them grow in confidence, there have been many memorable moments already.

As Year 9 prepares to make the important transition into Key Stage 4, I am incredibly excited about the journey ahead. This is a year group with enormous potential, and I look forward to seeing them embrace the opportunities and responsibilities that come with starting their GCSE courses. I have no doubt that, with determination, focus and hard work, they will continue to achieve great things. It will be a privilege to support and guide them over the coming years as they develop into mature, ambitious and successful young people. I am excited to watch them flourish, rise to new challenges and make the very most of their GCSE experience.

Mr Harper Head of Year 10

As our Year 10 students reach the end of another successful school year, we would like to celebrate the many achievements and memorable moments they have shared. It was wonderful to see so many students taking part in our Christmas Biscuit Decorating Competition, bringing creativity, enthusiasm and plenty of festive spirit. Throughout the year, we have also enjoyed supporting our students in a wide range of extracurricular activities, from football matches and a competitive basketball game against Year 11 to dance competitions where students have been recognised for their hard work, talent and dedication.

A particular highlight of the year was the success of our Year 10 mock examinations. At such a crucial stage in their academic journey, students did themselves proud by demonstrating excellent focus, determination and resilience. Their positive attitude towards revision and commitment to achieving their best was evident throughout the exam period, and the results reflected the hard work they invested. We are incredibly proud of all they have accomplished this year and look forward to seeing their continued success as they move into Year 11.



Head of Year messages

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Miss Joyner Head of Year 11

Year 11 – We Finally Made It!

Well, we finally got here, the end of Year 11! The business end of secondary school is now behind us, although somehow, we still managed to squeeze in some fun along the way.

One of the highlights was the Year 11 A Band vs B Band football final. There was drama, determination, and probably a few questionable refereeing decisions, but in the end, it was A Band who came out victorious and earned the bragging rights that will no doubt last for years to come!

Our end of year trip to Oaker Wood Leisure was another unforgettable experience. Whether it was tackling the activities, cheering each other on, or simply enjoying time together away from the classroom, everyone agreed it was one of the best trips we have been on. It was fantastic to see students making memories together after working so hard throughout the year. The Leavers Assembly gave us the chance to take a trip down memory lane and celebrate everything that has been achieved. Looking back at old photos and shared experiences, it was a reminder of just how far this year group has come.

As we head into the summer, there is naturally a mixture of sadness, excitement, relief and, for some, a few nerves about what comes next. Leaving behind familiar faces and routines is never easy, but it is also the beginning of an exciting new chapter. I would like to say how proud we are of this Year 11 cohort. When it mattered most, they really knuckled down, showed resilience, and approached their exams with maturity and determination. They have supported one another, represented the school well, and created memories that will stay with them long after they leave our corridors. I am confident that all of their hard work will be reflected on Results Day in August, when they collect the grades they have worked so hard to achieve. Whatever the numbers on the page, they should be proud of the effort, perseverance and character they have shown throughout the year.

Thank you, Year 11, for the laughter, the energy, the memorable characters, and for always keeping us on our toes. You have been a truly memorable year group and one that will be missed. We wish you every success for the future and cannot wait to see what you achieve next. Good luck, enjoy a well-earned summer, and remember, once a member of our school community, always a member of our school community.



Competitions

Year 7 Have a Dream

Last term some of our Year 7's entered the Young Writer's 'I have a Dream' poetry competition. The brief was to write a poem about future hopes and dreams, whether for themselves or the world around them. After waiting patiently, the results were in.

An impressive seven students were chosen to have their poems published! A huge congratulations is deserved.

~ Miss Williams

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Quiet Courage

You are stronger than the voice in your head,
The one that whispers doubt late at night.
You are made of mornings that still try,
Even when yesterday felt heavy.

Every step forward counts, even the small ones.
Even the days you only get out of bed.
Growth is not loud or perfect,
Sometimes it is quiet courage.

You do not have to be fearless to be brave.
You just have to keep going anyway.
Your dreams are not too big,
They are waiting for you to believe.

Mistakes are proof that you are learning.
Scars, the stories of survival,
And somewhere ahead is a version of you,
Who is proud that you did not give up.

Mohammed (12)
King Edward VI Sheldon Heath Academy, Sheldon

All People Dream

I have a dream,
To live big,
To grow from a small thing.
I lived in fear, but no more.
Now I'm exceptionally happy,
I have a wish, like many do,
But it's to change people's views.
I can help people, that's my fantasy,
I can help people, they can look up to me.
I can achieve it, nevertheless,
And to get there, I need to stay doubtless,
When more chapters open,
There can be more things broken,
But I keep hope in my heart,
And I can see the world full of art.
So keep this as a lesson from me to you:
It is okay to dream like all people do.

Layla (11)
King Edward VI Sheldon Heath Academy, Sheldon

Me And Who I Want To Be

I have a dream to be an F1 driver,
Even though I may only have a fiver.
That's me and who I want to be.

I don't know about you,
And what you want to do.
I could be a footballer, scoring a goal in the World Cup
final.

People calling me a baller.
That's me and who I want to be.

I want to be a professional gamer,
Getting lamer as time goes on.
That's me and who I want to be.
Maybe I want to be me.

Well, that's me and who I want to be.

Ethan (11)
King Edward VI Sheldon Heath Academy, Sheldon

Opportunity

Once the day lightens,
the day brightens.
Some people might start a challenge with a joyful face,
but others with a delay.
This is your opportunity to shine bright
and reach a stand to help people get through hard times.

Eventually, someday it could be your turn,
suffering in grief,
expecting someone to meet,
but it just declines,
just because you weren't there.
Things can take revenge.
So make this a chance to show compassion,
aspiration, respect and equality
and remember that it is never too late to change
and make this world a better place for all.

Iqra (11)
King Edward VI Sheldon Heath Academy, Sheldon

The Shattered Whiskers

A ll animals deserve a chance at life
N ot all animals have the heart to bite
I f we do continue doing this, it will cause trauma and a
lot of fright
M aybe, just maybe, they will be able to stare at the
moonlight
A ll humans need to come together to make animals
alright
L ook, is what we're doing actually right?
S ome animals are already going extinct, WE NEED TO
STOP THIS...

Ruby-Mai (12)
King Edward VI Sheldon Heath Academy, Sheldon

Growing Together

Friendship is like a bright, warm sun,
shining on everyone, making days more fun.
We laugh, we share, we help, we care,
showing kindness everywhere.

Side by side, we learn to grow
like little seeds in snow.
We count on each other when we feel down.
They are there when we need them and help when needed.
Having fun together, we care for each other
and love each other,
making this world feel fresh.

Thomas (12)
King Edward VI Sheldon Heath Academy, Sheldon

Free At Eighteen

At eighteen, we become adults
Some like it, some don't
We get jobs
We get paid
But as kids
We work with no pay.
This is unfair
This is unjust
I hope that kids get treated seriously
And not get treated unfairly
Some may be immature, some mature
Either way, we're all the same
My dream is that kids get treated fairly,
And this is why children become adults at eighteen.

Abdul (11)
King Edward VI Sheldon Heath Academy, Sheldon

Sports Highlights

Year 11 A Band vs B Band – Match Overview

The long-awaited Year 11 showdown did not disappoint. With Gift leading B Band and Nic captaining A Band, the atmosphere was electric from kick-off. B Band struck first, with Rhys firing them into the lead, but A Band refused to back down. Their pressure paid off when a penalty was awarded—only for the mighty Mustafa to pull off a spectacular save, keeping B Band ahead and spirits high. Half-time brought some serious team talks, and A Band returned with renewed determination. Despite missing the earlier penalty, Will bounced back brilliantly, slotting home the equaliser. Not long after, Reagan secured the winner, completing A Band's comeback.

Amelia, proudly representing the ladies, was under-utilised but made an impact every time the ball reached her feet, injecting pace and energy into the game. Meanwhile, Musty ensured B Band could hold their heads high, producing several impressive saves—hair perfectly intact throughout. He earned Miss Joyner's personal Man of the Match, but the overall award went to Xavier, a worthy winner after a standout performance.

A fantastic crowd of students and family members gathered to watch what became a joyful, memorable event — perhaps slightly

less joyful for B Band, but unforgettable all the same. Mr Elcock presented the trophy, along with non-alcoholic champagne for the Man of the Match, adding to the celebration.

Sportsmanship was excellent across the pitch... though opinions on the referee varied. For the record, Mr Gordon, I thought you did a great job—definitely not a penalty. As the final whistle blew, a few emotions surfaced. This was their last match together, and what a way to end it.

Special mentions go to **Lana**, who captured the day beautifully through her photography, and to **Alice, T'raya** and **Dunya**, who provided top-tier "security" and kept everything running smoothly. A huge thank-you also to **all the teachers** who came out to support—your presence genuinely meant a lot to the players. And of course, appreciation to **Mr Gordon, Aaron, PE department, Mr Jennings** and **SLT** for backing the event and helping make it happen.



Boxing Intervention Programme

Throughout this academic year, several students from years 7,8,9 and 10 have taken part in an after-school boxing intervention programme.

A qualified coach, Colin Treasure, who owns Aero-Kick Gym in Digbeth, has taught the students crucial boxing skills, which has helped to develop their resilience, leadership, and discipline. We're very proud of the commitment and dedication that the students demonstrated during this 12-week course. As a reward for those who showed the most commitment to the class, 16 students from across the year groups got to attend a trip to Colin's gym and participate in a boxing session; following this they received a voucher to attend a free class.

~ Mrs Ayling

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Sports Highlights

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Padel Tennis

Mr Gordon took a group of students to Core Padel in Tyseley to compete in the Birmingham area Padel Tennis competition. The Year 8 team made the quarter finals losing by three games to Park Hall. The Year 10 team got through their quarter final winning 7-5 on a tie break, they went on to lose 6-4 in the semifinal against an extremely strong St George's team.



Netball

Cockshut Hill came to the Academy on 10th June to play two netball games.

Year 7 girls won 12-0

Year 8 girls won 18-9

It's always nice to win a local derby!

Girls' Football

Miss Jones took the Year 7 and 8 girls football teams to play at Archbishop Ilsley. Unfortunately, Year 7 girls lost 2-1, while the Year 8 girls lost 3-1.

Miss Jones took Year 7 and 8 football girls to Yardley winning 9-2! She also took a group of Year 7 & 8 students to an Aston Villa Football event.

Yardley and District Rugby Club Awards

Mr Whale and Mr Gordon were invited to Yardley and District Rugby Club to attend their end of season awards. They reported that – 'It was a lovely night, and it was fantastic to see Marques (Y8) and Will (Y10) pick up awards in their respective age groups. We now have 18 KESH students playing at their club which shows the impact of their commitment to work with us coming training every Thursday after school. A special well done to all of our students on a great season playing for Yardley!'



Edgbaston Cricket Trip

Miss Watkins and Mr Whale took a group of KS3 students to watch a women's cricket world cup game - South Africa v Pakistan at Edgbaston Cricket Ground. South Africa won by 2 wickets

Sports Highlights

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Wheelchair Basketball

Below are pictures taken at the Wheelchair Basketball Taster Day which was held in the Sports Hall on 9th July.



Girls of Brum

On Thursday 11th June, Miss Watkins accompanied 12 Year 7 girls to the Alexander Stadium for the 'Girls of Brum' event, where they enjoyed an exciting range of activities. From headband and smoothie making to darts, dance, rugby, kabaddi, shooting, and much more, there was something for everyone to try. It was a fantastic day filled with fun, new experiences, and plenty of smiles!



Dance competition

In June Miss Watkins took some of our students to compete in the King Edward foundation dance competition. We placed 4th in the big group category and then 3rd and 2nd in the small group category. Adelle also won a trophy and got awarded 'stand out dancer'.

2nd Place

Laila
Adelle

3rd Place

Daisy Li

4th Place

Evie
Sophie
Poppy
Aimee
Ava
Darcy



Department Spotlight Art Department

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Year 7 Art



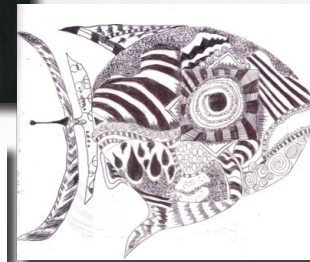
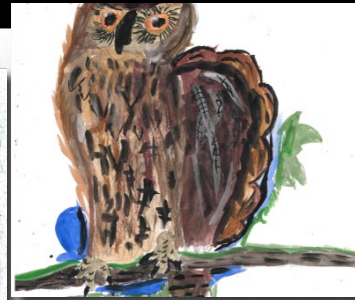
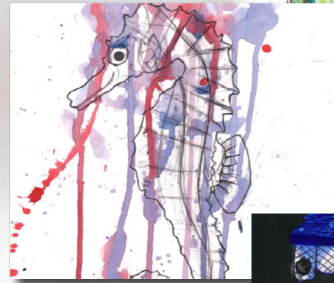
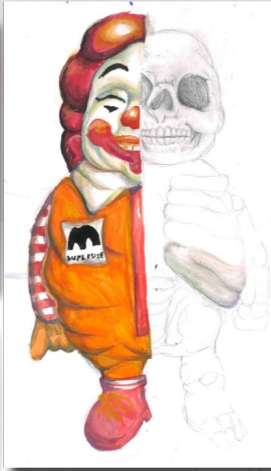
Department Spotlight Art Department

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Year 8 Art



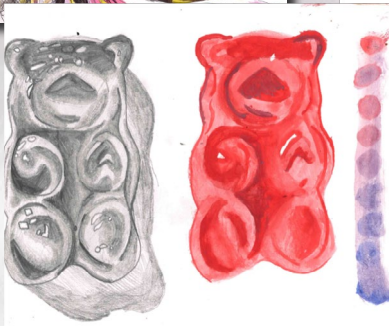
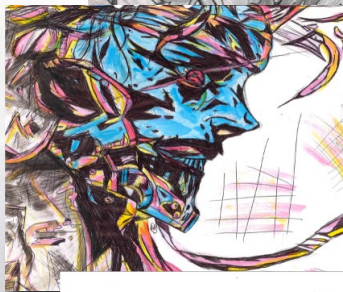
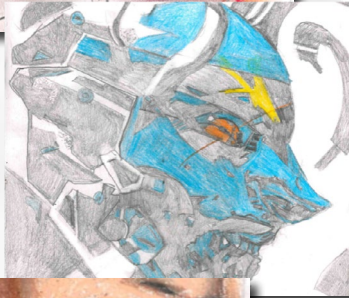
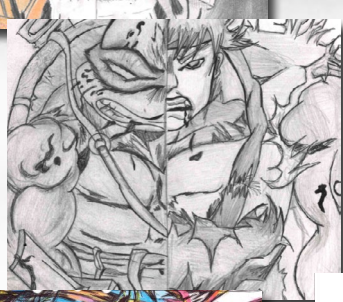
Department Spotlight Art Department

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Year 9 Art



Meet Our New Head of Music

Hello! My name is Miss Dewstow, and I am delighted to be joining KESH as the new Head of Music from September 2026.

Some of you may already have seen me around school since June, and I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know pupils and teaching some lessons. I am incredibly excited to become part of the KESH family and to help develop even more exciting musical opportunities for our students.

Next year, pupils will have access to a wide range of musical opportunities, including:

- An exciting KS3 curriculum featuring music from around the world, alongside ensemble and performance-based learning.
- Academy Choir and Sheldon Sounds.
- School Band, including opportunities to visit Symphony Hall and participate in regional workshops with other school bands from across the Midlands.
- African Drumming Club (audition only; limited spaces available).
- Instrumental lessons.
- Concerts, performances and enrichment events. Next year, pupils will have access to a wide range of musical opportunities, including:

- An exciting KS3 curriculum featuring music from around the world, alongside ensemble and performance-based learning.
- Academy Choir and Sheldon Sounds.
- School Band, including opportunities to visit Symphony Hall and participate in regional workshops with other school bands from across the Midlands.
- African Drumming Club (audition only; limited spaces available).
- Instrumental lessons.
- Concerts, performances and enrichment events.

I am passionate about celebrating the achievements of all our young musicians, whether their musical talents have been developed within school or through activities outside of school. If you have not already introduced yourself, please do come and say hello in September- I would love to hear about your musical interests and help you become involved in our fantastic department.

A few fun facts about me:

- I play 11 different instruments.
- I write music for television, film and video games.
- I produce rap and pop music.
- I have a rescue Standard Poodle who is my best friend!

Department Spotlight Music Department

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KESH Shines at Youth Proms 2026

On the evening of Tuesday 14th July, Mr Jennings, Miss Marshall and Miss Dewstow accompanied a group of talented KESH pupils to Birmingham Symphony Hall to perform as part of Youth Proms 2026. Taking to the stage in one of the UK's most prestigious music venues, our School Band delivered an outstanding performance that made everyone at KESH incredibly proud.

The evening was a fantastic celebration of young musical talent from across the region. Families and friends packed the auditorium to support the performers, creating an atmosphere full of excitement, encouragement and community spirit. It was wonderful to see so many supporters cheering on our pupils as they showcased their hard work and dedication.

The concert began with performances from Birmingham schools' bands and ensembles, setting the tone for an unforgettable evening. This was followed by an energetic and colourful medley of Elton John classics, performed by glitter and sequin-clad primary school choirs, which had the audience singing and clapping along.

The main event then saw the KESH Band take to the stage, performing three video game-themed pieces alongside other regional orchestras. Their performance was exceptional, demonstrating musical skill, confidence and teamwork. Adding to the occasion, Mr Jennings and Miss Marshall performed alongside the pupils, making the experience even more special for everyone involved.

A particular highlight of the evening was Tommy's fantastic DJ set, which truly wowed the crowd. Tommy was invited to perform at all three Youth Proms evenings, an incredible achievement that reflects his talent, commitment and passion



for music. We are immensely proud of his success.

The evening was filled with music, laughter and positivity, and it served as a wonderful reminder of the opportunities that music can provide.

Could this be you next year? Applications for instrumental lessons for 2026 are now open. If you've ever thought about learning an instrument, now is the perfect time to get involved. With dedication and practice, you could find yourself performing on the Symphony Hall stage next year!

A huge congratulations to all of our band members and performers. You represented KESH brilliantly and made us all incredibly proud. Well done!

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Transition Day & Induction Evening

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended our Induction Evening and supported our Academy Choir performance.

We were delighted to see such a fantastic turnout. Performing to a packed theatre was a wonderful experience for our choir members, and they rose to the occasion brilliantly, showcasing their talent, confidence and commitment. The warm applause and enthusiastic support from the audience created a fantastic atmosphere, and we hope you enjoyed the performance as much as we enjoyed sharing it with you.

If this was your first taste of music at KESH, there is plenty more to come. From choirs and bands to instrumental lessons, performances and workshops, there are opportunities for every pupil to develop their skills, build confidence and be part of something special. Music provides an excellent way for young people to make friends, develop confidence, share their passions and grow within a safe, supportive and nurturing environment. We would love to see as many pupils as possible getting involved next year.

On the subject of Music, during Transition Day, our incoming Year 7 pupils took part in African Drumming workshops using traditional djembe drums. They explored African drumming techniques, learnt rhythmic patterns and even created their own performances. Some pupils were brave enough to perform their rhythms to the rest of the class despite it being their very first day at KESH. Miss Dewstow was incredibly impressed with the enthusiasm, effort and behaviour demonstrated throughout the workshops and would like to thank all pupils for their participation. We look forward to welcoming you properly in September.

For further information about instrumental lessons, please see the Music Department News.

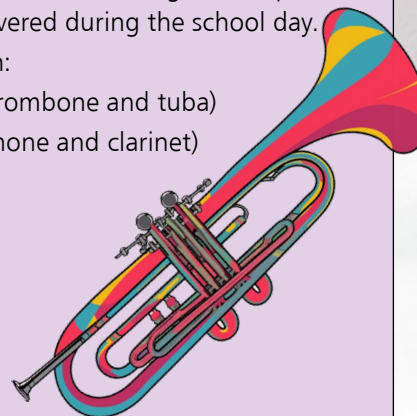
Instrumental Lessons

The Music Department is delighted to announce that applications for instrumental lessons will open in September 2026.

KESH offers instrumental tuition, delivered by Birmingham Music Service, free of charge to pupils who demonstrate exceptional commitment, effort and ambition within music. Lessons are typically 20–30 minutes in length, take place once per week and are delivered during the school day.

We currently offer tuition in:

- Brass (cornet, trumpet, trombone and tuba)
- Woodwind (flute, saxophone and clarinet)
- Guitar
- Violin and strings
- Drums
- Dhol
- DJ skills
- Keyboard
- Vocals and singing



If your child is interested in learning an instrument, already plays an instrument, or would like to further develop their musical skills, please submit an expression of interest to Miss Dewstow for consideration.

As places are limited, pupils will be selected based on their enthusiasm, commitment and willingness to participate fully in practise, the lessons and opportunities offered by the department, including concerts, performances and workshops. Successful applicants will be asked to sign a commitment agreement and maintain regular attendance at all scheduled lessons.

Expressions of interest are also welcomed from current KESH pupils. Please speak to Miss Dewstow for further information.

Summer fun! Zak's Summer Tips

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Places to go

Locally, there are a decent number of places to go for the summer. Here are some examples:

- Parks
- Kent's Moat
- Sheldon Country
- Gilbertstone

Cinemas

- Odeon Luxe
- Cineworld
- Vue

Food/Drink Places

- SLURP
- Chicka
- Portway

Recreational

- Inflatanation
- F1 Arcade
- Stechford Leisure Centre

What to Carry

There's a good number of gadgets and other items you should carry during the summer. Here are some good examples.

- Jisulife Life9 Handheld Fan
- MemoBottle A7
- GPS trackers on items e.g. AirTags
- Polarised adjustable sunglasses
- Miniso MS162 earbuds
- Apple Watch Ultra II

Playlist Recommendations

Because summer's here, you need some songs to fit the vibe. Here's what I listen to during summer, that you could put in your playlist.

- That's Not Me – JME, Skepta
- I Spy – Skepta
- R.I.P. – Playboi Carti
- Trap Jump – Ken Carson
- Manchild – Sabrina Carpenter
- Good 4 u – Olivia Rodrigo
- Cruel Summer – Taylor Swift
- Believe Me - Playboi Carti
- Menage - Playboi Carti, Lil Uzi Vert
- Beautiful Eyes – Taylor Swift
- I'd Lie – Taylor Swift
- All Red – Playboi Carti

This is Zak's Summer Tips™, courtesy of Zakariyah Year 8.

In this we'll go through what to do in the summer, what to carry and what to listen to.

Student Journalism

What do our teachers like to do in the summer?

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Mrs Everett

Where do you like to go in the summer?
Abroad

If you go there in summer, what do you bring? Suncream and sunglasses

What do you like to eat and drink in the summer? Ice cream and local food

How do you stay cool?
Stay in the shade and wear a sunhat

What do you like most about summer?
It gives you a chance to travel



Mr Cave

Where do you like to go in the summer?
Anywhere HOT!

If you go there in summer, what do you bring?
Lots of t-shirts and shorts

What do you like to eat and drink in the summer?
Pasta and cold drinks

How do you stay cool? Fans

What do you like most about summer? The hot weather



Mrs Tauli

Where do you like to go in the summer?
South of France

If you go there in summer, what do you bring?
A book

What do you like to eat and drink in the summer?
Salads and seafood

How do you stay cool? Stay by the water

What do you like most about summer?
The weather and being with loved ones



Mr Razaq

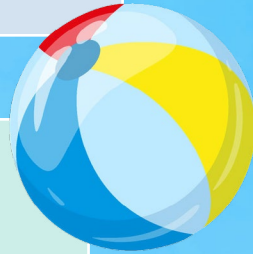
Where do you like to go in the summer?
Parks/lanes

If you go there in summer, what do you bring?
Water and a football

What do you like to eat and drink in the summer? Juices and lots of food

How do you stay cool? No coats

What do you like most about summer?
It gets dark later



Mrs Sadhra

Where do you like to go in the summer?
Lake District

If you go there in summer, what do you bring?
Suncream

What do you like to eat and drink in the summer?
Iced coffee and fruit

How do you stay cool? Stay out of the sun

What do you like most about summer?
Sunshine – Vitamin D



Goodbye & Good luck

We want to say goodbye to **Mr Ibrahim, Miss Begum** and **Mr Zanovello** (teachers of Computer Science, Business and English) as they move on to new opportunities. We would like to thank them for their dedication, hard work and the positive impact they have had on our school community. Their contributions will be greatly missed, and we wish them every success and happiness in the next chapter of their careers. Good luck and thank you for everything!

Miss Joyner

Leaving KESH is bittersweet. Being Head of Year from YR8 to YR11 has been one of the best experiences of my career, and I've genuinely loved my time here. I'm heading back into youth justice, a passion I've always held, and it feels like the perfect role at exactly the right moment. And as my brilliant YR11s reminded me, "You won't get better than us," and they're right, so off I go.

Thank you to all the parents for your support, to the colleagues who kept me sane, and to the students who made every day memorable. You are unique, inspiring, and impossible to forget. Thank you for everything.

Miss Green

After 14 years of teaching at KESH, it's time to say goodbye and, more importantly, a huge thank you to all the students and staff I've had the privilege of working alongside.

I'll miss so much about KESH, but I'll be keeping in touch with many of my colleagues, who I'm now lucky enough to call friends.

To everyone receiving exam results this summer, I wish you the very best of luck. Whatever your next step, I hope you're proud of everything you've achieved.

Lots of love, Miss Green

Mr Jennings

After many years of inspiring students through music, we say a fond farewell to Mr Jennings as he begins his well-earned retirement. We thank him for his commitment to our school community and wish him every happiness, good health and plenty of time to enjoy the exciting adventures that retirement brings. Congratulations on a wonderful career, Mr Jennings, you will be greatly missed!

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