



THE KINGSWAY ACADEMY

MOVING UP TO YEAR 7

PARENTS' INFORMATION



Contents

| | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|----|
| Welcome | 3 | The School Day | 8 |
| Who is Who? | 3 | Uniform | 9 |
| Being Prepared | 4 | Equipment | 10 |
| Parental Involvement | 5 | Lunch | 11 |
| Year 7 Zone | 6 | Extra-curricular, Activities and Trips | 12 |
| Attendance | 7 | | |



Welcome!

Moving to secondary school is a big step for any child. The Kingsway Academy aims to guide your child's transition as smoothly as possible. This booklet is designed as the summary of the main day-to-day procedures and information that you will need about your child.

Who is Who?

At The Kingsway Academy we have a brilliant team, all of whom are really looking forward to welcoming our new Year 7 students in September.

Get to know your child's new form teachers below:



My name is Natalie Faulkner and I am a PE Teacher at The Kingsway Academy. I am responsible for Primary Transition. I have been teaching PE for nine years and am in my fourth year working here. My favourite sport is Tennis having played this from an early age. I love my job and can't think of anything I would rather be doing than being active all day and teaching a subject which I love in both a practical and theoretical capacity.

I like to see children progress with their Physical Education capabilities and understanding but the most rewarding part for me is seeing students enjoy their PE experience and work co-operatively with others. PE is a subject that can develop so many traits of confidence, resilience, respect, teamwork, communication to name a few and we must not forget that a healthy body means a healthy mind.



My name is Mrs Rooney and I am Curriculum Leader for Creative Arts and Sports. I teach Music at The Kingsway Academy which I love. I have been a teacher here for 16 years now, so if there is anything your child needs to know I am sure I can help them.



My name is Oliver Bland. I have been a teacher for 3 years and it is my second year here at The Kingsway Academy. I am a Physical Education teacher and teach both practical and theoretical Physical Education. My favourite sport is football and my favourite team is Bradford City who I go and watch regularly. I also play football as another of my hobbies.

Being Prepared

GETTING INTO GOOD HABITS

Encourage your child to pack their bag the night before, to avoid a morning scramble. Have you agreed a bedtime that you and they are happy with and that they will stick to? They will be tired in the early weeks and need to get plenty of sleep. It's a good idea to get their bedtime routine going before term starts.

They will receive a timetable for lessons and it would help if you could also keep an eye on this – perhaps keep it somewhere easy to check, like on a noticeboard or the fridge, that way you can see on which days they need to take their sports' kit or other equipment into school. Get them into the habit of thinking “bag, pass, lunch money, phone, keys” etc. before they go out of the front door.

Check our rules and talk them through with your child – they may need reminding about the use of mobile phones, healthy eating, the wearing of jewellery and the completion of home learning.

Get into the communication habit. If they decide to go to a friend's house after school or stay at school for any reason, get them to phone you to let you know where they are. Help them become more responsible. They all need looking after in the first few weeks, but as they begin to settle in, they need to take responsibility for their bag, their homework and getting themselves up in the morning. The more you encourage them now the easier it will be later.

HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

Many parents feel anxious when their child starts school, but try not to let it show. Parents can feel conflicting emotions: they can feel proud that their child is growing up and at the same time feel sad that their primary school days are over. We want to assure you that we will do all we can to make sure your child settles and hope you will contact us if there are any concerns.

HOW IS YOUR CHILD FEELING?

Your child is likely to feel a bit nervous. Rather than saying, “there's nothing to worry about”, it's more helpful to tell your child that feeling nervous is natural, and that everyone gets nervous when facing new situations.

In the beginning they might worry about practical things, like getting lost and having to cope with new rules for breaks and lunchtimes. Such anxieties should disappear in a few days, as they learn the new routines and layout of the school. Your child may also be worried about the work, or making new friends. It can also help to arrange the travel to and from school with your child; if they are using public transport then have a test run with them, so that on the first day of school they feel as relaxed as possible.

Your child's school reports should help you to identify any issues you want to discuss. It will contain information on your child's progress and achievement in their subjects, together with their attendance, behaviour and any special needs they may have. However, these aren't the only ways to keep informed. Remember that talking to your children about school can benefit them. If there is anything you want to discuss with your child's tutor or subject teachers, please contact us to arrange a time to do so.

HOME-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS

These agreements help to make clear what you and your child's school can expect from each other, setting out:

- the school's responsibilities, aims and values;
- parents' and carers' responsibilities in supporting the school; and
- what the school expects of its pupils.

Parental Involvement

When your child joins secondary school, there are a lot of things you can do to help get to know the new school:

Parents’ consultation evenings and progress reports – pupil reports and parents’ evening are a really good chance for parents to get to know their child’s teachers. We will also make you aware of their attendance record and give you information that will enable you to keep track of the progress your child is making.

HOME LEARNING

Home learning is any activity or task that students are asked to do outside of lesson time to:

- Sustain learning
- Consolidate learning
- Extend learning
- Prepare for future learning
- Help students plan and organise their time and take ownership of their own learning
- Use information and resources that may not be available in lesson time

All students will be given a timetable that will state the subject and the days when home learning will be set.

HOW CAN PARENTS HELP?

It is important to keep encouraging your child to complete their home learning. Please help your child to get into good habits such as finding a quiet place to concentrate, prioritising their time and always putting maximum effort into their work. If they ask for help, it is a good chance for you to understand the work they are doing, and show them different ways of thinking about it, as well as showing them new places to find the information; books, the internet, newspapers, etc. Support them in submitting their home learning on time and please inform school if there is a genuine reason for home learning not completed.

TALK ABOUT SCHOOL

We encourage parents to talk about the school day with their child. Conversations about how their day has been are hugely important and will you gain a real understanding of how your child is getting on. Talk about anything exciting they may have done and any rewards they have been given but be sure to let us know of any problems.



Year 7 Zone

Our brand new dedicated Year 7 learning zone is the perfect hub for learning. We recognise that making the step from primary to secondary school is big and sometimes daunting. We have created our very own dedicated Year 7 learning zone.

The features of the zone include:

- **Classrooms are all prepared for Year 7 students**
- Classes used by all year groups require a range of resources that are not always targeted at our youngest students. The classrooms in our Year 7 zone are prepared and resourced to exclusively support the progression of our Year 7 students.

Science, Art, Music, Drama and PE will still be delivered in their own specialist areas close to the Year 7 zone.

- **Looking after Year 7** - A Vice Principal, Mrs Dickinson, is based at the heart of the classrooms where students will spend most of their time.
- **Technology and ICT** - The Year 7 zone houses our very own robot room and technology labs, where students can take part in Minecraft based projects to develop their computing abilities, ensuring they have access to the skills needed for future opportunities.





Attendance

Regular attendance is a pre-requisite for success in school; those who are not in class will miss important learning opportunities. It is widely recognised that poor attendance leads to underachievement. By your child joining The Kingsway Academy students and parents are committing to outstanding levels of attendance.

School attendance target – 97%

Anyone under 97% attendance is jeopardising their chances of attaining high GCSE grades.

The School Day

The school day is designed to facilitate achievement at The Kingsway Academy by removing potential barriers and delivering extensive opportunities for an enriched and enhanced curriculum.

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| 8.40am | All Students on site |
| 8.45–9.05am | Registration |
| 9.05–10.05am | Period 1 |
| 10.05–11.05am | Period 2 |
| 11.05–11.25am | Break |
| 11.25am–12.25pm | Period 3 |
| 12.25–1.10pm | Lunch |
| 1.10–2.10pm | Period 4 |
| 2.10–3.10pm | Period 5 |
| 3.10pm | Close of day. Students can either make their way home or participate in extracurricular activities. |



Uniform

All pupils at The Kingsway Academy are required to wear the correct uniform.

The aim of the Academy uniform is to encourage students to take a pride in themselves and their Academy. Every day should be treated as an interview.

Our uniform is designed to encourage a professional code of dress and must be worn in its entirety and not in conjunction with non-uniform items of clothing every day.

The Governing Body have agreed to support every family joining Year 7 by supplying a Blazer, Tie, School Bag and Pencil Case free of charge. You will be able to collect the uniform items at the Parent Induction and Information Evening in July and the school bag and pencil case will be handed out on the first day of school in September. The other elements of uniform will need to be purchased.

The correct uniform is as follows:

- Blazer – Blue single breasted with the Academy badge
- Skirt/ Pinafore: Plain black, pleated or straight, knee length
- Trousers: Black
- Blouse/ Shirt: Plain white, traditional collar, to be worn tucked inside skirt/ trousers
- Tie: Academy tie
- Socks/ Tights: Plain black or grey
- Footwear: Plain black shoes, low heeled, sensible footwear – no trainers
- Outdoor Coat: A sensible coat of a dark colour. Coats must not be worn inside the building
- Hair: One small dark hair tie – no other accessories
- Academy Bag: A strong, waterproof bag for carrying books and other equipment, eg. A sports style rucksack
- Jewellery: One plain gold/ silver ear stud only per ear. No other visible body piercings. No rings or bracelets.
- No makeup or nail varnish is to be worn at any time.



PE Uniform

- Navy and white cotton/ poly Polo Shirt
- Navy Shorts
- Navy Socks
- Appropriate trainers/ football boots as required

For colder weather only

- Long Navy Tracksuit bottoms (optional)
- Navy Tracksuit Top (Optional)

Hairstyles

Hairstyles should not be extreme. Inappropriate hairstyles include shaved heads, bright or non-natural hair colours. If you are in doubt about the appropriateness of an expensive hairstyle, please discuss it with the Leaders of Inclusion first.

Uniform Suppliers

Wirral Uniform Store, Birkenhead, or any other High Street Store.

Wirral Uniform Store will be available at The Kingsway Academy during our Induction Evening. You will be able to choose and collect your free uniform items then.

Equipment

A pencil case and school bag will be gifted to every Year 7 child. The equipment needed in September will be as follows:

2 x black pens



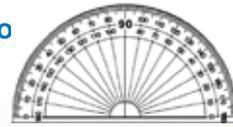
2 x HB pencils



1 x rubber



1 x protractor



1 x ruler



1 x scientific calculator



Form time checks will be conducted to make sure your child is ready for their learning support in ensuring your child brings everything that is needed to school.



Lunch

The Kingsway Academy encourages pupils to think diversely about food, and by celebrating national days in a variety of countries we are able to give a taste of different cultures around the world.

The students' timetable is structured to include a morning and a lunch break.

Year 7 and 8 students have a break each morning during which they may purchase breakfast items in the refectory. We serve healthy food which meets government guidelines and there are a variety of hot and cold meals for students to choose from.

Students pay for their meals with swipe cards. No money changes hands at the till. When starting in September, all children will be given a card on which they will be able to put money from the top up machines located around the refectory. When

purchasing items from the refectory all they will do is swipe the card and the money will be deducted. On the day that they start school their swipe cards will be issued.

We ask that all parents ensure that children have enough money on their cards to be able to purchase items when they need to.

If students have any special dietary requirements, the school will accommodate wherever possible. Please do not hesitate to let the school know if your child has any special requirements.

Chilled water is available at several points throughout the academy. We ask that you support our healthy eating policy by not letting students bring fizzy drinks, crisps, sweets or chewing gum into the academy.



Extra-curricular, Activities and Trips

All our students benefit from a rich and varied menu of exciting extra-curricular activities, including trips abroad.

Our school has a great reputation for the quality of our theatrical performances and our sports teams. There is so much to enjoy!

- Athletics
- Boys cricket and rugby
- Girls cricket
- Rounders
- Fitness and sport
- Dance club
- Crochet club
- Theatre technology
- Dance and drama clubs
- Language leaders award
- Computer games
- Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- Young Enterprise
- First Aid
- Primary school literacy links
- University survival cooking
- National Citizen Service Award
- Science club
- Community action and fundraising

