



Our ref: PC/jaw

20 September 2022

Kingsthorpe
College

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Dear Parent/Carer

Headteacher : Jennie Giovanelli

Welcome Back

At the start of such an important academic year, I thought it would be helpful to outline the year ahead and provide some information on how the school and I will support your child through Year 8. This is an important year for students as they will be making decisions about which subjects they would like to study in Year 9, before they enter Key Stage 4.

The journey through Year 8 can bring many challenges, including assessments and continuing to build positive relationships with staff and peers. It can be a stressful and daunting year, however I would like to extend our support to you for the year ahead - every single member of staff here at Kingsthorpe College is absolutely dedicated to supporting you and your child throughout this time.

As part of the support we can provide for families, especially in the current 'cost of living crisis', I would encourage you to check if you are eligible for free school meals or the school is eligible to receive pupil premium funding for your child. If you are currently eligible, this status would not have changed, and you will receive additional information from the school about the support you can receive. You can apply for either free school meals or pupil premium funding through the following link.

<https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals-and-pupil-premium>

Home-School Communication

Communication is very important to us here at Kingsthorpe College so I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the Year 8 team. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mr Rowbotham – Head of Year 8
Miss Matthews – Deputy Head of Year 8
Mr Crisp – Assistant Headteacher
(SLT link for Year 8)

Mrs Rodger – Learning Director for English
Miss Turner – Learning Director for Maths
Mr Kent – Learning Director for Science

Additionally, our Year 8 tutor team bring a vast range of experience and will be your first point of contact should any issues arise. If you have any subject specific issues, please do not hesitate to contact your child's subject teachers or our Learning Directors.

Year 8 Classes and Setting

Your child may have changed classes or moved sets since the end of Year 7 assessments. This information will be shown on your child's timetable. All setting decisions are made in the best interests of your child, but if you do have any further questions in relation to this, then please don't hesitate to contact your child's tutor, or our Learning Directors for English, Maths and Science. For your information, this is what the class codes on your child's timetable mean:



English – all classes are mixed ability. The class number on the timetable (e.g. 8g/En2) doesn't correspond to any particular set or ability.

Maths – classes are put into sets. Their set is informed by assessments in class, CAT data, KS2 data and teachers' knowledge of the student. The last number of the code indicates which set your child is in.

Science – classes are put into sets. Their set is informed by assessments carried out across Year 7. The last number of the code indicates which set your child is in.

Support and Opportunities for Year 8

We aim to enhance the Year 8 experience by providing opportunities for both our parents and students. You will find a summary below that details the main events that will take place this year.

Key Dates for your Diary – Year 8

22 nd September 2022	Meet the Tutor Evening (15:30 – 18:00) – Virtual
20 th October	Attitude to Learning report published
9 th January	Year 8 Formal Assessments 1 begin over 2 weeks
23 rd February	Progress monitoring report 1 published for Year 8
2 nd May	Year 8 Formal Assessments begin over 2 weeks
4 th May	Year 8 Progress Evening with subject teachers (15:30 – 19:00)
22 nd June	Progress monitoring report 2 published for Year 8

As the senior team link, I am excited about the year ahead and know how proud we will all be of Kingsthorpe College's Year 8 cohort as they work hard and take advantage of many of the enrichment opportunities that we have on offer. I know our students have an enormous amount of potential, as well as an extremely supportive environment in school which should enable them to thrive and achieve success. It is, however, vital that we don't underestimate the hard work needed to be successful, and that all parties work collectively to support our students in dreaming big, working hard, and staying humble.

I look forward to meeting you over the course of this academic year and if you do require any further advice or information in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully



Mr Paul Crisp
Assistant Headteacher