

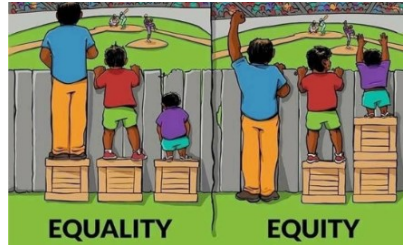
INSPIRE • ACHIEVE • SERVE

John F Kennedy Catholic School

16th January 2026



Building an inclusive community



The key-note speaker at the ASCAT Conference at the beginning of term, Rachel Mcfarlane, has spent many years exploring and writing about how to overcome inequality in educational outcomes. During her presentation she used the above image that I have seen referenced many times before. At the heart of the message is an understanding of the difference between the terms equality and equity; equality means providing the same support for everyone, but it doesn't necessarily mean giving everyone equal opportunity; whereas, equity means providing the necessary support for individuals so that everyone can have the same opportunity. It's a reminder that in a truly comprehensive school like JFK, the educational provision is not 'one size fits all'. That is why we have a strategy for students who are eligible for the pupil premium grant, a Learning Support Department that focuses extra support for students with learning needs and a broad range of extra-curricular activities and trips that enable all students' interests and aspirations to be valued. A big part of life at JFK has always been PE, including a strong presence in competitive sport. However, this is not to be seen as a provision for only those with elite sporting ability or interest. Miss Rooney, our Subject Leader for PE encapsulates her vision for JFK PE in the following statement:

At the heart of the PE curriculum is the belief that sport and physical activity is for everyone, regardless of ability, confidence, background or prior experience. Inclusion within PE is defined not only by access and participation, but by ensuring that all students, from those needing additional support to those with exceptional potential, are appropriately challenged, supported and inspired.

Team PE at JFK have implemented a range of targeted strategies to remove barriers and create meaningful pathways for all students, including a KS4 girls' intervention programme where students have co-designed a bespoke curriculum and set personal participation and achievement goals and *This Girl Can* sessions, launching after February half term, which will build confidence and leadership for students in KS3.

The super-curriculum promotes a 'sports for all' ethos and is open to all students through their google classrooms. It aims to build confidence, and develop independent and reflective learners who are ambitious and curious about the world around them, engaging with the theory, values and global context of sport.

Students eligible for the pupil premium grant have a trip arranged for next term and we have worked closely with the Learning Support Department to offer support sessions using a sensory circuits approach to support regulation, focus and readiness to learn.

Alongside training, fixtures and tours, we have designed a programme to support our more talented students on their journey towards sporting excellence through enhanced challenge, workshops and mentor meetings.

Through targeted intervention, student voice, and clearly defined pathways for both participation and performance, Team PE champions inclusion, ensuring that every student feels valued, challenged and supported to achieve their personal best.

I am grateful for the commitment and hard work Miss Rooney and her team show in pursuit of this vision.



2026 - YEAR OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Pope Leo has declared that January 10th 2026 to January 10th 2027 will be a special year in celebration of St Francis of Assisi, who died 800 years ago this October. In a letter addressed to a gathering of the Franciscan Order, the Pope wrote:

“Our Sister Death”, exclaimed Saint Francis on 3 October 1226 in Porziuncola, as he went towards her as a man finally at peace. Eight centuries have passed since the death of the *Poverello of Assisi*, who wrote the word of Christ’s salvation indelibly in the hearts of the people of his time.

In commemorating the significant anniversary of the eighth centenary of his passing, I wish to join spiritually with the entire Franciscan Family and with all those who will take part in the commemorative events, hoping that the message of peace may find a profound echo in the Church and society today...”

This year will provide an opportunity to learn about St Francis - one of our House Saints - and focus our prayers on his legacy. One tradition associated with St Francis is that he was the first to promote the 'crib scene' with all the figures of the Nativity present at the stable. It is Catholic custom that cribs are left up until 2nd February (Candlemas) - the feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, which is the last feast of the infancy of Christ. It has been requested that this tradition be reinstated where it has lapsed in honour of St Francis. We will therefore be keeping our crib in place until 2nd February.

Pope Leo concluded his letter by offering a prayer to St Francis:

*Saint Francis, our brother, you who eight hundred years ago
went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace,
intercede for us before the Lord.*

*You recognized true peace in the Crucifix of San Damiano,
teach us to seek in Him the source of all reconciliation
that breaks down every wall.*

*You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war
and misunderstanding,
give us the courage to build bridges
where the world raises up boundaries.*

*In this time afflicted by conflict and division,
intercede for us so that we may become peacemakers:
unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ.*

Amen

Mr Neves - Headteacher



DRAMA

'Back to the Future' Theatre Trip



On Thursday 16th January, 130 Year 9 students enjoyed an unforgettable afternoon in central London, travelling by coach to experience the electrifying West End production of Back to the Future: The Musical.

From the moment the curtains rose, students were swept up in the high-energy storytelling, dazzling visuals and sheer theatrical magic of the show. Based on the much-loved film, the musical follows teenager Marty McFly, who is accidentally transported back to 1955 in a time-travelling DeLorean invented by the eccentric Doc Brown. As Marty races against time to fix the present and secure his own future, audiences are treated to a thrilling mix of comedy, heart and adventure.

The production itself was nothing short of spectacular. Students were particularly wowed by the jaw-dropping special effects, including the iconic DeLorean appearing to fly across the stage, seamless scene changes, explosive lighting and immersive sound design. The combination of live music, energetic choreography and cinematic staging made the experience both inspiring and unforgettable, bringing the power of live theatre vividly to life.

Our students were a credit to JFK throughout the entire trip. They engaged brilliantly with the performance, clearly relishing the humour, especially the moment when a reference to John F Kennedy prompted delighted reactions, as if it were a pantomime-style schools' call-out just for them! Theatre ushers and members of the public seated nearby were full of praise for their behaviour, enthusiasm and courtesy.

A huge thank you must go to the staff who accompanied the trip, generously giving up a significant portion of their evening. Their support ensured the trip ran smoothly and safely, allowing students to fully enjoy this enriching experience.

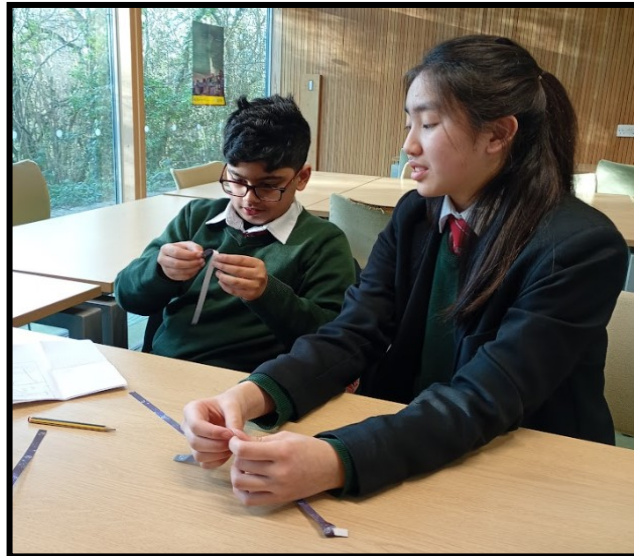
This visit was a true "super curriculum" opportunity — broadening horizons, deepening cultural understanding and showing students the excitement and relevance of the performing arts beyond the classroom. It was an afternoon filled with inspiration, pride and shared joy, and one that will undoubtedly be remembered for a long time to come.

Drama Department



LIBRARY

Happy New Year



We've kicked off the New Year at the Library with a renewed focus on reading for pleasure and other quiet activities because lunch time screen time has been greatly reduced (only on Fridays now). I was delighted to see lots of games of chess happening on Tuesday and a few more students enjoying Peaceful Reads on Wednesday - great alternatives which help students to connect with each other and relax.

Craft club also began again yesterday and the focus was on origami, with some beautifully detailed results!

I have launched the Winter Reads competition which is all about book reviews - the longer the better! The best ones will be entered into a national competition with a chance for reviews to be published. I've encouraged the students to use Accessit, the Library's online catalogue, to submit their reviews and I look forward to reading them and perhaps choosing my next read based on one of them.

2026 is a [National Year of Reading](#) so we're looking forward to a year of activities to encourage everyone to read (more) about what they love, whether that be sports, cookery, robots, spies, needlecraft or just re reading childhood favourites. Watch this space for updates about what we get up to and ways you can get involved.

Mrs Powell - Librarian



PE

House Sports

House Net-ball	House Boys Football	House Dance	House XC (Santa Runs)
1) H	1) F	1) J	1) D
2) J	2) N	2) D	2) K
3) K	3) J	3) H	3) F
4) D	4) D	4) N	4) H
5) N	5) K	5) F	5) J
6) F	6) H	6) K	6) N

Huge congratulations to everyone who took part in House Sports last term! Your energy and competitive drive made the events a massive success.

This term, the competition continues with a brilliant mix of activities, including Basketball, Badminton, Gaelic Football, Table Tennis, and Fitness. Whether you're a seasoned player or a complete beginner, we want to see as many of you as possible getting involved and earning points for your House.

Well Done, everyone!

This

Next Weeks Fixtures

Tuesday 20th January - U13 Girls Football v Kings Langley A

Thursday 22nd January - U15 Girls Football v Tring A

Friday 23rd January - U13 Girls Football v Longdean A

Student Achievement

Well done to Oscar Brandwood in Year 7 who has qualified for the upcoming Hertfordshire County Swimming Championships: 50m Butterfly - 24th January. Qualification for the Hertfordshire County Swimming Championships is a significant achievement. To be eligible, swimmers must rank within at least the top 25 competitors in their age group across the county and have achieved the published county qualifying times in their respective events.



Miss Rooney - PE Department



PE

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS AND PRACTICES T2: 2025-26



Passion and Progress for all Inspire, Achieve & Severe Be kind, work hard, no excesses

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Duty		FH	MR*		JJY
Cover	JJY	RP	TJ	MR	MR
LUNCH 1.35pm – 2.20pm					
FH	PE Support Sessions DANCE ST		Netball MasterClass COURTS		
LT			Dacorun Dance DANCE STUDIO	GCSE Dance Intervention DANCE ST	GCSE Dance Intervention DANCE ST
TJ	Yr 7 Boys Football FIELD	Yr 7&8 Girls Basketball GYM		Yr 10 & Yr 11 Boys Football FIELD	
MR		KS3 Rec Badminton Max 20 DANCE ST	Netball MasterClass COURTS		PE Detentions
TW/RP	Y7&8 Boys Basketball GYM			Y9&10 GBB GYM (after Feb HT)	
JJY		Boys Rugby FIELD	Yr 9 & 10 Boys Basketball GYM	Yr 9 Boys Football FIELD	
SC	Yr 8 Boys Football FIELD				All Yrs Girls Football FIELD
JM		Gaelic Footba FIELD (after Feb HT)			
AFTER SCHOOL 3.30pm - 4.30pm					
	Dacorun Dance 3:30 - 4:30 Dance Studio LT				

Miss Rooney - PE Department



CAREERS



From understanding apprenticeships to learning what it's like to work in different industries and acing your application, this fair is a great opportunity to explore your options and get your questions answered by the experts. Join live sessions with employers from across the UK and speak directly to their representatives to achieve your dream apprenticeship!

[To register for the Fair please use this link](#)

Employers

A&O Shearman	Durham County Council	Ricoh
ACCA	E.ON	Royal Ballet & Opera
Aldi	EDF	Scottish Power
AON	EY	Tarmac
Astrazeneca	GKN Aerospace	Unilever
BBC	Hill Group	Wates
British Airways	KPMG	RSM
British Army	Metropolitan Police	Laing O'Rourke
CMS	National Grid	Jaguar Land Rover
Early Years Careers - Do Something Big	NESO	
	RAF	

Sessions included are:

- How to use AI successfully in applications
- Day in the life: education
- Degree apprenticeships
- Everything you need to know about apprenticeships
- How to ace your written application
- How to ace interviews and assessment centres
- How to showcase your skills in applications
- Understanding the different levels of apprenticeships
- SEND and apprenticeships
- Parents and carers session: what are apprenticeships and how to support applications
- Day in the life: engineering
- Life of an apprentice: what to expect
- How to find and ace your work experience
- What to expect from the application process

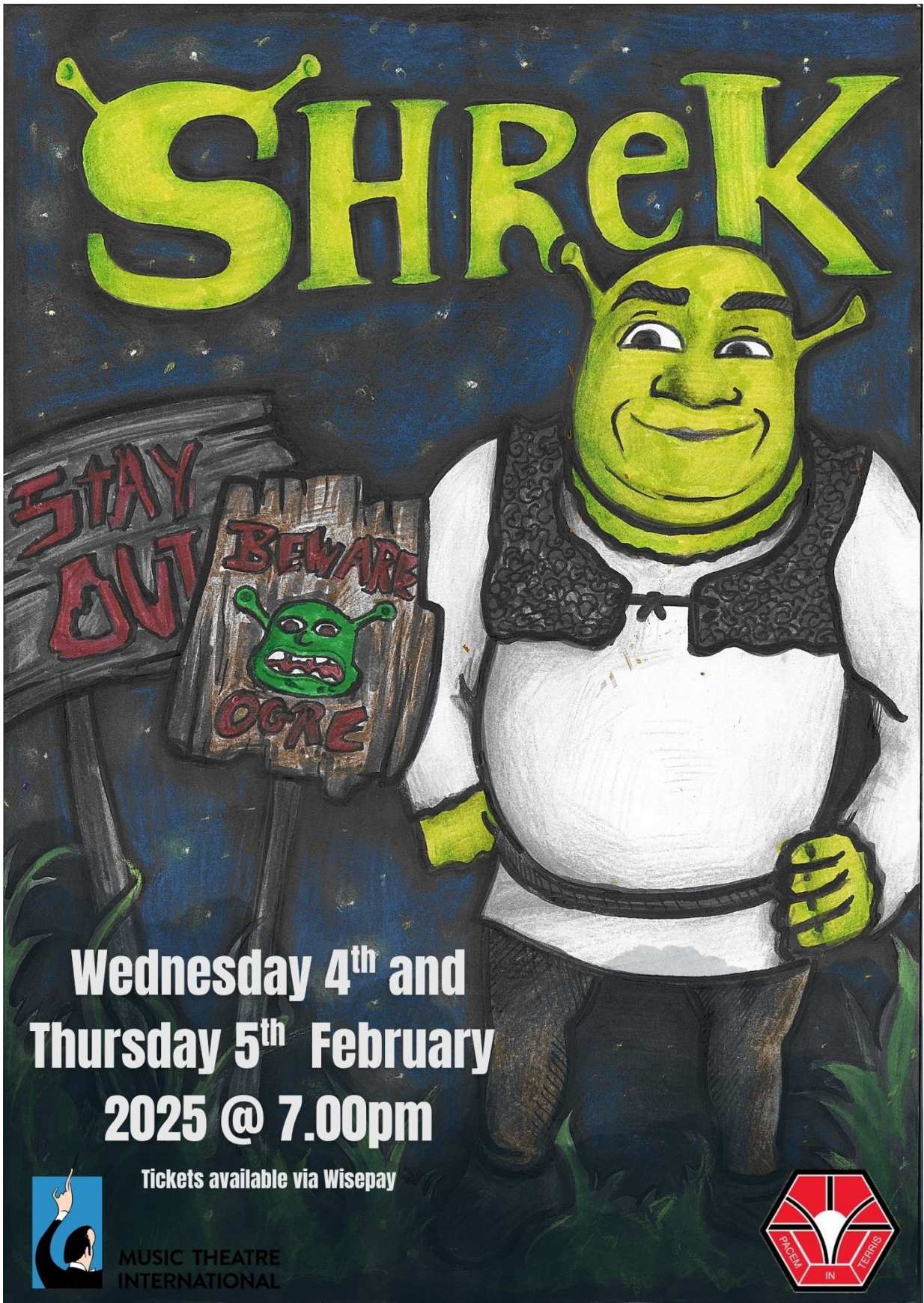
Mrs Jenkins - Careers

INSPIRE • ACHIEVE • SERVE



SCHOOL PRODUCTION

SHREK



**Wednesday 4th and
Thursday 5th February
2025 @ 7.00pm**

Tickets available via Wisepay



MUSIC THEATRE
INTERNATIONAL





SCHOOL PRODUCTION - COMING SOON

Q&As with the Cast

Take 5



Ever looked at a good actor and wondered: "What's their favourite movie?"
Well here's your answers to your obscure questions!

We asked the Shrek Jr. cast these 5 questions:

1. What year are you in?
2. **Who is your favourite character in Shrek?**
3. What has been your favourite part of making the production?
4. **What is your favourite movie/series? (excluding Shrek)**
5. What previous experience do you have in Drama?

Week 1: The Shreks!

These are the answers we received:



Adam K

1. Year 12
2. **Donkey**
3. Doing loads of different scenes with loads of different people
4. **Rocky 4**
5. other school plays and drama clubs outside of school



James H

1. Year 11
2. **Shrek**
3. Watching it come together over time, from script to show
4. **Bend it like Beckham**
5. Matilda and Bugsy Malone previously in school years

A Level Business Students



TRIPS 2026 – 2027

**"A Gentle
Reminder"**

NEW TRIPS COMING.....

UCAS Information Day, 24th March 2026 – Year 12 students

Sports Tour 2027 – Current Year 7 and 8 students

UPCOMING DAY TRIPS AND EVENTS

Anglesey Abbey, 26th January 2026 – Snowdrop Project

Olympia, 29th January 2026 – Year 12 Travel and Tourism students

TRIPS

Monthly Instalments are due on the 1st of each month for the following:

A Taste of Italy, 13th - 17th February 2026

Ski 2026, 15th - 21st February 2026

Valencia, 6th - 9th March 2026

A Level Biology F/T, 1st - 3rd June 2026

Croft Farm, 22nd - 24th June 2026

Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, 30th June - 7th July 2026

GCSE Geography F/T, 6th - 8th July 2026

Duke of Edinburgh 2026, Bronze and Silver





SAFEGUARDING IN FOCUS



At John F Kennedy Catholic School, safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do, and we work hard to ensure that every child feels safe, supported and listened to within our school community.

Our safeguarding team plays a vital role in this work. The team works closely with students, families, staff and external agencies to promote a culture where safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Students and families can reach out to the safeguarding team for support. We recognise that parents and carers are key partners in safeguarding. We encourage families to familiarise themselves with our safeguarding approach, policies and procedures, which are available on the school website:

Safeguarding information and policies:

<https://www.jfk.herts.sch.uk/page/?title=Safeguarding&pid=82>

In addition, the school provides a range of **supportive links and resources** for students and families, covering areas such as mental health, online safety, wellbeing and external support services:

Support for students and families:

<https://www.jfk.herts.sch.uk/page/?title=Support+for+students+and+families&pid=100>

If you ever have a safeguarding concern, no matter how small it may seem, we urge you to share it. Concerns can be raised confidentially by emailing:

staysafe@jfk.herts.sch.uk

Letting us know about concerns, however small they may seem, allows us to offer the right support when it is needed. Working closely with families helps us maintain a safe, inclusive and caring school community where every child can feel secure and valued.

Mrs McKenzie – Assistant Headteacher



SAFEGUARDING IN FOCUS



We're delighted to let you know that John F Kennedy Catholic School has become a member of The National College – a multi-award-winning online training provider for staff and parents.

What does this mean for you?

As part of our membership, The National College provides dedicated training and resources for parents and carers – particularly, around online safety and keeping children safe online.

Online safety advice on any topic

Of course, staff will continue to teach children about the risks online. But with the internet so readily accessible, the most effective approach to online safety needs everyone involved, including parents and carers.

That's why you've now got access to **hundreds of courses, explainer videos and online safety guides** to support your awareness of the online world. Topics range from understanding apps like TikTok and Instagram to recognising the signs of online harm and what you can do to help.

Signing up is easy

Signing up to the platform is simple. Just follow <https://v2.nationalcollege.com/enrol/john-f-kennedy-catholic-school> and complete your details. You will be asked to enrol and enter some key details. As you enter your details it is important that you sign up as a parent/carer. Once you're set up, you'll get instant access to all training and resources.

Download the app for free

Another fantastic benefit of The National College is its National Online Safety app, which you can download for free. It gives you access to all their parent and carer resources on the go, whenever you want.

You can download the National Online Safety app using the links below:

- [App store](#)
- [Google Play](#)

They're always here to help

The National College has a brilliant support team if you have any questions. Their [help centre](#) provides a comprehensive bank of answers to most FAQs, but if you still can't find the answer you're looking for, you can always get in [contact](#) with them.

Mrs McKenzie – Assistant Headteacher



CYCLING SAFETY



Cycling to school is a great way for pupils to stay active and independent, but it's important that it's done safely.

We strongly encourage all pupils who cycle to wear a properly fitted helmet every day. Helmets can greatly reduce the risk of serious head injury in the event of a fall or collision.

It is important that:

- **The helmet fits snugly and sits level on the head**
- **Straps are fastened correctly every time**
- **The helmet is in good condition and has not been damaged in a previous fall**

Bicycles are designed for one rider only. Carrying passengers on handlebars, luggage racks, or the back of a bike is unsafe and affects balance and control. Pupils should be reminded not to carry friends and to make sensible decisions even if others encourage them to do so.

The roads close to school can become particularly busy at the beginning and end of the school day, with cars, buses, and pedestrians all sharing limited space. Pupils should ride sensibly, stay alert, follow road signs and signals, and clearly signal their intentions when turning. Pupils should not weave in and out of traffic or between vehicles, as this is dangerous, unpredictable, and greatly increases the risk of an accident. Distractions such as mobile phones or headphones should be avoided.

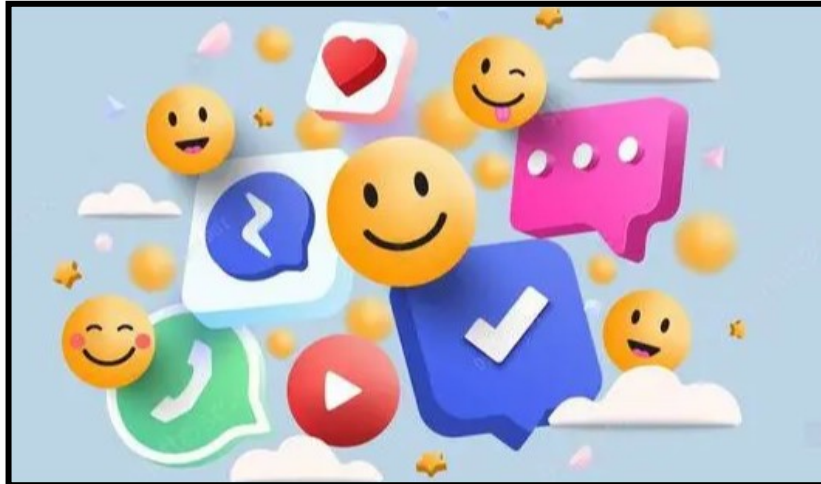
We ask that parents and carers to reinforce these messages at home and check that bikes are road-worthy, with working brakes, lights, and reflectors, especially during darker mornings and afternoons.

Thank you for your continued support in helping pupils travel to and from school safely.

Mrs McKenzie – Assistant Headteacher



DIGITAL SAFETY



In today's digital world, apps are part of everyday life for secondary-age children. They offer creativity, entertainment, and social connection. However, alongside the positives come risks that parents and carers should be aware of.

Understanding the risks

Many apps collect large amounts of personal data, from location details to contacts, often without children realising the implications. Others expose young people to inappropriate or harmful content, whether through unfiltered videos, anonymous chats, or user-generated posts. Bullying and harassment can also take place within these platforms, sometimes hidden from parents and carers' view.

Another concern is the presence of online predators who may disguise themselves as peers in order to exploit children. On top of this, the design of many apps can encourage overuse through constant notifications and endless scrolling which can interfere with sleep, wellbeing, and school performance.

Financial risks also exist, with in-app purchases or "loot box" style features that can tempt children into spending money without fully understanding the consequences. Some apps may even appear harmless but are designed to hide conversations or bypass parental oversight, adding another layer of complexity for families.

Mrs McKenzie – Assistant Headteacher



DIGITAL SAFETY

What parents and carers should look out for

When your child asks to download a new app, it's worth considering a few key questions. What age is the app designed for?

- Does the rating match your child's stage of maturity?
- How much personal data does it request?
- Are the privacy settings easy to control?
- Does the platform have strong moderation and reporting tools?
- What is the community culture like?

You may also want to check how easy it is to make in-app purchases and whether parental controls are built in. Exploring these factors together with your child not only helps you assess the risks but also builds digital literacy, encouraging them to think critically about the online spaces they inhabit.

A trusted resource

To make this easier, **Internet Matters** has put together a clear, parent-friendly guide to the apps and platforms most commonly used by children today. It highlights what each app does, its key features, and the potential risks to be aware of.

You can find the full guide here: [Internet Matters – Apps & Platforms \(11–16\)](#).

This resource is regularly updated, so it's a reliable way to stay informed as new platforms emerge and existing ones evolve.

The NSPCC website also contains helpful advice regarding keeping children safe online - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Practical steps you can take

The most effective safeguard is open communication. Ask your child what apps they use and why, and take time to explore those apps together. Set clear boundaries around screen time and "offline hours" such as at mealtimes or after bedtime. Encourage your child to block or report users who behave inappropriately, and make sure location sharing is switched off unless absolutely necessary.

Apps can be positive spaces where young people learn, create, and connect. But without awareness and guidance, they can also present real risks. By staying informed and keeping conversations open, parents and carers can empower children to use technology safely and responsibly.

Mrs McKenzie – Assistant Headteacher



UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday 23rd January, JFK Day, Non Uniform
Wednesday 4th and Thursday 5th February, School Production, 7.00pm, Hall
Tuesday 10th February, Year 9 Consultation Evening, Online
Friday 13th February, Taste of Italy Trip Departs
Monday 16th - Friday 20th February , Half Term

WE ARE HIRING!

[Click here for the latest vacancy information](#)



FUTURE DATES

Tuesday 3rd March, Into KS4 Options Evening
Tuesday 3rd March, Year 8 Work Shadow Day
Friday 6th March , Bronze DofE Orienteering Walk
Friday 6th March , Year 10 and 11 Spanish Residential Trip
Thursday 12th March, Year 7 Consultation Evening, Online
Monday 23rd March, Spring Concert, 7.00pm, Hall
Wednesday 25th March, Year 8 Consultation Evening, Online



ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS 2025

At John F Kennedy Catholic school, we believe that student performance, behaviour and attendance are fundamentally linked. Our ethos is to maximise the full potential of each student and in order to achieve this, high attendance rates are essential.

Our expectation is that individual student attendance should not be below 95%.

Section 7 of The Education Act states that 'parents are responsible for making sure that their children, of compulsory school age, receive a suitable full time education'.

Section 444 of The Education Act clearly states that 'if a child is absent without authorisation, then the parent is guilty of an offence'. This is a strict liability offence - i.e. all that needs to be shown is a lack of regular attendance. Sanctions can include a fine of up to £1000.

Holidays during Term time

Authorisation of absence for Holidays during term time is at the discretion of the Headteacher and is granted only in exceptional circumstances.

Fines are enforceable for a child being absent from school without permission. This is currently £80 per child for each parent, rising to £160 if paid after 21 days.

Lateness

As stated in the school Attendance Policy:

- Students should attend school "full time" and they should remain in school attending all timetabled lessons. This means that students should arrive in time for registration. In practice school buses may be late and in this case students should sign in at Reception so they can receive their mark.
- Avoidable lateness beyond 10.00 am constitutes unauthorised absence and can legally be the basis of an offence by the parent/carer
- Those students who arrive very late (after 10.00 am) without a good excuse will not be credited with an attendance. Their absence will therefore be unauthorised and a different mark (U) will be used to distinguish them from those who are "unpunctual". Steps will be taken by the school with the support of parents/carers to correct those students who are persistently unpunctual



GENERAL NOTICES

Make a Difference Where It Matters Most — Become a Foundation Governor!

Are you passionate about helping children thrive? Do you want to use your skills, values, and experience to strengthen your local community? We are looking for inspiring, committed people to join our Local Academy Councils as **Foundation Governors** — and you could be exactly who we need.

The Local Academy Council (LAC) is responsible for supporting the mission and strategic direction of the Catholic Multi Academy Trust (CMAT) at a local level. Rooted in the values and teachings of the Catholic Church, the LAC serves as a key link between the individual academy, its parish community, and the wider Trust. The primary responsibilities of the LAC include:

- **Faithful Stewardship and Ethos:** Uphold and promote the Catholic identity, values, and mission of the academy, ensuring Gospel principles guide all aspects of school life.
- **Advocacy and Governorship:** Act as advocates of the Trust's vision and strategy while serving as Governors for the local academy within the Trust, parish and wider community to build partnerships.
- **Impact and Accountability:** Provide local support and challenge to school leaders by monitoring standards, inclusion, safeguarding, and ensuring effective implementation of Trust policies.

Why this role matters:

Foundation Governors (practising Catholics) play a powerful role in shaping the future of our school. They help protect and promote our values, support our leadership team, and ensure every child has access to an excellent education. Your voice and your perspective can directly influence the school's direction, priorities, and success. There are limited spaces available for parents in their child's school.

No previous governance experience? No problem.

We welcome people from all backgrounds — what matters most is your enthusiasm, willingness to learn, and commitment to our school's ethos. Full training, guidance, and mentoring are provided.

See next page



GENERAL NOTICES

We're especially keen to hear from people who:

- Care deeply about the wellbeing and development of young people
- Share and support the school's foundation and values
- Can think strategically and ask thoughtful questions
- Bring experience from any profession or community role
- Want to make a meaningful, lasting contribution

What you'll gain:

- A rewarding leadership role with real impact
- New skills in strategy, education, finance, and governance
- Opportunities to work with dedicated school leaders
- A chance to give back and shape the future of children in your community

Time commitment:

Around 6–8 meetings per year, plus some school visits and training.



GENERAL NOTICES

Road Safety

Parents/Carers are reminded about the importance of road safety and we highlight a number of points you may wish to discuss with your child:

- The importance of crossing the road at a safe place. Using either a zebra or pelican crossing where possible
- Avoid crossing behind parked cars
- Never run out into the road
- Be aware of your surroundings – take out earphones and stop talking with friends or on the phone when crossing the road
- Have reflective items on jackets or bag.
- If cycling, follow the same instruction and make sure you have lights on your bike and wear a helmet at all times.



Disabled Parking Zones

Please can we ask that the disabled parking bays located along Hollybush Lane be kept clear . They are marked on the path and are needed to be accessed by local residents.



JFK enjoys good relationships with our neighbours and local community. Please be mindful of driveways and access in Hollybush Lane and neighbouring roads if dropping off/picking up your child from school. **Please also try and avoid leaving your car engines running outside of school.**



GENERAL NOTICES

Appointments During School

Please try to avoid making medical appointments during the school day. If this is not possible, please alert the Year Team via email with a copy of the appointment letter/email/screenshot at least 24 hours in advance.

If your child does need to leave for a pre-arranged medical appointment please ensure that they are aware of the time and date of the appointment and are instructed to be ready in reception to be collected. There have been a number of occasions recently whereby the office staff have had to search for a student in order for them to be picked up.

Illness During the School Day

We have seen an increase in students calling parents prior to seeking medical attention at school. Any student feeling unwell during the school day should report to Student Services where they will be seen by a medically trained member of staff. Please do impress upon your children the importance of the school contacting home if it is required during the school day. It can cause parents unnecessary worry which we would like to avoid.

ABSENCE

If your son/daughter is going to be absent due to illness please telephone the school absence line by 9.00am on each day of absence.

Year 7 01442 229105 (year7@jfk.herts.sch.uk)
Year 8 01442 229124 (year8@jfk.herts.sch.uk)
Year 9 01442 229131 (year9@jfk.herts.sch.uk)
Year 10 01442 229132 (year10@jfk.herts.sch.uk)
Year 11 01442 229136 (year11@jfk.herts.sch.uk)
Sixth Form 01442 229137 (6thform@jfk.herts.sch.uk)

Students should bring a letter explaining their absence on their return to school.



Public Health
England

Guidance from Public Health England

Diarrhoea and vomiting: exclusion period: whilst symptomatic
and 48hours after the last symptoms



[Is my child too ill for school?](#)

NHS advice about when to keep your child off school



EVER THOUGHT OF BECOMING A TEACHER?

School Based Teacher Training with the Dacorum Schools Alliance



We will be offering a School Direct Teacher Training programme in the following subjects for September 2026

Applications accepted from October 7th

Art, Biology, Chemistry, Computing, Drama, Design and Technology, English, Geography, Mathematics, Modern Foreign Languages, Music, Physical Education, Physics, Religious Studies

We also accept applications for Primary teaching

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR TEACHER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES email
David Redwood - dredwood@tring.school

OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE - www.tring.herts.sch.uk/teacher-training



FLU VACCINATIONS



Vaccination UK

Respiratory and flu-like cases are rapidly on the rise. We urge you to ensure your child receives the flu vaccination. You have a choice between the quick and painless nasal spray or the Injection which is porcine & gelatine free. This not only protects your children against being seriously ill but also protects vulnerable members of your family and community.

We have several community catch-up clinics available. Please use the link below to book an appointment.

[Vaccination UK Immunisation](#)

If you previously declined consent for your child when we visited the school, you **can change** your consent. Please call our office on 01462 427008, and we will book a clinic appointment for you.

Thank you for your support.

Hertfordshire Immunisation Team



HOP Into Apprenticeships & T Levels The Hertfordshire Virtual Careers Fair for parents and carers



FREE

Wednesday 21st January 2026
17:30 - 19:00
Online (Zoom)



What is the Virtual Careers Fair?

This free event is for parents, carers, and students to explore apprenticeships and T Levels. Visit different exhibitor rooms on a 10-minute rotation to learn about different programmes and opportunities available.

Who should attend?

This event is for all parents and carers but will be particularly useful for those supporting children in year groups 10, 11, 12 and 13. Students in these age groups are also welcome to attend.

Why attend?

This event offers many benefits, including:

- Free of charge to attend (fully-funded by Hertfordshire Careers Hub).
- Find out more about apprenticeships and T Level programmes with local training providers and colleges.
- Hear from local employers about opportunities and the recruitment process.
- Discover more about the skills and training provision being offered within Hertfordshire.
- Select which breakout room you would like to hear from.
- Ask questions and gather information from the comfort of your own home.

Exhibitors will include:



And many more...

How to attend?

- 1 Register by Monday 19th January, 2026 for your free ticket by clicking [here](#).
- 2 Read the attendee guidance ahead of the event to help you prepare.
- 3 Log on and join the event online on Wednesday 21st January 2026 17:30 - 19:00.

[BOOK NOW](#)

Further information

Find out about the event by visiting: amapps.uk/HOPIntro

The Hertfordshire Virtual Careers Fair is brought to you in partnership by:





SUPPORT OUR SWIMMERS - PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS



Why do we need to raise funds?

- Fund Coaching Qualifications
- Swimming Equipment
- Automatic Officiating Equipment
- Fund training for Officials and Team Managers

Sponsorship opportunities could include:

- Sponsoring our galas
- Appearing in our newsletters & social media
- Large lettering on existing signage around poolside
- Logo on starting block covers / hats / kit

Hemel Hempstead Swimming Club is a family-focused, inclusive club whose swimmers regularly compete at county, regional and national levels. We warmly welcome local businesses to support our club - if you are interested in sponsorship, please get in touch using the email below. Packages to suit all budgets.



For more information email Sponsorship Coordinators
Neil and Amanda Hawkes: vicechair@hhsc.org.uk