

INSPIRE • ACHIEVE • SERVE

John F Kennedy Catholic School

6th February 2026



Catholic Character Education

When schools devise a Mission Statement they are trying to encapsulate the unifying objectives of the school's purpose. Short, punchy straplines help to provide a simple guide so that all members of the community stay 'on message'. Even though I do like some other schools' statements, which are short phrases, including some lovely biblical quotes, our strapline of three command words is, in my opinion, both easy to remember and powerful in its expectations. Of course, those three words need unpacking to provide fuller detail, and by doing that one should understand something of the school's values. Values are very much behind the drive for 'character education' that has become more popular in schools in recent years and led to the establishing of a national association for character education. The values typically focused upon are often related to study skills: resilience, creativity, collaboration, determination or the brilliantly named 'stickability' - things that are covered by the JFK S.P.I.R.I.T. learning habits. These are clearly important values for learners, but they don't fully describe the desired end point of the 'JFK Journey'. As a Catholic school, we need to promote the kind of values espoused by the priest at Mass. For, like him, we in our work are contributing to the development of the next generation of Christian role models. So precisely what values are these? The answer came at Mass last Sunday, in the Gospel reading from Matthew, which presented the Beatitudes. Normally translated, this series of human characteristics begins, "Blessed are the ..." but another translation, and I believe closest to the Aramaic, in which Jesus would have spoken is "Happy are the..."

...the pure of heart, the merciful, the gentle, the peace-makers, those who hunger and thirst for what is right. These are four of the beatitudes most easy for our students to understand.

The sense of being blessed or happy is that these are the ways to find fulfilment in life. Moreover, in the beatitudes Jesus offers a portrait of the human person as God intends us to be. Hopefully the rounded education, including the best possible qualifications that our students can acquire, will provide them with the prospects of a secure future, a comfortable standard of living and a happy life. But I hope their experience of the JFK community will instil in them the importance of the values that Jesus proclaimed - those character traits that will serve them well through life's ups and downs. These are visible each day at JFK - in morning worship, in assemblies and communications, in Youth Ministry opportunities, in daily interactions between members of the community. Each day we encourage our students to inspire, to achieve and to serve - and to always think kindness and choose respect.



SCIENCE

ROYAL SOCIETY SNOWDROP PROJECT

Following on from the trip to Anglesey Abbey, Cambridgeshire last week, Tuesday saw the students extracting DNA from the snowdrop leaves we collected. They spent several hours following the detailed protocol that we practised last term. Fingers crossed we will have sufficient DNA to sequence the species at Rothamsted next week! Well done to all involved - they were outstanding scientists!



Mrs Davison - Science Department



LIBRARY

TALES FROM THE SHADOWS

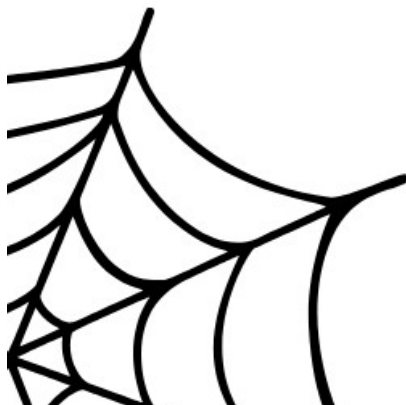


Last term we challenged our students to put their creative writing skills to the test and write their own darkly delightful tale.

All submissions were read by Mrs Jenkins, Mrs Powell and Mrs Cole. The top 3 were also read by the Head of Marketing at Penguin Publishing who provided the Authors with personal feedback.

Well done to all those who took the time to write an entry. All Authors will receive house points and our winner will receive a book token.

Read on for the top short stories. If you dare....



Mrs Powell—Librarian



LIBRARY

Winner

Kamila Baciur

The train doors closed behind me and immediately, I felt the cold gnawing at my bones. My dark hair entwined into the breath of the wind as I gradually dissolved away into gentle tears. My headphones blocked out any background noise while I advanced to the exit with increasing speed, passing a sign which read 'Stanmore'.

I watched the silhouettes of bare, spindly fingers of trees through the cab window while clutching my handbag, my cheeks still damp. Mid November meant everything was damp. My cheeks were damp, the grass was damp, my shoes were damp inside and even the foggy air was damp.

The rotting wooden stairs creaked beneath my feet as I trudged to the third floor of the crumbling apartment building. The sound had become a dreary element of my life. Eventually, out of breath, I reached my gloomy living quarters. Most of my things were still stowed away neatly in cardboard boxes since I moved here 4 months ago. A lowly plant, virtually wilting, stood on the windowsill and left my view as I pulled the drooping curtains shut. I threw myself onto my bed in exhaustion, not bothering to change into pyjamas or even to snuggle under the duvet.

Shivering, I tossed around in my bed. As I raised my hand to scratch my shoulder I felt an unfamiliar, bony, scaly essence.

I lived alone...

A sense of dread plummeted deep into my stomach. I kept my eyes tightly shut and my heart was pounding while hesitating; telling me not to face the thing.

Before I had managed to open my eyes, a pair of slim hands with disgustingly long nails set itself upon my neck. I gasped for air, yelling at the top of my lungs with distress, but my shrieking gradually faded to a whisper.

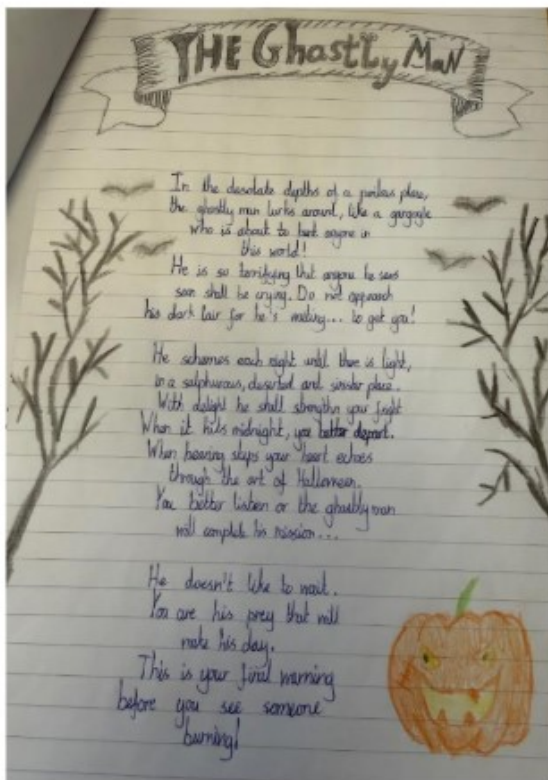
'This one feels the spookiest and sent chills down my spine! You can tell it is part of a much bigger story. It creates tension and I wanted to read more'



LIBRARY

Runners up

Samuel Sobotkiewicz



I like how this piece addresses the reader directly. You felt very drawn in. The ending is particularly threatening

A very classic piece. T'was the night before Christmas with a spooky twist. Great Rhyming and atmosphere.

Sara Stevlik

In the moon's soft glow
on Halloween night,
Whispers of magic
take a playful flight.
Pumpkins grin
with a mischievous gleam,
Casting shadows
that dance like a dream.

Ghosts tiptoe gently
on slippers of air,
While skeletons jig
without a care.
Witches on broomsticks
swoop and glide,
As giggling goblins
scurry to hide.

The wind hums a tune
through the rustling trees,
Carrying laughter
on the autumn breeze.
Candy corn fields
stretch under the stars,
Beckoning children
from near and far.

So gather 'round,
in costumes arrayed,
For a night of fun
in masquerade.
With joy and cheer
in the spooky delight,
Happy Halloween to all,
and to all, a good fright!



PE

Hello, my name is Amelia and I would like to tell you about my experience as being sports captain in Year 7 as part of the super curriculum.



From my experience, being sports captain is about teaching, listening and inspiring others to be their best selves. I loved being sports captain because I got to encourage people to do activities, clubs and competitions not just for others but for themselves, to teach people how to be proud of what they have achieved. I'm also passionate about team sports because I got to work with others to create a community and to share a passion with people. I was captain of the rounders team in year 7 and it taught me a lot about how much encouraging someone and cheering them on can really change their performance and their love for the sport all together. Now don't get me wrong, team sports can be considered one of the toughest type of sport because essentially people never want to "let down the team" but even the littlest of things like a high five or saying well done can build on someone's confidence so much and will motivate them to try again and to keep going. That's what I love about team sport the most, seeing the sportsmanship and people working together and helping one another to all achieve a goal.

I personally do a lot of sports, some being netball, football, athletics and javelin and they all require dedication and hard work but thing that keeps me going the most is the people around me, that's because they show up to watch me and it makes me want to make them proud. I think it's very important to encourage people and I am a great believer of the quote *"You get what you work for" and I think that if we can all achieve great things if we work together and we work hard"*.

Thank you so much for taking your time to read this.

Amelia Mihalcea

Well done to everyone who has completed the PE super curriculum this half term. Really proud of all your efforts

Lily Kelly, Nathan Swain, Edward Murren, Edward Castle, Daisy Jessop, Ellie Flynn, Una Collins, Caleb Adu-Ansere, Amirah Semambo, Geraldine Obasanmi, Mabel Abegunde, Yvonne Stefanova, Olivia Swinbank, Lael Jones, Lorin White and Amelia Mihalcea

Sports House Results



JOHN F KENNEDY
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Sport	J	F	K	H	N	D
Football	2nd	1st	6th	5th	3rd	4th
Netball	4th	1st	3rd	2nd	5th	6th
Dance	2nd	6th	4th	5th	3rd	1st
Santa Runs	5th	1st	2nd	4th	6th	3rd
Badminton	4th	3rd	1st	6th	2nd	5th
Boys BB	3rd	4th	5th	1st	6th	2nd
Girls BB	Next week					
Volleyball	Next week					
OVERALL	2nd	1st	3rd	5th	6th	3rd

Miss Rooney - PE Department



PE

House Sports Results

Badminton: FINAL RESULTS

J 126pts 4th	H 112pts 6th
F 127pts 3rd	N 128pts 2nd
K 129pts 1st	D 122pts 5th



Gosh it was close!! Want to play more badminton?

Come along to rec badminton in the dance studio at Tuesday lunchtime with Ms Rooney, but be quick as numbers are limited.

Basketball: FINAL RESULTS

J 55pts 3rd	H 60pts 1st
F 52pts 4th	N 50pts 6th
K 51pts 5th	D 58pts 2nd

Want to play more Basketball? Come along at lunchtime Wednesday - Y7; Thursday - Y8

More House events next week with the girls on Basketball and the boys on Volleyball. Watch this space!

Follow us on IG: jfkpedept



Abduction
Movement away from
the midline of the body

This Week's Fixture Results

Y7 Netball 12 v KLS 1

Y8 Netball 8 v KLS 11

U13 Girls Football 4 v Longdean 1

U14 Girls Basketball 14 v Longdean 24

Y10 Netball 11 v KLS 2

Y11 Football 1 v Rickmansworth 0

Next Weeks Fixtures

9th February, Y7 Football v HHS

11th February, Y7 Netball v Ashlyns A

11th February, Y8 Football v Ashlyns A

12th February, U13 Girls Football v Ashlyns A

Miss Rooney - PE Department



PE





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	MI*		JJY
Cover	JJY	HP	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



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

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 Compostella, 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:

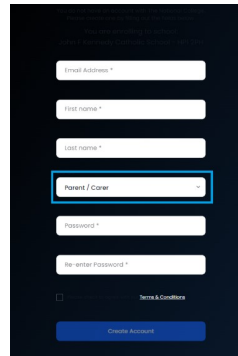
staysafe@jfk.herts.sch.uk

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 roadworthy, 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

Tuesday 10th February, Year 9 Consultation Evening, Online from 4.00pm

Friday 13th February, Taste of Italy Trip Departs

Sunday 15th February, Ski 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 from 4.00pm

Monday 23rd March, Spring Concert, 7.00pm, Hall

Wednesday 25th March, Year 8 Consultation Evening, Online from 4.00pm



ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS 2025-2026

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 9.10 am constitutes unauthorised absence and can legally be the basis of an offence by the parent/carer
- Those students who arrive very late (after 9.10 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



BECOME A FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

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



BECOME A FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

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 confirmation 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



University of
Hertfordshire **UH**

TEF Gold Teaching
Excellence
Framework

DACORUM
SCHOOLS ALLIANCE

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



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



Join the exciting journey!

HEMEL STORM YEAR 7 DISTRICT BASKETBALL SQUAD



TRIALS

30th January , 6th & 13th February

6.00pm - 7.30pm

Longdean Sports Centre

Scan the QR code to sign up



Sessions will be run by
Hemel Storm pro players.

£15 for all 3 trial sessions

Players will then be selected
for further squad sessions