

INSPIRE • ACHIEVE • SERVE

John F Kennedy Catholic School

13th February 2026



CALLED TO SERVE: CAREERS IN THE CHURCH

I wrote last week about the school's mission statement and about how it leads to an understanding of the school's values. I remember clearly the process, some years ago now, of reviewing and refreshing the JFK mission statement and arriving at the three words that would summarise what we want as the goal for all in our community. As a Catholic school the third word was most important: serve. For, as Pope Francis stated:

"Catholic schools should be encouraged in their mission to help pupils grow into mature adults who can view the world with the love of Jesus and who can understand life as a call to serve."

I have used this quote at open evenings and in assemblies and it is a recurring theme in the wider 'extra-curricular' life of the school - for example, in stepping up to be IAS leaders, House Captains, sports leaders, music prefects or language leaders, supporting charity fundraising, supporting younger peers with reading or study skills, participation in sports teams, school shows and concerts etc. All these activities help build a sense of community in JFK, in the local area and beyond.

Service was very much the focus of two days this week, when Year 9 students were involved in a careers event: 'Called to serve'. This was organised and overseen by our careers lead, Mrs Jenkins. The government has, quite rightly, put a greater emphasis on careers education in schools and Mrs Jenkins works hard to develop an excellent provision for our students, from Year 7 to year 13, through activities including online support, PSHE content, visiting speakers and careers interviews. In proposing the 'Called to serve' event, Mrs Jenkins wrote:

In response to the increasing emphasis on meaningful work experience opportunities as outlined in the Gatsby Benchmarks, we propose to host a Work Experience Day focused on careers related to our faith - to explore how students' gifts and talents can be used in service to the Church and wider community.

The day began with Mass in St Mark's and then, following some ice-breaker games, the students participated in a series of workshops. Guest presenters for the day were Fr Rob Smialek, from Stevenage, Sr Faustina from the Sisters of Nazareth, based in Hammersmith, Liam Lynch - Director of Catholic life and Mission at ASCAT, Fr David - Parish Priest of Hemel West Parish, Mrs Metcalfe - Director of Music at JFK, Mr Sitkowsk - Achievement Leader for Year 9 and teacher of RE, and Callum - Leader of Youth Ministry at JFK. They presented workshops on the subjects of Religious Life, Chaplaincy, Musical Worship, Iconography and Teaching in a Catholic school. In the final session of the day, Mrs Jenkins brought the event to a close with a beautiful reflection on service in the general workplace and I was delighted to be able to share a testimony with my own thoughts. The 'JFK Journey' is designed to be an excellent preparation for our young people to go out into the adult world as confident Christian role models - to inspire others, to achieve their best and most importantly to be of service to others.

I overheard one of our visitors remark that they'd never heard of another Catholic school organising a day of this nature. I am grateful for everyone's contribution to this innovative project.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your family an enjoyable half term week.



YEAR 9 WORK EXPERIENCE DAY



“

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord.”

— COLOSSIANS 3:23



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Heard a Wispa



I am delighted to announce the winners of 'Heard a Wispa..' for the Year 10s this half-term. Teachers nominated the following for a range of reasons; from 'consistently put in loads of effort, showing real determination and a great attitude every day' through to 'have shown great response to feedback in English, always listen well and strive to improve on your targets'. The winners were:

Enosh Fernandes
Franciszek Soja
Gabriela Bis
Gabriela Myja
Harry Cripps
James Sweeney
Jasmine Haynes
Jessica Florkova
Kamilla Baciur
Kia Thomas
Llyan Estrelles
Maizie Bevan
Mikolaj Kolesnik
Mischa Unsworth
Mollie-Mai Halden
Ross Grant-Holm
Theo Sproat

Ciara O'Neill
Alegra Bektishi
Angel John
Angelina Ambridge
Archie Price
Ava Higgs
Billy Roddis
Blake Linsley
Bradley Corbett
Caitlan Donohoe
Chloe Grant-Holm
Conor Gavin
Darcy Collins
Emmanuella Odekunle
Tomi Bankole
Damian Trubilowicz

The following four students all received two nominations each! Therefore, they received a Wispa Gold! A big well done to:

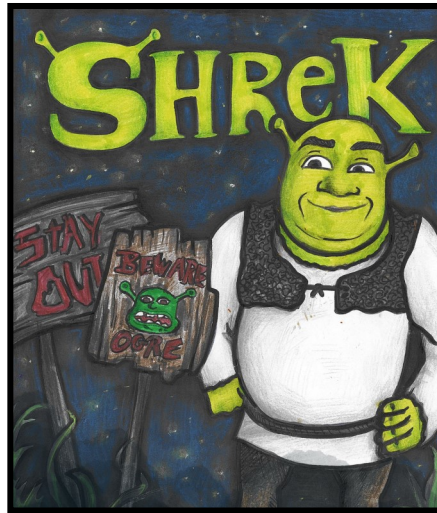


It was an absolute pleasure to hand out these awards to my Year group - keep going Year 10! Have a fantastic half-term!

Mrs Galatola - Year 10 Achievement Leader



JFK PRODUCTION OF SHREK JR THE MUSICAL



Last week, over 60 extraordinary students brought the swamp to life in the most spectacular way with their production of Shrek Jr. The Musical and what a triumph it was!

Across two matinee performances to the entire Year 7 cohort and three visiting primary school pupils, followed by two packed evening performances to a pack out audience in the Hall, our cast and crew delivered a show of outstanding quality, energy and heart. The praise has been endless: funny, engaging, beautifully acted and a true showcase of the immense talent within our school community.

Our performers, ranging from Year 7 through to Year 13, demonstrated phenomenal comedic timing, unwavering commitment and impressive focus throughout every performance. Their confidence on stage, ability to work as a tight-knit ensemble and calm professionalism when responding to any challenges were nothing short of inspiring.

Behind the scenes, our dedicated technical crew worked with precision and maturity far beyond their years. Managing lighting cues, sound cues, projection, stage management, scenery transitions, props, costumes, microphone changes and lightning-fast quick changes, they ensured every moment ran seamlessly. Their calm efficiency allowed the performers to shine.

The result was truly phenomenal - a production bursting with humour, warmth and teamwork. Most importantly, it was a celebration of collaboration, resilience and creativity. I sincerely hope every student involved remembers this experience for years to come. They should feel immensely proud of what they achieved together.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the incredible staff who supported the production in so many ways. From the endless admin and finance tasks, designing, building and sourcing props and scenery, to creating and providing costumes: your creativity and generosity brought the world of Shrek Jr. to life. Thank you to those who supported the performances each evening by running Front of House, supervising backstage and ensuring our students were safe, calm and organised throughout. A special thank you as well to the staff who led our Dragons teams and drove the marketing of the show - your hard work ensured we played to packed audiences.

This production was a true whole-school effort and we are so grateful to every single member of staff who helped make it such a phenomenal success.

It was bold. It was brilliant. It was beautifully bonkers. It was very, very Shrek.

Miss Horton - Drama Department



REAL-WORLD SKILLS SHINE IN SCHOOL MUSICAL SUCCESS



From marketing campaigns to event management, enterprise and fundraising for local charities Sixth Form students demonstrated outstanding business expertise in action.

Congratulations to our BTEC Business students for the positive feedback received following this year's Shrek Jnr school musical. Their professionalism and creativity in supporting the production were outstanding, and we are incredibly proud of everything they achieved.

In preparation for their developing a Marketing Campaign exam in May, Year 12 students planned and delivered a full promotional campaign. They designed and enhanced eye-catching posters, ran competitions, created social media content, and contributed newsletter articles to build excitement across the school community.

As part of their Managing an Event coursework, Year 13 students took responsibility for organising the event itself. They coordinated the Year 12 marketing team, negotiated with catering and photography suppliers from the Dragon's Apprentice teams, responded to requests from the client our Drama department, and produced tickets and programmes. With support from staff and two Year 13 volunteers, they also ensured that front of house arrangements ran smoothly each evening.

The dedication, teamwork, and real-world business skills demonstrated by both the Year 12 and Year 13 students provided a valuable learning experience whilst contributing to the delivery of a successful show.

If you attended one of the performances and have not yet shared your feedback, please use the QR code to let us know your thoughts.



Mrs O'Neill - Business Studies



REAL-WORLD SKILLS SHINE IN SCHOOL MUSICAL SUCCESS



Dragon's Apprentice

Also featured across both evenings were the Year 12 Dragon's Apprentice teams: Genesis, Youth in Motion, and The Goonies. The teams provided refreshments, photography, video recording, a photo booth, and nightly raffles in support of their chosen local charities; Sunnyside Rural Trust, Gaddesden Place RDA and The Hospice of St Francis respectively. Thanks to the generosity of the audience, they successfully raised funds while enthusiastically contributing to the warm, colourful atmosphere of the event. Please see below, special guest Steven Wheatley ASCAT CEO, who very much enjoyed the performance.



Mrs O'Neill - Business Studies



MATHS

UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge

Can you solve the following?

17. Two identical 1×2 rectangles overlap as in the figure on the right.

What is the area of the common (shaded) part?

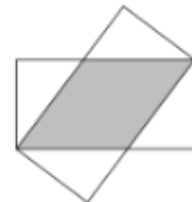
A $\frac{5}{4}$

B $\frac{4}{5}$

C 1

D $\frac{6}{5}$

E $\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$



On Wednesday 28th January students from set 1 in Years 9, 10 and 11 joined schools across the country to take part in the UKMT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge. The maths challenge is a 60 minute, multiple-choice competition that encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems. The top 50% of participants are awarded bronze, silver and gold certificates in the ratio 3:2:1. The very highest achieving students are entered into another round of the competition.

The challenge is difficult and completing it is very worthy of praise. Well done to all those who participated. We are very pleased that 54 students managed to achieve a certificate, of which there were 31 bronze, 18 silver and 5 gold.

Special congratulations goes to:

Year 11

Jakub Matusz and Alessandro McKee - Gold certificate and qualification into the Pink Kangaroo Round.

Oskar Pozdziak – Gold certificate

Dominik Zembruski, Oliver Siedlecki, Anaya Joseph, Gabriela Sowa, Michal Tykocki, Vihaan Gandhi, Erin Bowers, Marek Kosala and Alan Glover – Silver certificate

Year 10

Stanley Pulis - Gold certificate and qualification into the Pink Kangaroo Round.

Harry Cripps, William Roddis, Franciszek Soja, Eve Woods, Michal Zielinski and Harriet Kenny – Silver certificate.

Year 9

Nasri Davidson-Ali - Gold certificate and qualification into the Pink Kangaroo Round.

Maxwell Stevenson-Hewitt, Joseph Pickard and Luke Alves – Silver certificate.

The answer to the problem above is A.

Mr Wesley - Maths Department



LIBRARY



We've had a busy and happy half term at the Library and it's been great to have more interactions with the students about what they like to read. The numbers of students caught reading has increased week on week and this week's winner is Anna Slowik! Peaceful Reads has grown too with a calm atmosphere pervading. Craft club also took place this week with Valentine creations taking over.

I congratulated our review writers this week who have been submitting their thoughts about what they've been reading. A special mention to Amelia Sowa and Benjamin Emery who each scored over 100 points! Next half term's challenge, as it will leading up to Easter, will of course feature choc eggs!

The National Year of Reading continues at a pace with lots of events to encourage people across the country to Go All In. I'm taking advantage of that by chatting to students and finding out what their passions are and how these can be reflected in the Library's collection. It's always fascinating to find out what makes people tick and to find out what books could help grow those passions.

I hope you all have a relaxing half term, with some reading for pleasure thrown in!

Part of the
National Year of Reading 2026

**GO
ALL
IN.**

Mrs Powell - Librarian



PE

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	1st	4th	3rd	2nd	5th	6th
Volleyball	1st	3rd	6th	5th	4th	2nd
OVERALL	1st	2nd	4th	6th	5th	3rd

This Week's Fixture Results

11th February, Year 7 Netball 11 v Ashlyns 8

11th February, Year 8 Football 2 v Ashlyns 7

Next Fixtures

24th February, Senior Netball, Cup Final

24th February, U13 Girls Football v HH A

25th February, U15 Girls Football v HH A

25th February, Year 7 Basketball v Longdean A



Follow us on Instagram @ jfkpedept

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



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:

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:

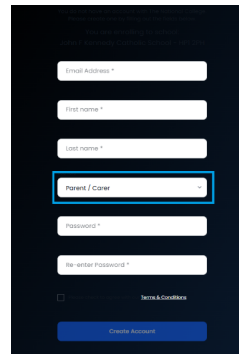
staysafe@jfk.herts.sch.uk

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.

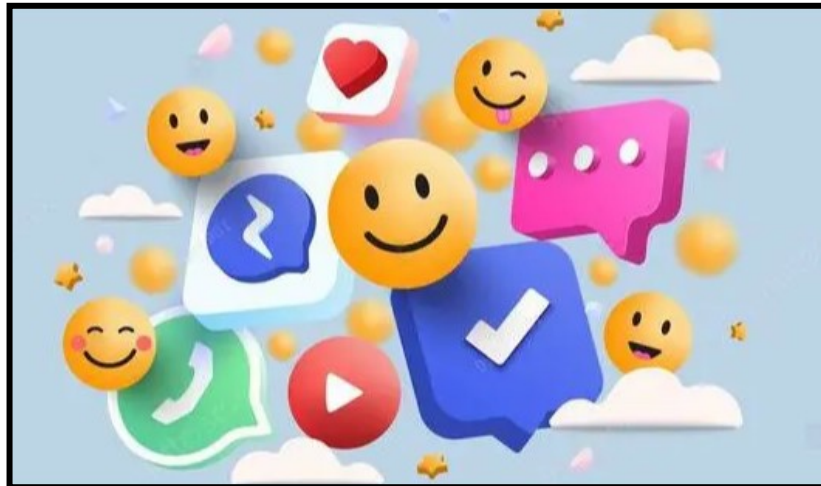
We ask that parents and carers to reinforce these messages at home and check that bikes are roadworthy, with working brakes, lights, and reflectors, especially during darker mornings and afternoons.

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.



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 13th February, Taste of Italy Trip Departs
Sunday 15th February, Ski Trip Departs
Monday 16th - Friday 20th February , Half Term
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

WE ARE HIRING!

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



FUTURE DATES

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



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