

Welcome



JOHN F KENNEDY
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Year 8 Information Evening September 2025

Year 8 Team



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Achievement Leader: Mrs R Bugg

ALA: Mrs Trinder

SLT Link: Mrs D Bailey

Form Tutors

8J = Ms Casserly

8F = Mrs O'Leary/Mrs Scibilia

8K = Ms Turner

8H = Mr S Asghar

8N = Mr P Wesley

8D = Mrs Rooney

Form Time Structure



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Day	Checks	Activities
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Equipment Check - Uniform Check 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daily Act of Worship - Monday Memo' - Silent Sparx Reading - 10min
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uniform Check 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School Assembly (Year 7 and 8)
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uniform Check - Conduct cards - Chromebooks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daily Act of Worship - Silent Sparx Reading - 10miin - Theme of the week activity/discussion
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uniform Check 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daily Act of Worship - Silent Sparx Reading - 10min - The Big question - week 1
Friday Year assembly (week 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Line-up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daily Act of Worship - The Big Question discussion - week 2

Wear Our Badge with Pride!!!



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Uniform reminders:



Line-ups!

- No socks to be worn OVER tights
- No shirts untucked/top buttons done up
- No rolled up skirts (knee length)
- One lower lobe **STUD** earring in each ear
- No white socks worn with trousers
- **NO nose studs are allowed**
- Blazers worn at all times - jumpers are in addition to blazer, **NOT** instead of!
- Make-up should be natural in appearance - eyelashes!

Creating a Culture



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This year we will be working hard to strengthen and develop our culture of kindness and respect here at JFK.

There will be a different focus each half term, understanding and putting into practice being kind and respectful in all our interaction in school.

This half term we are looking at the importance of good manners.

Manners cost nothing!!!!



Think Kindness and Choose Respect



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Every member of the community should be spoken to and treated with respect at all times. We strive for a community where the following is evident:

- No use of derogatory or anti-social language
- Students will be ‘upstanders’ if you see others being unkind
- All detrimental behaviour is reported to staff
- Students do not walk away from staff or refuse to follow instructions

We can only deal with what we are aware of so please let us know if you have a concern.

A Few Reminders



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Mobile phones should be put in a pocket or bag **at the gate in the morning.**



If your child needs to contact you during the day they **must** see a member of staff who will make contact is necessary.

Most online issues we deal with happen outside of school. The biggest issue we have in school is when students contact home and cause concern to their parents/carers unnecessarily. The staff are here to help!

A Few Reminders



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- Chromebooks must be charged daily.
- If there is an issue with the chromebook, students need to report this to network services.
- Any questions about chromebooks, including what to do if you need to purchase a new one - please contact Mrs Janes in student services.
pjanes@jfk.herts.sch.uk

Home School Partnership/Agreement



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Key points

- Support the school's high expectations of behaviour - good manners, polite language, kindness and helpfulness - by instilling these at home
- Ensure that your child is in the correct uniform and is fully equipped for learning
- Aim to attend all consultation and information events to support the education of your child
- Attend any meetings requested by the school to discuss your child's learning development
- Ensure all communication with the school is respectful and in line with the school communication policy respecting the dignity of all staff
- Seek leave of absence only in very exceptional circumstances (all holidays should be booked out of term time)
- Ensure that your child attends detentions that may be given in line with the school's behaviour policy, including after school detentions (**some of which may finish at 4:30pm**)
- Support the school in implementing the behaviour policy
- All requests for meetings with staff should be arranged in advance via email or telephone. Parents and carers will not be able to meet with staff without a prior appointment.





Punctuality



Students should be in school no earlier than 8:30am and no later than 8:45am. Registration starts at 8:50am.

Late Gate now in action



5 reasons why school attendance matters

1. Students have the right to an education - *specialist teaching face to face*
2. **Parents/Carers have a legal responsibility to ensure their child attends school.** Schools and Local Authorities have a duty to ensure that students take up this right.
3. There is a direct link between high student absence and low attainment in school.
4. Getting students to attend school regularly and be on time is an essential skill for life.
5. Poor attendance can lead to students being isolated from their friends, at risk of bullying, poor and unsettled behaviour, anti-social behaviour etc.

Attendance Matters



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Days off school means lessons and learning missed Student Attendance (%)	Number of days off school a year	Number of actual lessons missed
95%	10 days absence	50 lessons
90%	19 days absence	95 lessons
85%	29 days absence	145 lessons
80%	38 days absence	190 lessons
75%	47 days absence	235 lessons

Attendance Matters



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How can we work together on attendance?

- Please let the school know as soon as possible if your child is ill and has to stay at home.
- If they are under the weather but can give school a go, please let us know and we can let you know if we feel they need to come home during the day.
- If they would be able to be in school if they took medication. Please let Mrs Doyle (in students services) know and hand the medication in during the day in case they need it.
- Mrs Doyle, Mrs Bailey the the Achievement Teams oversee attendance. Please contact any of them for support and guidance.
- We will have back to school meetings with students whose attendance has dropped. This will be with Mrs Doyle and purely a supportive measure.
- You may be asked to come in and discuss attendance if it falls below a certain point. Our aim with this it to support you with helping your son/daughter attend.
- We may call when a students has been off for a few days to see if we can support their return to ensure this happens as soon as possible
- Please make routine doctor/dental appointments after 2:30pm where possible. We understand this is not possible when these are not routine appointments.

What is safeguarding?



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Safeguarding in Our School

- Keeping every student safe, happy, and healthy at school, out of school and online.
- Protecting from harm, abuse, or neglect
- Promoting well-being in school and beyond
- Ensuring a safe environment to learn and grow



We all deserve to be happy,
healthy and safe. ❤️

Why is Safeguarding Important?

- Everyone has the right to feel safe in school
- Helps students achieve their full potential
- Supports physical, emotional, and mental well-being
- Builds trust between students, staff, and families

Worried?

Problem?

We can help!

The Safeguarding Team

SPEAK

SHARE

SOLVE



Mrs Jevon



Miss Freed



Mrs Whittaker



Mr Palumbo



Mrs McKenzie



Mrs Holton



Mrs Bailey

**Form
Tutor**

**Member of
Achievement
Team**

**Any
Trusted
Adult**

**Email
[staysafe@jfk.
herts.sch.uk](mailto:staysafe@jfk.herts.sch.uk)**

Help us to make sure everyone is safe and able to flourish

How are students made aware of safeguarding support?



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- Posters and information in every classroom/office
- Information and reminders given in assembly
- Information and reminders given in form time
- PSHE sessions are provided where key topics are delivered sensitively.



Safeguarding and Student Support



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- Students can speak to any member of staff
- Encourage all students to share any concerns they have about themselves or others
- In school support -
 - Form Tutor
 - Achievement Leader and Achievement Leader Assistant
 - PSHE Curriculum
 - Life Coach, Learning Mentor, Counsellor
 - Learning Support Department (Ms Hobbs SENDCO)
 - SEMH Teacher - Mrs Bugg
 - NHS - Mental Health Support Team

What support can parents/carers access?



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<https://www.jfk.herts.sch.uk/>

A screenshot of the JFK Catholic School website. The browser address bar shows 'jfk.herts.sch.uk/page/?title=Safeguarding&pid=82'. The navigation menu includes 'OUR SCHOOL', 'CATHOLIC LIFE', 'KEY INFORMATION', 'ACADEMIC', 'PARENTS & STUDENTS', 'NEWS & EVENTS', 'SIXTH FORM', and 'JOIN US'. The 'KEY INFORMATION' menu is open, listing: 'SAFEGUARDING', 'PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS', 'EXAM RESULTS', 'GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR)', 'SCHOOL POLICIES', 'STATUTORY DOCUMENTS', 'SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS (SEND)', 'PUPIL PREMIUM', and 'THE SCHOOL DAY'. A search icon is visible. Below the navigation, there is a large image of a young boy speaking into a microphone. A red box on the right side of the page contains the heading 'WHAT'S ON THIS PAGE?' and three items: 'SAFEGUARDING', 'PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS', and 'EXAM RESULTS', each with a right-pointing arrow. At the bottom left, there is a breadcrumb trail 'Home → Key Information' and the word 'SAFEGUARDING' in large, bold, black letters.

What support can parents/carers access?



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<https://www.jfk.herts.sch.uk/>

A screenshot of the JFK Catholic School website. The browser address bar shows the URL: [jfk.herts.sch.uk/page/?title=Support+for+students+and+families&pid=100](https://www.jfk.herts.sch.uk/page/?title=Support+for+students+and+families&pid=100). The website header includes navigation links: OUR SCHOOL, CATHOLIC LIFE, KEY INFORMATION, ACADEMIC, PARENTS & STUDENTS (highlighted), NEWS & EVENTS, SIXTH FORM, and JOIN US. A dropdown menu is open under 'PARENTS & STUDENTS', listing: TERM DATES, CALENDAR, PASTORAL STRUCTURE, SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES (highlighted in red), SUPPORT YOUR CHILD, BEYOND THE CLASSROOM, UNIFORM, THE KITCHEN, SCHOOL ASSOCIATION, SCHOOL BUSES, CAREERS ADVICE & GUIDANCE, and WISE PAY. The main content area shows a blurred image of students. At the bottom, there is a breadcrumb trail: Home → Parents & Students → Support for students and families. The page title is 'SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES'.

This section includes information on internal support available and useful websites to support on a range of topics



John F Kennedy Catholic School has joined The National College

- This is a multi-award-winning online training provider
- Free access for parents and carers
- Focus on online safety and keeping children safe

What's available for you?

- Hundreds of parent-friendly courses, guides and videos
- Topics include:
- TikTok, Instagram & other apps
- Recognising signs of online harm
- Practical steps to help your child

The
National
College®

Key topics:

- Relationships
- Discrimination
- Living in the wider world
- Mental Health
- Relationships and sex
- Physical health

Year 8 PSHE

Where can I get help at school?

Your form tutor

Mrs Bugg

Mrs Trinder

Mrs Jevon (Pastoral Support Coordinator)

staysafe@jfk.herts.sch.uk

Any trusted adult

Whole School
Black History Month

Autumn 1 Relationships

- Positive Relationships
- Dealing with conflict online and offline



Spring 1

- Living in the wider world
- Labour Market Information
 - credit and debit cards



Ten: Ten Relationships and Sex Programme Parent Portal Details

Login: <https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/>
Username: opp-jfk-01 Password: rse-parent-purple

Spring 2

Mental Health

- supporting my friends
- how do my emotions affect my behaviour?



Summer 1

- Relationships and Sex
- pregnancy
 - different types of relationships



Summer 2

- Physical Health
- vaping
 - addictions



Autumn 2

Whole School Anti-Bullying Week

- Discrimination
- Protected characteristics

Useful websites

<https://barclayslifeskills.com/>
<https://natwest.mymoneysense.com/home/>
<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>
<https://www.hertsmindnetwork.org/>
Vaping - <https://www.dsmfoundation.org.uk/>
Online safety - www.thinkuknow.org.uk

PSHE Contact details
Mrs Holton
kholton@jfk.herts.sch.uk
Instagram @jfk.pshe

Key Dates



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24 September 2025 - Flu immunisations (1) Y7 - 11

7 October 2025 - Open evening, early close

8 October 2025 - Inset, school closed to students

9 October 2025 - Flu immunisations (2) Y7 - 11

28 November 2025 - Occasional day, school closed.

5 January 2026 - Inset, school closed to students.

23 January 2026 - JFK day

3 March 2026 - Work shadow day

9 March 2026 - HPV immunisations.

25 March 2026 - **Y8 Consultation evening.**

26 June 2026 - Inset, school closed to students.