

# Welcome



JOHN F KENNEDY  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Year 10 Information Evening September 2025

“

A new school year means new beginnings, new adventures, new friendships, and new challenges. The slate is clean and anything can happen.”

**DENISE WITMER**

**Parents**

# Who's Who



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Achievement Leader	Mrs Galatola <a href="mailto:agalatola@jfk.herts.sch.uk">agalatola@jfk.herts.sch.uk</a>
Achievement Leader Assistant	Miss McHugh <a href="mailto:year10@jfk.herts.sch.uk">year10@jfk.herts.sch.uk</a>
SLT Link	Mr Palumbo <a href="mailto:ipalumbo@jfk.herts.sch.uk">ipalumbo@jfk.herts.sch.uk</a>

Form	Tutor
J	Mr Bonner
F	Mrs Metcalfe
K	Mrs Davison
H	Mrs Davies/Mr Fiorletta
N	Miss Milton
D	Mr Salem

# Form Time Structure



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Day	Checks	Activities
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Equipment Check</li><li>- Uniform Check</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>W1 Year Assembly</b></li><li>- <b>Monday Memo</b></li></ul>
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Equipment Check</li><li>- Uniform Check</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Daily Act of Worship</b></li><li>- <b>Silent Reading</b></li></ul>
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Equipment Check</li><li>- Uniform Check</li><li>- Conduct card check</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Assembly (Year 9 and 10)</b></li></ul>
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Equipment Check</li><li>- Uniform Check</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Daily Act of Worship</b></li><li>- <b>The Big Question</b></li></ul>
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Equipment Check</li><li>- Uniform Check</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Daily Act of Worship</b></li><li>- <b>Reflection on the week - WWW/EBI</b></li></ul>

# Uniform - wear our badge with pride



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Blazers



No trainers

Jewellery

Shirts  
tucked in!

# 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.**

# Creating a culture - New Language



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## ***Valued Behaviour (positive)***

Behaviour held in high regard by an individual, the community or the environment.

- Creates helpful feelings in self or others.
- Behaviour characterised by a concern for the rights, feelings and welfare of others
- Behaviour which benefits other people or society

## ***Detrimental Behaviour (negative)***

Behaviour that hurts or hinders an individual, the community or the environment.

- Creates unhelpful feelings in self and others.
- Behaviour that is likely to cause injury, harassment, alarm or distress.
- Behaviour that violates the rights of others.



## 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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<b>Days off school means lessons and learning missed Student Attendance (%)</b>	<b>Number of days off school a year</b>	<b>Number of actual lessons missed</b>
<b>95%</b>	10 days absence	50 lessons
<b>90%</b>	19 days absence	95 lessons
<b>85%</b>	29 days absence	145 lessons
<b>80%</b>	38 days absence	190 lessons
<b>75%</b>	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 no possible when these are not routine appointments.

# Attendance Matters



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## 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

# 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!**

# 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.



# 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

# Reporting and Progress



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- Grade reports will be issued three times during Year 10
  - **WB 10th November:** behaviour, classwork, homework and target grade (teacher generated)
  - **WB 2nd February:** behaviour, classwork, homework, target grade, predicted grade for end of KS4
  - **WB 1st June:** behaviour, classwork, homework, target grade, mock grade, tutor comment and predicted grade.

# 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

**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**

# Work experience 8th-12th June



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- They will be out of school Monday- Friday however placements can be spread across any days of that week
- We recommend a minimum of 25 hours
- Students find their own placement with support from parents.
- At this point it is about experience of a workplace and building confidence in a different environment building on the foundations from work shadow day last year.
- Once you have secured a placement the school will manage all of the risk assessment and insurance information through your child's unifrog account.
- There will be a letter coming out this week to follow up with all information required.

Contact [cjenkins@jfk.herts.sch.uk](mailto:cjenkins@jfk.herts.sch.uk) - for more information

# GCSES grades - What do they mean?



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No such thing as a  
'pass' or a 'fail' other  
than a U.

Every grade is a GCSE!

Current	Old
9	
8	A*
7	A
6	B
5	C
4	D
3	E
2	F
1	G
U	U

# How can *you* help?



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Space to study



Time goes quickly



Diet, sleep and exercise.



Mobile phone usage

# How can students help themselves?



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## Revision websites:

- Quizlet
- Seneca
- BBC Bitesize
- GCSE Pod
- Tutor2U

1 Revise little and often



and break your revision up into small, more manageable chunks.

### WEEKLY REVISION PLANNER

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	TIME	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
8:30AM - 4PM	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	9AM - 10AM	BREAKFAST/ SHOWER	BREAKFAST/ SHOWER
4PM - 5PM	HOMEWORK	TV/ GAMING/ SOCIAL MEDIA	HOMEWORK	TV/ GAMING/ SOCIAL MEDIA	HOMEWORK	10AM - 11AM	REVISION - ENGLISH	REVISION - SCIENCE
5PM - 6PM	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	11AM - 1PM	SEEING FRIENDS/ LUNCH	SPORT/ LUNCH
6PM - 7PM	REVISION - GEOGRAPHY	HOMEWORK	REVISION - HISTORY	REVISION - FRENCH	REVISION - SCIENCE	1PM - 3PM	REVISION - MATHS	REVISION - FLASH CARDS
7PM - 8PM	REVISION - MATHS	REVISION - ENGLISH	FREE TIME	HOMEWORK	FREE TIME	3PM - 5PM	OUT WITH FAMILY	SPORT/ TV/ GAMING
8PM - 9PM	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	6PM - 8PM	DINNER/ FREE TIME	DINNER/ FREE TIME

# Mobile phones



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- **Turn off notifications:** Reduce distractions by turning off unnecessary notifications for apps.
- **Use the hairband trick:** Place a hairband around your phone to make accessing apps more difficult and encourage mindfulness about why you're picking up the phone, suggests Becoming Minimalist.
- **Try grayscale:** Change your phone screen to black and white to make it less visually appealing, which can reduce time spent scrolling, according to YouTube.
- **Create screen-free times and zones:** Establish specific times (e.g., morning, before bed) or places (e.g., dining table) where phones are not used.
- **Set personal app limits:** Use the Digital Wellbeing or Screen Time features to set personal limits for time-wasting apps, gradually lowering the limit over time to build discipline.



# Homework



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- Homework will continue to be all set on Class Charts
- Please use this to monitor the homework you have been set and when it is due for
- Google Classroom will still be used for certain documents
- Homework is being set for a reason.... Make sure you do it, and on time! No excuses now - you are in Year 10



# Key Dates



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09/12/25: Parent consultation evening (in person)

13/04/26: Exams week 1

20/04/26: Exams week 2

08/06/26: Work experience (1 week)

# 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&amp;pid=82'. The navigation menu includes 'OUR SCHOOL', 'CATHOLIC LIFE', 'KEY INFORMATION', 'ACADEMIC', 'PARENTS &amp; STUDENTS', 'NEWS &amp; 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 bar is visible. A 'WHAT'S ON THIS PAGE?' sidebar on the right lists: 'SAFEGUARDING', 'PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS', and 'EXAM RESULTS'. The main content area shows a blurred image of a young boy speaking into a microphone. At the bottom, the word 'SAFEGUARDING' is displayed in large, bold letters. A breadcrumb trail reads 'Home → Key Information → Safeguarding'.

# 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**



KS4 Achieve  
Hub

KS4 Achieve Hub

Getting started with revision

Subject Information &  
Revision Sites

Revision Resources

## Subject Information & Revision Sites

### Art

[Raising Achievement Presentation](#)

### Business Studies

[Raising Achievement Presentation](#)

[Past Papers](#)

### Computer Science

[Raising Achievement Presentation](#)

[Isaac Computing Science](#)

[Craig n Dave](#)

[Solo Learn - Coding](#)

[Code Chef](#)



## 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 logo for The National College, consisting of the text 'The National College' in white on a black square background, with a registered trademark symbol (®) at the end of 'College'.

# PSHE - Autumn term



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PSHE takes place every Wednesday morning during tutor time.

A few examples of topics covered this term:

- Personal Development plans
- Positive relationships
- Black History Month
- Self-esteem and self-image

# Developing the Whole Child



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Our hope is to draw out every students potential..... not just academically.

Developing the students to transform society beyond the gates using their gifts and talents

‘Don’t be afraid to change the world’

*Pope Francis Word Youth Day 2023*

Balance is important to be successful in learning.



# Beyond the Classroom



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## JFK PE EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS AND PRACTICES 2025-26

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>BREAK TIME</b> 11.10am - 11.30am	Year 10 Dance DANCE STUDIO (Ruby Dowling /Natasha Zambezi)	Year 10 Dance DANCE STUDIO (Ruby Dowling /Natasha Zambezi)	Year 10 Dance DANCE STUDIO (Ruby Dowling /Natasha Zambezi)	Year 11 Dance DANCE STUDIO (Lily Cartwright)	Year 11 Dance DANCE STUDIO (Lily Cartwright)
<b>LUNCH TIME</b> 1.35pm - 2.20pm	Year 11 & Sen Girls Netball OUTDOOR COURTS (Miss Holmes)  Year 8 Gym Club GYM (Miss Turner)  Year 7 Dance Club DANCE STUDIO (Ella Adams & Lily Cartwright)  Year 7 Boys Football FIELD (MR T Joyce)  Year 8 Boys Football FIELD (Miss Casserly)	Year 11 & Senior Boys Football FIELD (Mr T Joyce)  Year 7 Gym Club GYM (Miss Perry)  Commercial DANCE STUDIO (Shaname Barrett)  Year 7 & 8 Boys Rugby Club BOTTOM FIELD (Mr J Joyce)	Year 9 Gym Club GYM (Miss Rooney)  Jazz Dance (Year 10/11/12/13) DANCE STUDIO (Phoebie Molnar & Heidi Mander)  Year 9 & 10 Boys Rugby Club Bottom Field (Mr J Joyce)	Year 7 & 8 Girls Netball OUTDOOR COURTS (Miss Turner)  Year 9 & 10 Girls Netball OUTDOOR COURTS (Miss Rooney)  Irish Dance GYM (Dara Jones)  Senior Gym GYM (Shaname Barrett /Miss Perry)  Year 9 Dance DANCE STUDIO (Lola Hobson-Neal & Gracie Frampton)  Year 9&10 Boys Football FIELDS   (Mr T Joyce & Mr J Joyce)	Year 10/11 Gym Club GYM (Miss Perry)  Year 8 Dance DANCE STUDIO (Poppy McMahon & Jess Fenwick)  All Years Girls Football FIELD (Miss Casserly)  PE Detentions (Miss Rooney)



### New awards this year:

- John F. Kennedy Catholic School colours
- St Mark Award

Choir

Bands

Orchestra

<b>AFTER SCHOOL</b> 3.30pm - 4.30pm	Contemporary DANCE STUDIO (Phoebie Molnar & Heidi Mander)	Elite Gym GYM (Phoebie Molnar, Shaname Barrett & Heidi Mander)	Ballet HALL (Emilia Blasi-Colleran)	Tap GYM LT	
3.30pm-5.00pm	All Years Athletics Training - Invite Only JARMAN PARK (Miss Perry)				

# IAS Leaders: In the footsteps of Christ



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INSPIRE • ACHIEVE • SERVE



# Questions



JOHN F KENNEDY  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

My email:

[agalatola@jfk.herts.sch.uk](mailto:agalatola@jfk.herts.sch.uk)

I will dedicate time to questions at  
the following times:

18/09 - 8:30am-10am

23/09 - 11:35am-12:35pm

