

Welcome



JOHN F KENNEDY
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Year 11 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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Form	Tutor/ Tutors	Room/ Rooms
J	Mr Brophy	M1
F	Mr Grimes	B19
K	Mr Morgan	B21
H	Mrs Cole/Mrs Juhasz	A5
N	Mr Ahern	C13
D	Mr Sibbald	A7



Achievement Leader	Mrs Holton	M block (next to M1)
Achievement Leader Assistant	Miss McHugh	B block (next to B16)
SLT Link	Mr Fenrych-Fahy	A Block (next to A11)

Form Time Structure



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Day	Activity
Monday	W2 - Y11 Assembly Monday Memo
Tuesday	The Big Question Revision Technique of the Week
Wednesday	Reading
Thursday	Y11 and Sixth Form Assembly
Friday	Line Ups Revision/ End of week review

Key Dates for Year 11



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Dates	Events
Tuesday 9th September	Yr11 Information Evening 6pm, Hall
17th-28th November	Y11 Mocks
Wednesday 17th December	Y11 Mocks Results Day
Thursday 15th January	Parents Evening
23rd-27th February	Mocks Round 2
From week of 4th May (ish)	GCSE Exams start
Friday 19th June	Y11 Leavers Day
Thursday 25th June	Y11 Prom
Thursday 20th August	GCSE Results Day

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.

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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We do not want students to drop below 95% attendance

Is 95% attendance good?

It sounds like that is quite good attendance but.....

This means that your child has still missed nearly **10 school days in one year.**

This would be 50 days across 5 years which is almost a terms worth of education!

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 have taken medication. Please let Mrs Doyle (in Student Services) know and hand the medication in during the day in case they need it.
- Mrs Doyle, Mrs Bailey and 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 is 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.

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 if 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.



Reporting and Progress



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- Grade reports will be issued twice during Year 11
 - WB 15th December
 - WB 16th March
- These reports are strategically placed following the two mock periods to ensure the information you receive at home is accurate
- Reports will contain the following information:
 - Target grades
 - Classwork, homework and behaviour grades (E, G, I, F)
 - Mock grade
 - Current predicted grade

What are we doing at school?



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Raising Achievement programme

- Achievement Advocates
- Monthly meetings with some students
- Sixth Form Learning Mentors
- Raising Achievement Subject Sessions starting after Christmas

How you can support at home



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Teaching and Learning

- Talk to them about their work
- Engage with Google Classroom
- Encourage to use the Library, not just the internet
- Encourage reading: newspaper, novels, non-fiction
- What do they want to achieve?

How you can support at home



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Revision

- 'Persuade' them to start revising as soon as possible
- Don't wait until just before the mock exams
- Encourage active revision - visual, listening, talking doing, discussing...
- Repetition is key
- Repetition is key
- Repetition is key
- Use flashcards/notes to ask/test them about their learning

How you can support at home



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We remember:

10% of what we read

20% of what we hear

30% of what we see

50% of what we see and hear

70% of what we discuss with others

80% of what we personally experience

95% of what we teach others

Edgar Dale

How you can support at home



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Summary: Spacing

- Spacing is regularly revisiting material so that you are doing little and often instead of all at once.
- Doing a little amount regularly is more effective than doing a lot all at once. We do this so that we don't get swamped and overwhelmed

To commit something to memory, it takes time and repetition.

WHY? This is because the time in between allows you to forget and re-learn the information, which cements it in your **long-term memory**

Optimum Spacing

- Research suggests there is an 'optimal gap' between revision sessions so you can retain the information.
- If the test is in a month, you should review the information around once a week.
If the test is in a week, create time once a day.

Why use Spacing?

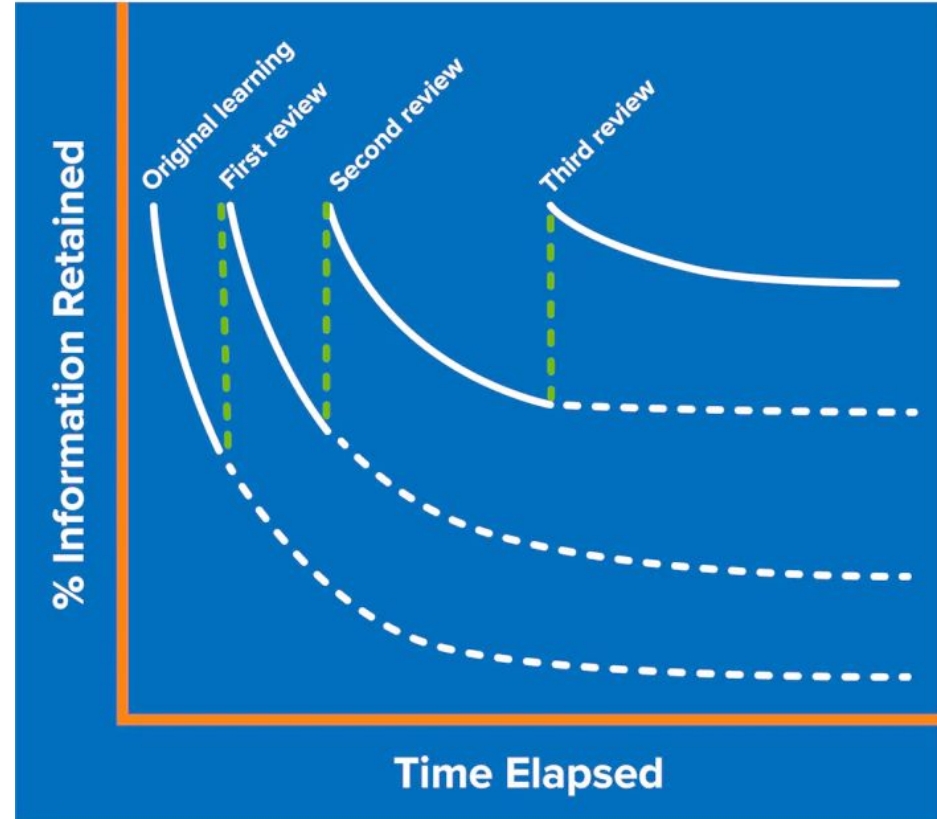
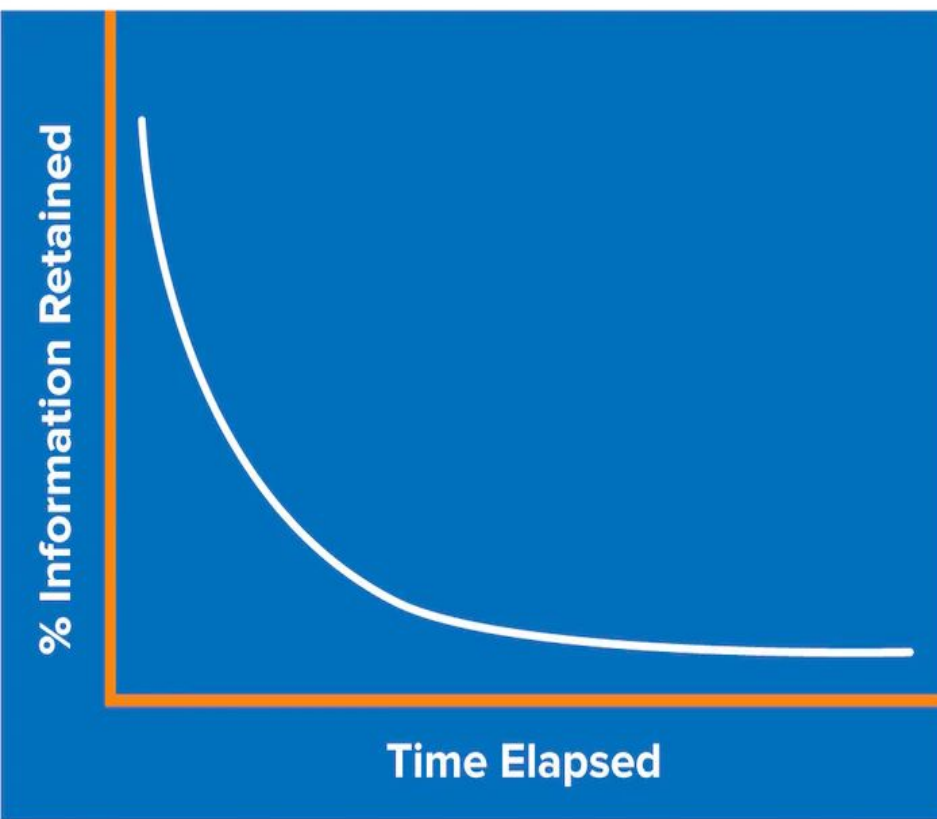
- Doing something little and often – spacing – beats doing it at once, or cramming
- The time in between revision allows you to forget and re-learn the information, which cements it in your long-term memory
- It cements information into your long-term memory
- We can learn more information over time than in one longer session
- It helps you revise more efficiently

Time to the test	Revision Gap
1 Week	1-2 days
1 Month	1 week
3 Months	2 weeks
6 Months	3 weeks
1 Year	1 month

How you can support at home



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How you can support at home



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Revision Strategies

- Revision cards/Flash cards
- Posters
- Mind maps
- Mnemonics e.g. SOHCAHTOA (Trigonometry)
- Post-its - key facts or unanswered questions
- Tick-lists/success charts
- Practice planning answers to past questions
- Invite them to teach you a topic

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 bar is visible. A 'WHAT'S ON THIS PAGE?' sidebar lists: SAFEGUARDING, PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS, and EXAM RESULTS. The main content area shows a young boy speaking into a microphone. The breadcrumb 'Home → Key Information' is visible. The word 'SAFEGUARDING' is prominently displayed at the bottom.

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 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'.



Year 11 PSHE

Where can I get help at school?
Your form tutor
Mrs Holton
Miss McHugh
Mrs Jevon (Pastoral Support Coordinator)
staysafe@jfk.herts.sch.uk
Any trusted adult

Whole School:
Black History Month

Autumn 1

Relationships

- Dealing with conflict
- Leadership



Spring 1

Relationships and Sex

- coercive control
- self worth
- addiction
- contraception
- self worth



Spring 2

Health and Wellbeing

- self examination for breast and testicular cancer
- mental health
- coping strategies

Summer 1

Mental Health

- feelings and emotions
- Self esteem



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

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

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

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.



Questions



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