

# HEADTEACHER BULLETIN

Friday 12.9.25

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Dear Parents/Carers,

I write to you in the first Headteacher bulletin of the academic year after what have been two brilliant weeks of the autumn term. We have been so impressed with how students have returned, from the summer holiday with exceptionally high standards of uniform, equipment and fantastic engagement in lessons.

There has been lots of works carried out on site over the summer and I wanted to mention our operations team who have worked tirelessly over the summer break to make sure of a strong start to the term. A special mention to Mr Harris, Mr Allen, Mrs Correia and Mrs Harris, who are the unsung heroes of our school community. With our 54% increase in numbers over the last few years the school has undergone some operational alterations and these would not be possible without the hard work of our operations staff.

The new year 7 students have settled in wonderfully and we have been very impressed with their adaptability and resilience to what is a big jump up to secondary school. Over the first few weeks students have been completing baseline assessments and from the week commencing the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September, CAT4 tests will be completed. These assessments will provide the school with valuable personalised data about each child.

This week we have been focusing upon updating the students regarding the importance of safeguarding and reemphasising to our school community that safeguarding is everybody's responsibility. Mr Till our designated safeguarding lead has been leading year group assemblies and informing students about how to keep themselves safe, with a particular focus upon online safety. The students engaged really well and have asked some insightful questions. If any parents/carers have any concerns about their child's online safety, please do not hesitate to contact the safeguarding team @[parentsupport@kss.org.uk](mailto:parentsupport@kss.org.uk).

Finally, can I please thank parents/carers for their help with the safety and smooth running of our car park at the start and end of the school day. If parents/carers could please not stop on the pedestrian crossing or block the flow of traffic it would be appreciated. If there are no car park spaces available for you to park in, please exit the car park and park outside of the school gates. Thank you for your support with this.

Yours faithfully,  
Mr S Frost



**KIDSGROVE  
SECONDARY  
SCHOOL**

**HEADTEACHER DROP IN**

Every Friday  
9:00am-10:00am

If you have any queries or questions, feel free to drop into the session and talk to Mr Frost.

Ofsted  
Good  
Premises

## Upcoming Events

**Thursday 25.9.25 - SEND Transition Coffee Morning**

**Thursday 2.10.25 - Year 6 Open Evening**

**Thursday 2.10.25 - Year 11 Spanish Trip**

**Friday 3.10.25 - KS4 History and Geography Trip to Salford Quays**

MEET THE FORM TUTOR

# YEAR 7 'SETTLING IN' EVENING



Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 2025  
4pm to 7pm  
(Appointments to be scheduled via  
Arbor)

Meet your child's form tutor to discuss how  
your child has settled in to life at KSS.



# Quality of Education Update

At Kidsgrove Secondary School, every lesson begins with a core learning step we call 'Engage'.

This is a short, focused activity that helps pupils retrieve and recall what they've previously learned. Whether it's something they studied last week or last term, this step is all about checking in on their prior knowledge.

Why does this matter? Research shows that retrieving knowledge from memory strengthens it—making it more likely to be remembered in the future. It's like exercising a muscle: the more you use it, the stronger it becomes.

Starting lessons with an 'Engage' activity boosts long-term memory and helps pupils make stronger connections between past and new learning.

Over time, this has a real impact on their confidence, understanding, and success in each subject.

You might hear your child mention some of these typical 'Engage' tasks:

- Multiple choice quizzes
- 'Last lesson, last week, last term' questions
- Quick recap games or whiteboard challenges
- True or false activities
- Vocabulary recall tasks
- Retrieval grids



These daily routines are not about testing—they are tools for thinking and a vital part of how we help your child grow as a learner.

Ask your child:

"What kind of 'Engage' activity did you do today? Did anything you remembered surprise you?"

# LEARNING EVERYDAY





At KSS our students come first and to enable them to be the best version of themselves, we offer a wide range of support!  
From a bagel as they enter the building, to providing equipment and mental health support.



## Support at KSS

"If you do enough small things right,  
Big things can happen!"



Uniform bank



Breakfast  
bagels



Equipment  
shop



Free sanitary  
products



Mental health  
support





# ‘KSS Food Court’

The ‘KSS Food Court’ was launched last week along with a new system to support a better flow of students accessing the updated food and drink stations. We have also included into the food court a new Year 10 eating space which has gone down a treat with students and created more space in the gym and the dining area. We are delighted to say that the new queuing system and the new serveries are working well. This is also supported by our longer lunchtime.





# 'KSS Food Court'



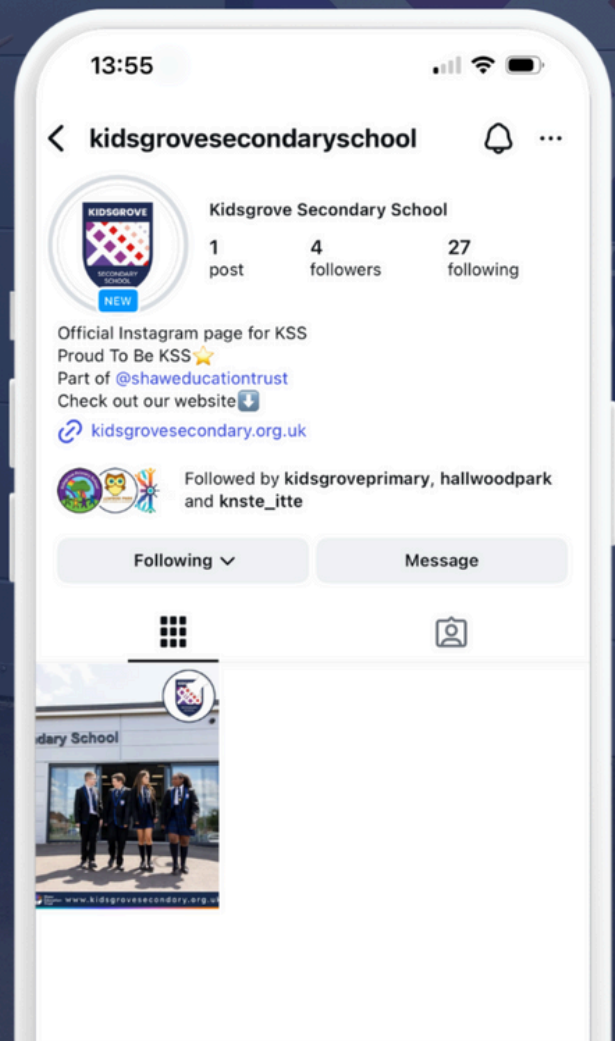




Shaw  
Education  
Trust

# WE'RE NOW ON INSTAGRAM!

FOLLOW US @KIDSGROVESECONDARYSCHOOL



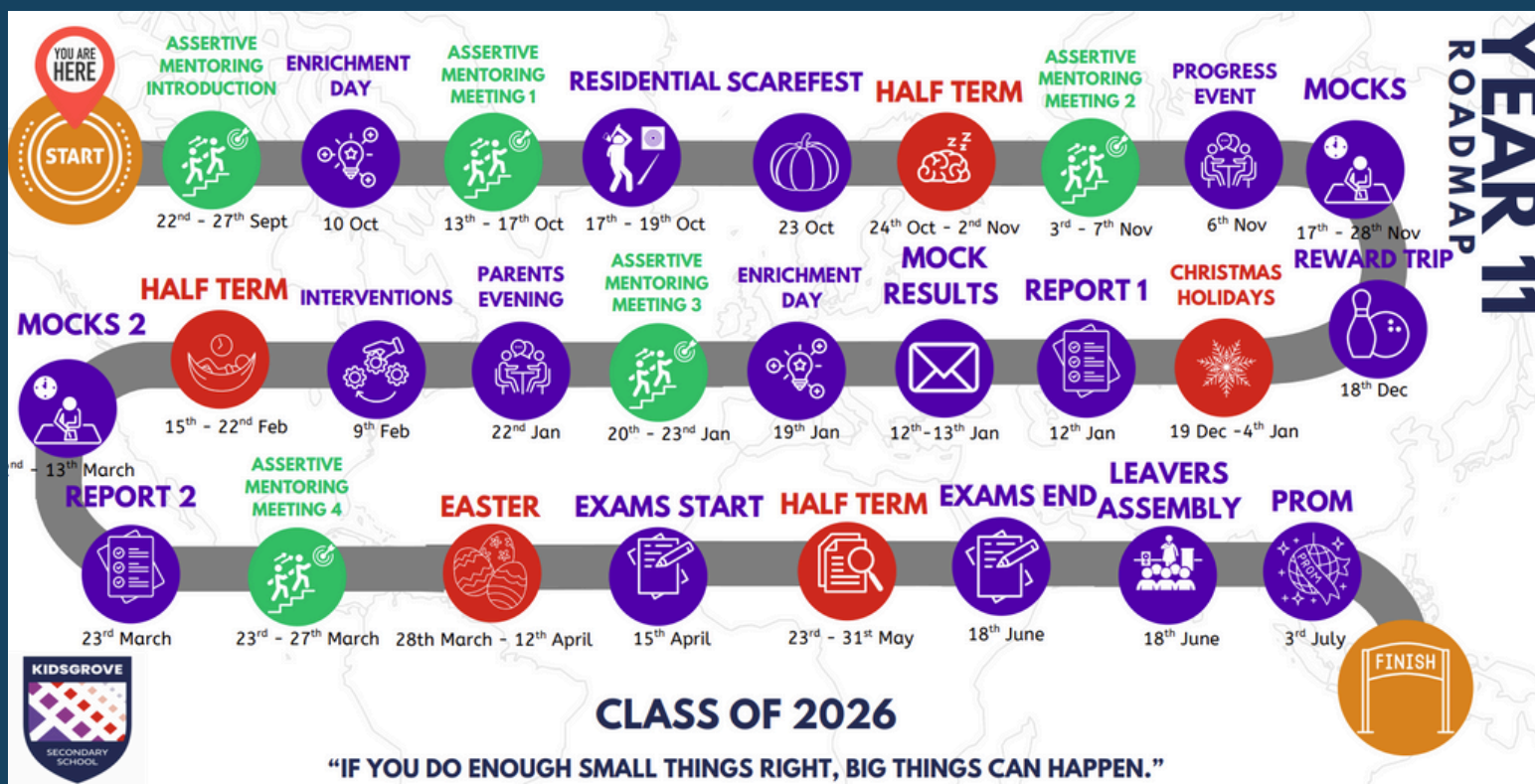
# Year 11 Update

The Year 11 students have settled into the year strongly with many students undertaking interventions and demonstrating a clear desire for academic success.

We have lots of activities and events planned for Year 11 students and you can see via the Year 11 'Road Map' below a timeline of what is coming up.

Each Monday myself and Mr Barker-Brown will meet with Year 11 students in an assembly to review the previous week and to share what is coming next for the year group.

We cannot wait to see what this group of students achieve in the summer of 2026.



Let's Go!



# Further Education Open Evenings 2025/2026

## Alsager Sixth Form

Thursday 9th October

Time: 5.00 pm.- 7.30 pm

## Cheshire College South and West

Wednesday 7th October

Time: 5.30 pm.- 8.00 pm

Wednesday 19th November

Time: 5.30 pm.- 8.00 pm

## City of Stoke-on-Trent Sixth Form College

(Fenton)

Wednesday 8th October

Time: 5.00 pm.- 7.00 pm

Tuesday 18th November

Time: 5.00 pm.- 7.00 pm

Thursday 12th March

Time: 5.00 pm.- 7.00 pm

## Macclesfield College

Thursday 23rd October

Time: 5.30 pm.- 7.30 pm

Saturday 22nd November

Time: 10.30 am.- 13.00 pm

## Newcastle Under Lyme College

Thursday 9th October

Time: 5.30 pm.- 8.00 pm

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November

Time: 5.30 pm.- 8.00 pm

Saturday 24th January

Time: 10.00 am.- 12.00 pm

## Reaseheath College

Saturday 27th September

Register online

Saturday 18th October

Register online

Saturday 29th November

Register online

## Stoke On Trent College

Wednesday 15th October

Time: 5.00 pm.- 8.00 pm

Wednesday 19th November

Time: 5.00 pm.- 8.00 pm

Wednesday 11th February

Time: 5.00 pm.- 8.00 pm

## The Kings Sixth Form

Thursday 25th September

Time: 5.30 pm.- 8.00 pm





# Pre-Registration for Open Days

## Alsager Sixth Form

No pre-registration necessary

## Cheshire College South and West



**REGISTER NOW**

## City of Stoke-on-Trent Sixth Form College (Fenton)



**REGISTER NOW**

## Macclesfield College

October



**REGISTER NOW**

November



**REGISTER NOW**

## Newcastle Under Lyme College



**REGISTER NOW**

## Reaseheath College



**REGISTER NOW**

## Stoke On Trent College



**REGISTER NOW**

## The Kings Sixth Form

No pre-registration necessary



# Safeguarding

This week, our fantastic Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mr Till, delivered an important safeguarding assembly to all year groups.

The sessions focused on raising awareness and updating students on key safeguarding issues, helping them understand the importance of keeping themselves and others safe.

Safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do at KSS, and ensuring our students are informed and supported is always our top priority.





# Safeguarding Team

## SAFEGUARDING

Designated Safeguarding Lead  
**Mr. A Till**

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leaders  
**Ms. H Potts**  
**Mr. J Gillespie**

You can speak to ANY member  
of staff in school.

**SCAN THE QR CODE TO  
REPORT A CONCERN**



**INCLUSION - SENDCO  
MS. K HAMBLETON**



**SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYBODY'S RESPONSIBILITY**



**SEPT - OCT****EXTRA CURRICULAR ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Lunchtime Clubs – 13.20–14.05

After School Clubs – 15.10–16.10

**EVERYDAY**

Reading Room

Open to all

Reading Room

Learning Support Team

**MONDAY**

German Club

Y7 and Y8

Room 6

Ms Hud

Science Support Club

KS3

Room 23

Dr Ma

KS3 Cooking Club

Invite

Food Technology

Ms Tipping–Brown

**TUESDAY**

KS3 Board Games Club

Y7, Y8 and Y9

Room 1

Miss Wright

Science Support Club

KS4

Room 23

Dr Ma

Crochet Club

Open to all

Room 12

Mrs Price

KS3 Open Art Studio

Y7, Y8 and Y9

Room 10

Mrs Mason

**WEDNESDAY**

Wk 1 – KS3 Fitness

Wk 2 – KS4 Fitness

Changing Rooms

Mr Barker–Brown

Netball

Y10 and Y11

Changing Rooms

Ms Hambleton

Handball

Y8, Y9 and Y10

Changing Rooms

Mr Till

**THURSDAY**

Debating/Politics Club

Y10 and Y11

Room 7

Mr Hilditch/Mr Jessup



Wk 1 – KS3 Basketball

Wk 2 – KS4 Basketball

Changing Rooms

Mr Barker–Brown

Trampolining

Y10 and Y11

Changing Rooms

Ms Hambleton



Duke of Edinburgh Award

DofE students

Room 6

Ms Hud/Mrs Weaver/Mr Till



Switch Club

Open to all

Mr Frost's Office

Mr Frost



KS4 Open Art Studio

Y10 and Y11 Art

Room 10

Mrs Mason

**FRIDAY**

Crochet Club

Open to all

Room 12

Mrs Price



Chess Club

Open to all

Room 2

Mr Old



Wk 1 – Y7/Y8 Football

Wk 2 – Y9/Y10/Y11 Football

Changing Rooms

Mr Barker–Brown



Darts Club

Open to all

Conference Room

Mr Frost



Fitness Club

Open to all

Fitness Suite

Mr Till



Trampolining

Y7, Y8 and Y9

Changing Rooms

Ms Hambleton

# Student Council

By the time of the next edition of our Headteacher bulletin, we will be able to share an update about our brand new student council team for 2025-2026. The form groups have been busy nominating a form representative that will join me frequently to share ideas about how we can improve the school. I cannot wait to meet our new team.



**STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTION**

Do you have what it takes to work with Mr Frost to shape the future of KSS?

Nominate yourself to represent your form group at student council meetings and events.

**YOUR FORM TUTOR WILL HOLD A BALLOT IN FORM TIME DURING THIS WEEK AND A DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED FORM REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE CHOSEN.**

**LET'S VOTE!**

**KIDSGROVE**  
SECONDARY SCHOOL





# Year 6 Transition

## SEND Coffee Morning

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September  
9am-10am

A COFFEE MORNING  
DEDICATED TO  
SEND PARENTS  
WHOSE CHILD WILL  
BE STARTING HIGH  
SCHOOL IN  
SEPTEMBER 2026.



Scan the QR code to  
register your  
interest.



Meet the Learning Support Team



Talk about your child's needs.



Find out about the support we offer



PROUD TO  
BE  
KSS



# ATTENDANCE



**WHOLE SCHOOL: 95.9%**



**YEAR 7- 97.3%**

**YEAR 8- 94.9%**

**YEAR 9 - 92.6%**

**YEAR 10- 90.5%**

**YEAR 11- 92.6%**



**NATIONAL AVERAGE: 94.2%**

**BEST FORM YTD: 7BJE**

**100%**

**BEST HOUSE: WEDGEWOOD**



# Form Attendance



Kidsgrove Secondary School

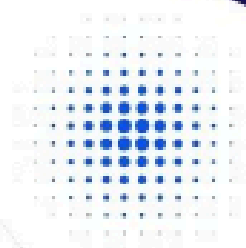
**Attendance Matters**

#StopTheDrop





# Meet Our Learning Support Team



Ms Hambleton  
SENDCo



Mrs Beard  
HTLA



Mrs West  
Teaching Assistant



Miss Tucker  
Teaching Assistant



Miss Longmore  
Teaching Assistant



Miss Nicklin  
Teaching Assistant

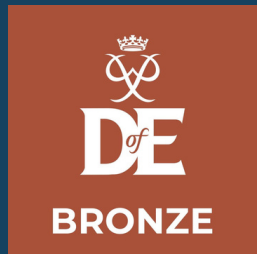
If you feel that you need extra support in lessons or that you are struggling, please speak to one of the team.



PROUD TO  
BE  
KSS



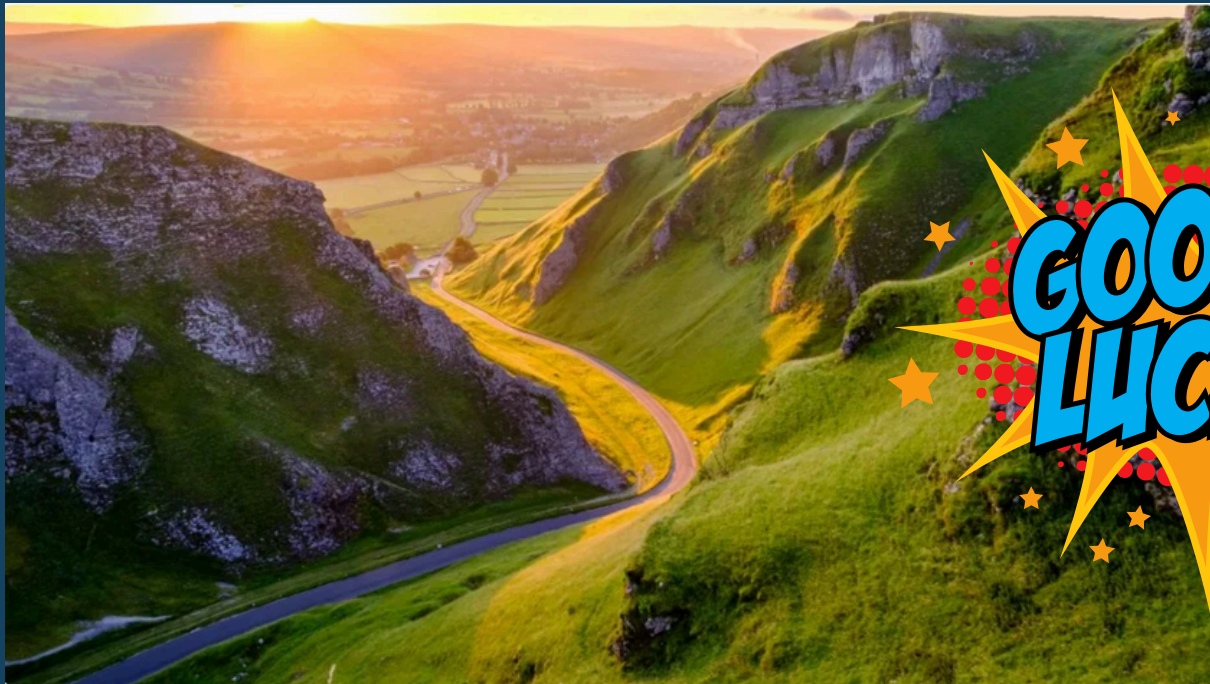




# Duke of Edinburgh Award

This weekend Mrs Weaver, Mr Till and Ms Hud are assessing our Y10 students completing their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. The group will be walking in the beautiful Peak District, demonstrating a variety of navigation, leadership and camp craft skills – all aimed to develop independence and self-sufficiency.

Thank you to colleagues that are going above and beyond giving up their weekends to support our students in what will be a brilliant test of resilience. Well done to the students who are taking part.







[kidsgrovesecondaryschool.org.uk](http://kidsgrovesecondaryschool.org.uk)

**KIDSGROVE  
SECONDARY SCHOOL**

# OPEN EVENING

*"If you do enough small things right, big things can happen."*

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>  
October 2025**

**5-7.30pm**

Gloucester Road  
ST7 4DL

- ✓ Tour the school
- ✓ Meet teachers
- ✓ Review curriculum
- ✓ Ask questions



For more info:

**01782 948250**



Email

[communications@kss.set.org](mailto:communications@kss.set.org)



**PROUD TO  
BE  
KSS**



# House Points

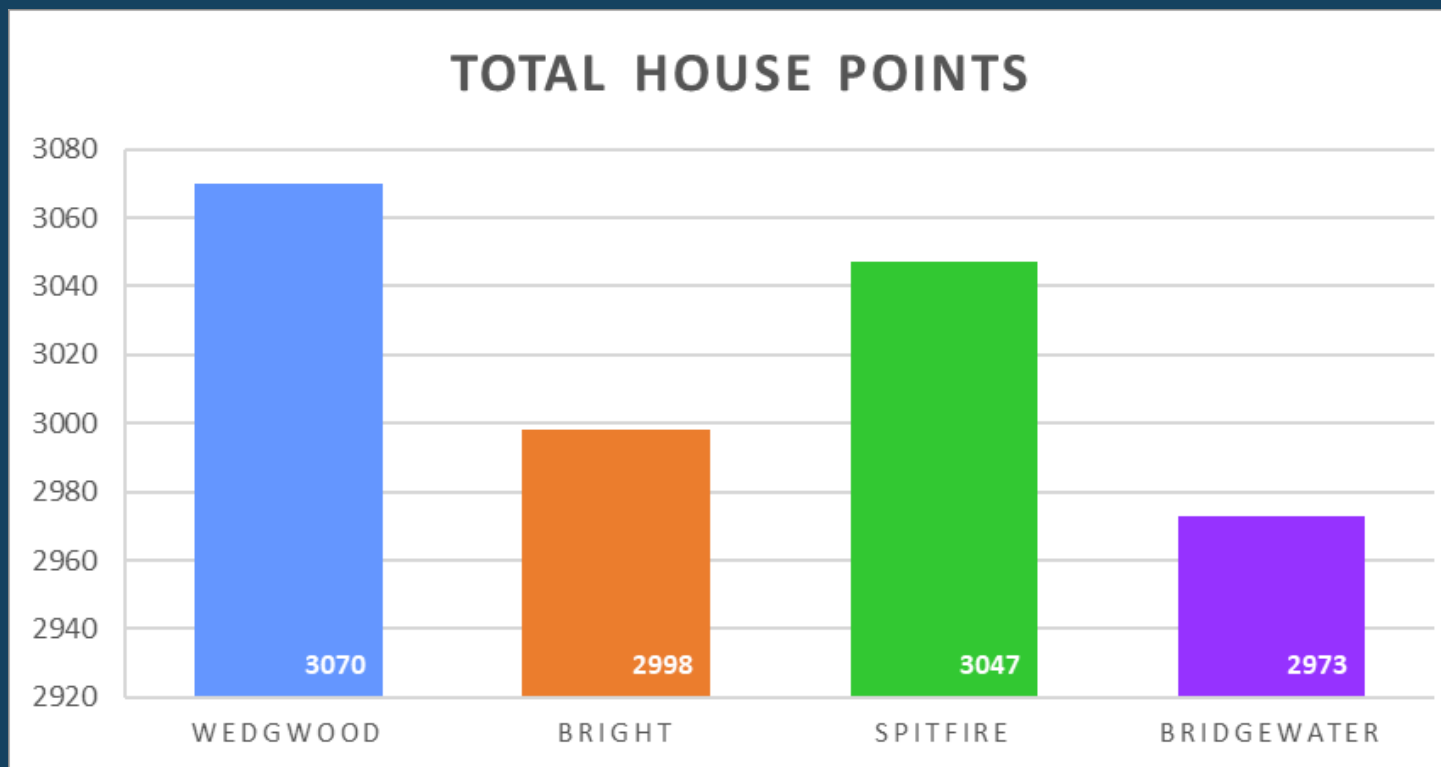
So far this year, an incredible 12,088 positive points have been awarded across the school – a real testament to the effort, kindness, and commitment our students show every single day.

Here's how the Houses are currently standing:

- 🏆 1st Place – Wedgwood: 3,070 points
- 🔥 2nd Place – Spitfire: 3,047 points
- ☀️ 3rd Place – Bright: 2,998 points
- 💜 4th Place – Bridgewater: 2,973 points

It's an incredibly close competition, with just 97 points separating first and fourth place. Every achievement, positive contribution, and act of kindness counts – so keep pushing to earn those House Points.

👏 Well done to everyone for making such a positive start to the year – let's keep the momentum going!





# Attendance

**KIDSGROVE**  
SECONDARY SCHOOL

**IS YOUR CHILD FACING BARRIERS TO SCHOOL ATTENDANCE?**

**KIDSGROVE SECONDARY CAN HELP!**

**WE CAN SUPPORT YOU WITH**

- Breakfast On Arrival
- Uniform
- Equipment

**KIDSGROVE**  
SECONDARY SCHOOL

**PROUD TO BE KSS**

**KIDSGROVE**  
SECONDARY SCHOOL

Shaw Education Trust

Kidsgrove Secondary School

**Attendance Matters**

#StopTheDrop

