

Parent Bulletin Friday 10th July 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to this week's Parent Bulletin.

In addition to this update, please do follow our Facebook page to keep up to date with school news, student successes, notices and updates by clicking here: [King Alfred's Academy, Wantage](#) You can also follow us on Instagram [@kingalfredsacademy](#)

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Headteacher Update

This will be the final Parent Bulletin of the current academic year.

The hosting of our annual 'Transition Day' saw Year 6 students join us on West Site for the day and Year 8 students visit Centre Site – where they will be based from September. The day was hugely successful, with both cohorts making the most of the opportunity. We now look forward to the majority of our new Year 7's joining us for Summer School. This takes place on Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd July.

Staff will be in school for both A-Level (13th August) and GCSE (20th August) Results Days. More information on the logistics of these days can be found later in this Bulletin.

I also wanted to remind parents that we will have a staggered start to next academic year.

Year 7, 9 and 12 will start the academic year on Thursday 3rd September.
All year groups will be in school from Friday 4th September.

I can also now confirm the arrangements for Heads of Year for September:

Year 7 – Mr Steve Alman

Year 8 – Mr Will Sheppard

Year 9 – Ms Gentiana Cole
Year 10 – Mrs Kelly Atkins
Year 11 – Mr Lewis Shaw

It then simply remains for me to thank parents and carers for their support over the course of this year and to wish families a restful Summer break.

Bromcom student portal is now open, please download the app

Following on from the video in last week's Bulletin, in which I introduced some of the changes to our Behaviour Policy, I am pleased to write to you this week to expand on several of these important developments.

I am delighted to announce that the **Bromcom Pupil Portal** is now live. Pupils can download the app and sign in using their Microsoft school login details. Through the app, pupils will be able to access a range of information, including their timetable, house points, demerits and detentions. As we move into the next academic year, we plan to increase the functionality available to pupils within the app. To support this, we encourage all pupils to download and set up the app before we break up for the Summer holidays.

Changes to our Behaviour Policy and detentions

Last week, I discussed the review of our Behaviour Policy that has taken place this term. One of the most significant changes, which will take effect from September, is the introduction of a new detention system.

Feedback from pupils, parents and staff has indicated that our current system can sometimes be demotivating for pupils, impacting both attendance at school and engagement in lessons. The new system has been designed in line with current educational research, ensuring that detentions are timely and allow pupils to make a clear connection between their behaviour and the consequence received. It also moves away from the current stacking system and adopts an escalation model, which supports a prompt and proportionate response without becoming discouraging for pupils. The new detention structure is outlined below:

- **R2** = Next-day after-school detention (20 minutes)
- **R3** = Next-day after-school detention (30 minutes)

In most cases, these detentions will be served on the next school day. As detentions do not run on Mondays, any detention issued on a Friday will take place on the following Tuesday. This approach helps to ensure that consequences are timely while preventing pupils from accumulating detentions spread across multiple days.

On rare occasions, a Head of Year or another Senior Leader may schedule a detention for a later date; however, this will only occur in exceptional circumstances. All detentions will be capped at a maximum of **60 minutes**.

If a pupil receives multiple R2s, the detention time will accumulate. For example, a second R2 would result in a 40-minute detention, and a third would result in a 60-minute detention. The same principle will apply to multiple R3s or a combination of R2 and R3 sanctions, with the overall detention time capped at 60 minutes.

At the end of each day, Heads of Year will review any pupil whose accumulated consequences exceed 60 minutes. In these cases, the next-day 60-minute detention may remain in place, or the Head of Year may decide that an alternative consequence is more appropriate. For further information, please do take the time to watch the video from last week's Bulletin.

PE Kit to be worn during last week of term

Having reviewed the weather forecast for next week it is clear that temperatures will continue to be at least in the high 20's and possibly over 30 degrees on some days. We will therefore continue with the current arrangement of students being allowed to wear PE Kit until the end of the week.

Further details about our Sports Days appear later on in this Bulletin, but we will also keep these under review and may need to cancel these if temperatures are excessively high. We will make this decision by lunchtime on Monday.

Being fully prepared for learning

Ensuring that students come to school prepared with the necessary basic equipment such as pens, pencils, rulers, calculators etc. is essential for fostering a productive and efficient learning environment. When students are properly equipped, they are better able to engage in lessons, complete assignments, and develop a sense of responsibility and independence. Consistently bringing the required materials not only supports academic success but also minimises disruptions to teaching and learning. Encouraging this habit helps instil valuable life skills such as organisation, preparation, and accountability; skills I am sure you would agree will benefit students well beyond the classroom.

To that end, there will be an expectation from September that every student brings in the following equipment list as a minimum. This can also be found under the uniform policy on the school website:

- pencil case
- 2 x pens (blue or black)
- 2 x pencils
- 2 x whiteboard pens (blue or black)
- 1 x rubber
- 1 x ruler
- calculator
- 1 x reading book

If you require support in providing your child with school essentials, whether it be basic equipment or uniform, please do not hesitate to contact us. Our team is here to help and can be reached through our enquiry email at: enquiries@kas.cambrianlt.org

Is your child up to date with their vaccinations?

Please see the important attachment to this Bulletin from the Oxford Health Team.

Sports Day information

Tuesday 14th July is Key Stage 4 Sports Day

Periods 1-3 are for those students only that have already signed up to the competitive sports day, the deadline has now passed.

Students are to meet outside the back door of the Leisure Centre (where they would meet for PE lessons) at 8:45am. Students need to be prepared for the weather with sun cream, water bottles and hats as well as snacks and refreshments.

If students have not signed up, they must go to normal lessons.

Period 4 is Year 9 whole school events; all students to meet on the Sixth Form Field at 1:20pm.

Period 5 is Year 10 whole school events; all students to meet on the Sixth Form Field at 2:20pm.

Wednesday 15th July is Key Stage 3 Sports Day

Periods 1-3 are for those students only that have already signed up to the competitive sports day via epraise, the deadline has now passed.

Students are to meet at the Sports Hall at 8:45am. Students need to be prepared for the weather with sun cream, water bottles and hats as well as snacks and refreshments.

If students have not signed up, they must go to normal lessons.

Period 4 is Year 7 whole school events; all students to meet on the School Field at 1:20pm.

Period 5 is Year 8 whole school event; all students to meet on the School Field at 2:20pm.

Exam Office Results Day information

Important examination results for Year 11 and Year 13 students:

- Collection from Sixth Form Auditorium
- Year 13 A-Level and Level 3 results on Thursday 13th August from 8:30am
- Year 11 GCSE and Level 2 results on Thursday 20th August from 9am
- Results will also be emailed to all students' school email accounts during the afternoon.
- Further information can be found on the Exams page of our website: [King Alfred's Academy - Exams](#)

GCSE Results Day, Sixth Form Enrolment Day and Applicaa

On Results Day, many students will find that they have already been automatically enrolled onto courses in **Applicaa**. This will be based on the subject choices they made during the application process and the GCSE grades they achieved on Results Day.

Students who meet the entry requirements for their chosen subjects will see these courses already added to their enrolment form, making the enrolment process much quicker and easier.

However, **automatic enrolment does not mean your choices are fixed**. If, after receiving your results, you would like to change any of your subjects, you can do so through Applicaa. Simply review your enrolment form, make any amendments to your course selections, and then **resubmit your enrolment form** for consideration.

Staff will be available on Enrolment Day to provide advice and guidance if you are unsure about your options or would like to discuss alternative courses.

We encourage all students to log in to Applicaa on Results Day, check their enrolment details carefully, and submit any changes as soon as possible to help secure their preferred programme of study.

Please see the attached guide to support enrolment.

KA's students doing amazing things

Congratulations to all of our Year 8 students who have received awards this year. It has been fantastic to see so many of you making the most of the opportunities available, both in lessons and through the wide range of extracurricular activities on offer.

A huge congratulations to all of our students that completed their Gold Duke of Edinburgh qualifying expedition this week in the Elan Valley. They navigated through some tough terrain in very hot weather conditions and should be commended for their resilience, positive attitude and navigational skills. Well done to all involved!

Summer Term Health Nursing Newsletter

The School Health Nursing Newsletter is provided by the NHS Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust and contains a wealth of information about helping our young people stay safe and healthy. Please do click on the link for their updates, tips and resources: [Summer Term 6 NHS Newsletter](#)

Academic Enrichment

The Academic Enrichment Newsletter for the Summer Break is now

As ever, the AEP Newsletter is packed with opportunities for delving deeper into subjects, or exploring other topics and developing a greater context for your child's learning. For our students, this is a one-stop shop for developing their Academic Portfolio, invaluable when they go on to apply to either higher-level apprenticeships or university. You can find it at: [King Alfred's Academy - Summer Issue of our Academic Enrichment Newsletter 2026](#)

You may find information on Academic Enrichment via this link to our website: [King Alfred's Academy - Academic Enrichment](#)

Careers and Work Experience

Our Careers webpage has new, updated resources to help answer questions and provide vital Careers information: [King Alfred's Academy - Careers](#) In particular, there are a number of Summer Work Experience opportunities listed on our website that may be of interest to students. Please continue to email any questions that you have to kacareers@kas.cambrianlt.org

Sweatbox

Sweatbox planned dates for Term 6:

Date	Event
Friday 10 th July	Friday Open Night – Centre Site 7pm – 9.30pm for Yrs 7-10
Monday 13 th July	Monday Open Night – Kingsgrove 7pm – 9pm for Yrs 6-13

Year Group Updates – This information can also be found on the 'Key Information for Parents' section of our website [King Alfred's Academy - Key information \(kaacademy.org\)](#)

Year 7	How fast this year has gone! We can't quite believe our Year 7 cohort have been with us for a whole year already. Thank you to all students - well done for an excellent first year at King Alfred's. You are an incredible year group that Mrs Wilkins and Mr Sheppard are very proud of. Keep up the good work into Year 8 and have a great Summer in the meantime. Please support your child to bring a water bottle to ensure they can keep hydrated over the last week of the Summer term.
Year 8	The Year 8 Team would like to wish all students a happy and restful summer. We look forward to welcoming you back as Year 9 students in September. Thank you to all our parents and carers for your ongoing support throughout the year. Your encouragement and partnership have played a vital role in helping our students grow and succeed. Please support your child to bring a water bottle to ensure they can keep hydrated over the last week of the Summer term.
Year 9	Please support your child to bring a water bottle to ensure they can keep hydrated over the last week of the Summer term. We wish our Year 9 students a lovely Summer break.
Year 10	It has been wonderful to hear such positive feedback from students about their Work Experience placements and we are particularly delighted to learn that some students have secured permanent part-time employment as a result of their efforts.

	Please could you encourage your child to complete their Unifrog placement log and reflection so that they can record and celebrate this valuable experience. During assembly students were reminded of the importance of using some of the Summer break to prepare for what will be a busy and significant academic year in September. We wish all students and their families a well-earned and enjoyable summer break when it arrives. Please support your child to bring a water bottle to ensure they can keep hydrated over the last week of the Summer term.
Year 11	Good luck to all Year 11 students for their exam results in the Summer!
Year 12	Congratulations to all Year 12 students for working so hard for their BTEC and A-Level mock exams.
Year 13	We would kindly request that students return all of their textbooks and their lanyard by 12.35pm on Friday 17 th July. We wish all of Year 13 a wonderful extended summer holiday!

Vacancies

We currently have the following vacancies:

Support Staff:

- Student Manager
- Sweatbox Youth Club – Volunteer Youth Support Worker
- School Volunteer – creative and enthusiastic set designers to help bring our upcoming school production to life
- Home School Link Worker (HSLW)
- Exam Invigilator
- Caretaker

The link to the KA's website for vacancies:

[Vacancies | King Alfred's Academy, Wantage, Oxfordshire UK \(kaacademy.org\)](https://www.kaacademy.org/vacancies)

Forthcoming Events

Sunday 12 th July	Years 12 & 13 Tanzania trip departs
Tuesday 14 th July	Centre Site Sports Day
Wednesday 15 th July	West Site Sports Day
Thursday 16 th July	Years 7-10 End of Year Celebrations
Friday 17 th July	End of Term 6 at 12:35pm
Thursday 3 rd September	Start of Term 1; Years 7, 9 & 12 in school
Friday 4 th September	All year groups in school
Monday 7 th September	School photos for all students in Years 7-10

Best Wishes
Mr Smart