



# Kents Hill Junior School



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Head of Academy: Miss Joanne Parkes



A very warm welcome to a brand-new academic year at Kents Hill Junior School!

We are especially delighted to welcome our new Year 3 children and their families into our school community. It is a privilege to lead such a dedicated team, all working together to ensure the very best for our incredible children. Walking around the school today has been an absolute joy—I've seen happy faces, enthusiastic learners and children already settled and thriving in their new classes. I can't wait to see all the exciting things we will achieve together this year.

In the coming weeks, we'll be supporting the children as they settle into routines and continue building independence. From remembering homework to organising their uniform or PE kits, small opportunities for children to "have a go" make a huge difference. As always, making it fun at home goes a long way in building confidence!

### Meet the Senior Leadership Team!



Miss Parkes  
(Head of Academy),



Mr Tipper (Deputy Head of Academy)



Mrs Kelsey-Foreman  
(Assistant Head),



Mrs Thurley  
(Assistant Head),



Miss Jackson  
(Assistant Head)



Ms Marable  
(Executive SENDCo)

You will always find one of us on the front and back gates in the morning and at the end of the school day – we're here if you need us.

**SAFEGUARDING** – Keeping children safe is at the heart of everything we do. Every member of staff plays a role in safeguarding, but certain staff have specific responsibilities. If you ever have concerns about a child's wellbeing, please do not hesitate to speak to one of us:

Miss Parkes – **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)** and Mr Tipper – **Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)**  
**Wider Safeguarding team:** Miss Chaney, Mrs Kelsey-Foreman, Mrs Thurley, Miss Jackson and Ms Marable.

### Learning ~ Friendship ~ Safety ~ Success

At Kents Hill Junior School we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and we expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. **Designated Safeguarding Lead – Miss Joanne Parkes**

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**SEND** - If you have questions or concerns about your child, please contact Ms Marable, our Executive SENDCo, and her brilliant team. We'll be offering SEND drop-ins, hosting external visitors, and holding One Plan meetings to keep you fully updated on your child's progress.

**Communication** - If you have a concern, your child's class teacher is the first point of contact. Most issues can be resolved quickly through discussion. If further support is needed, concerns will be passed to myself or another member of the leadership team. Please remember—small worries are always easier to sort out early, so don't hesitate to speak to us.

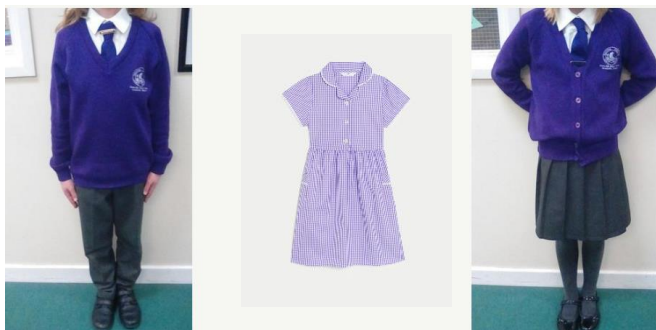
**Attendance** - The message remains the same: every day counts. Excellent attendance is key to learning, and we expect every child to attend regularly. **If your child is unwell, please call the school office by 9:00 a.m. with the reason for their absence.** If we don't hear from you, we will need to contact you for safeguarding reasons.

We are continuing to work closely with Elwira Shuttlewood and Clare Morgan to support families and ensure the best possible attendance for every child.

**Emergency Contact Details** - If you've changed phone numbers, addresses, or any other key details over the summer, please update the office straight away—thank you!

**Our Shared Values: Ready, Respectful and Safe** - We see education as a partnership between home and school. By working together, we can foster independence, motivation, and a love of learning. I encourage all parents to join in with school activities whenever possible—your involvement makes a huge difference.

**Uniform** - Our children have made a fantastic start, looking so smart in their uniforms—thank you for your support with this. A quick reminder: extreme hairstyles (such as top knots, very high shaves, or dyed hair) are not permitted. If you would like a reminder of what our school uniform looks like:



### PE Uniform:



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**Extra-Curricular Clubs** – We are proud to offer such a wide range of clubs all thanks to the generosity and talents of our staff. These opportunities enrich children’s school experience and we are excited to see so many pupils taking part.

**Payment for School Meals and Trips etc.** – Kents Hill Junior School is a cashless school. All payments for meals, trips and activities can be made quickly and securely via the SchoolComms payment system.

*We have some fantastic trips, visitors and residential planned this year. As always, trips are run on a non-profit basis and many heavily subsidised. We want for every trip to be able to take place however unfortunately if we do not receive sufficient funds, we may have to cancel trips. Your contributions are essential to make these experiences possible and we thank you in advance for your support.*

**And finally...** We are looking forward to welcoming you to our ‘**Meet the Teacher**’ sessions next week.

The autumn term is always a busy one, full of exciting opportunities and I can’t wait to share it with you and your children.

Yours sincerely,

Miss J Parkes  
Head of Academy

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