

Take a fresh look at Kingsdown



**Kingsdown
School**



It gives me great pleasure to introduce myself to you as the new Headteacher of Kingsdown School. It is a great honour to have been appointed by the school Governors and entrusted with the job of leading such a fantastic school.

Vibrant learning environment

Kingsdown is a mixed 11 – 16 Secondary School located in Stratton St Margaret, Swindon. It offers a vibrant learning environment in which its students take great pride. Our teachers combine a high level of academic expertise, excellent teaching skills and a real concern for the wellbeing of each and every student. Taken together, these allow us to recruit and retain the very best teachers.

River Learning Trust

From September 1st we became a full partner of the River Learning Trust – a Multi Academy Trust. Together, we have a clear strategy for rapidly improving Kingsdown and thereby achieving our vision of becoming a “School of Excellence”.



Thank you for taking the time to take a fresh look at Kingsdown. We are a school at a very exciting new juncture in our history.

We have a:

- new Chair of Governors – **Lynne Scragg**
- new Headteacher – **Emma Leigh-Bennett**
- new opportunity as a partner of the RLT – **Paul James CEO**

I look forward to meeting you in the coming months and welcoming you to our School.

Emma Leigh-Bennett

“I am delighted to have been elected as Chair of Governors of the Local Governing Body for Kingsdown School at such an exciting time in the School’s journey to excellence.

The Governors welcome the opportunities presented by us having joined the River Learning Trust and having appointed Mrs Leigh-Bennett as Headteacher. We are proud of our staff and students and we are committed to supporting and challenging them in this new chapter.”

Lynne Scragg



So what are the benefits for us and our students?

What will it mean to be a RLT school?

The RLT:

- will provide ongoing coaching and mentoring for Kingsdown's leaders and support them in embedding the required level of school improvement and thereby the best possible outcomes for all our students
- has access to a wide range of networks which will assist our teams in delivering excellence in and outside of the classroom
- will provide numerous Professional Development opportunities for our staff – both teaching and professional support staff – and will thereby support our all-important recruitment and retention strategy
- has the resources and capacity to support with several key operational processes, previously provided by LEAs, such as HR, Financial as well as Governor support
- lastly, the leaders across the RLT will support Kingsdown in regularly reviewing our Self Evaluation processes – the “where we believe we are” and, more importantly, the “what we need to focus on in order to improve further.”

The principles of our School

The principles of both our School and Trust that guide all our work are

- a commitment to **excellence** – striving for the best educational experience
- everyone **learning** – creating and taking every opportunity to enhance lives
- commitment to **respectful** relationships – acting with care, integrity and fairness in all we do.

As leaders of Kingsdown School we share an unshakable belief and confidence in all our students and in all our staff. Additionally we all firmly believe in the power and importance of everyone having the right both to deliver and to receive a high quality education.

Our expectations

As Headteacher I ask and expect everyone to commit to our three Kingsdown Expectations both in and outside the classroom – and to commit to them each and every day. These expectations are that we all:

1. Take **pride** in our future dreams and **ambitions**
2. **Stretch** and **challenge** ourselves to achieve
3. Show **respect** for the rights, roles and **responsibilities** of others

respect
ambition pride
responsibilities
stretch challenge



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