

18 November 2025

Dear Parents

A few reminders.

### **Year 11 Parents' Evening and early closure Thursday 20 November**

The Year 11 Parents' Evening will take place between 2pm and 6.30pm on Thursday 20 November. The event will be via SchoolCloud and appointment slots are still open. As a result, the school will close at 1.20pm on this day with the normal early bus services running:

#### **Go Coach**

S7 (+ S8) – to Sundridge, Brasted and Westerham

S10/S12 – to Swanley, Crockenhill, Hextable and Wilmington etc

S32 – Chelsfield and Orpington

Coming onto site at approx. 13:35 will be our route 3 service which shall operate the S3 (displaying route 3 Locksbottom).

**NOT** coming onto site but serving Bat & Ball shall be a route 6 which will serve Seal and Kemsing like an S6 would.

Everything else shall serve the school grounds at normal time.

#### **Red Route**

408 will be 1.30pm on Thursday

308 will run at normal times e.g. 3.45pm

### **Inset day Friday 21 November**

Knole Academy is closed for students on Friday 21 November for an Inset day.

#### **Attendance**

I wrote before half term that the largest drop off in attendance, historically occurs after the October half term, both nationally and at Knole Academy. Thank you for your support, because in the first two weeks back, we are not mirroring this trend and attendance has improved. As always, good attendance is vital if students are to achieve their potential.

### **Cold weather**

As we wake up to the first properly cold day of the year, please be aware of extreme weather protocols where in specific circumstances the school may have to close. Closing the school because of snow is always one of the most difficult decisions. I either want to see no snow or 2 metres of it just so the decision is clear and obvious.

The issue is exacerbated for Knole Academy because we serve a rural community, with 60% of our students dependant on buses and an even larger amount on public transportation for their commute. Even if snow is minimal in Sevenoaks, we may be in a situation where significant numbers of students are left stranded. If the school has to close, we will post a message on the school website and Kent School Closures website <https://www.kentclosures.co.uk/>

However, the most effective messaging will be via the Arbor app, and we will endeavour to make a decision and post a message before students have to start their commute.

### **Holiday Activity Vouchers**

Kent County Council will be issuing holiday activity vouchers to all eligible families on Wednesday 26 November. This date is the same for all schools in the county to provide equity when trying to book activities.

A parent guide for using the vouchers can be found at <https://help.holidayactivities.com/hc/en-gb>

Best wishes



David Collins