

3 June 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

A few notes for your consideration:

Specialist Resource Provision

Attached to this letter is an extended consultation about the creation of an SRP at Knole Academy for a first intake of students in September 2027. There is a significant lack of dedicated SEND places in West Kent and as a result students often end up in mainstream settings where neither they nor their peers receive an optimal education.

We are seeking your valuable views on the proposal to open a Specialist Resource Provision (SRP) at Knole Academy for children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and/or Speech Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) from September 2027.

Extended details can be found on the attached letter as well as an invitation to a Teams meeting at 3.00pm on the Tuesday 16 June. We welcome your feedback which will help inform future decisions made by the Aletheia Trust and Kent County Council. The consultation closes on Wednesday 24 June.

Please take a few minutes to complete the consultation survey here: [Complete the survey](#)

Phone Pouches

On Tuesday 2 June I spoke to all students about the implementation of phone pouches. We are implementing these for Years 7, 8 and 9 in the week commencing June 29 and for Year 10 on the week commencing 6 July. Attached to this letter is a guidance document for the way the policy will work at Knole Academy. The new Year 7 will also have pouches when they arrive in September and therefore, this will mean that all students from Year 7-11 will be expected to use the pouches. This is in alignment with the law passed by the government which dictates that schools should be phone free.

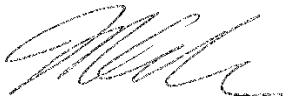
Open Water Swimming

I have received correspondence from a number of organisations that manage areas in and around Sevenoaks with open water, expressing concern about children from all schools including Knole Academy, who were entering areas of water during the half term holidays. They are obviously concerned over the risk this entails, as there is no lifeguard facility available. Open water swimming is responsible for the deaths of many children and adults every year. I feel I have a duty of care to alert parents in case they did not know that this was occurring and to remind all individuals of the risk.

Hot weather

We were thankfully spared the first heatwave of the summer as it fell in half term, if the hot weather returns, I will write to parents regarding modifications to uniform such as the removal of the requirement for blazers. However, outside of these notifications we do expect uniform standards to be maintained; I thank you for your support in this matter.

Best wishes



David Collins