



King's High School

BOOST  
PROGRAMME

## Introduction

At King's we are wholeheartedly committed to the provision of the very best opportunities for each and every pupil in the school, and that commitment ranges from initiatives such as the live radio link between King's High and the International Space Station, to a lunchtime support session for students who need some additional academic guidance to enable them to thrive in a particular subject. We celebrate the exceptional talents of all of our students, whilst offering academic support to boost skills and develop confidence as the students progress through the school.

Boost is our learning support programme, which brings together the impressive range of academic support sessions, bespoke individual guidance, and small group sessions. The programme is co-ordinated by Mrs Lucie Harris, our Head of Learning Support, Mrs Pagni, our Learning Support Assistant, and our expert team of specialist Boost Tutors, each with their own area of expertise.

No matter how talented or able the student, there may come a time in a student's school life when she needs some additional support in her academic work. Our Boost Programme offers bespoke and tailored solutions to make sure that students have access to positive, encouraging and effective support and guidance.

This booklet will introduce you to the various ways in which we can do this.

**Dr Stephen Burley**  
**Head Master**

## What is Boost?

Boost is our exciting programme for academic support at King's. It is designed to offer the positive support and encouragement, alongside specific learning strategies and additional provision, to ensure that every student at King's High can thrive and achieve her full potential.

The Boost programme is open to every pupil in the school. By contacting the Boost team, students will be able to access expert advice and support, including a whole range of activities from daily one-to-one support to our lunchtime 'Daily Boost' sessions.

## The Head of Learning Support

### Mrs Lucie Harris



**The Boost team is led by Mrs Lucie Harris who co-ordinates the programme and liaises with parents, students and academic staff to ensure that the pupils' learning needs are being met.**

"We are committed to making sure that our students flourish and achieve the highest quality outcomes possible. Every student is an individual with their own specific needs. Reality often means that when, at times, we encounter challenges and barriers, we may all just need a little 'Boost' now and again. The Boost specialised programme allows all students to be supported to fulfil their academic potential by offering a variety of bespoke support."

"This exciting provision demonstrates how the academic and emotional wellbeing of our students is of the utmost importance to us and is at the heart of all that we strive for. To have such an exceptional number of gifted staff committed to raising standards and working alongside our students in this way is inspiring. As a vocational teacher, I have always had an inherent passion for teaching and learning. Over years of experience and with additional training in the areas of nurture, special educational needs and disabilities, I have delighted in seeing students thrive and it is a privilege to oversee this programme."



# Meet the Boost Team

**Mrs Harris works with a dedicated team of visiting specialists with expertise in English, Maths, French, English as an Additional Language, confidence and self-esteem, and specific learning needs, including dyslexia.**



**Dr Mike Barwell**

**Specialism:** Arts and Humanities, revision and note taking, GCSE English and Art

I have a long teaching experience with pupils of all ages and in a great variety of subjects. My M.A. and Ph.D. in 'Arts Education' from The University of Warwick place me as someone well used to approaching academic study from a creative perspective.

Sound organisation, self-belief and building confidence in school through creative processes can lift a pupil's expectations. We are not all the same and some of us need a 'boost' from time to time to make the most of our individuality. My aim is to enhance the prospects of our pupils' success at all levels by improving personal organisational skills, asking the right questions about examinations, memory and revision tactics, and taking a closer look at the presentation of school work in general. Once you have 'learned how to learn'... no one can stop you!



**Mrs Jo Pagni**

**Specialism:** English

It is exciting to be part of such an experienced and dedicated Learning Support Team.

I support King's pupils in core areas of English and Maths. Lessons are designed to the individual needs of the students enabling students to succeed.

Promoting self-esteem with a 'can do' attitude is hugely important in my role, ensuring students realise their aspirations.

I believe students who develop confidence in their abilities, during these crucial school years, will grow into successful, happy and curious young women with bright futures; it is a privilege to be part of their learning journey.



**Mr Simon Williams**

**Specialism:** Mathematics to KS5

I have a Mathematics degree from the University of Warwick and over 12 years' experience working as a private Maths tutor. In that time, I have worked with many GCSE and A Level students, helping them to achieve the results they need. I thoroughly enjoy seeing pupils' progress and enabling their understanding of Mathematics. I also know what examiners are looking for as I have marked A Level papers several times over the past ten years.



**Georgina Millington**

**Specialism:** Mathematics

My background is in Engineering and Design (MEng) – I worked as a design engineer for over 15 years, applying Maths to a broad range of engineering problems. I have since tutored Maths with experience in KS2 and KS3, allowing me to build students' skills from the roots up. Over the past two years, I have also worked as an Intervention Maths Tutor in a secondary school in Coventry. I enjoy helping students realise their potential by encouraging a positive mind-set and helping them to consider mistakes as opportunities for learning.



**Mrs Severine Freton-Khatkar**

**Specialism:** French

I am very happy to become a part of the Boost team as a French tutor. My career in teaching has led me to experience a range of ages, from primary to Upper Sixth. Through it all, one central element has remained helping children in their learning journey.

Confidence is essential when learning a language and I like to "boost" the students whenever I see them. Believing that they can do it may be enough for them to unlock their potential. It's thrilling to see them start to believe in themselves and defy the odds.

I love working with children and I look forward to supporting them.



**Mrs Lesley Swift**

**Specialism:** Mathematics

I am a qualified Maths teacher with over eight years of teaching experience within the classroom. I have significant experience of working with pupils with additional educational and emotional needs enabling pupils to gain confidence both in themselves and in their Maths skills.



**Mrs Clare Richards**

**Specialism:** English

I'm really happy to be able to join the Boost Team this year, having spent around 14 years teaching English at King's High across the Key Stages, but more recently particularly with GCSE students. Understanding what is required in examination assessment criteria and coursework assessment criteria is particularly useful when working with students who find, at various points in their learning, that they may need a period of more targeted assistance to rediscover their confidence or improve their understanding.

I enjoy supporting individuals who find they need to revise key aspects of analysis or reading and writing skills on a one-to-one basis; this is often an effective space in which to practice or get to grips with areas students may feel they lack confidence tackling in the classroom or larger groups, particularly in the step up to GCSE level working from Key Stage 3. It is really inspiring to see students benefit from an increase in understanding and confidence in applying these skills more effectively in their wider schoolwork, after tailoring learning more specifically to individual requirements. Sometimes you just need a bit of time and space to be able to really get to understand something and I enjoy being able to support students' learning in this way.



**Mr David Brett**

**Specialism:** Mathematics

After gaining a Mathematics degree from the University of Warwick I trained as an auditor and qualified as a chartered accountant. I lectured accountancy students for ten years and then spent the rest of my career as an accountant in finance. Since 'retirement' I have spent four years as a teaching assistant with a focus on SEN pupils.

I have really struggled with academic studies at certain times in my life and know what it feels like when a general dislike of a subject develops and frustration and concern build up. My approach to supporting and tutoring students starts with the objective of raising their confidence level and, ideally, making the learning experience enjoyable. Once achieved, improvements in ability invariably follows. Developing an excellent rapport with any pupil I work with is crucial and humour is an important element of this. Whether I am supporting pupils who are struggling with aspects of the mathematics syllabus or pupils who are looking for marginal gains to increase their grades I enjoy working with them to establish the most effective way of improving their performance. I am delighted to be joining the Boost Team at King's High.



## Boost Programme – Overview

**The Boost team is focused on the individual needs of each pupil. We work to understand the specific academic and learning needs of the student before developing an action plan with targeted support strategies. We will communicate with parents throughout this process. The wider academic support available at King's includes:**

- Departmental workshops and study clinics
- Sixth Form academic mentoring programme
- Occasional talks for parents and students about study skills and specific learning needs
- Personalised learning using digital technology to support progress
- Peer mentors
- Staff coaches

The various additional support and provision offered by the Boost Programme can include:

- Daily Boost lunchtime sessions with our expert Boost team
- Boost's KS3 small group intensive courses on core skills
- One-to-one tutorials; sessions on core skills and core subjects
- Regular communication with teaching staff and parents to ensure that teaching is responsive to individual learning needs
- Bespoke sessions to develop confidence and self-esteem, as well as memory skills, study skills, and revision strategies
- Assembly input around study and revision skills

## Get Your Daily Boost!

We love all students to be able to access learning support on a daily basis at King's. Based in the 'Oasis' space students have free access to meet with a member of the Learning Support department. An opportunity like this encapsulates our 'open door' commitment to support all students. It is an opportunity to come and work on projects, coursework, homework, to research or talk through any academic concerns with our Head of Learning Support in our designated Learning Support Space – The 'Oasis'.

**Daily Boost!**  
**Every day.**  
**Please contact Mrs Harris.**

## Boost's Key Stage 3 Support

Sometimes when it is felt that a student would benefit from additional lessons on core skills (English, Maths, note taking, organisation and revision), it is possible for a student to come off a lesson in Key Stage 3. Instead of attending this lesson, students would attend the Oasis space for tailored support in response to the specific needs of the student. This is led by Mrs Harris, or one of her expert team.

This is an excellent way to build confidence and tailor the curriculum to the individual needs of the student, who may benefit more from additional time on English, Maths and other core skills. These sessions are free of charge.

## Boost's Key Stage 4 Support

For students who have a modified curriculum at KS4, the Oasis space is our dedicated workspace. Students are encouraged to consolidate their learning here and keep a personal study log to track this. We offer general oversight in the space with dedicated teaching assistants encouraging and supporting students in busier sessions. Some students choose to have Boost bespoke tutoring in these sessions too.

## Boost's Bespoke Tuition

It is also possible to arrange for bespoke one-to-one tuition with Mrs Harris or a member of her expert Boost team.

These 30 or 50 minute sessions will take place at a convenient time for the students attending. Each session will cost £28.55 for a 30 minute session; £47.70 for a 50 minute session.

The Boost team is focused on the individual needs of each student, so they will work to understand the specific learning needs before developing a tailored programme of learning with targeted support strategies. The following list outlines some of the courses that will run:

- Core Maths Skills
- Core English Skills
- Core Science Skills
- Core Study Skills (memory, revision and note taking strategies)
- Confidence and self-esteem
- English as an Additional Language
- French

Many students are enjoying tuition in their study periods weekly. This gives an opportunity for pre and post-teaching, reflection and consolidation.

To discuss arrangements for one-to-one tutorials, please contact Mrs Harris on **L.Harris@warwickschools.co.uk**



## King's High School

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