KentVision FAQs

How can I access the new system?

The URL for KentVision is https://evision.kent.ac.uk/ which will be live from Friday 23 April 2021.

If we already have SDS access, will we get access to Kent Vision automatically or will we need to request it?

You will not need to request access to the new system. Existing permissions from SDS have been translated for use in the new system and applied to your role and department.

Will there be any major changes to the way Admissions use KentVision for processing or enquiries?

There will be no major changes to the admissions and enquiries functionality within KentVision, although a few things to be aware of:

- *If an applicant is UF with us, when they become eligible for enrolment their existing applicant ID will become their student ID (instead of being allocated a new ID as is the case with SDS). This will be known as the Kent ID through the system.*
- *Some previous and existing applicants will see their ID in KentVision change as we migrate their student record and use their student/SDS ID (also known as the ukc number) in KentVision instead.*
- *For central admissions, there will be new processes to manage students ready for enrolment who need to defer, withdraw or change their course and to manage the qualification checks process. Full information on what this will involve will be made available in due course.*
- *This is the first time we have had one combined admissions and student records system with shared records and data. It is likely some changes to the way data needs to be collected at the admissions stage will be inevitable as the system and data is used.*
- *The move from a faculty to divisional structure will be made.*

How much support/information is going to be offered to students in regard to this change in accessing their data/information?

An initial email communication and blog post were sent to all students on the 06 April to inform them of the SDS closure and launch of KentVision. This communication included a video guide link demonstrating the new student portal. A further communication will be sent ahead of the go-live date which will include guidance of refreshing their iCal feed so up to date timetable details will be displayed.

What training and backup will be provided?

The KentVision Training MS Teams site went live on the 09 April and is aimed at both sharing training resources and as a means of communication to raise queries regarding use of the new system across all functional areas. Via the [KentVision website](#) a series of video guides across multiple areas of the system are available as well access to booking [training and one-to-one sessions](#).

Will there be a way to access the archived records usually in the Archive Database?

Access to the existing archived databases will remain unchanged. Access to the Cressida copy database will be available to all users with a Cressida account. If you are a Cressida user, please use 'cressida' or 'cressida.kent.ac.uk' via PuTTy, and use the 'Copy Database' menu once you've logged in. In the short term Faclist will be available and can still be used as a way of communicating with students via the Faclist Utilities menu.

https://sds-staff-demo.kent.ac.uk will remain accessible to a limited number of users. To help reduce connectivity problems, please ensure you've closed the web page after use.

Will there be continuous development after its launch to ensure adequate provision of data reports for the wider divisional needs following O4S and if so, how will divisions be consulted on these developments?

The system will be developed beyond the functionality and reporting available at go-live. A priority list of development is currently being worked on and a process will be established for users to raise enhancement requests for consideration and prioritisation.

Will the postgraduate research part have similar functionality to Progression Monitoring in SDS?

The PGR hub in KentVision will provide Professional Service and academic staff access to the full range of functionality currently provided by SDS in this area. This includes functionality for managing supervisory meetings, progression reviews, thesis submission, result processing, raising of pass lists etc. required across the postgraduate research lifecycle.

What is the logic behind moving the calendar from an academic to financial one. As an academic institution surely we should be guided by the timetables of the

students who consider their years to follow that of the current SDS week numbering. How can the week numbering be changed to match that of the current (and superior) system?

The KentVision system is built on system architecture provided by the SITS/Tribal product which uses a calendar based around the HESA academic year, running from week 1 at the start of August to week 52 at the end of July when the HESA census data check point is undertaken. The system is designed to run against this calendar and as such the University is therefore required to use the new week numbering system which is primarily surfaced for timetabling and events functionality.

What reporting mechanisms will be available in KV and when will these be available? Will previous year's data be available in the reporting system that Divisions can extract and mine i.e. by student identifier?

All current Reporting Services (SSRS) reports will be made available using KentVision data. The majority of reports will be available for go-live, with the remaining to be rolled out as soon as possible. The reports will be able to access migrated data from previous academic years which will provide a reporting facility for these years.