

King Edward VI Northfield School for Girls, Turves Green, Birmingham, B31 4BP

Tel: 0121 464 8346

enquiry@nsg.kevibham.org nsg.kevibham.org



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Dear Parent / Guardian

As we reach the end of our first half-term, I write to you to share a number of important developments as well as to ask you for your help.

1) Attendance

321 of our pupils have sustained 100% attendance so far, this academic year. I understand and appreciate the work and support that parents need to put in to sustain your child's attendance in school every day, and your efforts are massively appreciated. Evidence nationally shows that without excellent attendance even the very best teaching will fail to deliver the best outcomes.

2) Clubs and Boosters

In a quick update from my letter last week, I wanted to let you know that in **the last week alone there were over 760 attendances at our extra-curricular programme**. This is a phenomenal achievement, and I feel extremely proud of the engagement of our pupils and the dedication of our staff. Thank you for supporting your child to attend.

Please keep an eye out for the new clubs being established next half-term. Please also note that our Saturday clubs do not run over the half-term holiday and so will not take place this Saturday, 22nd October or next Saturday, 29th October.

3) Breaktime and Lunchtime Changes

One area where I feel we have not done well enough this half-term is the length of queues at break and lunch for the canteen service. This is particularly true for the first of the two breaks and lunches (Years 7, 8 and 10), as canteen use is particularly high for Years 7 and 8. I am meeting with our contractor, Citiserve, to discuss ways in which they can improve the service. In addition, we will be moving Year 10 break and lunch to 11.15am and lunch to 1.40pm, in line with Year 9 and Year 11. We will keep this under review and continue to look for ways to improve the service we provide our pupils.

4) Sixth Form

I write to you with news of a hugely exciting development – a King Edward VI 6th Form for our pupils. Currently our leavers go to a range of further education colleges, principally Cadbury College and Halesowen College. Whilst many of our leavers have an excellent experience at these institutions, many also feel the loss of close pastoral and academic support and the sense of community we create here.





King Edward VI Foundation, in liaison with the Headteacher and Governors of King Edward VI Lordswood School for Girls, have decided to ensure that young people leaving this school have a clear route to excellent A Level and T Level provision within the King Edward VI family. I will be writing with more details as soon as discussions around providing a free daily coach and other aspects of the provision are agreed. In the meantime, parents may wish to make a note of the Open Evening date - **Wednesday 23rd November, 5pm-7pm.**

5) Social Media

Please consider finding and following the school's Facebook page and Twitter account, both accessible via the buttons on the school website – a great way to keep up to date with developments in school.

In closing, I hope that you and your family are able to enjoy your child's half-term break despite pressures of work and other commitments.

Your sincerely

Mr Neil Jones Headteacher