



**KING EDWARD VI  
NORTHFIELD  
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**

*Educational excellence for our City*

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17 April 2023

Dear Parent / Guardian

I write with a number of updates

### **1) Easter School**

It is great so many Year 11s grabbed the opportunity to take part in our Easter School – I am very hopeful that the support they received will give them greater confidence to deal with the challenges of the summer exams.

If you are parent of a Year 11, it is also worth stressing that while GCSEs are, of course, important, they remain just one chapter in our journey through life and even if the exams do not go as they might hope, life will go on and be full of opportunities for success and happiness. We want our pupils to do well, but we also want them to keep the exams in perspective – and I am conscious that as we work hard to provide support and encouragement some pupils will overstate the importance of these exams.

### **2) Year 9 Options**

As Assistant Headteacher, Mr Conlon begins work on next academic year's timetable it looks as if just six pupils will not be able to follow their chosen options for a single subject, which is a really high success rate. Mr Conlon will be in touch with those families in the near future.

### **3) Term 2 Reports**

Pupils in Years 7,8 and 9 will have come home with letters addressed to parents before the holiday. Inside you will find their Term 2 Academic Summary Report. If you have any queries about specific subjects, let reception know and they will put you in touch with the relevant Head of Subject.

### **4) All-Birmingham Indoor Athletics**

I would like to congratulate our Year 7 athletes who secured 3<sup>rd</sup> place and our Year 8s 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the all-Birmingham finals. This level of success in the face of competition from all of Birmingham's secondary schools is a tremendous achievement. These children have

Headteacher: Mr Neil Jones



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demonstrated impressive levels of teamwork and commitment and we are incredibly proud of them.

#### **5) National Education Union Strike Days**

Following an overwhelming rejection of the Government's offer, the NEU has announced further days on strike action on Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> April and Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

So far, at our school Year 9 have missed three days of school, Year 8 and Year 10 have missed two days each, whilst Year 7 and Year 11 have attended school as normal (with a significant amount of cover lessons). Whilst we do not think it is at all sensible to lose Year 11 teaching time this close to exams, I have now decided that with every possibility of strike action rumbling on into the Autumn Term, that it is important to aim for some degree of equity in terms of days lost by each year group.

Therefore, on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April, we will have Year 11 and Year 9 in as normal, whilst the other three- year groups will be able access independent study resources via their TEAMS accounts. On Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May, we will have Year 11 and Year 10 in as normal. I will write in advance of each of these dates with more details, but wanted to give parents a heads-up as soon as I was able.

Yours sincerely

Mr Neil Jones  
Headteacher