

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

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11th September 2023

Dear Parent / Guardian

I write with a couple of observations from the first week back and with some information for the week ahead.

1) Clubs and Activities

Please see the attached weekly timetable of extra-curricular activities and academic boosters. Please encourage your child to attend as many of these as possible in the next few weeks. There is evidence that pupils who attend clubs have better school attendance, enjoy school more and ultimately, are more successful.

2) Mobile phones

On our first day back, I did not see a single pupil with their mobile phone out throughout the day. Thank you for the encouragement you may have given your child to follow this school rule and please congratulate them for playing their part in improving the school culture.

3) Canteen

Our catering staff have successfully delivered the ambitious new menu. In general, whilst some pupils are missing some of the less healthy items from last year's menu, in general most pupils have been really pleased with the new offer. Inevitably, with a more complicated menu, this has led to slightly longer queues whilst the catering team adapt, particularly during the Year 7, 8 and 11 break time and lunchtime. We are optimistic that we can increase the speed of service in the weeks ahead, but I will write again if we feel any changes to lunch time arrangements are required.

4) Open Evening

Our Open Evening is rapidly approaching. As the huge strength of our school is our brilliant pupils, we would appreciate you encouraging and supporting your child to volunteer to help on the evening. School will be closing for Open Evening at 12.40 pm on Tuesday, 19th September so that staff and pupils can make final preparations for the evening. In addition, there will be a late start on the Wednesday following Open Evening. **Pupils must arrive by 11.30 am**. Registration will take place at 11.30am for 10 minutes. Period 3 will start at 11.40am.

5) Year 11 PALs

As our new Year 7s have been finding their feet in secondary school, the help and support of our Year 11 'PALs' who have been supporting the Year 7s has been brilliant. These young people exemplify the very best in our school, and they have both my thanks and my admiration for their hard work.

6) A guide to what pupils' study

We have updated our website to include a guide for parents about what each year group studies in every subject. This may give parents an opportunity to support their child's





learning. The guide can be found here: https://nsg.kevibham.org/curriculum-subjects/, and then click on the relevant year group.

7) Contacting the school regarding attendance

If you are contacting the school via SMS or through the Arbor App about attendance, please start your message with the word 'ATTENDANCE' followed by your message. The preferred method of contacting the school about attendance is by e-mailing: attendance@nsg.kevibham.org.

Yours faithfully

Mr Neil Jones Headteacher