



**KING EDWARD VI
NORTHFIELD
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**

Educational excellence for our City

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**KING EDWARD VI
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5th September 2023

Dear Parent / Guardian

As we prepare to welcome your child back to school, I write with a number of brief bits of news and reminders:

- 1) Our building does not have any of the RAAC (reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete) which we have all been hearing so much about in the news.
- 2) All children should return to school on Wednesday 6th September (Year 7 for 8.45am and Year 8-11 by 11.40am).
- 3) As previously shared, we are changing our approach to managing mobile phone use during the school day. Pupils using their phone for any reason between 8.45am and 3.15pm will have their phone confiscated for collection at the end of the school day.
- 4) Whilst we want to get off to a great start with school uniform in the first week back, we are conscious of forecasted hot weather and, therefore, **there will be no expectation that pupils wear blazers this week.**
- 5) As you are aware, our school's uniform code is clear regarding piercings – a single stud in each ear is fine, but further piercings are not. We are really keen to focus on our pupils' education rather than enforcing uniform codes, so your support in helping to avoid any issues will be really appreciated.
- 6) We are introducing a number of major changes to how we mark, assess and check understanding this year. I will be writing to you with some detailed information around this in the near future.
- 7) Extra-curricular clubs and boosters: our programme of enrichment will begin from Tuesday 12th September, and activities will be available across every weekday afternoon and Saturday mornings. I will write with the timetable of activities at the end of this week. This year we will be looking to offer both the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award to interested Year 9s free of charge, but also offer the Silver Award to Year 10s who completed Bronze Award last year. Further information to follow on Monday, 11th September.

Arbor/cashless catering

An SMS message or e-mail has been sent out to all parents / guardians about downloading the Arbor App. Can you please download and install the Arbor App if you have not already done so that you can receive communications from the school and so that you will be able to make payments for the cashless catering system for school meals. Please follow this link for instructions

Headteacher: Mr Neil Jones



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on how to download and install the Arbor App: <https://support.arbor-education.com/hc/en-us/articles/360020147458-Log-into-the-Parent-Portal-and-the-Arbor-App#what-is-the-parent-portal--0-0>

If you experience any problems with logging into the Arbor App please look at this troubleshooting link in the first instance: <https://support.arbor-education.com/hc/en-us/articles/115002810985-Troubleshooting-login-issues-why-can-t-i-log-in-to-my-school-s-Parent-Portal-or-Arbor-App-#check-your-logins-0-0>

If you still require help please send an e-mail to: IT-support@nsg.kevibham.org

As explained in my letter from the end of the summer term, the cashless catering system is also being updated but will not be fully operational until the end of September. Further communication will be sent out about this when we are ready to go live. This will mean that pupil accounts will be allowed to go into deficit in the interim (as you will not be able to add funds until it goes live) so all pupils can still have meals from the canteen in the meantime. We will ask you to top up at the end of September if your child does not receive Free School Meals to cover this deficit. I apologise in advance for any inconvenience or confusion that this causes, which is beyond our control.

In closing, we are looking forward to seeing your child tomorrow and I am anticipating a great academic year ahead.

Yours faithfully

Mr Neil Jones
Headteacher