



**KING EDWARD VI  
NORTHFIELD  
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**

*Educational excellence for our City*

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FOUNDATION  
BIRMINGHAM**

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14<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Dear Parent / Guardian,

I write with several brief updates:

**1. Temporary staffing change in English**

Mr Marchese-Fry, Head of English and class teacher for pupils in Years 7, 9, 10 and 11, will be taking two weeks of paternity leave within the next week or two. We are sure you will join us in wishing him and his family well at this exciting time.

During his absence, your child will continue to follow the planned English curriculum and be taught by our specialist English teachers. To make sure pupils remain supported and receive high-quality lessons, we have arranged for some classes to be combined or temporarily redistributed among the English department, rather than using non-specialist cover.

The arrangements are as follows:

- **Year 7** - 7EN3a (Mrs Neal) and 7EN3b (Mx Johnsen) will combine. • 7EN1a (Mr Marchese-Fry's class) will be taught by Mrs Neal in Room 25.
- **Year 9** - 9EN1b (Mr Marchese-Fry's class) will be taught by Miss Clarke in Room 28. • Drama lessons (1a, 2a, 2b, 3a) will be replaced with additional English lessons taught by each class's English teacher.
- **Year 10** - 10EN2b (Mr Marchese-Fry's class) will be split as follows: – 4 pupils will join 10EN2a (Mr Beech) – 8 pupils will join 10EN3a (Mrs Pearson) – 13 pupils will join 10EN3b (Miss Clarke)
- **Year 11** - 11EN3a (Miss Clarke) and 11EN3b (Mx Johnsen) will combine. • 11EN1b (Mr Marchese-Fry's class) will be taught by Mx Johnsen in Room 27. Please note: depending on the timing of the paternity leave, some lessons may coincide with mock exams.

We appreciate your understanding and support during this short period. Your child's learning will continue to be carefully planned and monitored by our English team, and Mr Marchese-Fry will resume his teaching as soon as he returns.

**2. Reminder – INSET Day Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> November**

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November is our 'Oaks Training Day', where our staff attend training and professional development sessions in schools across the South-West of Birmingham, led by nationally recognised experts. School will be closed to children on this day.

Headteacher: Mr Neil Jones



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### **3. Attendance Reward**

Every pupil who attends on time every day next week (Monday to Thursday), will receive a doughnut as a reward for maintaining great attendance as the weather worsens. Any child who would like an alternative reward for dietary reasons should let Mr Chesterman know.

### **4. After-School Extra-Curricular**

We are pleased that many pupils are attending clubs afterschool and thank you for your encouragement of this. Please can you remind your child that if they stay for a club they are to go straight to the venue after period 5 at 3.15pm. Pupils are not allowed to go off site to the shop and then return to school to join an extra-curricular club. If we think your child has done this, we will inform you as it is a safeguarding concern.

We also have a small number of pupils waiting in school for their friends who are in clubs. If not attending a club (or detention), your child must be off site by 3.25pm. Homework club offers a pleasant environment if a pupil is keen to stay whilst a friend attends another club.

Pupils are more than welcome to wait on the rainbow chairs in reception if they are being picked up by a parent.

Yours faithfully

Mr Neil Jones  
Headteacher