



**KING EDWARD VI  
LORDSWOOD  
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**

**Virtual Parents' Forum  
8.00 a.m. Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**Mrs Kerry Cooney – Headteacher  
Mrs Lynne Finucane – Assistant Headteacher, Personal Development  
Mrs Sheila Allport – PA to Headteacher & Senior Leadership Team (note taker)**

**22 parents attended the forum**

		ACTION BY
	Mrs Cooney welcomed parents to the first Parents' Forum of the year and provided an overview on 'how Parents' Forums work':- <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- microphones should be on mute throughout the session</li><li>- questions with a similar theme will be grouped together</li><li>- only questions submitted in advance will be answered</li><li>- the Headteacher's presentation should not be recorded; notes from the meeting and the presentation will be uploaded onto the school website</li><li>- questions that are personal to particular students have been passed to the relevant Achievement Co-ordinator who will contact you shortly</li></ul>	
1.	<b>Uniform</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- There will be no changes made to the uniform this year.</li><li>- When the new uniform was designed we took into account ways of reducing the costs to parents by allowing jumpers and navy tracksuit bottoms to be purchased from supermarkets. The PE fleece and t-shirt are the only compulsory items on the PE kit.</li><li>- Guidelines around patent shoes have been relaxed to allow these to be also purchased in supermarkets. We are proud that we have one of the cheapest uniform costs within the Trust.</li><li>- Clive Marks are launching a second hand uniform bank and we will update you once we have further information regarding this.</li></ul>	
2.	<b>Communication with Parents</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The school is reviewing our communication system as there are new and improved options available for reporting and communicating with parents.</li><li>- The preferred app is School Comms as this works with Parent Pay. Additional information will be provided in the coming months.</li></ul>	

3.	<p><b>Homework</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Staff have been reminded about the requirement to set high quality homework.</li> <li>- New communication methods will include the option to upload homework onto a central platform to allow parents to see the work that has been set/completed and this will also allow the school to monitor this information.</li> <li>- There is additional work available for students on GCSE pod and google classroom.</li> </ul>	
4.	<p><b>Parents' Evening</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mrs Cooney thanked the parents who completed the recent survey. 73% of the school community voted for Parents' Evenings to remain online.</li> <li>- Parents' Evening appointments have always been for 5 minutes and this is the standard amount of time for appointments in secondary schools.</li> <li>- The online sessions allow teachers to prepare in advance to allow them to include more information in less time and they are more confidential and personable.</li> <li>- If there are any specific issues that parents would like to discuss, please email the school admin office and arrangements will be made for the relevant teacher to contact you.</li> <li>- There will be an additional year 7 parents' evening later in the year.</li> </ul>	
5.	<p><b>Substitute Classes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There has been an increased amount of cover teachers in lessons due to the level of sickness absence that staff have experienced recently, which is mirrored in several other schools in the area.</li> <li>- Although there was 26% of staff absent last week, we have managed to keep the school open for the benefit of our students and the parents who need to work, but we have used additional supply teachers to enable us to do this.</li> </ul>	
6.	<p><b>Setting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sets are visible on student timetables however set numbers are calculated differently, as some subject areas are set by ability and others are taught in mixed ability classes.</li> <li>- It is recommended that students' progress is monitored via the three reports that parents receive each year, rather than by set numbers.</li> <li>- If there are any concerns regarding student progress, please email the school admin office and they will arrange for the appropriate teacher to contact you do discuss your concern.</li> </ul>	
7.	<p><b>Target Setting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The school uses FFT (Family Fischer Trust) to set targets as they look at how students are working across the whole of the country.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All students complete CAT (Cognitive Ability Tests) upon entry to the school. These results are uploaded and FFT review these results and use them as an indication of what the students will be expected to achieve going forward. The results of the CAT tests also provide guidance to the school on how we can fully support the students. The CAT tests have been completed online this year and we have shared this information with parents via Edulink and the Parent Bulletin.</li> <li>- We are reviewing target setting this year to ensure that the targets set are challenging but not too challenging for students to achieve. Mr Pearce will be contacting parents shortly to ascertain their preferences.</li> </ul>	
8.	<p><b>Extra Support &amp; Enrichment Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If you have any specific subject concerns then please contact the relevant teacher via <a href="mailto:office@lgs.kevibham.org">office@lgs.kevibham.org</a></li> <li>- The school website details all the extra support opportunities that are offered:- <a href="https://lsg.kevibham.org/students/extra-curricular">https://lsg.kevibham.org/students/extra-curricular</a>.</li> <li>- There are many clubs available during the week including:- SEND club Maths club Drama club Homework club</li> <li>- The Library is open before school, break times and lunchtimes</li> <li>- GCSE revision clubs are starting after the Christmas holidays</li> <li>- The Duke of Edinburgh licence is currently being renewed. The member of staff that leads the DofE sessions has been supporting in other areas this term. We are hoping to launch the DofE with the year 9 students in February 2023.</li> <li>- As enrichment activities are organised voluntarily, we are very lucky that we have so many staff arranging activities for the students and that there is something available for every year group throughout the year.</li> </ul>	
9.	<p><b>Sports Clubs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Parents are encouraged to review the enrichment timetable:- <a href="https://lsg.kevibham.org/students/extra-curricular/">https://lsg.kevibham.org/students/extra-curricular/</a>.</li> <li>- Some of the enrichment is for specific year groups and others are mixed year groups so that groups can mix and become part of the Lordswood family.</li> </ul>	
10.	<p><b>Lunchtimes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The lunchtime period is very busy but all students leave the canteen before the final bell rings to signify the end of lunchtime.</li> <li>- We are trying to avoid staggered lunchtimes as this would mean that we would not be able to run any lunchtime clubs.</li> <li>- A survey will be circulated in the New Year to obtain views on how the school day can be increased to meet the 32.5 hours of provision required each week detailed within the white paper.</li> </ul>	

11.	<p><b>Toilets</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Year 7 students are now allowed to use the upstairs toilets instead of the ground floor toilets resulting in the queues being cleared before the end of breaktime and lunchtime each day.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Mrs Cooney thanked the parents for attending the Parents' Forum and for taking the time to send questions in advance of the session.</b></p> <p><b>If parents do have any further questions arising from this session, please email Mrs Allport via <a href="mailto:PA@lsg.kevibham.org">PA@lsg.kevibham.org</a>.</b></p>	