



**KING EDWARD VI  
LORDSWOOD  
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**

**Virtual Parents' Forum  
9.00 a.m. Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023**

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

		ACTION BY
	<p>Mrs Cooney warmly welcomed everyone to the last Parents' Forum of the year and provided an overview on 'how Parents' Forums work':-</p> <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>- any questions arising from the session to be emailed to Mrs Allport (<a href="mailto:pa@lsg.kevibham.org">pa@lsg.kevibham.org</a>) who will arrange for contact to be made</li></ul>	
	<p><b>Curriculum Coverage:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Following feedback from OFSTED, all subjects now have a clear curriculum map with the content that will be covered in each year/topic.</li><li>- All subjects are on track to complete their planned curriculum.</li><li>- There has been some change in the Maths department because of maternity leave, the supply teachers have all been qualified maths teachers and have covered the same curriculum. The department is now back to full capacity.</li><li>- We build in regular assessments throughout the year to identify areas that require intervention and this takes place following each assessment.</li><li>- If you have any concerns then please contact the School Office and they will arrange for a teacher or Lead Professional to contact you</li></ul> <p><b>Homework</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Students currently record homework in planners, this makes it difficult to monitor from a whole school perspective.</li><li>- Feedback on homework is mixed - some saying too much is set, some saying not enough.</li></ul>	

- Always opportunities for students to undertake additional learning via GCSE pod and other online platforms, reading, revision, google classroom etc.
- Introducing Class Charts in September which will require all homework to be logged by teachers, this will allow us to monitor the setting/completion of homework.
- We have a subscription for GCSE pod for students from 7-13 for additional work to be available to students who may finish their homework. We encourage students to revise little and often once homework is completed.

#### **Trips & Extra Curricular Activities**

- There have been many more trips and extra-curricular activities than last year.
- Extra-curricular activities are undertaken on a voluntary basis by staff and we are reliant upon their goodwill.
- Staff offer activities that complement their skill sets and knowledge e.g. request for a cheerleading club is not possible because we don't have any staff who are cheerleaders.
- There has also been many events in school e.g. discos, films, workshops, talks, plays, music lessons so students have had an opportunity to partake in events.
- 91 separate trips have already taken place so far this year (including 3 residential trips, one of which was overseas)
- Why can't we do more?
  - Staff time to organise (overnight requires child care etc)
  - Staff out of school - cover lessons
  - Students out of lessons
  - Cost to school
  - Cost to parents
- More in-school activities e.g. STICK team, Hippodrome workshops, STEM day
- Next steps - audit what we have offered this year to ensure fair/even distribution. Create a 'Lordswood offer' where all students get something, at least one trip per year.

#### **Duke of Edinburgh**

- Voluntary position in school - members of staff do not get paid for running D of E
- Struggling to find volunteers with the time to support - very labour intensive to run.
- The volunteer who normally runs D of E has secured a promotion within the school which has required his full attention this year.
- Cost of running D of E is becoming a limiting factor e.g. high staff to student ratio which impacts on cover.
- We used to outsource some of the provision but this has become cost prohibitive after being let down by the company during Covid.
- We will try to recruit a new volunteer team again in September to see if it is possible to start the programme again but I cannot promise that this will be possible.

**Careers**

- This year we have organised 2 careers fairs in school - Y10, Y11, Y12 and Y13 all got invited.
- We have also organised several trips for Y10, Y12 and Y13 to go to apprenticeship fairs, UCAS fairs etc.
- Y9 options evening will share more information about careers.
- We share information about careers events/competitions, work experience opportunities as we find them, these are shared via the careers bulletins. This term we have launched a KS3 focused careers bulletin. If any parents know of any additional events please email [office@lsg.kevibham.org](mailto:office@lsg.kevibham.org) so they can be included.
- Unifrog - all parents can access this information.
- We have always offered work experience for Y12. From next year Y10 will also be given the opportunity to participate in work experience.
- Also doubled the number of days that our careers advisor is in school so we can offer more independent advice and guidance to students.

**RSE (Relationship & Sex Education)**

- For more information about RSE please see the school policy which explains what is covered and when.
- Within the policy you can see how you can find out more about what is covered e.g. the resources used.
- Parents were consulted on the content of the RSE policy and feedback was taken on board.
- We have offered a parental meeting to discuss RSE (in May).
- Parents can remove students from the sex education part of RSE until 3 terms before their 16th birthday. After this we legally have to allow them to make their own decision - how to do this is explained within the policy.
- We will always send out a letter prior to delivering sex education lessons e.g. PSHCE lessons
- We do cover LGBTQIA+ within the curriculum as we do all other protected characteristics e.g. race, religion, disability, gender. This is an expectation of all schools. We do endeavour to be sensitive to different cultural and religious beliefs when delivering all lessons, not just RSE and protected characteristics.
- Our lessons reflect the changing society to prepare girls for life outside the school as they are going to meet/come across many different people, and we deliver factual information backed up by the Law. For example, when talking about marriage, we mention that the same-sex marriage is legal in all parts of the UK; it has been recognised and performed in England and Wales since March 2014, in Scotland since December 2014, and in Northern Ireland since January 2020.
- At the same time to get a bigger picture, we look at other countries where same-sex marriage is not recognised/allowed by law. Our focus is very much on the identity and being proud of who they

	<p>are, where they come from, their families, but also recognising that we are all different and respecting those differences.</p> <p><b>Parents' Evenings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We offer one parents evening per year, per year group. This is in line with the national guidance and is the same practice as in most other secondary schools.</li> <li>- We offer an additional parents evening for Y7 parents - one at the start of the year with review tutors and an academic one at the end of the year.</li> <li>- Parent voice indicated a preference to stay with online parents' evenings.</li> <li>- Conscious that whichever we do, we will not make everyone happy.</li> <li>- Reasons that people give for preferring online parents evenings include: being able to do from work, not having to find child care for younger siblings, the online meetings keep to time better than 'in person ones', teachers seem less stressed and more organised.</li> <li>- Uptake of parents evenings have been better since moving to online.</li> <li>- We have increased the number of opportunities for parents to visit the school e.g. curriculum evenings, performances, STICK team evenings to ensure that parents have the opportunity to visit the school.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Mrs Cooney thanked the parents for attending the Parents' Forum and for taking the time to submit questions.</b></p> <p><b>If parents have any additional questions they would like answered, please contact Mrs Allport – <a href="mailto:p.a.@lordswoodtrust.co.uk">p.a.@lordswoodtrust.co.uk</a>.</b></p>	