

Parent Bulletin



**KING EDWARD VI
LORDSWOOD
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**

Monday 9th September- Friday 13th September 2024

Week A

Lordswood School for Girls

<https://lsg.kevibham.org/>

0121 429 2838

Upcoming dates

Date	Event
Monday 9th September 2024	Reading age assessments (Y7-Y12) Year 7 early lunch Careers Advisor in school
Tuesday 10th September 2024	Year 7 early lunch World Suicide prevention day Year 7 Reading buddies- selection
Wednesday 11th September 2024	Year 7 early lunch Year 12 Welcome evening 5pm-6pm Year 11 Prefect meeting
Thursday 12th September 2024	Year 7 early lunch Careers advisor in school Year 12 Aston University Transition day PSHCE ambassadors meeting
Friday 13th September 2024	Year 7 early lunch

Headteacher - Welcome back

I hope you have all had an enjoyable summer break and that your children have enjoyed their first week back at school. I just wanted to take the opportunity to update you on a few of the developments that we have made over the summer.

Firstly, we were delighted to see so many happy faces at both the GCSE and sixth form results days in the summer. Due to the hard work and dedication of both students and teachers we saw increases in the average grade in Sixth form and significant increases in the number of students securing a 5+ in both maths and English. We also saw a 10% increase in the percentage of students achieving the English Baccalaureate at a grade 5 or above. We are very proud of each and every student and I am sure you will join me in congratulating these students and the staff who supported them in achieving such fantastic results.

Over the summer we have undertaken a significant amount of work to improve the school environment for students. Based on feedback from students we have made some significant changes to the Art/Media suite - separating the rooms and adding a new larger computer room. We have also replaced and increased the number of computers in another computer room, purchased new Apple Macs for the Music department, added additional computers to the sixth form centre and replaced a number of the screens that students have identified as difficult to see. We have also purchased a specialised lapsafe for the sixth form that will improve their access to computers during study sessions.

Students have also requested some shelter to aid their movement between buildings when it is raining - we have therefore had a new canopy fitted over the lockers and along the side of the hall and we have also replaced the fencing around the netball courts and widened the walkways so students do not have to walk on the grass. In addition, we have also invested in several air conditioning units to help control the temperature in some of our warmer classrooms.

As a school built in the 1950's the building was not equipped with a lift for students or visitors with physical needs. Over the summer we have undertaken some initial building works necessary to enable two lifts to be fitted later in the Autumn/Spring term. This represents our continued commitment to ensuring that Lordswood is an inclusive environment for all sectors of our community. We are thankful to the support from the King Edward VI Academy Trust for helping us to afford these changes.

This week we have had the pleasure of welcoming nearly 120 students to our sixth form and 150 students to year 7 - everyone has made a fantastic first impression and we are excited to see them develop over the coming months and years.

Many thanks for your continued support - we look forward to meeting you at the forthcoming curriculum evenings that are scheduled to take place over the next few months.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Cooney

Communication with school

If you ever have any concerns relating to your child we encourage parents to contact the school - even if it is just to make us aware. The best way to do this (if the situation isn't urgent) is to email the school office. The email address is office@lsg.kevibham.org

We do ask parents not to email staff directly, this is because external emails will often go to spam boxes and we want to ensure that emails are not missed.

If something is urgent please phone the office between the hours of 8am-4pm.

Due to the busy nature of a school, we are unable to accommodate meeting requests that have not been arranged in advance.

The home school communication policy can be found on the school website:

<https://lsg.kevibham.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/11.-Home-School-Communication-Policy.docx.pdf>

Student Responsibility to 'Be Ready'

Just a polite reminder that part of our school ethos is to 'Be Ready'. At this time of year we always see an increased number of students forgetting equipment for school. Reception can not call home when this happens. If you are bringing items in for your child please be aware that we can not deliver items to classrooms. Students will need to come to reception to collect any item that is delivered to school.

Students have a time table and are aware of the lesson for the next day so should be packing their bags in advance so they can 'Be Ready' for their learning.

Allergies

Just a reminder that due to several students having an allergy to nuts, we do not permit students to bring or consume any products that contain nuts whilst on school grounds. This includes presents that might contain nuts e.g. boxes of chocolates.

We also have a student with an allergy to oranges and therefore whilst we encourage students to eat fruit, we ask that you do not bring fresh oranges into school.

Parking

Sadly when I did afternoon gate duty this week, I noticed a large number of parents/carers parked across driveways, with some even parked up on drives waiting for their children to come out of school. We are very lucky to have amazing neighbours who are kind and respectful to our students. We value that positive relationship.

We therefore request that you avoid blocking entrances to people's property.

Due to our small catchment area, a high proportion of students live close enough to school to walk home. If you do need to pick up students in a car, it is a good idea to arrange to meet at a location a small distance away from the school. This way you will always be able to wait in the same location.

The Lordswood Road is also a very busy road in the morning. Last year we witnessed several 'near misses' that could have resulted in car crashes. A majority of these 'near misses' were where parents had dropped off students and then tried to do a U-turn in the road, resulting in cars coming along the road having to stop. We encourage parents to continue in the direction that their car is facing and turn around by driving around one of the 'blocks of houses'.

Uniform

We just wanted to say a massive thankyou for the amazing standard of uniform seen this week. Just a few points to note:

- Earrings should be plain gold or silver studs - we do not permit diamond earrings, hoops or other piercings.
- Skirts should be knee length and not made of 'stretch' material.
- If wearing a conventional shirt - students are expected to wear a tie. Students with open neck shirts are not expected to wear a tie.
- If feeling warm, students should firstly try removing their jumper. It is only after removing jumpers that students are permitted to remove blazers.
- Headscarves should be navy blue in colour.

Careers and Work Experience Update 2024 / 2025

Careers Advisor Mrs Johal

We are very fortunate to have an Independent Careers Advisor in School every Monday and Thursday. Mrs Johal will initially be working with Year 11 and Year 13 meeting with students on a one to one basis to offer career guidance, support and to discuss next steps. Mrs Johal will also be in attendance at various parent events throughout the year and will be assisting Year 10 when they have mock interviews in readiness for work experience week.

Work Experience Week for Year 10 and Year 12

All students in **Year 10** will go on work experience for one week from **Monday 16th June - Friday 20th June 2025**. Further details and parent letters will be shared this term to prepare students for this invaluable week.

All students in **Year 12** will go on work experience for one week from **Monday 30th June to Friday 4th July 2025**. Further details and parent letters will be shared this term to prepare students for this invaluable week.

If parents can save the above dates and start to think about suitable work experience for their child if they are in Year 10 or Year 12. Further details to follow.

Careers Bulletin every Fortnight

Students in Year 10 - Year 13 will be emailed a fortnightly Careers Bulletin filled with guidance, tips and information on College and University Open Days and Work Experience. The first bulletin will be emailed on Friday 13th September and a copy will be added to the Parent and Student Bulletins.

Many thanks,
The Careers Department
careers@lordswoodtrust.co.uk

Dream Team Back to School September 2024

Are you and your children struggling to get a good night's sleep? Have you given up your bed for your child to sleep in? Or are your children sharing beds, sleeping on the floor, or sleeping in beds that are broken or too small for them? If the answer to any of the above is yes, then please don't despair, you're not alone, Bed Poverty is estimated to affect 30% of the UK population, with over a million children estimated to have to share a bed with parents or siblings, or sleep on a floor, sofa, or in the bath.

Bed poverty is affecting outcomes for children across the UK, it has a severe impact on their educational attainment, development, and family life. At the most fundamental level, a bed is a safe space for a child, it offers warmth, independence, privacy and comfort, and it is especially important in high stress households. A bed also provides a social function, a place for children to have sleepovers and build their friendships at school.

Sleep deprivation leads to tiredness in lessons, inability to carry out physical activities well, issues with school attendance, embarrassment & low self-esteem, anxiety, mental health issues, difficulty regulating emotions and can lead to wider family tension and distress.

It is a hidden truth that many households simply cannot afford to provide each child with a bed of their own.

As your child's school we want to help!

If bed poverty is affecting your child, please get in touch with us and we can work with you to see how we address this together to support your family to get a good night's sleep.