



KING EDWARD VI
LORDSWOOD
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

**Virtual Parents' Update Meeting
9.00 a.m. on Friday 5th July 2024**

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

Mrs Cooney welcomed the attendees to the Parents' Update and thanked them for attending as it is difficult to find a time which works for everyone.

Mrs Cooney provided an overview on how the Parents' Update sessions work:-

- microphones should be on mute throughout the session.
- questions with a similar theme will be grouped together.
- only questions submitted in advance will be answered.
- questions about your own child will not be answered during the update but will be passed onto an Achievement Co-ordinator who will make contact with you.
- the Headteacher's presentation should not be recorded; notes from the meeting and the presentation will be uploaded onto the school website.
- any questions arising from the session to be emailed to Mrs Allport (pa@lsg.kevibham.org) who will arrange for someone to contact you.

1. OFSTED

- In May 2024, OFSTED visited the school for a 2 day full inspection. The first day was focused on RE, Maths, English and MFL subject areas. On the second day the focus was on whole school processes and other subject areas.
- OFSTED reported that there were massive improvements in assessments and there has been a massive period of change as there were very few curriculum plans in place when OFSTED visited previously.
- OFSTED graded the school as 'good' and there will be no complacency going forward as we will be ensuring that all departments will be working at the same highest levels.

2. Online safety

Will there be more focus on building digital skills, media literacy, and online safety after the recent passing of the Online Safety Act, 2023, and the subsequent release of the updated 'keeping children safe in education' guidance for 2024?

- KCSIE guidance is normally released to schools by the DfE in June or July for information purposes but is not officially released until September.
- With regard to online safety, we do have a strong monitoring system in place in school which alerts us to any prospective issues.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are no massive changes expected in KCSIE 2024. There is a section on data protection and all staff undertake data protection training. An external organisation checks our data and also reviews our processes. - We are constantly updating our curriculum and regularly reviewing the PSHCE program. Students are taught effective presentation and communication skills with emphasis on keeping students safe when online. - Assemblies have also taken place focusing on media literacy and how to check reliable sources of information. - AI: not all staff are comfortable with this currently but the Trust is working on a policy and training sessions are being put in place for staff. The recent STEM day included information on AI. - A filtering service has been purchased so that course work will be passed through this to check that students have not worked with AI. 	
3.	<p>Clubs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teachers and support staff run extra-curricular activities voluntarily which means that we are reliant on staff goodwill and staff having the skills to be able to run the clubs requested. The range of activities and clubs available can be found on the school website. - If students have ideas for extra-curricular activities, they can discuss these with their teachers or their school council rep to see if there is anyone in school who has the skills to lead a club in this area. 	
4.	<p>GCSE Results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 'A' level results will be available on 15th August 2024 and GCSE results on 22nd August 2024 for collection from the school between 9am and 11am on each of these dates. Parents are very welcome accompany their son or daughter to collect their exam results. There will also be staff in school to offer support to the students if required. 	
5.	<p>Parents' Evenings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is one parents' evening and one curriculum evening each year with the exception of year 7 students whose parents also attend a 'settling in' evening. - Each parent meeting is for five minutes so that all parents are able to book a meeting. If there are any issues that arise and parents need additional time, they are able to book another meeting with the teacher to discuss further. - A consultation took place with parents about continuing with online meetings or reverting to face to face meetings. A higher percentage of parents voted for online meetings as a preference due to work commitments and childcare issues. - Some parents do prefer face to face meetings but since online meetings have been arranged, parental attendance online is higher than when the meetings took place in school. 	
6.	<p>Internal Exams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comments have been received regarding insufficient pre-notice being given for exam dates. Students should not be waiting until they receive notification of the exam dates before starting to revise as the KEVI Lordswood School for Girls app includes exam dates from the start of the academic year. The exam timetable was released late this year and we will arrange for this to be available earlier next year. 	

7.	<p>School Gate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The school gate closes at 8.25 a.m. and not 8.30 a.m. as we want to prepare students for the world of work. Students have 5 minutes to walk from the gate into school, go to their locker and arrive for registration as this is a legal requirement. - The Knightlow Road entrance cannot remain open after 8.25 a.m. as SLT have to cover this entrance and need to be in school for 8.30 a.m. as they have responsibilities in school at this time. 	
8.	<p>Cover Lessons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We currently only have 3 long term cover teachers in school which is better than the average school, considering the number of staff we have. - Long term absence cover is provided from preferred agency suppliers and the agency staff are interviewed by the school in the same way that permanent staff are recruited. We also pay a premium to secure experienced teachers. - Short term absences are covered by cover supervisors who are permanent members of school staff where possible, but we sometimes have to rely upon supply agencies for this type of cover. Where possible we try to get the same cover teachers each time to ensure consistency in teaching. - The other cause of absence is due to maternity leave. When this is the case we appoint by following the same recruitment process for permanent staff but they are employed on a shorter term contract. Students sometimes refer to these teachers as cover teachers but they are actually school staff during their contract with the school. 	
9.	<p>Trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We are trying to increase the number of trips and every year group will go on a trip this year:- Year 7 : Dudley Zoo Year 8/9 : West Midlands Safari Park Year 10 : Drayton Manor Year 12 : Alton Towers - This year over 100 different trips have been offered to students and we are aiming to arrange an annual cycle of trips going forward. - There is a ski trip being arranged for next year and a cultural trip to France which will not be limited to only students who are studying French. - The Duke of Edinburgh expeditions have been more successful this year and we now have a good model with new staff joining this team. 	
	<p>Mrs Cooney closed the session by offering massive thanks to the parents for their continued support and for the fantastic students we have who have been taught to have such lovely manners and who are so hardworking.</p> <p>Any further questions should be emailed to Mrs Allport at pa@lsg.kevibham.org.</p>	