



Monday 14th September – Friday 18th September 2026

Week A

Lordswood School for Girls

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

0121 429 2838

Upcoming dates

Date	Event
Monday 14 th September 2026	School Photo's National Inclusion week School council election week
Tuesday 15 th September 2026	National Inclusion week School council election week
Wednesday 16 th September 2026	National Inclusion week School council election week Year 10 Art trip Careers champion's meeting @ lunchtime
Thursday 17 th September 2026	National Inclusion week School council election week Year 10 DofE expedition
Friday 18 th September 2026	National Inclusion week School council election week Year 10 DofE expedition Year 12 deadline to change courses

School platforms

As children get older and more independent - it is normal for parents to feel more distant from their children's education. As a parent of a 17 year old child myself, I know how difficult this can be - if you ask about school you start to consider yourself lucky if you even get a response when you ask how school was. As well as the usual parents' evenings we try to support you in remaining 'in touch' with what is happening in school via the following communication tools:

- Arbor App - this is our main form of communication. All messages, letters, reports are sent through Arbor. You can also see your child's attendance, behaviour and timetable. This is how we communicate with parents regarding detentions - it is therefore essential that you register using an email address that is monitored on a regular basis
- ParentPay - This is how you make payments to the school e.g. food, trips, pay for lost dinner cards etc. It is essential that ALL parents generate an account, there is not an app for parent pay - you register via a normal internet browser.
- Classcharts - students and parents both have access to classcharts via apps that can be downloaded or via a normal internet browser if preferred. This is where you can see what homework has been set for your child to complete. You can also see what rewards and sanctions have been recorded for your child. Students can use their app to 'spend' their positive points via our online reward shop in classcharts. We ask that parents check classcharts at least once a week and discuss any behaviour points/homework set with their children. For more information: <https://www.classcharts.com/parent/login>
- Bulletins - we share a bulletin (like this one) each week. If you forget to read it, don't worry, we also save a copy on the school website: <https://lsg.kevibham.org/letters-to-parents-carers/>
- Newsletters - each term we celebrate our school community via a newsletter. If you want to read past editions they can be found on our website: <https://lsg.kevibham.org/about-us/newsletters/>
- Social media platforms - we currently have accounts with, Instagram and Facebook. We use these to share information with both the school community and the wider community. This is a lovely way to find out about trips and activities that have taken place in school. You can search for us via the following:
 - o Instagram - Kevi_lordswoodschoolforgirls
 - o Facebook - King Edward VI Lordswood School for Girls
- Parent Discussion Group - Given the decreasing uptake of the parent update meetings, we will be trialling a new structure this year. As a school, there are certain issues each year that we don't always have the answer to – we would like to work with parents to generate ideas so that we can ensure that we are working together to do the best for our children e.g. social media issues, mobile phone usage. These meetings will be in person.
- Parent fundraising group – following the success of some of the community/fundraising events that we have done over the last 2 years. We are launching a parent/carers fundraising committee this year to explore if we can organise more fun and exciting events for our students, parents and the local community. Please email office@lsg.kevibham.org if you would like to join this team.

Food accounts

If your child is entitled to FSM (free school meals), their account will automatically be credited with £2.75 each morning, any unspent money from this allowance is removed at the end of each day - unfortunately it cannot be 'rolled over'. The best value way to spend this is for students to purchase a meal deal at lunchtime – this includes a main course and a standard pudding. All other items are individually priced and it is very easy for them to 'overspend'. If students wish to also purchase food at breaktime or to purchase a drink then you will need to subsidise their FSM allowance by topping up their account via parent pay.

Unfortunately, our caterers (AIP) can't allow canteen accounts to go into a negative balance - if students do not have enough money on their account, they will be limited to a basic sandwich at lunchtime until the balance is cleared.

Please can you ensure that you check their parent pay account each week and/or set up an automatic top up to ensure that they do not run low on available funds.

School Photo Day – Monday 14th September 2026

Your child will be having their professional photos taken on Monday 14th September 2026. Please could you check their uniform before they come to school. Could you also make sure they are not wearing any makeup or jewellery that is not permitted in school. If any students come to school with makeup on they will be asked to remove this at reception and any jewellery not permitted will be confiscated until the end of term.

All students will bring home a card with a QR code that you can scan, this is where you can purchase pictures directly from the photography company, all students will have their photograph taken even if you don't plan to purchase a copy as we use these photos for our registers in school.

Good Attendance Matters

It has been such a pleasure seeing students return to school over the last week- we are all ready for a brand new year!

As we know, attendance matters because every school day counts. Being in school regularly helps students build confidence, strengthen friendships, develop good habits, and make the most of every learning opportunity. Even missing a small amount of school can mean missing important lessons, experiences, and connections that support success both in and beyond the classroom.

By working together to prioritise attendance, we can ensure every student has the best chance to achieve their full potential. If you ever need support with your child's attendance please contact their Head of Year in the first instance who will be very happy to offer guidance and advice. Please note we use StudyBugs to report any absences. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to making every day count.

GOOD ATTENDANCE MATTERS!



Every school day counts



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

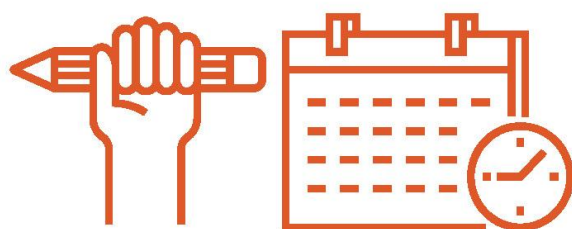
Why is regular school attendance and good punctuality so important for my child?

Regular attendance at school means that your child can make the most of their education and improve their chances in adult life. School can also help your child's social skills such as making and developing friendships.

The link between attendance and attainment in school is clear. The more a child is in school the more they increase their opportunity to fulfil their potential.

Good punctuality is important. For example, if a child arrives 15 minutes late at school each day, they lose almost 2 weeks of education over the year. Good punctuality also helps your child get into good habits for when they enter the world of work.

Lateness can cause your child embarrassment and, in some circumstances, can count as unauthorised absence.



How can I help my child enjoy school and attend regularly?

Be organised, have a plan, be consistent and involve your child!

You should:

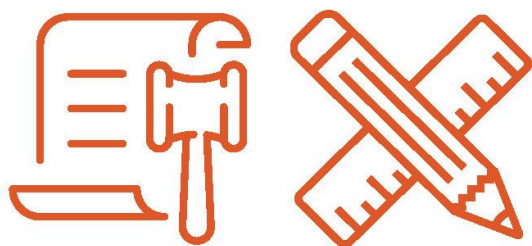
- ensure they have an appropriate bedtime routine
- create good routines for mornings at home so that your child can arrive punctually and are properly equipped;
- avoid absence from school wherever possible – try to make doctors and dental appointments out of school hours
- make time to encourage and show interest in school work, friendships etc.
- attend school open evenings and functions
- Create a calm space for them to do homework, check they understand the homework and that it has been completed.
- share any education concerns your child or you may have with the school staff as soon as possible
- set realistic boundaries

Holidays/Leave in term time

Holidays in term time are not allowed. Parents/carers must apply for the authorisation of any leave prior to travel or their children could be reported to the council as missing in education.

Leave for other circumstances such as bereavement or family illness abroad may also not be authorised. Informing the school does not mean the leave is agreed. In the event of a genuine family emergency, parents should avoid requesting more than 5 school days absence. Leave due to weddings is unlikely to be authorised.

Two weeks unauthorised holiday/leave means at least 50 lessons missed that will never be repeated.



What does the law say I must do as a parent/carer?

Once your child is registered at a school, you are legally responsible for making sure they attend regularly. This means your child should not have any unauthorised absence as this would constitute an offence in law.

When attendance doesn't improve after support or, when a minimum of 5 days unauthorised holiday/leave is taken, legal action can be taken.

Courts can fine parents/carers up to £1,000 per child and for repeat offences the court can fine parents/carers up to £2,500 per child or impose a prison sentence of up to 3 months.

In many cases, but not all, parents/carers can discharge an offence by paying a penalty notice of £160 for each parent per child, discounted to £80 if paid within 21 days. For a family of two parents/carers with 3 children that would be at least £480.

Where can I get help and advice?

If you need support in relation to your child's attendance, help is available. Please make an appointment with the school to discuss your concerns.

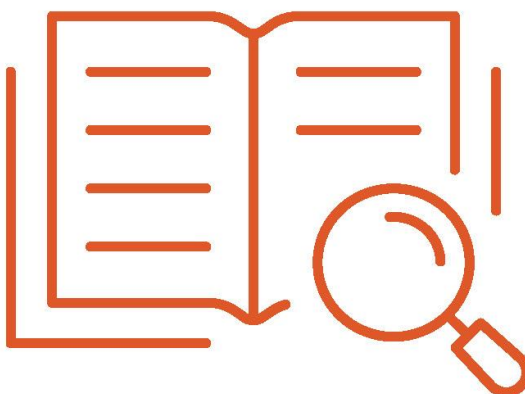
Most difficulties can be resolved informally, but the staff can also arrange an early help assessment or make a request for support to Birmingham Children's Trust if necessary, with your consent.

School nurses can also be helpful if your child has a medical condition or has a lot of time off due to illness.

Parents/carers are strongly advised to work in partnership with the school to address any difficulties impacting school attendance. For more information about school attendance or if you need help or support, please use these links:

www.birmingham.gov.uk/saap

www.birmingham.gov.uk/love



Activities out of school

We would love to know what interests and activities students do outside of school. This will help us to get to know students better and to ensure that we are offering activities that will interest and expand students' experiences. If your child does any activities outside of school e.g. swimming, dancing, athletics, guides, scouts, singing, acting, craft, cadets, kickboxing, we would love it if you could complete the survey that can be accessed via the following link:

[Activities out of school - Parent survey 2026-27 – Fill in form](#)

Please can you complete a separate survey for each different activity that they do e.g. if they swim and do gymnastics please complete two separate surveys so we can collect information on each activity.

Many thanks for sharing this information.

Mrs Cooney

Instrumental lessons

Autumn term Instrumental lesson payments were due on Friday 28th August and are now outstanding. Please can you make payment for lessons before they commence, failure to do so will result in your child not being able to begin their lessons. There has been a delay with setting up some payments, including Year 7 students on ParentPay. We apologise for this inconvenience. Please do not hesitate to contact the finance team if you require any support with payments.

If you have recently made a payment, please ignore this message.

Kind Regards

Sarah Swallow

All lessons comment Monday 14th September. Please see the overview of days, teachers and times for this year. Remember to check your timetables every week as they will change.

DAY	TIME	Instrument	Teacher
Monday	8.30-10.00	Lower Strings	Uta Mulenga (SFE)
Monday	1.30 -2.30	Brass	Alex Cotterell (SFE)
Monday	8.30 - 11.10	Woodwind	Mary Wakelem-Sloan (SFE)
Tuesday	11.30 - 1.50	Upper strings	Sally Hobbs (SFE)
Tuesday	11.15- 14.35	Guitar	David Lycett
Wednesday	10.10 - 14.10	Voice	Sarah Jones
Thursday	8.50 - 4.30	Piano	Simone Damiani
Friday	09.20-12.40	Drums	Jaynie Berry

Driving Awareness- Your Support Please

Unfortunately, we have had reports that some of our parents who are dropping and collecting their children from Lordswood road are not parking/ driving carefully when doing so. The reports have identified that parents are driving onto the pavement where students are walking- this could lead to a very serious incident. Please take care when dropping/ collecting your children and please be courteous of our neighbours and their drives- these should not be blocked or parked on.

Thank you for your support and understanding- we do this to ensure our children are safe.

What is phishing?

Most people have heard of phishing and know what to look for, but do you know what smishing, vishing and quishing are?

Phishing is a malicious email that encourages you to click a link which could install trojan software to access your computer, email server or data. It might also leave a keylogger which would record your keystrokes, perhaps revealing your password.

Smishing is a malicious text message (SMS) that will have a link to click on your smartphone.

Vishing is a voice message or an actual caller aiming to find out your personal information, access your bank account or encourage you to make payments.

Quishing is a QR code that will take you to a malicious or fake site. There are examples where criminals have set up fake payment pages for car parking charges using their QR code stuck over the top of the legitimate QR codes on signage.

As most students have mobile phones that they use out of school, it is important that you are aware of these and speak to your child about the potential risks associated with clicking on links that they have not requested.

Talking point:

To encourage good oracy, we ask that parents and students discuss a different 'big question' each week. This does not have to be done during a dedicated discussion time, it could be whilst doing any daily activity e.g. driving somewhere, eating dinner, shopping.

The topic of this week's talking point is: Connected Relationships

The question prompt for this week is: Who do you think has helped you the most in your life?

Autism: Navigating the Wait Together - Online Sessions

Online workshop offering advice and support to parents & carers navigating this period.

Upcoming

- Wednesday 23rd Sept - 10:30am - 12:30pm
- Wednesday 7th Oct - 10:30am - 12:30pm
- Wednesday 21st Oct - 5:30pm - 7:30pm
- Wednesday 4th Nov - 10:30am - 12:30pm

- Wednesday 18th Nov - 10:30am - 12:30pm
- Wednesday 2nd Dec - 10:30am - 12:30pm

How to sign up: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/XnVNkxUME>

If you need further information on these online sessions please email vesna@resourcesforautism.org.uk

 Birmingham



Do you have a child under 16yrs on the autism assessment waiting list?



 Birmingham



We provide online workshops to offer advice and support to parents and carers navigating this period.



 Birmingham

Upcoming workshop dates & times:

Wednesday 23rd Sept
10:30am - 12:30pm

Wednesday 7th Oct
10:30am - 12:30pm

Wednesday 21st Oct
5:30pm - 7:30pm

Wednesday 4th Nov
10:30am - 12:30pm

Wednesday 18th Nov
10:30am - 12:30pm

Wednesday 2nd Dec
10:30am - 12:30pm





 Birmingham



For more info on how to sign up for these workshops, check the caption below.



Family Hubs Ladywood Activity Timetable (Sep – Dec 2026)

Please see below for information on a drop in family support service for parents with children between the ages of 0-19.

[Ladywood Activity Timetable- September to December 2026.pdf](#)

Careers & Next Steps

Apprenticeship Guidance for Parents & Carers

Free Monthly Newsletter

Amazing Apprenticeships free monthly newsletter for parents & carers is a helpful mailing that brings trusted advice, resources and events direct to your inbox. The newsletter is designed to be short and focused, providing practical and relevant information and resources. Sign up here: <https://amapps.uk/parent-carer-newsletter>

Attend Webinars

Amazing Apprenticeships' webinar series runs throughout the year, offering useful sessions for parents and carers **completely free of charge**. From 'Understanding apprenticeships' through to 'Job search support, claiming benefits and opportunities' we offer a range of ways to help parents and carers to feel confident in understanding the key elements of securing an apprenticeship. Register here: <https://amapps.uk/webinars>

Parent & Carer Guides

These three short guides have been created specifically to help parents and carers get the key information on apprenticeships, T Levels and HTQs. At just 2-3 pages each, they contain the need-to-know facts to help readers to feel confident about the different technical education options available. Download the guides here: <https://amapps.uk/parent-guides>

Dedicated Parent & Carer Website

Visit Amazing Apprenticeships' parent & carer zone to learn about and explore different career options available for your child. There's something for everyone whether you want guides, films, magazines, podcasts or more. It's easy to navigate and everything is in one place. Explore the zone here: <https://amapps.uk/parent-zone>

Parents' Guide to University 2026

Parents and carers of students considering university may find the UniTasterDays Parents' Guide to University 2026 useful. The free guide contains advice and information to help families support students through their university journey, including key higher education information and guidance. Click here to read: [Parents' Guide to University 2026](#)

Discover Creative Careers – Webinar for Parents and Carers

Whether your young person is already considering a creative career or you're simply curious about the opportunities available, this session will provide practical advice and first-hand insights to help you support them in making informed career decisions.

To register, please click [HERE](#)

Post 16 Open Events

King Edward VI Lordswood School for Girls

Sixth Form Open Evening: Wednesday 18th November 5-7pm

King Edward VI College Stourbridge

 Thursday 15 October – 5:00pm to 9:00pm

 Saturday 17 October – 10:00am to 3:00pm

Apprenticeships

For information on Apprenticeships please click here: [**September Apprenticeships Vacancy Snapshot**](#)

Universities

Students' Guide to University 2026

Are you thinking of university? The UniTasterDays Students Guide to University 2026 contains useful information and advice to help you explore your options and prepare for your university journey.

Click here to read: [Students' Guide to University 2026](#)

[Aston University - Open Day Information](#)

University of Leicester

Medicine Outreach

Leicester Medical School offers a range of exciting outreach opportunities for students in **Years 7-13** to enable them to find out more about the varied and rewarding career as a doctor, as well as what it is like to study medicine at university.

All of the events and programmes are completely **free for students to take part in**. To see the upcoming events and to sign up, please visit [this page](#).

Post-16 University Experience Days

University of Leicester are pleased to announce that we have released the dates for this year's University Experience Days, including:

Wednesday 4 November 2026 – AWSAM (Ancient World & Classics)

Friday 6 November 2026- Student Life Experience Days

Monday 14 December 2026 - STEM in action

Wednesday 16th December 2026- Student Life Experience Days

These are a fantastic opportunity for **Year 12 students** to visit the University of Leicester and explore what studying at university is really like! At each event, there will be opportunities to tour our campus, speak to current students and get involved with hands-on, interactive activities. And as a thank you for your work with us you will be able to access a travel bursary to help with transport on the day.

Unifrog

All students have a Unifrog account which they can access with their school email to help support their next steps.

Students can log their achievements and build up their profile during their time at Lordswood.

Unifrog have some exciting events that students can join as detailed below:

Unifrog University Fair: Wednesday 14th October 4-6.30pm

Drop in on live talks and ask questions directly to reps from **over 30 universities** including University of Exeter, University of Sheffield, and the University of Law.

» [Sign up or share the fair](#) (14 Oct)

A deep dive into post-18 options

This series of webinars is ideal for students who are still weighing up their options after school or college or would like more information to gain confidence about their chosen path.

We'll give **impartial advice about universities, apprenticeships, and gap years**, and also have a dedicated webinar aimed at parents and caregivers on how to support their children so that everyone is providing consistent guidance.

» [Share the webinar series](#) (21–23 Sep) with students and parents

[Careers with HSBC](#)