



24<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Dear Parent, Carer

It was lovely to see so many parents joining us for the Awards Evening on Thursday. I would like to thank Mr and Mrs Hill for sponsoring the Andrew Hill Award for Endeavour, in memory of Andrew, their son, a former KES student. It was a special moment for Andrew's wife, Kirsty, to present the award to the first winner, Sidney Gray in Year 7. He was a very worthy recipient of the shield and I must congratulate him on his endeavour this year in the face of very difficult personal circumstances. Sidney is an example to all of us.

We are approaching the end of the academic year with term finishing on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July at 1pm. Thank you to parents for your support over the past year. As I said at the Awards Evening, the encouragement and reinforcement you provide makes such a difference to your child and plays a key role in their achievement.

The new term begins for students at 8.35am on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September. Students should be on site in the mornings by 8.25am from then as we move to our new school day.

## Site work

We have some exciting building work going on during the summer. The library is being relocated to the back of the main hall and to the two classrooms there, while the current library will become a large space for assemblies, meetings, teaching and a social area for students. It is being renamed, The Centre. There will be a 'grab and go' style kitchen servery there at lunchtimes where students can get a snack style lunch if that is what they prefer. The main part of the main hall will be an area primarily for independent learning for students.

Work is also ongoing to convert a building at the front of the academy (the old porter's lodge) into a separate centre for some students who find mainstream education difficult to access and need a different curriculum. I will update you further on that development when we begin to use it in the first month of the new term.

## New School Day

I would just remind you of the timings for the new school day in September:

8.35am – 8.55am Registration, seminar time, assembly

8.55am – 9.55am Lesson 1

9.55am – 10.55am Lesson 2

10.55am – 11.15am Break

11.15am – 12.15pm Lesson 3

12.15pm – 1.15pm Lesson 4

1.15pm – 2pm Lunch

2pm – 3pm Lesson 5

3pm Extra-curricular activities, interventions

With more lesson time in the mornings, one less period a day and slightly longer lessons, the new timings are designed to improve learning and social time. The timetable will be a fortnightly one with the first week for students, 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> September, being Week 1 and the week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> September being Week 2. We will put which week we are in on our website to avoid any confusion.

## King Edward VII Academy

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## Lunchtime

For the first part of the term at least, Year 7 students will finish Period 4 at 1.05pm giving them a little extra time to use the canteen first for lunch as they acclimatise to the new experience of secondary school. In the canteen, we will have two sittings to help ensure everyone has time to get their lunch. In Week 1, after Year 7, Years 8 and 9 will be first into the canteen from 1.15pm. Years 10 and 11 will be able to be served from 1.30pm. In Week 2, this will be reversed with Years 10 and 11 being served from 1.15pm and Years 8 and 9 being served from 1.30pm.

If students are attending a lunchtime club, they will be issued with a club pass so that they can get lunch quickly and take it out with them if they need to. Staff have already offered to put on a large number of lunchtime clubs and activities and more information on these will follow at the beginning of term. Please encourage your child to get involved with some of these to enrich their school experience or to help with further study or revision.

## Politeness and Good Manners

Politeness and good manners are as important as anything in our school work at the moment. Visitors to KES are wholesome in their praise of our students' politeness. However, we can improve on this further and it is a focus for all aspects of our work now and next year. Our Ethos says that we respect one another in everything we do and being polite and well-mannered is an integral part of that. We are emphasising to everyone in school the importance of saying 'Good morning/afternoon', greeting each other warmly, smiling, asking after people, holding doors open, saying please and thank you, walking proudly, being quiet and not using any bad language. Your support with this important work will really help us to further improve the experience of everyone at our school.

## Uniform

Our uniform suppliers, Stratfords, have everything needed for students. If you are buying trousers or skirts from another shop, please don't buy from a fashion shop, even if these are sold as school wear. They usually do not meet our definition of school wear which is the traditional style. Supermarket clothing is an alternative to Stratfords but even there, please check that what is sold as school wear is in the traditional style. Please ensure that your child has appropriate formal shoes, not boots or crossover trainer/shoes, a KES logo jumper if he/she wears one and no jewellery beyond a plain stud in each ear, a plain ring and a watch. Students cannot wear nose studs or friendship bracelets and if they have a hairband, it should be put in the student's bag or pocket if not being worn in the hair. Blazers must be worn all the time unless teachers say they can be removed and blazers must not be put in a student's bag. Students cannot bring a hoodie into school other than a black KES PE hoodie. They must ensure their uniform is always worn smartly with shirts tucked in, blazer sleeves rolled down, top buttons done up and ties well tied. Students must arrive at KES and leave extremely well dressed to show their pride in our school. All of this helps us to maintain the very highest standards of uniform. If there is a single day where your child does have a very good reason for not wearing an item of uniform, please make sure you write her/him a note on that day that can be shown to all teachers through the day. Please do not phone or e mail in about uniform. Students will not have a note written for them by staff if they are dressed incorrectly.

Information about uniform is available on our website but if you have any further queries, please contact your child's Progress Leader.

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## Staffing

I have previously explained to parents some changes to our staffing structure for next year. We are being joined by two new Vice Principals and teaching Progress Leaders are replacing Heads of Year. It should also help if I clarify changes in personnel.

### **We are being joined next year by the following teaching staff:**

Vicki Setters, Vice Principal (teaching Science); Jon Ward, Vice Principal (teaching Geography); Louisa Dawson, Head of English; Rob Finch, Second in English; Ian Corns, English; Tracey Locke, English; Jacob Fysh, Maths; Khayem Shafei, Maths; Robbie Mutton, Science.

Michele Whitting has already joined the English department and we welcome her to our team.

### **Internal teaching staff changes**

Jen Randall will be taking on the Head of Science role from September, Darren Clarke will be Head of Maths and Nicola Burchell will be Second in Maths.

You will read much in the national press, I'm sure, about the difficulties of teacher recruitment and I am pleased to say we are fully staffed.

### **We are being joined next year by the following support staff:**

Heidi Hemeter, Safeguarding Officer; Elaine Oldroyd, Administration Assistant; Joanne Wiseman, Key Stage 4 Administration Assistant; Nigel Sanders, Internal Exclusion Supervisor; Ashton White, Power Learning Supervisor.

### **Some members of our support staff have changed roles and their new roles are as follows:**

Kari Stonach, Safeguarding Officer, Rachel Pezzella, Key Stage 3 Administration Assistant, Peter Waring, Alternative Provision Coordinator; Carol Copeman, Administration Assistant for Leadership Team.

### **We wish the following teaching members of staff well for the future as they are leaving KES and we thank them for their contributions to our school:**

Stewart Thomas, Juliet Beane, Jeanna Morley, Nina Elvin, Janie Stewart-Richardson, Taniesha Ward-Robinson, James Crockett, Mike Mallett, Antonia Flack, Catherine Milne and Georgie Tennant.

### **We also wish the following members of support staff well as they are leaving KES. Again, we thank them for all their hard work:**

Julie Cole and Nicola Broadwater.

## Mobile Phones

As you know, we are changing our policy on student use of mobile phones in school. From September, while students can bring phones into school, they must be switched off before they come into school and only turned on after they leave at the end of the day. The exception to this will be if teachers are using phones as learning tools in lessons as some do now. As previously explained, there are good educational, well-being and safeguarding reasons for this change and I thank you in advance for your support with the policy.

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## Equipment

Please ensure your child has all the correct equipment for September to help the day run smoothly. Students should bring the following in a pencil case:

two pens, a pencil, a ruler, a rubber, a pencil sharpener, a compass, a protractor, a calculator and coloured pencils.

It remains for me to wish everyone a great summer. Students and staff will return well refreshed for the opportunities the new year will bring.

My thanks again for your support in 2017-18 and I look forward to working with you next year. As ever, all feedback is very welcome.

Kind regards

Lloyd Brown  
Principal

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