



**KING EDWARD VI  
HANDSWORTH WOOD  
GIRLS' ACADEMY**

*Educational excellence for our City*

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**KING EDWARD VI  
FOUNDATION  
BIRMINGHAM**

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Dear families,

As this is the last letter of the year, I wanted to thank you for your continued support in helping us to ensure that your daughter fulfils her potential at our school.

We have tried over the year to keep you updated through our school emails, newsletters and e-newsletters, which I am glad have been received so positively by so many families.

As always, we continue to review and refine our processes as pupil numbers continue to grow year on year. In September our projected pupil numbers are anticipated to be 1050 pupils in a building designed for 650-700 pupils. The area of the school where this is felt the most is the dining hall as we are unable at times to serve all the pupils during our current lunch period, even though we increased it this year. We, after much research and deliberation, have decided to move to staggered lunch like many other schools locally and nationally. From September our school day will be as follows:

Key Stage 3		Key Stages 4 and 5	
08:45-09:35	P1	0845-0935	P1
09.35-10.25	P2	0935-1025	P2
1025-1050	Break	1025-1050	Break
1050-1140	P3	1050-1140	P3
1140-1230	P4	1140-1230	P4
1230-1305	Lunch	1230-1320	P5
1305-1355	P5	1320-1355	Lunch
1355-1445	P6	1355-1445	P6
1445-1455	Reading	1445-1455	Reading
1455-1515	Form	1455-1515	Form

### Key stage 5 lunch offer from 1230-1355

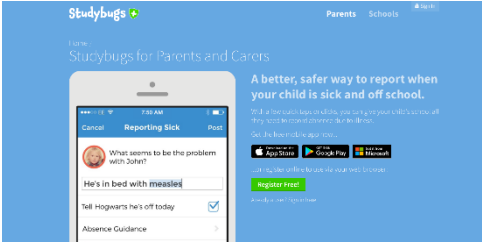
Another change we have made to the school day is to offer all pupils the opportunity to read independently for ten minutes a day to promote reading for pleasure and knowledge acquisition. Pupils will be expected to have appropriate fiction or non-fiction reading material with them each day.

Headteacher: Mr Qamar Riaz



## Attendance

In case you don't know already, King Edwards VI Handsworth Wood Girls Academy uses an efficient and secure system for reporting your child's absence due to illness, called Studybugs. Please get the free Studybugs app, or register on the Studybugs website, and use it to tell us if your child's ill and unable to attend school. Here's the link: <https://studybugs.com/about/parents>



### [Studybugs – Parents](https://studybugs.com/about/parents)

A better, safer way to report when your child is sick and off school. With a few quick taps or clicks, you can give your child's school all they need to record absence due to illness. Get the free mob

[studybugs.com](https://studybugs.com)

## Keeping your children safe online

For advice and guidance about keeping your daughter safe online, and for up-to-date information about social media and apps please visit:

[www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/) or [www.saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource)

If you are concerned about anything your daughter has seen or been involved in on online, you can report it here: [www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk)

If you are worried about your daughter and their mental wellbeing especially during the summer break, you can utilise a number of services. You can use the **Young Minds Parent Helpline on 0808 802 5544** for detailed advice and emotional support from a trained counsellor. Another option would be to contact the NSPCC Helpline via <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/reporting-abuse/nspcc-helpline/> or by emailing [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk) or calling **0808 800 5000**.

Check out the NHS factsheet for further information/support:

<https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/supporting-others/childrens-mental-health/>



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### **Safeguarding during the holidays**

If you have a safeguarding concern during the holidays, please contact one of the following external agencies as a priority:

- O Police - 999 if a child is at immediate risk, or 101 if you think a crime has been committed or you are concerned about a missing child
- O Birmingham Children's Services - 0121 303 1888
- O NSPCC - 0808 800 5000
- O ChildLine - 0800 1111

Staff emails may not be checked consistently so please follow the guidance above if you are concerned about a child. You can also receive guidance and support from the organisations below:



What are you struggling with?	Service	Contact details
My mental health	KOOTH: advice and support on mental health. 	<a href="http://www.kooth.com">www.kooth.com</a> 0800 055 555
My mental health	Young Minds: help and advice for your mental health  fighting for young people's mental health	01384 366 800 <a href="http://www.youngminds.org.uk">www.youngminds.org.uk</a>
Suicidal thoughts	Papyrus HOPEline Prevention of young suicide  <b>PAPYRUS</b> PREVENTION OF YOUNG SUICIDE	0800 068 4141 Text: 07786209967 Email: <a href="mailto:pat@papyrus-uk.org">pat@papyrus-uk.org</a> [ <a href="http://www.papyrus-uk.org">http://www.papyrus-uk.org</a> ] <a href="http://www.papyrus-uk.org">www.papyrus-uk.org</a>
Eating disorder	Beat - Support for those struggling with eating disorders 	0808 801 0677 <a href="http://www.beateatingdisorders.org.uk">www.beateatingdisorders.org.uk</a>
My mental health	PAUSE Offers counselling and emotional support 	0300 300 0099 <a href="http://www.forwardthinkingbirmingham.nhs.uk/pause">www.forwardthinkingbirmingham.nhs.uk/pause</a>
Sexual health	Umbrella: Advice and support on sexual health. 	0121 237 5700 <a href="http://www.umbrellahealth.co.uk">www.umbrellahealth.co.uk</a>
Bullying, abuse, emotions, concerns at home	Childline 	08001111 <a href="http://www.childline.org.uk">www.childline.org.uk</a>
Childhood abuse	NSPCC 	08088005000 <a href="http://www.nspcc.org.uk">www.nspcc.org.uk</a> / <a href="http://www.nspcc.org.uk/helpline">www.nspcc.org.uk/helpline</a>
Wellbeing/safeguarding concerns	The SHARP system 	<a href="https://handsworth.thesharpsystem.com">https://handsworth.thesharpsystem.com</a>
Domestic violence	Women's Aid 	0121 552 6448 <a href="http://www.womensaid.org.uk">www.womensaid.org.uk</a>
Honor based violence	Karma Nirvana 	0800 5999 247 <a href="http://www.karmanirvana.org.uk">www.karmanirvana.org.uk</a>
The Samaritans	Whatever you are going through, talk to a Samaritan. 	116123 <a href="https://www.samaritans.org/how-we-can-help/contact-samaritan/">https://www.samaritans.org/how-we-can-help/contact-samaritan/</a>
<b>IF IN DANGER - CALL 999</b>		

Please make a note of the following dates for your diary for safeguarding parent breakfast sessions:

- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 from 9.00am till 9.30am
- Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024 from 9.00am till 9.30am
- Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024 from 9.00am till 9.30am



More information regarding these sessions will be shared in the Autumn term.

### **Summer Transition Intervention**

One of the ways in which we support our students progressing into their new year groups is by providing transition work over the summer. Staff will be spending the first week reviewing and testing the content covered.

<b>Year group</b>	<b>Work</b>
Year 6 - 7	Transitions packs given on Year 6 induction day.
Year 7 - 8	Seneca Premium – log into Seneca using Microsoft account.
Year 8 - 9	Seneca Premium – log into Seneca using Microsoft account (Maths/Science/English have PiXL booklets assigned via Microsoft Teams).
Year 9 - 10	GCSEPod – KS4 Ready pods; alternative software/assignments via Microsoft Teams.
Year 10 - 11	PiXL – workbooks assigned via Microsoft Teams; Seneca or alternative software via assignments.
Year 11 - 12	GCSEPOD – ready for KS5 (set via assignments in Microsoft Teams); Additional transition booklets/reading list on: <a href="https://www.hwga.org.uk/welcome-to-the-sixth-form/opportunities/">https://www.hwga.org.uk/welcome-to-the-sixth-form/opportunities/</a>
Year 12 - 13	UpLearn/Booklets provided by Subject leads on: <a href="https://www.hwga.org.uk/welcome-to-the-sixth-form/opportunities/">https://www.hwga.org.uk/welcome-to-the-sixth-form/opportunities/</a>

### **English and Maths Test Results**

Parents and guardians will be sent progress reports specifically for English and maths assessments taken over the past couple of weeks. If you find that you have not received a copy before the end of term then please email [scooner@hwga.org.uk](mailto:scooner@hwga.org.uk) with the name of your child, their DOB for verification and the correct email address.