



**KING EDWARD VI
ASTON SCHOOL**

Educational excellence for our City

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**KING EDWARD VI
FOUNDATION
BIRMINGHAM**

Educational excellence for our City

10th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been an absolute pleasure to see the students this week after a long summer break. Mr Brady has immensely enjoyed conducting welcome assemblies with all seven year groups and has praised not only the boys' smart appearance, but their politeness around the site. We've have been surprised by the wonderful weather in the middle of the week and this has served to lift the spirits not only on the main campus, but also at Trinity Road, where the students have been actively competing for the first time in months.

It's also been a pleasure to get to know some of the parents, particularly those from Year 7 who have supported their sons in making the transition from primary school. These boys, along with our new Year 12 students have made a great impression on the school and it already feels like they're part of the family. There is a feeling of eagerness across the school, with students wanting to demonstrate they are ready for the academic challenges of the year ahead.

The new building is looking very impressive. A newly block-paved boulevard now connects the new main entrance with Frederick Road and new outdoor seating has allowed the students to talk and relax at breaktimes. Despite significant numbers of construction workers on site, working across two shifts, we are still not quite ready to open the building safely. The catering team have been moving equipment over to the new building all week, however **where possible please continue to bring a packed lunch to school for all of next week**. We want to take ownership as soon as possible, however the safety of the students and staff remains our top priority. As soon as we are able to offer a hot food service, we will let you know. Given the delay to the opening of the new building, we are also asking the boys to **wear Games/PE kit for next week on days when they have those lessons**.

The start of term is the perfect opportunity to establish good independent working routines at school, especially for our sixth form students. As such all sixth form students are reminded not to leave site until the end of the school day. Good attendance is key to a successful education, however we understand that some appointments (for example hospital appointments) are unavoidable during the school day. If you wish to request an absence for your child, please remember to email studentabsence@keaston.bham.sch.uk.

We would also like to praise the boys for their co-operation and conduct throughout the Covid-19 asymptomatic testing programme which we have been running all week. Our dedicated team of technicians have done a brilliant job to help the students through this process, along with the cleaning team who have been putting in extra shifts to ensure the cleanliness of hard surfaces around the site. As we begin to approach the end of our testing programme next week, please be reminded that **lateral flow testing should continue twice a week at home**. Don't forget that we have many packs of spare tests should you need them.

Best wishes
The Senior Leadership Team

Headteacher: Mr M.D.Brady BA (Hons) MA Ed.

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