



**KING EDWARD VI
ASTON SCHOOL**

King Edward VI Aston School
Frederick Road
Birmingham B6 6DJ

School Tel: 0121 327 1130
Sports Hall Tel: 0121 327 6434
KESSP - Trinity Road Tel: 0121 554 4036

enquiry@keaston.bham.sch.uk
www.keaston.bham.sch.uk



**KING EDWARD VI
ACADEMY TRUST
BIRMINGHAM**

9th April 2019

Dear Parent(s),

As we come to the end of another busy term there are a number of issues that I should like to bring to your attention.

Staffing changes

At the end of the term we say goodbye to Mr Singh (Teacher of Biology), Mrs Hussain (Teacher of English) and Mrs Thane (Learning Support Teacher) wishing them all well for the future. We also temporarily say goodbye to Mrs Short (Sixth Form Administrator) as she starts her maternity leave. After the Easter holiday we will welcome Mr Hill (Teacher of Biology) and Ms Wilkinson (Teacher of Mathematics) after the Whitsun break. During the second half of the summer term we will also welcome back Mrs Cresswell (Subject Leader for History) following her maternity leave.

The end of this term is also the time when we appoint the school captain, two vice-captains, house captains and senior prefects for the next year. I am pleased to be able to announce that the school captain for 2019-2020 will be Rayyaan Hector with Jonathan Briggs and Aaron Chahal as vice-captains.

Land at the top

Parents who have visited the school this half term will now be aware that the King Edward VI Foundation has fenced off the land between Upper Thomas Street and the Aston Expressway and the triangle of land at the top of Albert Road in preparation for the works and to prevent intruders getting on to the land. Plans of the proposed development are in display in the foyer but in brief, over the next eighteen months or so the school will be building a secure car-park on the triangle of land at the top of Albert Road, a multi-use games area as well as landscaping the land between Upper Thomas Street and the Aston Expressway as well as a separate catering facility and new sports facilities on the main site. For much of this time the Upper Thomas Street gate will be out of use and separate arrangements will need to be put in place. I will write to parents as soon as the exact details and times for the commencement of the work have been confirmed.

Parents' Association

The school is once again indebted for the support of the Parents' Association and in particular those volunteers who help to organise and run the Aston Villa match day parking scheme.

Financial support from the Parents' Association allows the school to purchase those items that it otherwise would not be able to afford to do so and there is not a pupil in the school who does not at some time benefit from the support of the Parents' Association. This term a good number of the boys will have benefited from the new computers in E2 which the school could only afford with the support of the PA. In addition PA fund the donation which allows us to use the mosque car park at the end of each school day.

I should like to thank all those who have volunteered their time to make these things happen. Often the Parents' Association rely on a small team of committed people, so if you would be interested in doing a couple of parking shifts a season or helping out with refreshments for a couple of hours at a parents' evening or music concert, please e-mail the current Chairman, Mr David Stanley at pachair@keaston.bham.sch.uk

Headmaster: C.Parker, *M.Hist, MBA, NPQH*

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Student safety

I am pleased to be able to report that there has been a significant decrease in the number of incidents this term but with the caveat that even one incident is one too many causing much distress for those involved. The school continues to be in close contact with the police however, I should like to emphasise that street crime is a growing issue across Birmingham and is by no means confined to Aston. Many boys still give little regard to their personal safety and I would ask parents to keep talking to your son about those things he can do with regards to his personal safety when travelling to and from school and in particular not wearing headphones, not using his mobile phone visibly on the street, walking in groups and never alone, not using the shops on Upper Sutton Street and walking on the opposite side of the road and not using Aston Park unless in a group of students. Boys needing to travel to Aston railway station should consider using the Green Bus service.

During the forthcoming examination season I am aware that boys will be travelling to and from school during the day and more likely to be doing so on their own being more vulnerable in the process. The school will be providing rooms where boys can study before or after an examination so that they can travel to and from school at the usual time. I will write to parents with more details about these arrangements after the Easter holiday

Pupil possessions

I still remain concerned at the disregard which a significant minority of pupils show towards their personal possessions. We have three large bins full of coats, jumpers, shoes and sports kit which have remained unclaimed for many weeks. After 12th April the bins will be emptied and where possible the items will be returned to their owner. Items whose owner cannot be identified will be given to charity. **Please can I ask that where possible parents put a name tag or other marking into their son's clothing so that in the event of it being lost the item can be easily returned.** In addition please can you remind your son that he should be using his locker to store his coat and other items of clothing; if he does not have a locker he should speak to a member of the site staff.

Key dates for the 2019 summer term

29 th April	School re-opens for all students after the Easter holiday
6 th May	May bank holiday. School closed for all students
8 th May	Music concert-further details to follow
24 th May	School closes at 3.35pm for the start of the half term holiday
3 rd June	School re-opens for all students following the half term holiday
12 th June	House athletics competition at the Alexander Stadium (morning)
17 th -25 th June	Year 12 examinations
20 th June	Lower school music concert-further details to follow
21 st June	Staff training day-only pupils in Years 11, 12 and 13 with examinations to come to school
26 th June-3 rd July	Year 10 examinations
4 th July	Festival of Cultures
12 th July	Lower School Awards Ceremony-Years 9 and 10
15 th July	Lower School Awards Ceremony-Years 7 and 8
19 th July	School finishes at 12.30pm for all students
2nd and 3 rd September	Staff training days. No students required to be in school
4 th September	Only students in Years 7 and 12 required to be in school
5 th September	All students required to be in school

I should like to finish by thanking all parents for their support during the term and wish you all a restful and relaxing Easter.

Yours sincerely,



C. Parker
Headmaster

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