

King Edwin Primary School



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Thursday 3rd September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and children,

It will not be long now before the term begins and we are welcoming the children back into our wonderful school. We are almost ready and after a pretty traumatic week, I am pleased to say that we are on track to start for Years 1 to 6 on Monday 7th September.

The staff at KEPS really are fantastic! They have and will continue to go above and beyond over the weekend as we prepare for the return of all children. Our Foundation Unit will open on Wednesday after a huge effort by the whole team to complete the project. We can't wait for our little KingEdwinners to see their new learning environment in its entirety. They will love it, I am sure!

Some Foundation children and new to school children will be visiting their teacher at tomorrow's 'meet and greet' session. Many Foundation children will also attend a brief 'look around' session on Tuesday afternoon in preparation for their start on Wednesday. We hope that this will help reduce any concerns and aid transition.

It has not been an ideal way for us to return to school but it has been out of our control and everything is for the benefit of our children. Transition arrangements have been hugely affected but we are hopefully that the messages and movie clips that staff have sent to their new class on TEAMS will provide welcome support. Please encourage your child to look at the movie clip added to their TEAMS feed over the weekend.

We will release an updated version of our return to school document tomorrow. This takes into account all of the advice up to and including updates on 3rd September 2020. No doubt there will be further changes and adaptations but we are sure that all of our parents will work with the school to move quickly as and when changes occur. We are still working in challenging times but if we are proactive and sensible, we can provide a safe and positive environment for our KingEdwinners to learn at KEPS.

Please help us by sticking to the guidance and adhering to our school expectations. We understand that there is a degree of flexibility needed in some cases. We will try to bend a little where possible, however, it is vital that parents try to stick as rigidly as they can to our plans in order for the school to operate effectively and efficiently. Start and collection times are particularly important when it comes to delivering our plan safely.

I would like to reiterate that we expect all children to return to school and to attend regularly. No term time holidays will be permitted. We strongly advise all families to refrain from booking term time holidays as we will be doing all that we can to help children 'catch up' with any learning missed in the past 6 months. Any term time holiday would clearly work against our efforts (including our anticipated October half term holiday booster days). We are sure that parents understand our stance and that they will support us with this matter.

Once again, thank you for your overwhelming support, especially in recent weeks. We very much appreciate the way our community has understood the predicament that we have been in. It is so heart-warming to have such strong backing from our community. Have a great weekend and I will hopefully see you all very soon.

Kind regards,
Mr Callaghan-Wetton

