

King Edwin Primary School



Head Teacher Mr Callaghan-Wetton
Fourth Avenue, Edwinstowe, Notts, NG21 9NS
Tel: (01623) 822111 Fax: (01623) 825707
E Mail: office@kingedwin.notts.sch.uk
Website: www.kingedwin.notts.sch.uk

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Dear Parents and Carers,

It is mid-morning on a Friday, on just the second week back at school and my learning walk this morning was so lovely. If you get a minute or two this weekend to talk to your children about the good start we have had at school, please do.

Attendance and Punctuality

We have almost had a 'full house' since the start of term and almost every child has arrived on time, ready to start their sessions. We must **emphasise the importance of attendance and punctuality**. Our expectations are that children attend school all day every day whenever possible.

Some term time holiday requests have been received by the school office and all of them are classed as **unauthorised**. I must remind parents that the school follows the local authority attendance policy and as such we may issue fines to families when holidays are taken during term time. Fines issued by the LA do not produce income to the school and in fact they simply add additional workload. We must stress that holidays in term time are not permitted and support from parents on this matter is very much appreciated.

Parent Survey

Children will no doubt notice a range of changes and new additions across school this term whether it is the new YOTO reading blocks, quiet 'Whisper' hand dryers, Laser Projector and many more book titles in the Cecil Day Lewis Library. We are always trying to move forwards and make our school the best that it can be for the children. In order for us to continue to improve, we need your input and support. Please complete the survey link below with your parental views and feel free to provide constructive feedback that may help us to make improvements at KEPS. Your help is very much appreciated.

<https://forms.gle/vJdbuZCFHwwBD1cs8>

* Parents that are new to KEPS may wish to wait a while to complete the survey, we don't mind either way and we are very keen to stress that comments are well received all year round through the office or direct communication through our various streams of communication.

Online Safety

Our children are always susceptible to e-safety concerns and as adults we must try to support them as they are bombarded with new technology advancements such as AI, Apps and various devices. At KEPS we are very much 'pro' technology as it prepares children for the real world however, we need parents to support their children in preparing them for the challenges associated with such advancements.



KEPS is a National Online Safety School. We are confident that we support children through our curriculum, but we believe that parents can be part of this support too. We must ask that all KEPS families download the National Online Safety App (free for parents) to access the online safety tips and support guides that are frequently added. It would be great if parents could take advantage of the short courses available on the App too. Parents simply need to create a log in, sign up, access courses and materials then use the App whenever required. We also put updates out on our social media pages too. It is a great little App that can often help answer some of those tricky questions for parents. I have used it on many occasions now as a parent and it has helped me to keep my own children safe online.

[National Online Safety Mobile App \(nationalcollege.com\) https://info.nationalcollege.com/mobile-app](https://info.nationalcollege.com/mobile-app)

Family Support

Being a parent isn't always that easy. We are very aware of this. Many KEPS staff are parents themselves and we know that it can often feel like an almost impossible job! Please understand that we do 'get it' and we are here to help where possible.

Our Family Support Lead (Miss Hallam) is contactable via helpandsupport@kingedwin.notts.sch.uk. We also have a specialist Play Therapy lead in school and several other resources that we can call upon to offer support where required. Miss Hallam delivers a 'KEPS Toddler' group regularly and we have several other initiatives in the pipeline too this year.

The cost-of-living crisis continues to bite for many families. With recent business closures such as 'Wilkos', we anticipate a knock-on impact. If you are impacted by this or any other similar issue, please get in touch. We want to help and support our KEPS families.

Social Media at KEPS

We use 'X' (formerly Twitter) to share images of what we are up to at KEPS. Parents can follow their class pages and see snippets of what the children have been doing in school. We also have a Facebook page, but this is predominantly for general communication. It offers school and parent related communication that is aimed to guide and help KEPS families. Children's faces are rarely on our Facebook page (especially those without permission), and this is limited to the odd 'big' celebration such as the girls cross country team success at last year's championships etc. Instagram is also used at KEPS although, again, this does not include images of children's faces. We obviously have TEAMS, email and School Comms.

As Apps become available, we may jump on but in all honesty, it must support the school with our core purpose in order for it to be considered. I doubt that we will be moving to 'Snap Chat' any time soon!

There are many messages to take from my letter today. I'm Sorry that it's a little long but I really did need to put out such messages as we start the year and aim to keep the good progress at KEPS moving forwards.

Thanks in advance for your continued support.

Mr Callaghan-Wetton - Headteacher

Don't forget – we are always here to help! Helpandsupport@kingedwin.notts.sch.uk

