



King Edward VII School

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Dear Parent/Carer

Autumn term reflections, School vision, core purpose and other important information

School Vision

- Championing an inclusive culture of integrity, curiosity and resilience that empowers students to achieve success
- Maintaining high expectations and ambitious aspiration for all
- Preserving and building upon the unique historical legacy of the School.

Core Purpose: To provide the best quality education for all students so they can succeed and achieve life long success.

Each time I communicate with you, I will share the School's vision and core purpose so that we can all keep these important messages at the forefront of our minds because they shape everything that we do, guiding the education, support and opportunities provided for your children.

Autumn term reflections

As the autumn term 2025 comes to an end, we are very proud to recognise the achievements, academic and extracurricular, of our students across all key stages during what has been a very busy, purposeful and focused start to the year. We are also making good progress with reference to our annual strategic plan.

School Improvement Plan 2025-2026

- **Renewed School vision and values:**

We started the new academic year with a renewed School vision which has been communicated to staff, students and parents: consolidating our core



purpose and what we want for our School community. We are continuing to integrate our values of integrity, curiosity and resilience into all aspects of School life, through activities such as weekly bulletins, assemblies and tutorials. We have introduced weekly 'core values' rewards so that staff can explicitly recognise those who are championing these values both in and outside of lessons. Spring and summer terms will see more work on making these an intrinsic part of our Consistent Conduct Policy, fitting carefully with our relational practice work. These values underpin everything that we want to see in a 'KES student' and are integral to our School motto: "Do right, fear nothing".

- **Relational practice and the work undertaken so far:**

We are continuing valuable work on our inclusive culture at King Edward VII School, developing our relational practice-based approach. This is regularly shared and reinforced with staff and students through our core values of integrity, curiosity and resilience. A key example of this is our renewed consistency on lesson starts which supports our Healthy Minds framework in the strand of 'structure': creating predictability and emotional safety to help students to settle quickly, engage positively with learning from the outset and experience greater consistency across the School.

- **Parental engagement**

This is a vital aspect of our School community and we are working hard to support and develop this further, strengthening partnerships e.g. Year 7 settling in evening, Year 9 options information evening and information evenings for Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 parents and carers.

- **Three years' disciplinary literacy – Oracy Voice 21**

We have partnered with Voice 21 and started working on the School's oracy strategy. This work will complement our three year disciplinary literacy strategy, when we focused on vocabulary and reading in years one and two. The School's teaching and learning group have finalised a vision for oracy and completed online training modules. We are excited to launch our strategy with all teaching staff, and implementing practical oracy strategies across all subjects, in January 2026.

- **KES 2.0 structure autonomy**

We continue to embed our structured autonomy approach to pedagogy with the principle of equity at its heart. This approach is based on adaptive teaching. Lessons in King Edward VII School are inclusive by design and responsive to the needs of the students. Teachers continue to ensure that all students, regardless of their barriers, receive enough support to access our challenging curriculum.

- **Eco Committee**

Since being awarded the Green Flag award with distinction in the summer term, the Eco Committee continue to go from strength to strength. Ms. Ursu meets regularly with students on both sites. Book sales and bake sales have been held to raise funds for future projects. Collaborating with our Art, Design, Technology and Engineering Department, nesting boxes have been designed for both sites and an art project was launched to raise awareness of how plastics affect marine life.

- **School Council**

The School Council has been working on proposals for improvements on both sites this term which will be put forward to me soon for consideration.

- **Attendance**

The School continues to focus relentlessly on attendance. Please ensure your son/daughter attends School every day and is only absent for exceptional reasons. Please remember that students should also be in School and ready for their form period by 8:40am.

Other successes this term, include:

- The Year 5/6 and Post 16 annual open evenings – between nine hundred and one thousand prospective children, young people and parents and carers visited the site for each event. Our student ambassadors played an important role in welcoming the visitors to the School.
- Many trips have taken place, including the Year 9 Cutlers' visit to Straaltechnik, UK; Year 12 Geography students spent an inspiring day at The University of Sheffield's School of Geography and Planning.
- Rebecca Smith, in Year 13, winning the BBC Young Writers' Award 2025.
- All Year 12 students participating in the Climate Fresk workshop on Tuesday 21 October 2025. More details are in the School's autumn term newsletter 2025.
- The Winter Music Festival on Wednesday 3 December 2025.
- The School's incredible, Blank Slate Theatre production of **The Visit** by Friedrich Dürrenmatt; a very complex piece of drama.

The School's autumn newsletter contains a vast array of articles and information to celebrate the achievements of students and School community. It will be circulated before the end of the term.

Annual Parent View survey 2025

At King Edward VII School we value feedback from all our stakeholders, especially parents and carers, and strive to continuously improve our provision for the benefit of students, parents, carers and the School.

The Parent View Survey was conducted in June 2025.

Five hundred and sixty-two parents completed the survey, out of a School student population of 1707, which was an increase from four hundred responses from parents and carers in July 2024. The responses to the statements were very positive, overall.

The key strengths include the following:

- Children and young people are happy in the School.
- The School has high expectations for children and young people.
- Parents and carers expressed a high level of satisfaction with the progress of their children in the School.
- Similarly, a high level of satisfaction was expressed with reference to information shared with parents and carers about how their child(ren) is doing at School.
- There is a good range of subjects available to children in the School.
- Communication via email, which the majority of parents and carers find most effective.

The key areas to work on are:

- Continue to streamline communications, via email and SMS/text messaging, which parents and carers prefer.
- Explore opportunities for additional face to face meetings or events for parents and carers.
- Review the rewards system for students.

School closure time on Friday 19 December 2025

The School will close to all students on the last day of the autumn term at 2.15pm.

Staffing

The following members of staff left the School during this term:

- Ms C Burkay – Food Technician
- Ms B Matthews – Careers and Work Experience Coordinator
- Ms E Reynolds - Pastoral Manager for Behaviour
- Mrs S Hird, Pastoral Manager, will be leaving the School at the end of the term.

The following member of staff was welcomed to the School in October 2025:

- Mr E Patterson, Teaching Assistant.

Key dates for the spring term 2026

- Wednesday 7 January 2026 - Year 9 Parents' Evening, 4.30pm-7pm

- Monday 26 January 2026 - Year 9 Information Evening
- Tuesday 10 February 2026 - Year 10 Parents' Evening, 4.30pm-7pm
- Friday 13 February 2026 – School closed for staff training
- Monday 16 February – Friday 20 February 2026 - School closed for the half term break
- Wednesday 4 March 2026 - Year 11 Revision Evening, 6pm-7pm
- Monday 9 March 2026 - Year 12 Consultation Evening, 4.30pm-7pm
- Tuesday 17 March 2026 - Post 18 Opportunities Evening/Year 12 Parents' Evening, 6-6.45pm
- Thursday 19 March 2026 - Year 7 Parents' Evening 4.30pm-7pm

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued commitment and support for King Edward VII School.

I wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "L Gooden".

Ms Linda Gooden
Headteacher