

King Edward VI King's Norton School for Boys, Northfield Road, Birmingham, B30 1DY

Tel: 0121 628 0010

enquiry@knbs.co.uk knsb.kevibham.org



Dear Parents/Guardians,

This is a very important message that we trust you will take time to read; attached to this email is our behaviour policy that helps support a positive learning environment and helps keep an orderly school where boys and teachers can focus on learning.

Headteachers are encouraged to delegate this authority to discipline, especially in a school community of almost 1000 people, where distributed leadership is championed. Therefore, in line with Section 91 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006*, teachers and staff members have the legal right to discipline students* whose behaviour does not meet school expectations. This authority allows school staff to impose sanctions (these are further defined in the attached Behaviour Policy).

We understand that if our boys fall foul of the behaviour expectations this can be quite a shock for parents. Most often when this happens, we form collaborative partnerships which helps to build a better future for all, however, it is becoming a national and local trend for that parental communication to be overly demanding, increasingly uncooperative and sometimes aggressive. Thankfully most of our parental communication leads to positive future outcomes. Occasionally, we will have different views about an incident and/or imposed sanctions, and it can be difficult for parents to accept that the final decision is in the schools' power. We hope you are reassured that we understand students will make mistakes, and we understand that what is more important is how they respond to the sanctions and how they put things right afterwards.

The teaching profession has seen an increase in challenge and parental pressure and the experiences at KNSB mirror this. There are ongoing studies into why teachers are leaving the profession and why there is a current recruitment crisis in the UK. It has been suggested that one of the reasons is how the decisions of teachers are questioned much more than those of other professions, for example accounting or solicitors. One theory is that there is more of a personal connection due to the involvement of children and teachers can also be more accessible than other professionals. We hope and trust that parents will respond to teachers in a way that reinforces the importance of good manners and respect:

Please be considerate when communicating with staff.

- Please be polite and communicate as you would wish to be communicated with.
- Please be thoughtful and open minded, rather than jumping to conclusions.
- Please ensure emails are sent to the enquiry line so communication can be managed.

Headteacher: Mr D Clayton

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(Emails addressed directly to staff are not appropriate; they can cause significant anxiety and worry – especially when received on the evenings or at weekends, they can be missed due to large email traffic; and they cannot always be answered quickly due to prearranged and busy schedules)

- Please keep communication to working hours (unless contacting the enquiry line, as this is only monitored when staff are in school)
- If it is an urgent communication then emails are not the best method of communication, a phone call into school is required

(Please be aware that phone calls are recorded for monitoring and training purposes)

• Please do not simply turn up at reception without a prior arrangement, our schedules are established days or even weeks in advance

(we cannot guarantee that the person you want to see will be available, we also will not take staff away from the day-to-day responsibilities to meet with parents who do not have prebooked appointments)

Our communication strategy page: https://knsb.kevibham.org/communication-between-home-and-school/

Of course, we have a complaints policy, and this exists for you to use if you feel that you have a valid complaint that you have tried to resolve. The complaints policy also exists to protect staff from unfair complaints where they have acted within their delegated authority.

Our Complaints policy: https://knsb.kevibham.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/AT-Complaints-Policy.pdf

Thank you for your continued support in our shared drive to make our school the best it can be, and our students the best versions of themselves.

Mr D Clayton

School Behaviour Policy

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