



KING EDWARD VI HIGH SCHOOL

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HEADTEACHER: Mr J Christey

Welcome to Year 7

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope this letter finds you well and that your child is settling in to their new school. It has been a particularly challenging start to the new term as we battle with the current pandemic but it has been good to see how the pupils have adapted quickly to the new routines. Moving to high school can be a stressful and anxious time any year, without the added pressures caused by COVID-19. However, we have been very impressed by how the whole year group have coped and met that challenge.

As our Year 7 pupils settle in, we wanted to share some more information with you, as parents and carers, to help make sure you are kept informed and updated about how your child is progressing and what is happening across the school.

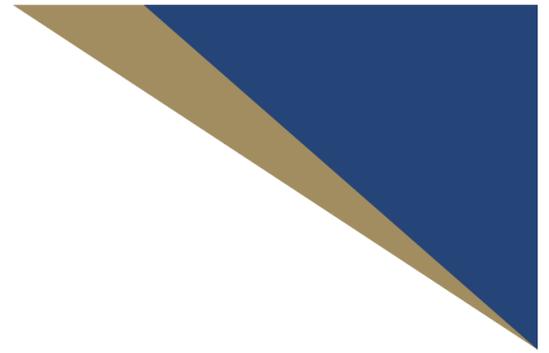
Go4Schools

Firstly, you will have probably read on the Ready for Kevi site about Go4Schools, an app we use in school to keep parents and carers informed about all sorts of things related to their child.

You are now able to view your child's progress online and access the following information at any time:

- **Timetable** – Your child's daily and weekly timetable
- **Homework** – Homework tasks due in the next 7 days
- **Attendance** – this is updated each morning to show the previous 24 hours
- **Progress Reports** – full written reports which are published annually, and termly Interim Reports.
- **Achievements and behaviour**

Your child's page is automatically updated, providing you with the latest information. When a new grade or report is available we will contact you to let you know.



To access the site, you will need to use the email address you have given to the school on your PAIF1 Post-Admissions Information Form and details of how to login can be found here: <http://kevistafford.weebly.com/go4schools-login.html> or in the Parents section of the school website. This service is now available.

If there are any problems, either about logging into the site or accessing your child's report, then please contact the school office on 01785 258546 or visit the Go4Schools help page on our website or by clicking here: <http://kevistafford.weebly.com/go.html> - especially useful if you have not used this service before.

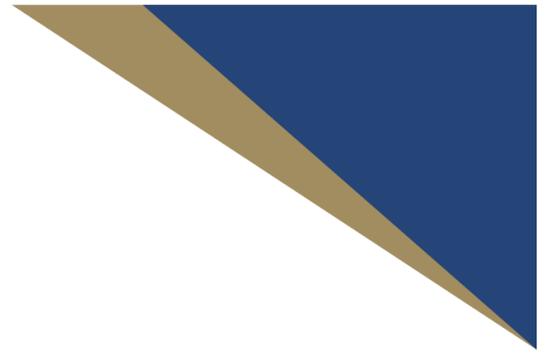
You can either view your account online, or download the free app on your phone or tablet. Please note that currently the app does not display the Annual and Interim (Termly) Reports and you will need to login to your online account to view these when they are published.

Pupils will be getting access to their Go4Schools accounts in IT lessons and will be shown how to view homework that has been set.

Baseline Assessments

Next week your child will be sitting some tests in English, Maths and Science to help us understand the starting points of all of our students. The first thing to say is that we don't want anyone to worry or panic about these tests. This year has been very difficult and we've had different information and feedback than usual from primary schools. We understand that everybody will have had different lockdown experiences and that some students will find it easier to transition back into school routine than others, so by completing short assessments in English, Maths and Science we will be able to have a baseline to show everybody's position at this point in time.

The tests will take place in the Gym during the afternoons next week and we stress that they are not there to cause anyone concern. We use the GL Assessments that are standard papers set and marked by an external agency. They are not tests that can be revised for but we do want students to be aware that they are happening.



They will consist of:

English	This comes in four sections: 1) spelling 2) punctuation 3) grammar 4) Two reading comprehensions, students are given some text to read and then are asked to answer questions about the contents.
Maths	This is in two parts. The first is a Mental Maths test, a recording will give individually-timed questions that students will need to answer. The second part of the test focuses on Applying and Understanding Maths. Students are not allowed to use a calculator in either section.
Science	This paper focuses on Science skills that students may have come across at KS2, rather than knowledge and recall of scientific facts.

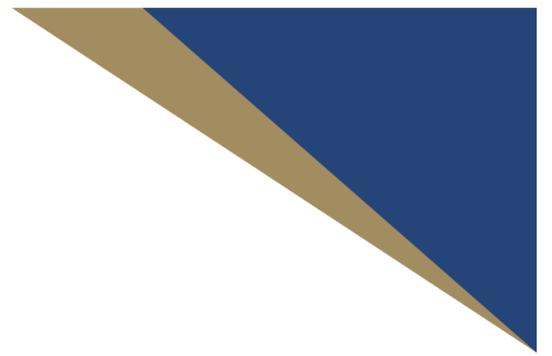
Students will not need any special equipment for these tests except the usual school equipment of:

- black pen
- pencil
- ruler

The timetable will be:

Monday afternoon	Tuesday afternoon	Wednesday afternoon	Thursday afternoon
Science	Maths	Reading and Spelling ages	English

Pupils will be told by their form tutors where they need to be and when.



Communications and Letters

From 28th September 2020, the vast majority of our communications and letters home will be sent electronically. The main form of communication will be through the Go4Schools app and email. Copies of letters can be found on the school website, either in the Parents section (<http://kevistafford.weebly.com/letters-to-parents.html>) or the most recent on the homepage (www.kevi.org.uk).

Please make sure the school has your most up-to-date contact information and please download the free Go4Schools app from your App Store so we can keep you updated.

ParentPay

Finally, a reminder that our school is now a cashless environment and parents and pupils will need to use ParentPay for school payments (e.g. lunches). Login details were sent out in July but if you do not have yours, please contact the School Office. A help guide can be found here:

<https://www.parentpay.com/parent-account-fags/>

If you have any general queries, please contact the School Office or check our website for more information. If you wish to discuss any concerns regarding your child, please contact your child's form tutor in the first instance or the Head of Year 7, Mrs Wright. Contact details can be found at the end of this letter.

Thank you for your continued support to help your child get the most out of Year 7.

Your sincerely,

Ms E J Knights
Assistant Headteacher

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