



Kingswinford Academy

A part of Windsor Academy Trust

Kingswinford Academy Parent Bulletin
25th - 29th January 2021



Dear Parent/Carer

Many thanks with your patience for this addition of the weekly bulletin and my apologies for the slight delay in getting this to you. This week we bring news of some new systems and practices that will support you better, both whilst we are in lockdown, and on our return.

First, we have introduced 'Google Guardian' that will send you regular email updates of the work that staff are setting for your children through their Google Classrooms. This was introduced last week and we expect it will help you to coordinate your child's learning and ensure that, despite the lockdown, they can keep up with their studies.

Second, we are moving to a new communication system throughout this month. For some time we have been using a combination of 'School Comms', 'iPay', a Parents Evening booking system and other information sharing systems to provide you the access and information you need. Through this month we are moving to a single system to provide all of these services (and more) - Parent Mail - which we hope will simplify the way in which we interact. We will, of course, continue to use Class Charts, but Parent Mail will supplement this with some more of the administrative elements of your interactions with school.

As always, please stay safe and have a good week,

Tom Macdonald
Headteacher

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Class Charts

S Wilkinson



As a reminder, live lesson messages are intended to try and ensure as many students as possible can engage in their live lessons. Each alert is not linked to any negative points on classcharts, nor does it affect student attendance records, but is sent for your information.

Your child will be notified prior to their live lesson. As a rule this will be the day before and an additional reminder will go out on the day too. If your child is unable to attend for any reason, please ensure they contact their teacher to let them know.

Unfortunately the email you receive is automated and cannot be replied to, however if you have any further questions please feel free to email info@kingswinford.windsoracademytrust.org.uk and a member of staff will get back to you as soon as possible.

Also you will receive a weekly engagement/non engagement notification. This will be an overview per subject for the whole week. You will continue to receive this overall note even if we have received communication from yourselves re your child's absence as every child's engagement is recorded for our records. This is not attached to any negative points and is automatically generated. Again if you have any queries please email the address above.

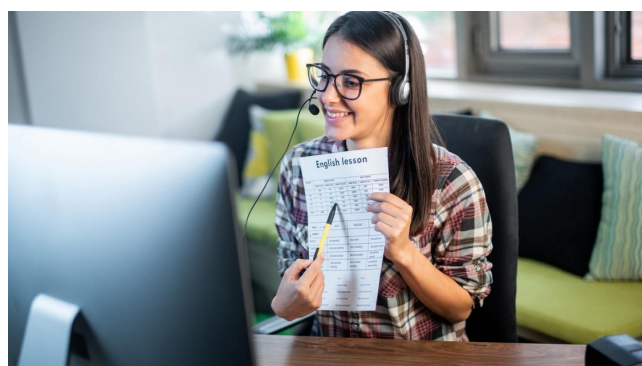
Year 7 & 8 Parents' Evenings

S Fletcher

A reminder that we have now scheduled 'virtual' Parents' Evenings for Year 7 and 8. These will both run on the evenings of the 3rd and 4th of February. Further information will be sent directly to parents detailing how to book appointment

Live Lesson Update

L Palmer



If your child experiences any issues in joining a live lesson please direct them to look for live lesson links in the stream on their Google Classroom and in the Header at the top of the Google Classroom - the link should be available in both places at least a few minutes before a live lesson is due to start.

If your child is having issues with joining a live lesson please check that they are not logged into any other Google Mail accounts, other than their school account, as this can cause issues with access to our school Google Classroom

Helpful Webinars for Parents

L Palmer

The recording for Elevate's parent webinar on **motivation** is now available to be watched back on this link:

<https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/replay>. You can also download a summary sheet of the main points [here](#). The recording will be available until **9th February**, which is when the next webinar is taking place.

The 9th February webinar is on **Stress and Wellbeing**, focusing on how to establish and maintain good routines during lockdown, how to manage stress levels, and what to do when stress gets overwhelming. The details are below:

Managing Student Stress & Wellbeing

Date: Tuesday 9th February 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:00pm

Registration link:

<https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register>

This webinar will be suitable for parents of Years 7 through to 11.

You can sign up for any or all of the term's webinar series with the registration link above.

Google Guardian

L Palmer

Google Classroom
Guardian Email Summaries



All parents should have received an invite to Google Guardian last week. Google Guardian provides a weekly summary of Google Classroom activity, including approaching deadlines, missed deadlines and details of work set via Google Classroom. If you haven't already done so, please use the link in the email to access your Google Guardian account. We are sure you will find this information useful, allowing you to support your child with managing workload during these difficult times. If you do not wish to receive Google Guardian summaries, please ignore the email.

For more information about Google Guardian visit this link:

<https://support.google.com/edu/classroom/answer/6388136>

E-Safety

S Fletcher

Do you know who your children are talking to when they are online?

Would you let them talk to complete strangers in the street?

Ask your children, talk to them, find out!

Making sure your child is safe online is something you may be conscious of now even more than ever. As we have directed our learning online it has significantly increased the time our young people spend on line and I would therefore like to direct you to the many avenues of support you can access.

Our website under the Safeguarding page offers a vast amount of information and also has links to further websites such as Think You Know, where you can look at how to protect your children whilst they are online.

<https://www.kingswinfordacademy.org.uk/our-school/safeguarding/>

Please remember you can contact the school for help and advice about anything as you would have normally, either by email or calling the school directly.

Wellbeing Questionnaire

S Fletcher



We have shared a wellbeing questionnaire with all students to examine how they are feeling, the balance of workload and how they prefer to complete it. Could you please encourage them to complete it and discuss any areas of interest with them.

Parents and carers are also asked to complete their own questionnaire. The deadline is **Thursday 28th February**. School staff remain here to help you and your child so please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any assistance.

Ask For ANI

S Fletcher



Ask For “Ani” – Domestic Abuse Scheme Dudley Safeguarding team have asked us to highlight the below help/advice.

Victims of Domestic Abuse can go into pharmacies and ask for domestic abuse help. By asking for “Ani” anyone suffering from domestic abuse will be taken into a private room and offered support. “Ani” represents an acronym for Action Need Immediately.

Covid Testing in Schools

L Wise



In reference to the emails sent on 27/01/21 or 28/01/2021 regarding Student Testing in Schools for COVID 19 please use this link to give consent for your child.

<https://forms.gle/gNs8suzA9cyfhhM29>

If your child is over 16 years old they are able to give their own consent. Please refer to the information on our website [here](#)

BMet Upcoming Careers Event

J Wilkes



BMet is hosting a Parents Evening aimed at parents/guardians of students in Years 10 – 13 who want to find out more about BMet, the career pathways, support available and why BMet should be the first choice of post 16/18 education. Parents/guardians need to register for the event by [clicking here](#). On the day of the event, they will send log in details to the event which is taking place on Zoom.

Not only do they have a series of virtual events, they also have an interactive package aimed at Years 10-13 to look what the endless possibilities BMet has to offer. Students can work their way through the package at their own pace and move flexibly within the package to areas of most interest quickly and easily.

Please [click](#) here to view the interactive package - accessed via chrome.

ParentMail - Coming Soon

T Macdonald



We will shortly be introducing a new communication system which, eventually, will

replace Schoolcomms, called ParentMail.
Letters and further details will be sent out next
week.



Attention all parents!

Pick up school messages online or on the mobile app!

**FREE
DOWNLOAD**

"Sometimes it can be challenging to juggle school, work, other children, house work and commitments and know what is going on and keep in tune with the latest news and events at school. This app is a godsend!"



Get started...

- 1. Register with ParentMail**
- 2. Download the App & login**
- 3. Pick up school messages on the go**



Please note: You will need to register online on the ParentMail website to use the App. Please ask the school office to send you a registration message.

Notices from Dudley Local Authority

[Download the covid app](#) today



Keep up to date with [latest coronavirus advice](#) and
how it affects council services

Find out the latest [government guidance](#)