



**Virtual Parents' Forum**  
**8.00 a.m. Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

**Mrs Kerry Cooney – Headteacher**  
**Mrs Clayre Yorke – Assistant Headteacher, Student Behaviour, Welfare & Development**  
**Mrs Lynne Finucane – Assistant Headteacher, Learning & Achievement**  
**Mrs Sheila Allport – PA to Headteacher & Senior Leadership Team (note taker)**

**9 parents attended the forum**

ITEM		ACTION BY
1.	<p>Mrs Cooney introduced herself as the new Headteacher of Lordswood Girls' School and welcomed the parents to the first Parents' Forum of the year.</p> <p>A powerpoint presentation was displayed which detailed the questions that had been raised by parents prior to the forum.</p> <p><b>King Edward VI merger with Lordswood Girls' School &amp; Sixth Form Centre</b>            Mrs Cooney provided an update:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Due diligence has now been undertaken and the LGS site and buildings have been inspected by KEVI</li> <li>- A consultation has taken place with key stakeholders and the responses received are very positive</li> <li>- The decision made by the Regional Headteachers' Board in December was that the proposed merger would be a very positive move for both KEVI and LGS</li> <li>- Monthly project meetings take place between the Headteacher and KEVI to discuss financial accounts, HR &amp; Staffing, Governance and the support that we will receive from KEVI. The merger is on track for conversion on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022.</li> </ul> <p><b>What will be the impact of this merger?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There will be a change of school name, logo and uniform</li> <li>- We will be sharing good practices across the Trust</li> <li>- Financial stability will be provided as resources can be shared across the Trust</li> <li>- Current staff will remain as the TUPE process will be undertaken</li> <li>- The current Governing Body will remain</li> <li>- We will retain our autonomy and school policies</li> </ul>	

2.	<p><b>Uniform survey</b></p> <p>The Headteacher thanked parents for their contribution to the uniform survey as 700 responses were received. The results were analysed and the school went out to tender to ensure that the new supplier would be affordable for parents and the uniform suitable for school. Clive Marks was chosen as the preferred sole supplier as the prices were significantly cheaper, are guaranteed for 12 months and items will be kept in stock.</p> <p>A number of changes have been made to provide affordability and flexibility to parents as many items will be able to be purchased from supermarkets.</p> <p>61% of parents were in favour of introducing blazers and KEVI has agreed to pay the cost of the first blazer for September 2022 only, for all students from year 7 to year 11.</p> <p>An overview of changes to the uniform are:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The school colour of navy blue will be kept and the uniform will consist of a tie, shirt, skirt or trousers, woollen jumper with the option of with or without the school logo</li> <li>- The skirt length will be relaxed to mid-calf and up to 2cms above the knee to allow for growth</li> <li>- Headscarf: any plain, navy blue headscarf can be worn but there should be no lace or beading</li> <li>- Boots can be worn in bad weather</li> <li>- Badges: one charity badge can be worn</li> <li>- PE kit: currently navy blue and gold coloured. This will change to navy blue and white as these colours are standard products and a cheaper option. Hoodies will not be allowed due to safety concerns during PE lessons. Navy blue tracksuit bottoms, leggings, shorts or skorts and a navy blue vest can be worn under a relaxed t-shirt to allow arms to be covered</li> </ul> <p><b>Details of the full uniform will be included in this week's Parent Bulletin.</b></p>	
3.	<p><b><u>PSHE</u></b></p> <p>Mrs Yorke, Assistant Headteacher (Student Behaviour, Welfare &amp; Development) thanked the parents for their questions on PSHE and provided an overview of the PSHE programme:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The PSHE programme is delivered through drop-down days and in Citizenship and RE lessons.</li> <li>- It is a varied programme given to students in an age appropriate manner. External organisations come into school to deliver the sex and education part of the programme and diversity, equality, friendships, intimate and respectful relationships and sexual harassment are all topics discussed.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stereotyping, identity, British and school values are also included in the programme and each session shows how it relates to different people in society.</li> </ul> <p>If parents do have any specific questions regarding the PSHE programme, please forward them to <a href="mailto:lgs-enquiry@lordswoodtrust.co.uk">lgs-enquiry@lordswoodtrust.co.uk</a>.</p>	
3.	<p><b><u>COVID</u></b></p> <p>Mrs Cooney provided an update:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Student absences as a result of COVID have dramatically reduced</li> <li>- There are a number of staff absent due to COVID who may be absent for up to 10 days</li> <li>- The school is following the Department of Education guidelines; classroom windows are kept open during every lesson and students and staff can continue to wear face masks if they wish</li> <li>- Students are continuing to sit in their year groups</li> <li>- Additional cleaning staff are in school during the day to wipe down bannisters and touch points</li> <li>- Anti-bacterial wipes, sprays and hand sanitisers are in all classrooms for students use</li> <li>- CO2 monitors have been placed in classrooms and are monitored over a two week period</li> <li>- An air purifier has been ordered</li> <li>- COVID vaccinations for students have taken place in school</li> <li>- A Lateral flow test kit is provided to students and staff</li> </ul>	
4.	<p><b><u>Caterers</u></b></p> <p>A number of questions had been raised regarding catering:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Aspens provide the catering services in the school. The Catering Manager provides a range of menu options following healthy food options guidelines</li> <li>- There are two staggered lunch sittings. Often the most popular food, i.e. burgers and pizzas, runs out quickly so by rotating the sittings, all students have the opportunity of choosing the most popular items. Additionally, 50% of the food is held until the second sitting to ensure there are adequate food choices.</li> <li>- Students eat lunch in the canteen area and are not asked to leave until they have finished eating their meal.</li> <li>- As the canteen area is so small, we are looking at the possibility of using the Hall in the future but we have to ensure that this area is fire compliant and structural changes are needed before we will be able to do this.</li> </ul>	
	<p>Mrs Cooney thanked the parents for joining the forum and said how lovely it was to see the students back in school and is now looking forward to welcoming parents into school also.</p> <p><b>If any information is required, then please email Sheila Allport – <a href="mailto:s.allport@lordswoodtrust.co.uk">s.allport@lordswoodtrust.co.uk</a></b></p>	