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KING EDWARD VI
HANDSWORTH
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

KING EDWARD VI
ACADEMY TRUST
BIRMINGHAM

January 2018

Re: Schoolcomms

Dear Parent/Carer

As a school we wish to further improve and develop our School/Home communication and will also be transitioning to a paperless system of communication over the next year. This will not only be a positive environmental step but will also save time and money which can better be used to enhance learning and teaching. As a result we have decided to move across to a nationwide system called Schoolcomms. Initially for our Text Messaging, Emailing and Attendance, followed by Reporting and Letters service over the next few months and potentially for our online payments during the Summer Term 2018. (Please visit www.schoolcomms.com for further information.) This puts all our communications with one company and as a result we will not use Sims Learning Gateway from May 1st 2018 and all accounts will be disabled. It is extremely important that all Parents sign up for and access the new Schoolcomms online Gateway system.

To begin with, you will be able to do the following through the Schoolcomms online:
- View attendance percentages
- View lesson timetable
- Download and view reports
- View your Child's details
- Send and receive messages when using the mobile app

As we continue with the rollout of the system, we will eventually enable the following features:
- Make payments for trips and lunch money
- View behaviour and achievement points
- View lunch purchases

Headteacher: Mrs A. Whittall

How to install and register through the Schoolcomms Gateway Mobile App (which we strongly recommend)

The set-up process is simple and will take no more than a couple of minutes:

1. Search for "School Gateway" in the Apple App Store/Google Play or on your phone go to www.schoolgateway.com/apple (Apple) or www.schoolgateway.com/android (Android).
2. Install the app and if you are asked then say yes to "Allow Push Notifications".
3. When you launch School Gateway for the first time, please select 'New User' and enter the email address and mobile telephone number you have registered with the School.
4. The system will send you a PIN code to your phone; please enter this PIN code and the app will be activated for you. As soon as you have got the system set up, all of the text messages we send you will appear in the app; you will receive notifications/alerts as normal.

How to Register through the School Gateway Website (for PC/laptop access)

1. Go to www.schoolgateway.com
2. When you visit the School Gateway website for the first time, please select 'New User' and enter your email address and mobile telephone number you have registered with the School.
3. The system will send you a PIN code to your phone; please enter this PIN code and your account will be activated for you.

If you are unable to register with the gateway system, please email schoolgateway@kingedwardvi.bham.sch.uk with the following details and someone will get back to you in due course:

- Your Child's name and Form
- Your Name, mobile number and email address

As a school we believe that there will be many benefits from this move to Schoolcomms in the long term. Inevitably there will be initial set up issues for some individuals, in which case please use the email above to make direct contact with the IT support team.

Yours faithfully

A Whittall
Headteacher