King Edward VI Academy
West End
Spilsby
Lincolnshire
PE23 5EW

Tel: 01790 753260
Email: Office@kingedwardacademy.co.uk

Principal: Mr M Wilkinson

4th September 2026

Dear KEVI Families,

Principal's Welcome Back

Welcome to a new KEVI school year!

We have been delighted to welcome our new Year 7 students this week and are thrilled with how they have started life at KEVI. A particular highlight was our visit into Spilsby to watch the Lloyds Tour of Britain cycling event on Thursday. They represented themselves, the school and the town brilliantly as we cheered the cyclists as they passed.

"As we were all standing there was a great atmosphere and the police bikes and support cars kept beeping, making it really nice. The bikes went zooming down the road with all their multicoloured shirts. It was amazing to see them go so fast and to hear all the people in our town supporting them. I found this really fun to watch with my new friends and couldn't believe that bikes went so fast!" Amelia

"This is the first time the race has come through Spilsby since it began after WW2. The horns of the cars were very musical, and the bikes were rapid, turning as one like a school of fish! I cheered and waved my flag. There were a couple of bikes behind but they showed resilience which was inspiring." Ronnie

It has been lovely to welcome back Year 11 students as they start the most important part of their educational journey, building towards the final examinations in 2027. We achieved more top grades this summer and the challenge is set for our new Year 11 cohort to become history makers for the school.

Uniform

Please use this link to see our uniform guidance.

King Edward VI Academy - Uniform

KEVI Facebook Page

Please follow our school Facebook page because it provides a convenient platform for staying updated on important school announcements, events, and activities. This ensures that parents are informed about their child's education, including academic calendars and extracurricular opportunities.

King Edward VI Academy | Spilsby | Facebook

Attendance

At our school, we know that every day matters. Regular attendance is one of the most important factors in helping young people succeed academically, socially and emotionally. When students attend school consistently, they benefit from high-quality teaching, build stronger relationships with peers and staff, and develop the routines and habits that support future success. Missing even a small number of days can create gaps in learning that become increasingly difficult to close over time. Excellent attendance is not simply about being present; it is about being fully engaged in learning and making the most of every opportunity. Students who attend regularly are more likely to achieve strong outcomes, feel connected to school life, and develop the confidence and resilience needed for their next steps. We have a brilliantly proactive and supportive pastoral team at KEVI who will be in touch quickly if there are any concerns with your child's attendance or patterns of regular absence

To celebrate a brilliant start, alongside our usual attendance rewards, all students with 100% attendance up to and including 25 September will be entered into a prize draw to win £100!

We appreciate the support of families in helping students attend school every day, on time and ready to learn. By working together, we can ensure that every student has the best possible chance to achieve their potential.

NGRT

As part of the English curriculum here at KEVI and our commitment to ensuring every child's reading progresses, students will be completing a New Group Reading Test during the first week of term.

The NGRT is a nationally recognised assessment that measures children's reading ability. This includes their ability to read, comprehend and understand written text. This is completed in one of our ICT rooms on a school computer and provides an accurate picture of their current reading level. During one of their English lessons, students will go with their class and class teacher to complete the test and are expected to work independently.

Tests will be completed on:

- Y7: Friday 4th September
- Y8 and Y9 - Monday 7th September or Tuesday 8th September

We would like to emphasise the need for students to take the test seriously. We ask that they try their best so that we can gain the most accurate understanding of their current reading ability.

Transforming our School Catering Offer

Ensuring our students have access to high-quality, nutritious food that keeps them energised and focused is a top priority at King Edward VI Academy and across the David Ross Education Trust (DRET).

As part of the Trust's Healthy Lifestyles programme, we are pleased to share details of an exciting transformation to our school food offer from September 2026. This change brings a complete refresh of our catering provision, introducing a new range of fresh, healthy and vibrant meals that students will genuinely enjoy. Having recently trialled a range of menus in several DRET schools, feedback from students has been overwhelmingly positive, with high praise for both the taste and variety on offer.

A New Vision for School Food This refreshed approach to school dining is driven by a commitment to providing freshly prepared, nutritionally balanced meals that fuel students for the learning day, while creating inviting and inclusive dining spaces. We are prioritising fresh, seasonal and locally sourced ingredients, alongside robust practices to minimise food waste. In addition, our dining areas will become visual learning environments, where digital displays and information highlight ingredient provenance and nutrition, helping students make informed choices and connecting the dining experience to the wider curriculum.

The new healthy menu will be available throughout the school day, from breakfast and break times through to lunch. We are proud to share that this initiative represents an early adoption of the Government's upcoming School Food Standards Plus, which is due to be introduced nationally in September 2027. By introducing these changes now, our students will benefit immediately from enhanced nutritional standards, reduced sugar content and wholesome meal choices a full year ahead of the national rollout.

As part of our commitment to promoting healthier choices and reducing our environmental impact, single-use plastic bottled drinks will no longer be available for purchase in the dining hall. Instead, students will have free access to chilled, filtered drinking water throughout the school day. For those who would like additional choice, a range of cordial flavours will also be available to purchase. This change supports both student wellbeing and our wider sustainability objectives by reducing plastic waste across the Academy. Please remember to bring a refillable drinks bottle.

Meal Pricing for September 2026: To support the delivery of this enhanced food offer and to help meet the ongoing pressures of food sector inflation, the cost of a standard daily school meal deal will be £2.90 from September 2026.

This adjustment enables us to continue providing high-quality ingredients, freshly prepared meals and a varied menu designed to meet the needs of our young people. As you may already be aware, there have been significant changes to eligibility for Benefit Related Free School Meals (BRFSM) for children in all year groups.

If you believe your child may be eligible but have not yet applied, we would strongly encourage you to submit an application via the Government website: Apply for Free School Meals. Supporting Students with Free School Meals As part of our commitment to promoting healthy lifestyles and ensuring that all students have access to a nutritious meal during the school day, Benefit Related Free School Meal (BRFSM) allocations will be available for use at lunchtime only from September 2026.

To support this change, we have adjusted the timings of our school day to move lunchtime to 12:35. This change will help ensure that students receiving free school meals are able to access a balanced and substantial midday meal that supports their wellbeing, concentration and learning throughout the afternoon. Students will continue to have access to the full range of lunchtime menu options available within their daily allowance.

Gino's Update

KEVI breakfast

A reminder that your child can happily enter Gino's (the school canteen) from 7:45am each day if they arrive early to school.

This is a safe, warm and staffed part of the school with seating and free breakfast food.

Lunch Menu

Week Beginning September 7th 2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Planet Friendly Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Pasta bolognaise G & cheese M	Chicken Tikka M, rice & naan bread G	Three veg macaroni cheese G M V	Chicken & vegetable pie, G M	Spicy chicken, G
Option 2	Chicken wrap G	Italian meatballs G Tomato pasta G, mozzarella M V	Quorn frankfurter GE V	Chicken wrap G	Quorn dippers G, VGN
Option 3	Jacket potato with various filling including Cauliflower cheese G M V	Vegetable BBQ Tortilla stack G M SO C V	Sweet potato curry, rice & crusty bread G VGN	Jacket potato with various filling including Vegetable Chilli G V	Falafel kebab, G VGN
Sides	Salad bar, Herby diced potatoes G Peas	Salad bar, Roasted carrots	Salad bar, Sweetcorn & peppers Vegetable pasta salad G V	Salad bar, Mashed potato, carrots & broccoli	Salad bar, Potato wedges G Baked beans
Dessert	Apple flapjack G & custard M	Fruit or yogurt M	Fruit or Yogurt M	Fruit or yogurt M	Chocolate mandarin cake G E

Gino's

Available daily- Jacket potatoes, salad bar, baguettes, rolls & wraps
Menus may be subject to change
Allergens G- Gluten, E-Eggs, F- Fish, M- Milk, C- Celery, L-Lupin, MU- Mustard, N- Nuts, P- Peanuts, S- Sesame seeds, SO- Soya, SD- Sulphur Dioxide, MO- Molluscs, CR- Crustaceans VGN- Vegan

Price List – September 2026

Daily spend limits in Gino's are set at £6.00 per day. The Free School Meal (FSM) daily allowance is £2.90. Please contact the School Office at office@kingedwardacademy.co.uk if you would like this to increase or decrease for your child, stating your required daily spend limit. We ask that you please do your best to not let your food account go into a negative balance.

Dates for the Diary

11th September – Whole School Photos

14th – 25th September – Harvest Festival

15th September – Y10 Parent Information Evening 6pm-7pm

22nd September – Open Evening 5:30pm

28th September – Open Week

29th September – Y11 Parents' Evening In-Person 4pm-6pm

1st October – Flu Vaccinations

20th October – Y7 Settling-In Evening 4:30pm-6:30pm

22nd October – Night at the Musicals 5:30pm

1st December – Y9 Parents' Evening Virtual 5pm-7pm

8th December – Y11 Parents Information Evening 4pm-6pm (Invite only)

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Mark Wilkinson
Principal