



KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL, LICHFIELD

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 6 Summer Reading

I hope this message finds you well, and that your child is looking forward to joining us at King Edward VI School in September. Starting a new school is an exciting time, and we are very much looking forward to welcoming your child into our community.

As part of our commitment to supporting every student from the very beginning of their journey with us, I am writing to inform you about an important reading and comprehension assessment that your child will complete during their first few weeks at King Edward VI School. This will take place during your child's scheduled IT lesson in either the second or third week of term.

The NGRT (New Group Reading Test) is provided by a highly reputable company that works with schools nationwide to evaluate reading and comprehension skills at Key Stage Three. Importantly, their national benchmarks are verified through analysis of data from almost half a million students, making their findings incredibly reliable and valuable in informing the next steps for your child's learning.

I'd like to take this opportunity to emphasise that King Edward VI School is dedicated to ensuring all students thrive in the learning environment we create for them, and that they make excellent progress towards meeting national curriculum standards. These reading tests provide additional insights and are an important part of how we monitor, evaluate and support that progress. The results of this assessment will provide us with valuable data to help us plan targeted support and shape our future teaching strategies, ensuring that, by the time your child reaches Key Stage Four, they are in the strongest possible position to achieve their full potential.

With this in mind, it would benefit your child to read at least one book over the six-week break for the summer. Regular reading helps to maintain and develop vocabulary, comprehension skills, and fluency, all of which are core components assessed in the NGRT. Students who read widely and frequently are often better equipped to access the full curriculum and engage confidently with complex texts across a range of subjects. Encouraging your child to read now will support a smooth transition into secondary school and give them the best possible start when they take the NGRT assessment early in the term.

Furthermore, **new pupils to King Edward VI School will also need to bring a reading book with them every day to school** as they will be encouraged to read during registration and at the beginning of some of their English lessons. Students who are looking for support with finding and choosing a book over the six-week holidays and having a book for their return to school can visit Lichfield Library on the Market Square in Lichfield for support. <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Libraries/branchlibraries/LichfieldLibrary/LichfieldLibrary.aspx>

Thank you in advance for your support with this important initiative.

Kindest regards,

Esme Coulbert
Second in English