

Edward Peake C of E (VC) Middle School

Federation Headteacher: Miss Z J Linington

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Dear Parent/Carer

I am mindful of the sheer volume of information coming from Edward Peake to you but I hope that you will be finding it useful. This letter simply contains information about our nearly completed expansion project and the exciting changes to the school building and systems. Of course, ordinarily, I would simply invite you all in for a tour but given the situation at the moment where the school must minimise the numbers of visitors to the site, that will not be possible.

New and improved facilities

Our pupils in years 6, 7 and 8 will find the building greatly changed from when the majority last saw it in March. Facilities that we now very proudly offer:

- 5 science labs (rather than 2). 4 are brand new. All are equally well equipped
- Dedicated textiles room
- A new food technology room
- A much larger, dedicated library
- A dedicated dance/drama room
- A new music technology suite
- A new computing suite
- 7 new classrooms and numerous small group rooms and 2 new music practice rooms
- More hard play area
- Dedicated SEND base - 'The Peake' is back!

Site security

Perhaps the biggest change is to the front of the school. I am delighted that the school site security has been greatly enhanced. Whilst this will inevitably cause some inconvenience because the site will be more difficult to access, the benefits of keeping our young people safe more than makes up for it. There is now an electronic gate at the bottom of the school drive on Potton Road.

From the week beginning 14 September, the gate will be open first thing in the morning and there is a 'drop off' point, but there will be NO PARKING permitted in that area. Visitors that wish to park on the school site in the morning must telephone the school office and make an appointment to do so. It will take us all a little while to get used to the new system and I thank you in advance for your patience.



School zones

We have now divided the school into 'zones' and relabelled all of the rooms. Pupils (and staff!) will be given maps to help them. Our zones have been named after inspirational people:

- Zephaniah zone - upstairs year 5, named after Benjamin Zephaniah, writer, poet
- Seacole zone - downstairs year 5, named after Mary Seacole, nurse, healer
- Dowd zone - upstairs year 6, named after Siobhan Dowd, British writer and activist
- Johnson zone - upstairs year 7 & 8, named after Katherine Johnson, NASA mathematician
- Morris zone - art and design technology area, named after William Morris, textile designer, poet, novelist, translator, and socialist activist
- Elgar zone - downstairs year 7 & 8, named after Edward Elgar, composer
- Franklin zone - upstairs year 7 & 8 and science labs, named after Rosalind Franklin, chemist

Cashless payments

We are moving to a completely cashless system from 14 September. Using the School Gateway, you will be able to make payments for activities, educational visits and school dinners. As the full system will not be up and running until the 14 September, if your child has a school lunch during the first week please make payment for this via cheque. If you do not have a cheque book, your child will still be able to have a school dinner and you will then be able to pay retrospectively via the School Gateway from the 14 September.

We are really looking forward to seeing our wonderful new facilities being used by our pupils!

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Linington', written in a cursive style.

Miss Linington
Federation Headteacher