



KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL
BIRMINGHAM



Information for candidates



The School

King Edward's School, Birmingham is one of the UK's leading schools. Our shared belief in the transformative power of an accessible education in a young, ethnically diverse city, makes us an exciting and successful place to teach and learn.

Founded in 1552 by Edward VI, King Edward's School is the original school of the King Edward VI Foundation and has since been a central institution in the city of Birmingham which it serves. It is located on a stunning 50-acre site in Edgbaston, which it shares with King Edward VI High School for Girls (KEHS), and educates 860 day boys, aged 11 to 18.

The School's mission is to ensure we provide the best possible education for the brightest boys in Birmingham, whatever their background. There is a strong belief in the power of education to transform lives and a commitment to a truly challenging, intellectual, rich and broad education.

Following the appointment of Kirsty von Malaisé as Chief Master & Principal of KES and KEHS from September 2024, the two schools are about to embark on an ambitious strategic development, which will see the schools working more closely with each other whilst retaining their distinct identities.

Academic life

King Edward's is an academic school and an intellectual school. It is a school where results are exceptionally good and where pupils are clever and hardworking, full of character and originality, and are well respected by their peers. Being an academic school means that everyone strives for the highest academic standards and performance. King Edward's is recognised as one of the best academic schools in the West Midlands and among the best nationally in public exams and university entry. In 2023, of the cohort of 132 pupils, 114 (86%) took at least 10 GCSEs. Thirteen pupils achieved 10 straight grade 9s and 33 pupils achieved all 9/8s across their 10 GCSEs. Overall, the percentage of 9-8 grades was 69% and 88% were 9-7. Boys who sat the IB diploma in 2023 achieved excellent results, with the average points score per pupil being 35.9 points (surpassing the global average of 30.24). One in five of the cohort achieved 40 points or above. Pupils continue to uphold the long-standing tradition of attending top UK universities like Oxford, Cambridge and top London universities, as well as choosing a wonderfully diverse range of subjects. King Edward's pupils are very active in academic competitions in Mathematics, Science, public speaking and debating, and teams regularly win national competitions. Every pupil goes on to study at a world-class university, including an increasing number to the US.



The School

Co-curricular

Life outside the classroom is vitally important at King Edward's. It complements and supports the academic pursuits of the pupils, making them more fulfilled, relaxed and rounded as well as developing essential qualities and experience: resilience, teamwork, commitment and leadership.

There is a very wide range of expeditions and outdoor activities for younger pupils and, each year, a large number of pupils undertake the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award; the CCF also thrives with RAF, Army and Navy sections. In total, there are over 140 trips and expeditions annually for pupils of all ages in term time and the holidays.

Sport is central to life at the School and benefits from excellent facilities, indoors and out. The School has extensive grass facilities, the use of three hockey astro pitches, one of which opened in 2015 and has a modern pavilion, and an international-standard athletics track in partnership with the University of Birmingham and KEHS. A new £5m Sports Centre opened in 2019. A great variety of sports is offered at King Edward's, including water polo, fencing, table tennis and archery, in addition to rugby, hockey and cricket.

Music and Drama are undertaken jointly with KEHS. Music is quite exceptional, and supported by a number of music scholarships. There are three major concerts in the year, with one being held biennially at Birmingham's Symphony Hall, and numerous opportunities for smaller ensemble playing and pupil-led performances. Drama is as diverse and extensive as music, with the highlight of each year being the outstanding Junior and Senior Productions. The stunning Ruddock Performing Arts Centre is the focus for these activities. Design and Art are central to the pupils' experience and pupils' work is excellent. The Barber Institute, one of the country's finest small art collections, is across the road, and our pupils are regular visitors.

We have a thriving Outreach programme with local primary schools and boys in all years are encouraged to give their time and energy to make a difference to others through Service.

Pastoral education

At King Edward's, we believe that the health, wellbeing and happiness of our boys is critical to their development and success. Pastoral care is at the heart of all that we do and we aim to create an environment where boys feel valued and supported so that they can make the most of their time here and achieve more than they imagined possible.



The School

Location, campus and buildings

The School moved to its current Edgbaston site from the centre of Birmingham in the 1930s and the main school buildings, including Big School (our school hall), date from that time. However, they have been significantly enhanced in recent years through the immense generosity of several alumni and other supporters of the School. The Sir Paul and Lady Ruddock Performing Arts Centre, opened in 2012, provides a 400-seater auditorium for large-scale music performances, a drama studio, a professional-standard dance studio and many practice rooms. The Andrew Brode Wing, which opened in 2013, houses the Modern Languages department, well-equipped science laboratories and a wonderful Sixth Form centre. There have been significant investments in specialist indoor and outdoor facilities for sport, including the Andrew Brode Sports Centre which opened in 2019.

There are more than 30 acres of playing fields, natural and artificial, immediately adjacent to the main School buildings, which are surrounded by the University botanical gardens, a lake and nature reserve. And yet, it is only a ten-minute bus ride from the cultural heart of the UK's second city where is found Birmingham Symphony Hall and the Hippodrome, home of Birmingham Royal Ballet.

King Edward's benefits from a number of excellent transport links including multiple bus routes, cross- and inter-city train lines, and a newly extended cycle highway. Neighbouring suburbs, including Harborne, Bournville and Moseley, are attractive and affordable, and there are many other appealing residential areas in the region, both urban and rural, to suit all tastes, families and budgets. There are also many good primary and prep schools, with which King Edward's has good links.

The Foundation and its schools

The Schools of King Edward VI in Birmingham, more usually referred to as the King Edward VI Foundation, is one of the most significant educational charities in the UK. King Edward's School is one of two independent schools in the Foundation, the other being KEHS with which KES shares its campus. The Foundation also sponsors an Academy Trust, comprising six outstanding selective grammar schools and four non-selective secondary academies. Further expansion is envisaged, helping the Foundation to fulfil its long-term aim of improving the life chances and educational experiences of more children in Birmingham in line with its ambition to make the city the best place to be educated in the UK.

The Foundation makes an annual grant to King Edward's School of more than £1m which pays for many of the Assisted Places. Significant capital investments at the School have been funded by generous alumni and benefactors.

The Foundation is located at the top of the driveway to King Edward's School and it is from there that the various administrative and support services are run under the leadership of the Chief Executive. The Foundation provides a number of services to King Edward's School and is the legal employer of staff.

Employee benefits

Employee Benefits

King Edward's School offers a comprehensive benefits package for its employees, including:

- Competitive salaries and pay progression
- Access to training courses and funding towards role-related professional qualifications for eligible employees
- Enhanced family leave for eligible employees
- Up to 60% discount on KES and KEHS school fees (pro-rata for part-time employees), subject to meeting the Schools' admissions criteria
- Free lunch, tea, coffee and other refreshments during term-time if working at the times that these are available
- Free parking on the School site
- Discounted and free tickets to School productions, concerts and events at the Ruddock Performing Arts Centre
- Opportunity to join the KES/KEHS Choral Society, a mixed choir involving employees and pupils
- Free access to gym, pool and yoga sessions
- Free access to an Employee Assistance Programme offering free, 24-hour confidential assistance
- Annual flu vaccinations
- Death in service benefit through pension provider
- Corporate Eyecare vouchers
- Long service award
- Uniform and clothing provided free of charge if required for the role
- Access to Birmingham Hospital Saturday Fund (BHSF) for cashback on health-related purchases

For Teachers:

- Membership of the Teachers' Pension Scheme or APTIS scheme administered by Aviva and offered as a Defined Contribution Scheme
- A programme of Continuing Professional Development, including CPD Pathways in association with Warwick University for teachers and aspiring middle and senior school leaders.

For Support Staff:

- Defined Contribution Pension Scheme, where the employer matches up to 8% when the employee contributes 5%
- 22 days' holiday per year, increasing based on length of service to a maximum of 28 days, plus 8 bank holidays and 4 concessionary days when the School is closed.

These non-contractual benefits may be subject to change at any time.