



KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL

SOUTHAMPTON



King Edward VI School
is an 11 to 18
co-educational
independent day school.

It was founded in
1553 and the Head
Master is a member
of the Headmasters'
and Headmistresses'
Conference (**HMC**).

PROSPECTUS



Welcome

King Edward's has been a feature of Southampton life for over 450 years, drawing pupils from across south Hampshire from as far as Salisbury, Andover, Fareham and the New Forest. The majority of our students use our own bus service to reach us. For generations parents have chosen the School for its academic rigour, diversity of opportunity and the challenge offered by the range of sporting, cultural, musical and dramatic activities.

King Edward's has long fostered an open, friendly and enthusiastic approach to education, combining the pursuit of excellence with a truly modern focus on preparing boys and girls for a world that demands teamwork, a willingness to keep on learning throughout life and take the lead. Our success can be measured by outstanding academic results over a long period and by the confidence and maturity that is the mark of pupils at the School. I hope this prospectus gives you a flavour of what makes King Edward's distinctive and encourages you to visit us soon. You will be made very welcome.

Julian Thould
Head Master



King Edward's is Southampton's oldest school. Our success has been rooted in continuous investment in new facilities and the prudent management of our resources. Education is a rapidly changing field. The School has invested over £10 million in science, technology, outward bound activities, culture and sport. Further developments are planned over the next five years.

Learning is increasingly dominated by ICT and we have a commitment to new technology, recognising the growing role it plays in schools.

We expect our students to operate in a world marked by rapid change. They will have to be flexible and



adaptable. We prepare our students for their future through emphasis on initiative, responsibility and independence. The Governing Body shares the common objective to keep King Edward's at the forefront of education, recognising the need for excellence and opportunity within the

context of over 450 years of tradition.

Brian Gay
Chairman of Governors



Pastoral Care

Most who visit King Edward's comment on the warm and outgoing nature of our students. We see it as one of our key priorities that you feel safe and secure when at the School and find a friendly face if you have concerns.

A strong pastoral system is the core of any successful school. Excellent facilities go hand in hand with the positive atmosphere that focuses on you as an individual. How does it work at King Edward's?

The key relationship is that between tutor and tutor group. As a member of the School, this daily contact with your tutor and fellow students provides the foundation upon which your education rests.

Additional support comes from the Year and Section Heads, the School Nurses, the School Counsellor and the Chaplain.

Your parents will be able to follow your progress through regular meetings, reports and informal contact at a play, a concert, on the touchline or through the Parents' Association KESSoc. You will have the School Council to voice any concerns that you may have as a member of the School community.



"I joined King Edward's in the Second Year (Year 8). I was one of only a few new children in my year. By the second term I felt totally part of things and can't wait for more. All the teachers have been helpful and I have a good group of friends. An exciting place!"

A Second Year student.

"King Edward's has a very encouraging and friendly atmosphere which supports both the new pupil and seasoned Edwardians. Group Base is always a vital time to get to know your peers better and to interact with your tutor. You can express views about your current work and social situation. Students gain a sense of comradeship with fellow students."

A Fifth Year student

Spiritual Welfare

We have a long-standing Christian tradition. There is a close association with our founding church, St Mary's in Southampton, where services are held each year. As a non-denominational school we welcome pupils of all faiths or none. We expect pupils and Staff to attend School assemblies and services. These provide the opportunity for the whole School together to establish values, share experiences and broaden horizons.

Adolescence can be very demanding. It is our intention that, working together as a partnership, we can help you through what can be an intense, fascinating but occasionally challenging time so you emerge an assured, confident young adult.



Academic Achievement

At King Edward's we prize the development of a purposeful and disciplined approach to learning with the focus on excellence and individual achievement. The relationships between teachers and students are at the heart of any effective school. Through enthusiastic teaching by very well qualified subject specialists, first-rate resources and an emphasis on your taking increasing responsibility for your own learning, we aim to help you do your best.

Academic standards are high. The School has over many years sent about three-quarters of its students on to the top twenty-five universities in Britain. This does not mean that you have to be a budding Einstein to enjoy an education here but we are looking for young people who are willing to work hard, read widely and extend their horizons.

The curriculum is broad in the first years and encourages a range of interests. The core subjects of English, mathematics, science, ICT and foreign languages feature strongly. However we expect you to rise to the challenge of a broad mix of humanities, drama, art, design, music and sport. At GCSE and A Level, a degree of specialisation develops but you may prefer to keep your options fluid and combine a variety of subjects in the arts and sciences.



Much of what you will remember from King Edward's will not have been taught to you within the classroom. The opportunity to experiment with new ideas often comes from field trips, exchange visits to other countries or simply casual conversations with the staff or fellow students which spark new interests.



We want you to value learning for its own sake throughout your life. Getting into a top university is important but education at King Edward's should prepare you to be much more than simply a very good academic.





“One of the best things about KES is that somehow the teachers manage to cover the academic curriculum while still branching out into a myriad of issues and topics. One of the things which struck me when I joined the School was that students wanted to learn; they wanted to delve deeper into subjects and issues and worked together to do just that.”

A Fifth Year student



“Moving from one school to another is always challenging especially if you are entering Third Year (Year 9) but many people are always willing to point you in the right direction. The teachers are always understanding...”

A Third Year student



Excellence In The Creative Arts



Opportunities abound for you to pursue creative interests both within the curriculum and through the extra-curricular life of the School. Superb facilities supported by expert tuition provide the backbone for excellence within which your individual talents are nurtured and challenged.

The vibrant artwork is on display throughout the School and at the annual Summer Exhibition. Step into the studios at any lunchtime and join a frenzy of activity. You can try your hand at sculpture, painting and photography and enjoy visits to galleries in Britain, across Europe and USA. The School's custom-built theatre-in-the-round provides a professional setting for the most ambitious of actors with captivating performances by students of all ages. Whether you are taking your first steps or are a more seasoned performer, opportunities include up to ten productions each year and performing arts tours abroad.

You will find a wealth of talent, vitality and professionalism in the Music Department where standards are high and large numbers of students participate in a diverse and vibrant programme of musical activities. There is something to suit all musical tastes from the Symphony Orchestra and SATB Choir to the Big Band,

Jazz Quartet and Sax Choir. Students enjoy working in a purpose built department with recording studio, recital room and music technology suite. Public performances are numerous as are visits from established musicians who lead a comprehensive range of workshops and master classes.





“Drama at King Edward’s is a fantastic experience. The facilities are superb and the commitment and level of support provided by the teachers is a huge asset. A really supportive environment helped me to achieve success in a field of huge interest for me. It has taught me skills which have helped every aspect of my life and experience I hope to apply to the theatre in my later life.”

A Sixth form student



“The great thing about music at KES is its freedom. The students choose the music for the orchestras and choirs and regularly set up their own ensembles. Classical, jazz or popular; choral or instrumental: all coexist perfectly and produce a luscious blend of musical life.”

A Fifth Year student



“When I started at King Edward’s I joined the Junior Drama Club which meets at lunchtime. When I took part in my first production I had a great time rehearsing and then performing. Most important, I made lots of new friends.”

A First Year student



Sport



We believe sport should be for all. Whether you struggle to kick a ball or fancy your chances playing at international level there are opportunities for you at King Edward's with expert coaching and facilities including a sports hall, two astro-surfaces, floodlit netball courts and over twenty-five acres of sports grounds. The School's sports programme is for everyone. We aim to develop your team and individual skills as well as emphasising the importance of exercise as part of a healthy way of life.

Enthusiastic staff foster an atmosphere of excellence across a wide range of sports from major team games to individual activities such as sailing, fencing and aerobics.



Opportunities to represent school and house teams are provided throughout the school year. Regular fixtures with other schools from across the region, throughout the UK and on tours across the world offer the competitive environment for the very best athletes as well as those for whom sport is simply good fun.





“The Rugby Tour was an awesome experience as well as an eye-opener. Visiting the beautiful country of South Africa with a bunch of incredible lads will remain unforgettable. Learning something about South African culture and the hardships still faced there opened my eyes as to how lucky I really am.”

A Sixth Form student



“At King Edward’s it is easy to become involved in Sport. Being part of a team tests your dedication and determination. Girls train for netball and hockey with great success in Hampshire schools tournaments. The boys get rough on the rugby pitches and train for Saturday hockey as well. The School offers rhythmic gym, dance, fencing and table tennis.”

A Fourth Year student

Opportunity and Challenge



From the moment you join the School our target is to keep you stimulated within the classroom and elsewhere. Over forty clubs and societies meet regularly during and after the school day with everything from martial arts, fencing and dance to language and science clubs, philosophy and debating. If there is not a club for something you like, start one, as many societies are run with great enthusiasm by students themselves.

Don't expect to stay in Southampton when you come to King Edward's. The Duke of Edinburgh Award is very well established with over three hundred taking part each year, making use of our proximity to the New Forest and our Rural Studies Centre on Dartmoor. Curriculum trips, cultural visits and exchange programmes throughout Europe, the United States with our partner school in North Carolina, alongside national and international expeditions around the globe, ensure you will never lack for opportunity.



"The Duke of Edinburgh Award gives students the chance to be challenged in a way they have not been before. It tests your mental power, character and compatibility with a team – which are all vital components of a strong personality. Like many other challenges, including World Challenge, there will be days when things just don't go your way... If you can pull through those bitter cold mornings and six-hour treks, while helping others to do so as well, making the 'finish line' gives you a great feeling of personal accomplishment."

A member of the Sixth Form

"King Edward's offers an unbelievably wide range of trips and visits for every year group. I had the opportunity to be part of the Spanish Exchange. One of my most memorable trips was Watersports in France. It was an opportunity to learn new skills on the water, build from strength to strength in team activities and a chance to chill with friends on the beach."

A Fifth Year student



"Of all the experiences I've had at KES the Charlotte Exchange has to stand out as one of the most special. Not only was it just great fun – to be given the opportunity to spend three weeks in the United States – but the insight into American culture was just fantastic. The friends I made and the memories I have will stay with me forever."

A Third Year student



Charities Commission

We consider it important that you appreciate the advantages which you have. You will be encouraged to make a contribution to the wider community through various fundraising activities. The Charities Commission is student run and offers the opportunity to manage and allocate resources from all manner of events such as the Toy Appeal at Christmas, cake stalls, barn dances and jumble sales. The Commission supports many charitable ventures such as Macmillan Cancer Trust, Barnado's, Hope HIV, Cystic Fibrosis, Diabetes and Down's Syndrome charities and, more locally, Shelter and Leukaemia Busters. Funds are also allocated for more immediate emergencies.



Links To The Community



The annual Summer Camp and the Romania Project provide residential stays for children with learning difficulties and disabilities. Strong links with the local community have been extended to incorporate a number of projects with primary schools in the city; these range from reading schemes and art, ICT, sport

and foreign language partnerships. A very active hospital visiting scheme is well established and a number of environmental initiatives have also involved King Edward the Sixth students.

“Summer Camp is a charity which works with Southampton Social Services to take the less privileged children in the community away on a week’s holiday. The team from both Lower and Upper Sixth Form spend ten months fundraising each year to set up this exciting experience. As well as being a fun week for the children, it is always a very fulfilling experience for the students of KES involved.”

A member of the Sixth Form

“The Romania Project has shown me the impact one person can make on a child. I have personally experienced the profound change that this can make on both parties. Through the Romania Project I have learned a new appreciation for the value of a smile.”

A member of the Sixth Form



Student Guidance

The Director of Student Guidance leads a team dedicated to give expert guidance so that you can make an informed choice. We employ a work experience co-ordinator with the brief to build links between the working environment and the School and to help with placements tailored to the individual student. We have an experienced team of pastoral tutors who will help you through the process of making decisions for the future. We have excellent facilities in our Student Guidance Centre which are available to you throughout the day. Once you have completed your school education, you can continue to use this wide range of expertise and the network

of contacts with which we can help you.

We run an extensive programme of University Open Day visits to allow you and your parents to see a number of universities and academic departments and meet university admissions tutors so that you can make the right decision about your future. Training in interview techniques is provided as you make the transition from the school environment. The UCAS process is fully computerised with all applications to university being made on-line.

Regular lunches take place to give you the chance to meet men and women in particular professional areas, often parents giving their time to



help introduce you to their own fields. Much informal help is given through the network of Old Edwardians, many of whom return to the School to pass on their experiences at university, in the professions and commerce.





Many of our students now take a year out between school and university. We have a specialist GAP Year co-ordinator to introduce you to the extraordinary range of activities now on offer across the world.

Old Edwardians can be found in prominent positions with a significant number choosing careers in medicine, law, finance, media and business. We are proud of our success in giving the personal attention necessary to help you make an informed choice and ensure the right critical decisions are made as you begin your adult life.



Admission

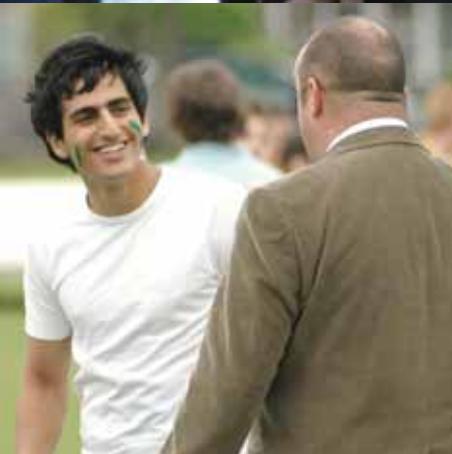


The main intake is in September for boys and girls at age 11+. There is an additional entry into the Third Year at 13+.

All applicants for entry in September are interviewed prior to the admissions examination which takes

place in the preceding January. Reports from the head teachers of previous schools are also considered. Occasionally applicants for entry into the Second and Fourth Years may be considered, particularly if students are moving into the area.

Applications are welcome for entry into the Sixth Form. All candidates are interviewed and reports from previous schools considered. Candidates will be informed after interview of any potential conditions they must meet in public examinations.



Registration and Entry

Choosing a school can be a daunting experience. We hope that this prospectus gives you a flavour of what makes King Edward's distinctive and special. More information can be found on our website www.kes.hants.sch.uk. To observe the true measure of life at King Edward's, a visit to the School is essential, either on Open Evening held in November or on a normal school day.

If you would like to find out more about us, please contact the Registrar. He will be happy to arrange a tour and answer any questions you may have.



Scholarship



Some scholarships are awarded on the basis of the admissions examination and music auditions. Additional scholarships are available as students progress through into the Upper School on the basis of aptitude and performance in the Lower School. A number of Sixth Form scholarships and studentships are available to pupils entering the Sixth Form from the Fifth Year. (Details about

the criteria for these awards may be found on the School website.)

A number of Governors' bursaries are available on entry to the School. These are designed to give the opportunity of an education at King Edward's to children of wide social backgrounds. Based on parental income and operating on a sliding scale, a bursary may cover the full fee.





FOUNDED 1553

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