



KING EDWARD VI
HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS



KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL
BIRMINGHAM



Information for Candidates

King Edward VI High School for Girls

King Edward VI High School for Girls (KEHS) is one of the leading girls' schools in the country with outstanding academic results and a large and varied programme of extra-curricular activity. The School was founded in 1883 and counts the actress Lindsay Duncan and the BBC correspondent Reeta Chakrabarti amongst its alumnae. The School is an independent day school with 650 girls aged 11-18 and is part of the King Edward VI Foundation, which has 12 schools in Birmingham. The School is situated on a beautiful 50-acre campus in Edgbaston, which it shares with King Edward's School (KES).

At KEHS, we provide an outstanding education for able girls who relish original ideas and new challenges. Staff are passionate about their subjects and seek to inspire a love of learning for its own sake, in a remarkably supportive community. Girls combine a rigorous academic education with a huge range of high quality extra-curricular activities, preparing them for a wide array of Higher Education courses and careers.

The School is synonymous with intellectual ambition, with a mission to provide the best possible education for the brightest girls in and around Birmingham irrespective of their social or economic background. Over 20% of pupils have some kind of financial support and almost 10% pay no fees at all. The funds for this are provided by the King Edward VI Foundation and through the generous donations of alumnae and other organisations.

Academic success

KEHS regularly ranks as one of the top-performing academic girls' schools in the country. Academic standards in the School are extremely high: in 2024, 42% of A Level grades were A*, 81% were A*/A and 96% were A*-B. GCSE results were similarly outstanding, with 62% of grades being grade 9, 84% being grades 9/8 and 95% being grades 9-7. The School has a long history of sending girls to the very best universities including Oxford and Cambridge. The School was ranked first for academic performance among West Midlands independent secondary schools by The Sunday Times Schools Guide 2024.



King Edward VI High School for Girls

Extra-curricular activities

Our extra-curricular programme is central to girls' intellectual and character development, as they grow in resilience, confidence and a sense of the difference they can make.

There are over 70 extra-curricular activities on offer each week, ranging from Chess to Model United Nations to Ultimate Frisbee.

The School produces music and drama of an exceptional quality, with a biennial performance in Symphony Hall in Birmingham. These activities were enhanced further by the construction of the Sir Paul and Lady Ruddock Performing Arts Centre, a joint £11 million facility shared with King Edward's School, which opened in 2012. There are many opportunities for students to perform, whether in the Junior or Senior Productions, or simply in Drama Clubs. The Dance Production is an annual highlight, with over 150 participants each year.

Sport is also a vital part of school life, and many teams compete at regional and national level in hockey, netball and rounders along with other sports including water polo, fencing and Ultimate Frisbee. The School has its own sports hall, gym, swimming pool, two astro pitches and several netball pitches and tennis courts on site, together with an international-standard athletics track in partnership with the University of Birmingham and King Edward's School.

Girls have access to a wide variety of educational visits and trips, from language exchanges to music and sports tours, with more local visits to museums such as the National Space Centre in Leicester and field trips to Malvern and Dorset. We are pleased to welcome visiting academics and alumnae to offer talks and lectures to the girls.

We have a developing Outreach programme with local primary schools and girls are also encouraged to give their time and energy to make a difference to others through charitable service.

Pastoral support

Pastoral care at KEHS is focused on knowing girls as individuals, as well as being proactive about the issues they are likely to experience collectively. Our school is characterised by diversity and inclusion with a compassionate approach



King Edward's School

King Edward's School, Birmingham is driven by a shared belief in the transformative power of a broad, intellectually demanding and accessible education in a young, ethnically diverse city. It is also one of the most successful and significant boys' schools in the country.

Founded in 1552 by Edward VI, King Edward's School is the founding father of the King Edward VI Foundation and has always 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 906 day boys, aged 11 to 18.

In recent years, the Chief Master and Governors have strengthened their commitment to King Edward's School as a catalyst for social mobility, a place of academic excellence and a community whose strength derives from its social diversity and multi-cultural understanding. Around 20% of pupils receive some kind of financial support and around 10% pay no fees at all.

We seek to 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. We are an IB World School, offering the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma in our Sixth Form, which supports the intellectual life of the School and provides a holistic education appropriate to the challenges of the 21st century.

Academic life

King Edward's is an academic school and an intellectual school. It is a school where results are exceptionally good and where students are clever and hardworking, full of character and originality, and are well respected by their peers. King Edward's is one of the best schools for academic results in the West Midlands and also among the best nationally for public exam results and university entry. It was named the West Midlands Independent Secondary School of the Decade by The Sunday Times Schools Guide 2021. In 2024, of the cohort of 132 pupils, 95% took at least 10 GCSEs. Thirteen pupils achieved at least ten straight 9s of whom three achieved eleven straight 9s across their GCSEs. Overall, the percentage of 9-8 grades was 69% and 86% were 9-7. Boys who sat the IB diploma in 2024 achieved excellent results, with the average points score per pupil being 36.7 points (surpassing the global average of 30.24). 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. Our pupils are very active in academic competitions in Mathematics, Science, public speaking and debating, and teams regularly win national competitions.



King Edward's School

Co-curricular

Life outside the classroom is vitally important at King Edward's. It complements and supports the academic pursuits of the students, 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 students and, each year, a large number of students 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 students 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 are offered at King Edward's, including water polo, fencing, table tennis and archery, in addition to rugby, hockey and cricket.

Music is quite exceptional, and supported by a number of music scholarships. Art is likewise of outstanding quality. 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 student-led performances. Drama is as diverse and extensive as music, with the highlight of each year being the Junior and Senior Productions. The stunning Ruddock Performing Arts Centre is the focus for these activities, with its facilities being shared with KEHS. Design and Art are central to the students' experience. 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 Schools

The Campus

The Schools moved to the current Edgbaston site from the centre of Birmingham in the 1930s and the main school buildings 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 Schools. The Sir Paul and Lady Ruddock Performing Arts Centre, opened in 2012, provides a 400-seater auditorium for large-scale performances, a drama studio, a professional-standard dance studio and many practice rooms and is shared between the Schools.

A King Edward VI High School for Girls, exclusive Sixth Form facilities were transformed in 2021 and a new Design Centre will support the delivery of GCSE Design and Technology and GCSE Computing from 2022, in addition to providing enhanced spaces for art.

At King Edward's School, 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 you find Birmingham Symphony Hall and the Hippodrome, home of Birmingham Royal Ballet.

The Schools benefit 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 the Schools have 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 and King Edward VI High School for Girls are part of the Foundation, which 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

The Schools offer a comprehensive benefits package for 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
- 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:

- Competitive workplace pension options
- 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%
- Either 20 or 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.