



KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL LICHFIELD



PROSPECTUS



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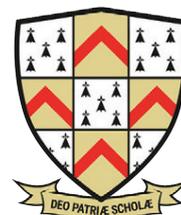
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Welcome to King Edward VI School

King Edward VI School is an 11-18 school serving the community of Lichfield and surrounding rural areas. We want everyone in school to develop to their full potential; it is our job to ensure that students leave us as confident, life-long learners who have a strong sense of responsibility for themselves and for others.

We are a learning community with a positive, supportive and friendly environment where we take the time to get to know our students so we can support their learning and their personal development. We seek to develop a strong partnership between students, parents and the school to enable this to take place.

Our overriding aim is to provide the highest quality education for all students. We believe that every individual has potential: our commitment is to help each young person to make the most of their abilities. The majority of our students seek to continue their education with us in our Sixth Form until they are 18. Our aim is to ensure that they leave us with the knowledge, skills, confidence and love of learning that is needed to successfully complete their education and throughout their life.

Our curriculum at King Edward VI School is broad, balanced and innovative. Our students are challenged to do their best and are monitored carefully to ensure that they make good progress. In return we expect a commitment to high standards of effort and behaviour.

Learning reaches far beyond the classroom; we seek to provide an all-round education for our students. Extra-curricular activities are offered in a wide range of areas such as sport and the arts. There is also an extensive range of educational visits and events both locally and further afield. Our students are able to explore their potential and develop new skills; we encourage all students to get involved with the wider life of the school and its community.

The school's strongest assets are its staff and students. If you are considering us as a school for your son or daughter then I would encourage you to come and visit. We hold an annual Open Evening for Year 6 students early in the autumn term and a Sixth Form Open Evening in November for Year 11 students. Visits linked to in-year admissions can be arranged by appointment.

Jane Rutherford – Headteacher





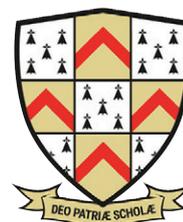
Student Care

Admission Arrangements

Most students join the school from local primary schools at the age of 11 (Year 7) through the Local Authority's admission arrangements for secondary schools which King Edward VI School has adopted. Parents wishing to seek information about in-year admission to any of the year groups in the school (Year 7 to Year 11) should contact the Headteacher's PA in the first instance. For entry to the Sixth Form, please contact our Sixth Form Administrator.

The majority of students who are admitted to King Edward VI School live within the school's catchment area. For Years 7 – 11 places are usually offered to students who reside outside the catchment area where numbers in any year group fall below the Planned Admission Number which is currently 214, rising to 250 from 2019 for Year 7 admissions. Admission to the school's large Sixth Form does not depend upon catchment area and places are usually offered on the basis of references, an interview and the successful achievement of the school's admissions criteria which vary according to the courses selected. Further details of these are available from the school or via the school website.





and Guidance

Open Evening

An Open Evening is held annually early in the Autumn Term for parents and students in Year 6 interested in coming to King Edward VI School in September of the following year. The purpose of this event is to give students and parents an initial opportunity to look around the school, to hear more about our ethos and the opportunities which we offer and to ask questions. Many of our current students choose to act as guides and provide a real insight in to life at the school. Information regarding this meeting is communicated via local primary schools and dates are advertised in the local press as well as on our website.

Liaison with Partner Primary Schools

Arriving at a new school is an exciting time in the life of all students. We aim to enable new students to feel at home as quickly as possible. King Edward VI School works closely with its partner schools to ensure a smooth transition from primary to secondary school. This close liaison enables students to transfer without undue difficulty and to settle quickly to the routines of secondary school.

In addition to regular meetings with primary staff by pastoral and subject

staff, all students attend King Edward VI School for two full days. This provides Year 6 students with the opportunity to become familiar with their new environment during a normal busy school day.

In all cases of admission to King Edward VI School, contact is made with a student's former school prior to the date of admission and educational records are requested. In the case of students joining Year 7 in September contact is made with primary and other schools in the Spring and Summer terms and transfer information is passed on. The induction period for students also incorporates a further opportunity for parents to attend an evening meeting in the summer term to receive detailed information about admission and induction arrangements. As part of the admissions process, an induction pack is provided for parents dealing with matters of everyday routine and containing the forms which should be completed and returned to the school before admission. Details of school uniform are also provided. The school is committed to high standards of uniform and all students are expected to wear their uniform well as a clear indication of their belonging to the school and commitment to its standards.

For students who join the school at other times individual arrangements are made for admission and induction. New students and their parents will usually be invited to visit the school and meet the headteacher. A student guide is also allocated to each new arrival to help them to find their way around during the first few days of their time here.

Pastoral Arrangements

On their arrival at King Edward VI School, students are placed into one of nine mixed ability tutor groups after consultation with primary school staff. Each group is allocated a tutor who is responsible for overseeing the progress, welfare and development of each student in his or her group. Tutors usually remain with their group for the full five years of compulsory schooling. Tutors meet their tutor groups daily for registration, once per fortnight for a tutor period and once per week for an assembly. All year groups have Pastoral Support Assistants who work with students on any issues related to well-being, behaviour and attendance. There is also a linked Achievement Leader for each year group who, alongside an Assistant Achievement Leader, works to ensure the progress of students within the year group.



*"There is a school culture which is underpinned by high expectations and a climate of mutual respect. A school ethos exists where every pupil is treated as an individual."
Ofsted report – October 2017*



The Curriculum

Key Stage 3

Students follow a curriculum based on the Key Stage 3 National Curriculum in Years 7, 8 and 9. This includes:

English, Mathematics, Science, French and German, Art, Design Technology, Drama, Geography, History, Computing and ICT, Music, Physical Education and Religious Education.

In Key Stage 3 there is also an emphasis on cross-curricular skills to develop the transferrable skills that the students need in all subjects. Computing & ICT is taught as part of Design Technology in Year 7, via cross-curricular themes throughout Key Stage 3 and in discrete lessons in Year 8 and 9.

The transition to Key Stage 4 begins for many students in Year 9 with core subjects moving towards GCSE when students are ready.

Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11)

Following consultation in Year 9, students start their Key Stage 4 programme. Most students study:

- English (Language and Literature)
- Mathematics
- Religious Studies GCSE
- Science (either Combined or Triple Science)
- At least one Modern Foreign Language.

In addition, students also take two further options from a wide range of subjects. These are reviewed annually but currently include courses in:

- Art & Design
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Design Technology
- Drama
- Food and Nutrition
- Geography
- Health & Social Care
- History
- iMedia
- Music
- Performing Arts
- Physical Education

In addition to these Options inside the school day students may opt to complete a Microsoft Office Specialist Certification in after school sessions.

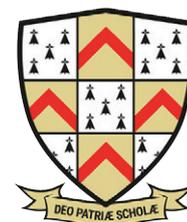
Some students, for whom additional support is required, will follow a programme of Curriculum Support instead of one of their options. They are able to access additional help with English and Mathematics and extra support with other subjects.

Every student is different and the curriculum is reviewed annually in line with national changes as well as the needs of the particular cohort.

As well as examination subjects, all students follow courses in Personal, Social and Health Education and Physical Education.

At all Key Stages, the curriculum extends beyond the fortnightly timetable. There are many opportunities for visits, workshops, guest speakers and enrichment activities which add to our students' learning and all-round experience.





Additional Educational Needs and Special Educational Needs

King Edward VI School is committed to the education of all students. We have a strong and experienced Learning Support Department working to ensure all needs are met. Students are assessed in Years 7 and 9, information is gathered from previous schools and subject teachers refer students if a need arises. All teachers are aware of a student's needs and for students who require additional provision to that of quality first teaching this is implemented on an Assess, Plan, Do, Review basis. It is the aim of all provision to build strategies in order to develop the student's independence in managing their difficulties across the wider school community. Provision is continuously mapped and meetings with parents are held to ensure strategies are being developed and used regularly and effectively.

Parents are central to the work of the Learning Support Department and the school welcomes an active relationship where parents feel comfortable to share their knowledge and concerns about their child.



The school maintains excellent provision in supporting exam access arrangements through highly qualified staff in the Learning Support Department; all testing can be undertaken in school which limits the impact on the child.

King Edward VI School is committed to the inclusion of all students and therefore provides a structured care system for students with medical difficulties and disabilities. Care Plans are created to ensure all teachers are aware of the student's needs and the protocol to follow should care need to be implemented. Parents are once again encouraged to be active within this role as it is recognised that they are most often the experts in their child's care.

In all areas of additional and special needs the school has excellent working relationships with outside agencies and believes that a child centred approach with all agencies involved provides the most impact.

Learning Resource Centre

The Learning Resource Centre is a hub for the whole school. With a full-time librarian and a graduate trainee, there is integrated support for information literacy skills across the curriculum and the wider encouragement of all students in reading for pleasure. There are also various extra-curricular activities such as Book Club, the Sixth Form reading group and an after-school Film Club. The LRC also recruits student library helpers who support the busy break time and lunchtime sessions. The LRC has over 10,000 items in stock (of various media), a dedicated Sixth Form study facility located on a mezzanine floor, computers and access to a class set of iPads.

Homework

Independent learning plays a vital part in children's education and is set by teachers according to clear school and departmental policies. Students are equipped with a student planner alongside access to Show My Homework online.

If any parent is concerned about any aspect of homework, they are urged to get in touch with the school. There is also a Key Stage 3 homework club most days after school in the Learning Resource Centre.

In Years 7 to 9, students normally do homework in two or three subjects each evening, spending approximately half an hour per subject. In Year 10 and above, including the Sixth Form, a greater commitment of time to independent learning is expected.



Supporting the Curriculum

Careers Education and Work-Related Learning

The Careers Education programme involves input from form tutors, Careers Personal Advisers and visiting speakers. Students are encouraged to think carefully about their aptitudes and abilities in considering possible careers. We provide independent careers advice and arrange guidance interviews for all students: they are helped to prepare an individual career action plan.

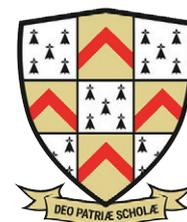
For those joining the Sixth Form, there is a full programme of information and guidance regarding higher education, including university visits and advice on interviews. There is also guidance about employment and training opportunities post-18.

Students have an up-to-date careers area within the Library Resource Centre, supported by computer programmes, many of which are available on-line.

The Personal Development Programme

King Edward VI School's pastoral programme includes Careers Education, Work Related Learning, Citizenship, Health Education, Information and Communication Technology, Social Skills and Study Skills. Most of the pastoral programme is taught by form tutors. Some aspects are delivered by specialist teachers and visiting speakers either during the normal school day or during Curriculum Enhancement Days.





Student Progress

Assessment

All students in all year groups are assessed regularly to make judgements about progress and to inform planning. This information is used by teaching staff to support students in their reviewing of their own learning and the setting of actions for improvement.

Public Examinations

At King Edward VI School, we are proud of the achievements of our students in public examinations. This success reflects positively upon their motivation, the encouragement of parents and the skill and dedication of our teachers. Parental support in advance of and during examination periods is highly valued and is important in enabling students to perform their best. Details of specifications and examining bodies are provided separate from this prospectus. We strongly urge parents not to take their children out of school at any time, but particularly when examinations or assessments are due to take place.

Reporting to Parents

Parents receive three progress reports per year via our Learning Platform. This gives information on general attitude, attendance and punctuality, in addition to progress in individual subjects. Where a student is not making expected progress there will always be specific targets for improvement. Further information to

support student progress can be accessed through students' work where students and staff record targets in line with the school marking & feedback policy.

Parents Consultation Evenings

Parents are notified of the dates of consultation evenings with teachers at the beginning of the year. In Year 7, two evenings are held, one before the October half term with form tutors to deal with settling in issues. A second evening, later in the year, enables parents to meet subject teachers.

All other year groups have one evening per year to report on progress. Additionally, Year 11 parents have a Post-16 evening to focus on Sixth Form and Year 9 parents have an evening for subject choices for Key Stage 4.

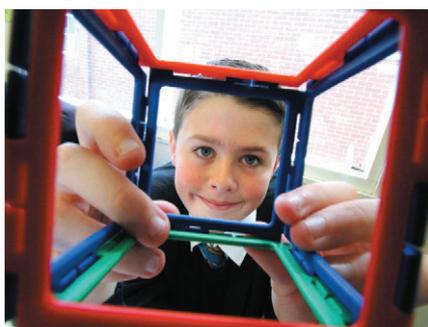
Individual contacts to seek clarification or re-assurance are welcome. The first point of contact for these should be the

student's Achievement Leader or form tutor. We ask parents who wish to visit the school to make an appointment in advance.

We also hold year-specific events to support students and parents. For example, an e-Safety Evening and a Year 10 induction evening to guide parents through the assessment and requirements of Key Stage 4 courses. Events are reviewed annually and parental feedback is welcome.

"Relationships between pupils and their teachers are respectful and many pupils regularly behave in an exemplary manner".

Ofsted Report October 2017





The Sixth Form

The Sixth Form is well established with a total of around 330 students following a wide range of courses. Most students have been in the school since Year 7, although a number do join us from other schools at age 16.

Sixth Form students at King Edward VI receive excellent pastoral care from a team of experienced tutors. The team of tutors plays a crucial role in monitoring the progress of students, along with encouraging independent learning and student self-review. Each year, well over 100 students leave Year 13 to continue their education at university thanks to their hard work and the support of staff.

The Sixth Form is an opportunity for students to further their knowledge and understanding in subjects already taken, or to broaden their interests and pursue courses in new areas. The majority of students study three subjects across the two years of the sixth form. It is also possible to study a fourth subject where appropriate.

Advanced Levels are currently studied in the following subjects:

Accounting, Art, Biology, BTEC Sport, Business Studies, Chemistry, Design Technology, Drama and Theatre Studies, Economics, English Language, English Literature, French, Further Mathematics, Geography, German, BTEC Health & Social Care, History, ICT, Mathematics, Medical Science, Music, Physical Education, Physics, Psychology, Religious Studies and Sociology.

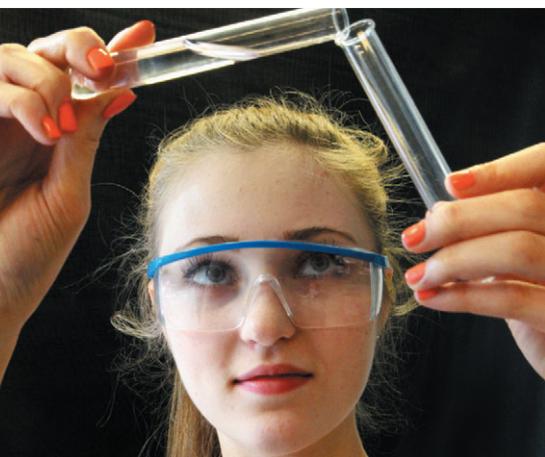
Our Sixth Form provision is supplemented by access to Advanced level courses at other schools in the Lichfield and Burntwood District. Our joint timetabling arrangements make it possible for students to take a course, not available at King Edward VI School, elsewhere.

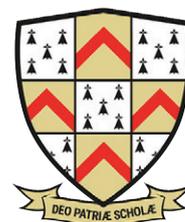
There is a very strong sense of community amongst Sixth Form students which

focuses on a number of activities which take place in the course of a year. The Ashmole Society is the centre of much of the social activity of the Sixth Form but, in addition, many students organise House events for younger students in the main school, and a number are also involved in supporting Year activities. The development of leadership skills is strongly encouraged among Sixth Form students and positions of responsibility as prefects and senior prefects are eagerly sought and highly respected. The Senior Five is an important aspect of life in our Sixth Form. It consists of the School Captain, Head Boy and Head Girl, Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl. This team has an influential role across the school. They are chosen carefully and carry out a number of duties requiring them to work alongside staff and students to ensure that the students' voice is heard and that the school's traditions are maintained through their work with various members of the local community.

“Students feel very well supported for their future careers through an effective programme of impartial careers advice and guidance”.

Ofsted Report October 2017





Extra-Curricular Activities

Commitment to Sport

The school has its own Sports Centre and synthetic all-weather pitch as well as a gymnasium and playing fields. Our students have access to first class sport facilities which rank amongst the best in the county. All students follow a range of activities in Physical Education, many to examination standard at Key Stage 4 and Post 16. Extra-curricular sporting activities are wide-ranging and highly successful and have led to a number of team and individual achievements at regional and national levels in recent years.

Performing Arts

We have purpose built facilities for Music for use of students and the local community. There are three fully-equipped classrooms, along with practice and ensemble rooms. Music is central to the life of the school throughout the year. A number of concerts are performed: highlights of the year include the Dedication Day, Carol and

Evensong services in Lichfield Cathedral. Young musicians and actors from King Edward VI School are also involved in the Lichfield Festival and there are opportunities to link with The Garrick Theatre as well as other local and national productions. There are school productions of a range of genres with large numbers of students taking part.

Visits

During the course of the year, the school offers a full programme of visits to support and enhance the curriculum. Visits are taken to the theatre, Whittington Barracks and other local attractions. Residential visits have included ski visits to Europe and North America, sports visits to the West Indies, Business Studies visits to China, Geography visits to Iceland, Language visits to France and Germany, History visits to Berlin, residential field courses in the Lake District and Duke of Edinburgh Award expeditions to Derbyshire and beyond.



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11-18 Mixed Comprehensive

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