



# King Edward VI

Camp Hill School for Girls



# History

## The King Edward VI Foundation

When in 1547, a Royal Commission dissolved the Gild of the Holy Cross, certain influential men of Birmingham petitioned Edward VI for the return of the gild lands in the form of an endowment for a free grammar school.

On 2nd January 1552 letters patent were sealed, granting this request and appointing 20 of the foremost inhabitants of the town as Governors of a school to be held in the old gildhall in New Street.

By an Act of Parliament in 1831 the Governors were empowered to create other schools and between 1838 and 1853 eight elementary schools were opened. However, by the 1870s the elementary schools had outlasted their usefulness, and the pressing need was for grammar schools. The structure of the Foundation was changed once more and grammar schools were created at Aston, Camp Hill (Boys and Girls), Five Ways and Handsworth.

Camp Hill School for Girls gained its grammar school status in 1883 and its first headmistress, Miss Harriet Grundy, was appointed. In 1958 the school moved from Camp Hill to its current site in Kings Heath where it has flourished ever since.







Exceptional



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*King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls aims to provide a full range of quality experiences, within a forward thinking and supportive environment.*

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We strive to develop independent thinking, mature young people who achieve their best and make positive contributions to school and the wider community...

**K**ing Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls is a very special place, with a long track record in providing an academically challenging and creative education. Students from all backgrounds thrive here and are encouraged not only to develop their own talents but also to learn the importance of contributing both to the school and wider community.

Part of King Edwards VI Academy Trust, Camp Hill School for Girls is an 11 - 18 selective girls grammar. Entry is by examination and there are no fees. Students come to the school from all parts of Birmingham and from adjacent areas. Since 2014 all of the King Edward VI Grammar Schools have expanded, with the intention of improving the life chances of some of the children from less privileged backgrounds, seeing the charity return to some of its original purpose from as long ago as 1552.

Education at the school is focused on a curriculum which simultaneously offers breadth, depth, balance and challenge. Students are also encouraged to participate fully in the school's rich extracurricular life with its myriad of opportunities for academic, cultural and social enrichment.

The success of the school and its students speaks for itself. Judged by OFSTED to be Outstanding, King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls consistently achieves top positions in national Performance Tables. A learning environment is created where students are given the opportunity to achieve the highest possible standards in all areas of school life, in the belief that this will lead to the full development of individual potential. They are encouraged to acquire the understanding, knowledge, skills, qualifications and interests that will help them to find fulfilment in their future lives and careers.





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*The King Edward VI Foundation has supported the school in the development of our buildings and resources, so we can continually improve and update the school environment.*

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# Outstanding Facilities

The school occupies an attractive, extensive, landscaped site on the former estate of the Cartland family in Kings Heath which it shares with King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys. The schools are separate but share some facilities and have curriculum, music, drama, and social links.

Accordingly, the school benefits from excellent facilities, many of which have been built or refurbished in recent years, including the locker area, the school Dining Room, a Geography and Science hub and a STEM block which includes further specialist Science Labs. During the summer of 2018 we completed work to extend the Sixth Form facilities to include additional study space and dining facilities and a new Music Centre was completed in the summer of 2020. We significantly extended our dining facilities for students in 2022.

The school also boasts an indoor swimming pool, Art and Graphic Design suites which provide specialist classrooms and exciting modern environments for budding artists, designers and engineers.

A large Sports Hall is shared with Camp Hill School for Boys, which includes classrooms, a fitness room and a dance studio.

We are also extremely fortunate to have The King Edward’s Consortium located on our site, a provider of school-centered, Initial Teacher Training. The KE Consortium was rated as the No.1 provider in the country in The Good Teacher Training Guide 2017, and is made up of a group of over 20, well-established and diverse schools from around the area. The KE Consortium has an outstanding track record in recruiting and training high-flyers for a successful career in teaching, boasting a 100% employment rate.







Unique,  
Diverse and Creative



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*The success of the school and its students speaks for itself.* ”

OFSTED

The curriculum is broad and balanced and aims to cater for different needs and abilities.

A specific focus is to provide intellectual challenge for all our students both in the way they are taught and through the scope of our enrichment programme.

All National Curriculum subjects are studied, and the curriculum is enhanced by providing creative opportunities in Art, Graphics, Drama, Music and PE, and support for all aspects of personal development in PSHE. A combined science curriculum is taught in Years 7 & 8 before moving to discrete lessons in Biology, Chemistry and Physics in Year 9, in preparation for GCSE. Four Languages, French, German, Spanish and Latin are offered throughout KS3, 4 and 5. A discrete STEM lesson is embedded within the curriculum in Year 7 and 8 in which students gain the opportunity to work with state of the art technology, including 3D printers and a laser cutter.

Teaching groups are of the same age and, generally, of mixed ability. Students sit their linear GCSE Examinations in Year 11, with preparation for Biology, Chemistry Physics, English and Mathematics starting in Year 9. At all stages of their education, students are encouraged to be independent and creative thinkers.





# Enriching Experiences

The school values the cultural, academic and community activities which extend the learning experience outside the classroom.

Excursions and other enrichment activities, frequently cross-curricular, are arranged in all subject areas, including visits abroad. There are calendared visits from professional experts and intensive activity days in areas ranging from forensic science to creative writing. The school also runs an 'Enrichment week' towards the end of the Summer Term, which offers all students a range of exciting opportunities to enjoy local, national and international visits, alongside in-school programmes led by expert practitioners.

Music is a real strength in the school. Currently over 240 students receive instrumental music tuition at school, from our team of visiting instrumental teachers. A wide range of instruments is catered for. It is hoped that students will play or sing in one of our ensembles, orchestras or choirs, including those jointly organised with Camp Hill Boys. Many students progress to one of Birmingham's youth orchestras and bands, and they have opportunities to perform in some of the city's landmark venues.

Participation in extra-curricular clubs and sport is one of the ways in which students are able to develop new interests. Clubs range from Amnesty International to learning new languages. They also include subject clubs such as Science Club, Maths Club, Politics Club and a range of religious and cultural societies.

There are many sports teams and events in which students can participate including rounders, tennis, athletics, hockey, netball, football, trampolining, cross-country, cricket, badminton and swimming. Each year, several students represent the school at regional or even national level either in teams or individually.

We encourage our students to develop their leadership skills. The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is enormously popular and makes a strong contribution to this programme. Student Council and Sports Leadership are enthusiastically supported and Sixth Formers increasingly take on responsibility for leading both whole school initiatives through the House System, and supporting younger students as mentors.







Supportive



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*A sense of community is fostered, while ensuring that each student is valued as an individual.*

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The pastoral care system supports individual students and their learning and is essential to academic progress. Heads of each year group and Pastoral Support Officers lead and support the work of the Form Tutors who have daily contact with their tutor groups and offer everyday advice and care.

Students have access to a range of support staff to help them in their learning and their personal development. These include discussions with our Learning Mentor, subject specific intervention staff and the School Counsellor. Teaching staff also provide additional help and train Sixth Formers to act as mentors for younger students.





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*The school reflects the diverse multicultural population of Birmingham and the West Midlands.*

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## Building our Community

There is a strong sense of community here; religious, cultural and moral values are promoted and emphasis is placed on developing self-discipline, emotional resilience and personal responsibility. Behaviour which enhances the life of the school community is encouraged and praised. Students are expected to show consideration and respect for others at all times. The Code of Conduct ensures the safety of students and the smooth running of the school.

The strong house system allows students to participate in a range of regular sporting, cultural and charitable activities and house points form part of the rewards system.

Students are also encouraged to contribute to the wider community beyond school. A focal point for this is fundraising and thousands of pounds are collected each year for a range of different causes, locally, nationally and internationally. Our students also offer service within the wider community. The Senior Citizens' Party is a highlight for Year 10, who organise a themed party for local residents, family and friends of the school each summer. Sixth Formers make contributions in many ways, including help in infant school classes or in special schools while others have found placements in charity shops or retirement homes.



## Joining the School

Entry to the school is by examination. Parents complete two application forms – for The King Edward VI Grammar Schools test and for the Local Authority.

The tests are usually held in September preceding the year of admission. Full details are available on the King Edward VI Academy Trust, Birmingham website.

## Visiting the School

This prospectus gives an outline of what to expect but is no substitute for a visit. We look forward to welcoming you to our school as soon as we can. Open Days are usually held twice yearly for students wishing to join the main school. Details and dates are available on our school website. In addition we have Welcome Days and Induction Days for those students who have already received an offer of a place from us.





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Vicarage Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham B14 7QJ

Tel: 0121 444 2150 Fax: 0121 444 5123

Email: [head@kechg.org.uk](mailto:head@kechg.org.uk) | [www.kechg.org.uk](http://www.kechg.org.uk)

