



King Edward VI School Southampton

MUSIC

The School

King Edward VI School is a leading HMC Independent day school for children aged 11 – 18. King Edward's is a school with a long and distinguished history and it has been at the heart of Southampton for over 460 years. The School has occupied 4 different sites, relocating to the purpose built site on Hill Lane in 1938. It became fully independent in 1979 and co-educational in 1994.

King Edward's is proud of its reputation for academic and co-curricular achievement and is a forward thinking, vibrant and dynamic environment in which to teach and learn.

Music at King Edward's

The Music Department is housed in a purpose built suite of rooms with two fully equipped classrooms, twelve practice rooms, a recital room and Music Technology Suite running Sibelius and Logic. The Department has sets of class percussion instruments, timpani, drum kits, orchestral instruments, 12 upright pianos and 2 grand pianos.

The department has the latest state of the art Digital Audio Technology set up providing a first-class learning environment. This includes a fully equipped recording studio and 21 Macs. This facility is used not only for Music Technology, but also to aid with GCSE and A-level compositions and student projects. The facility is used by Music classes from 3rd year through to Upper Sixth, Theatre Studies classes for the generation of sound effects, and Art students for installations using audio manipulation. A number of school bands and solo artists have also had the opportunity to make demo recordings.

The Department aims to provide an open, exciting and challenging environment for all students to develop as musicians. It is a hard-working department where the teaching staff work together sharing ideas, expertise and experience.

Music is a very important part of the taught and broader curriculum at King Edwards. A large proportion of students take individual instrumental lessons in school and GCSE and A level Music and Music Technology are popular options. The examination board used for GCSE and A level Music is OCR and Edexcel for Music Technology. Large numbers of students are involved in instrumental and choral groups with over two hundred performers regularly taking part in the end of term concerts.

Co-curricular activities include a full Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, First Year Choir, large SATB Choir, Chamber Choir, Big Band, Concert Band, Flute Choir and several chamber groups. Budding rock and pop musicians attend Rock Academy where they receive guidance and coaching from a specialist teacher. There is also a popular Staff and Parent Choir.

There is a busy performing schedule each term, which includes recitals and concerts in the School Hall, Theatre and Recital Room. Pupils also perform in the wider community and in recent years have performed at St John's, Smith Square in London, the Anvil in Basingstoke, and Symphony Hall in Birmingham and have sung Choral Evensong at Oxford, Winchester Cathedral and Romsey Abbey. Recent music tours have included Paris, Vienna, Berlin, Prague and Italy singing Mass in St Mark's Basilica in Venice. A cultural tour to New York took place in March 2017.

The Department enjoys collaborating with other Departments in the school and ventures have included the Musical *South Pacific* with the Drama Department, music for a production of *Othello* with the English Department and *That Certain Uncertainty* with the Physics Department. The next scheduled musical is *Beauty and the Beast* in November 2017. The Department also plays a significant role in the school biennial Arts Festival.

Each year the Department welcomes visiting artists and has a side-by-side orchestral partnership with the London Mozart Players. There are also various trips to London for concerts, opera and ballet.