



THE KING'S SCHOOL

GRANTHAM

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT Candidate Information

The School

Have you got what it takes to lead a Department providing outstanding teaching and learning opportunities for highly able boys at Isaac Newton's old school? If so, we would like to hear from you.

The first mention of the school dates back to 1327. In 1528 the school was re-founded by Bishop Foxe of Winchester. Though proud of our heritage, we are a forward-looking school keen to recruit and train outstanding colleagues in order to provide the best possible opportunities for our students.

The King's School is a learning School committed to educating the whole person and to effective lifelong learning for all its members. As a Grammar School, it prepares students to achieve the highest grades and to enter the most competitively sought-after universities, careers and professions.

Our Aims

We aim to inspire intellectual curiosity, a competitive spirit, and develop creative thinking, a sense of social responsibility and leadership skills. A strong sense of community underpins everything we do – learning to respect each other's backgrounds and beliefs. We value commitment, we celebrate success and we offer an environment which not only leads to academic success but also to self-discovery and a sense of personal worth.

The Post

As Head of a large and successful department the post holder will be expected to teach both English Language and Literature.

The Department

The School intake at Year 7 is 174. These students are selected via the Eleven Plus entrance examination for Lincolnshire Grammar schools. The English Department is a strong department of eight graduates committed to Enjoyment, Excellence and Empowerment regarding the students and Energy, Enthusiasm and Expertise in their delivery.



The Department offers A Levels in Literature (EDUQAS) and Lang/Lit (OCR). We are committed to delivering GCSE (EDUQAS) Language and Literature to all of our students. At Key Stage 3 there is a flexible approach to enhance enjoyment, creativity and confidence.

We do not use text books but generate our own high quality resources (including common assessment tasks to track progress) constantly refining and adapting these to the ever changing demands of the subject at every level.

The Department has a suite of seven subject specific rooms, each with an interactive whiteboard. One of these is fully equipped with computers for research and A Level coursework.

Assessment and Learning

The school aims to deliver outstanding lessons designed to inspire natural curiosity and develop a lifelong interest in the subject. Every class is taught in a linear way in order to prepare for the new GCSE, therefore ongoing assessment is a key element of the department. The use of both formative and summative assessment on a regular basis provides vital information to inform intervention strategies and plot student progress. All members of the department are expected to use assessment for learning strategies to inform their lesson preparation and teaching. The department assesses all work in terms of effort and attainment to try to stretch the gifted and talented and to monitor the less able.

Homework is set on a weekly basis for all groups. Years 10 and 11 are expected to complete 1-2 hours of assessed homework each week. Years 12 and 13 are expected to complete 2-3 hours of assessed homework each week, with another 1-2 hours of other work/reading as well. Marking is done quickly and accurately and based on examination criteria where appropriate.



Developing our Staff

We aim to appoint ambitious staff who will be prepared for their next career stage during their time in the school. We provide a differentiated training programme tailored to individual needs specific features include:

- NQT programme
- Outstanding teacher programme
- Middle leadership development programme
- Aspiring senior leadership development programme
- Coaching and mentoring development

Developing our School Site

The school site is an eclectic mix of buildings dating back to 1497. We constantly strive to provide facilities fit for delivering educational experiences in the twenty first century.

If appointed, you will be coming to the school at an exciting time in its development. I hope you will want to join us.

Simon Pickett

Head Master



Background and Historical Information

The King's School is a selective Grammar School for boys which converted to Academy status in August 2011. King's consistently achieves excellent examination results and an overwhelming percentage of students go on to further education with the majority achieving their first place choice and many of these within elite Universities.

The School has always enjoyed a strong reputation in the town and surrounding area. King's also enjoys an international reputation because of its association with Sir Isaac Newton, a pupil at the School in the 1650s before he left for Trinity College, Cambridge, with whom we maintain strong links.

Our students come from local Lincolnshire Primary Schools as well as from towns and villages in the neighbouring counties of Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire and Rutland. Each year the available places in Year 7 are oversubscribed. The School has expanded in the last fifteen years to its present 1,170 students on roll, with 270 of those in the Sixth Form. At Sixth Form level there is a link with Kesteven and Grantham Girls' school which allows students access to a greater range of A Level courses.

Extra-curricular activities figure largely in the School's life: music, both choral and instrumental, is outstanding. The School has a long tradition of sporting excellence at both local and national levels. The scale and variety of the sports and activities programme is comparable with that found in the private sector. Indeed many of the School's fixtures and contacts, especially in rugby, water polo and cricket, are with independent Schools. Some 200 students are involved in the CCF (Army and Air Sections) and the School maintains strong links with the military tradition of the town and surrounding area.

The School occupies a prominent position within the heritage centre of Grantham and some of the school buildings are grade 1 and 2 listed, these include the original School House of our most famous alumni, Sir Isaac Newton and Lord Burghley – Lord Treasurer to Elizabeth I. Whilst the main School site is at capacity, we have a twenty three acre sports facility a short walk from the School. In recent years over £3 million has been invested in extensive building and refurbishment including: a new three storey teaching Block; Sixth Form Centre; Music Department; a major Kitchen and Dining Room refurbishment; new Science Laboratory; a Conferencing suite; a Food Technology Classroom and most recently a new Sports Hall at the playing fields. In the near future we plan to develop our estate by a total refurbishment of all science laboratories.

Further information about the School, including a full prospectus, can be found at www.kings.lincs.sch.uk

The Locality

Grantham is a pleasant, historic market town – the current population is approximately 45,000 however Grantham has Growth Point status with the District Council having plans to increase both employment and the population to 60,000 in 15 to 20 years.

Lincolnshire is one of the safest places to live in the UK.

Grantham and South Kesteven District (population – about 130,000) has good quality and very affordable housing in a wide range of price brackets. Grantham retains some of the Medieval, Tudor, Georgian and Victorian splendour of its past, including an Arts Centre, Theatre and Museum.

The town has a range of excellent primary and secondary Schools. There are well regarded comprehensive Schools which co-exist well with The King's School and Kesteven and Grantham Girl's School – the town's Grammar Schools.

Grantham is well served by good transport links – the East Coast main railway line (King's Cross in 65/70 minutes), the A1 next to the town and good cross country rail and road links with the major towns of Peterborough, Lincoln and Nottingham. A number of airports are also close by - East Midlands, Stansted, Birmingham and Robin Hood airport near Doncaster.

Grantham is surrounded by some lovely villages in a very large green County, a culture of healthy outdoor activity is widely shared in the community. Smaller centres such as Stamford and Oakham are 30 – 40 minutes by car and the countryside to the west in the Vale of Belvoir is magnificent. A baroque palace at nearby Harlaxton Manor hosts the UK College of an American University, and the large National Trust Property, equestrian centre and deer park of Belton House sits to the east.

Grantham boasts its own hospital and College of Further Education, is well provided with parks and walks along the River Witham and is surrounded by picturesque villages affording a very high quality of life in an area which preserves strong community ties.

There is a wide choice of good housing either in the town or surrounding country and the roads are relatively traffic free making journeys to work both easy and pleasant.