



## KING EDWARD VI HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS



# Head of Chemistry

# 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 632 girls aged 11-18 and is part of the King Edward VI Foundation, which has eleven 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 has a mission to provide the best possible education for the brightest girls in Birmingham. 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 GCSE results, 82% grades were awarded Grades 8-9 and 93% Grades 9-7 (equivalent to A\*/A); 15 girls out of a year group of 94 achieved all Grade 9s; 35 students scored at least 8 Grade 9s and 67 achieved all Grades 7-9. At A Level, 36% grades were A\*, the highest percentage since the A\* grade was introduced, 75% were A\*/A and 96% grades were A\*/B. 32% girls achieved 2 A\* or more and 88% achieved all A\*-B with 18.4% getting at least 3 A\*s.

The School has a long history of sending girls to the very best universities including Oxford and Cambridge; in 2020, 14 students gained places at Oxbridge. The School was rated 'excellent' by the Independent Schools' Inspectorate earlier in 2019 and was ranked as one of the top 10 best value Independent Schools in September 2019 by the Daily Telegraph. The School was also recently named the 2019 Sunday Times West Midlands Independent Secondary School of the Year, and number 10 in the Sunday Times 'Parent Power' table of the top 150 independent schools in the UK.



# King Edward VI High School for Girls

## Extra-curricular activities

Our extra-curricular programme is second to none and 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 the Symphony Hall in Birmingham. These activities were enhanced still 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 and swimming pool, which were recently refurbished, and has two astro pitches and several netball pitches on site, together with a new athletics track in partnership with the University of Birmingham.

Girls have access to a wide variety of educational visits and trips, from language exchanges to Spain, Italy and Germany, 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. Students also attend lectures at Birmingham University and we are pleased to welcome visiting academics and alumnae to offer talks and lectures to the girls.

Further details about the School can be found at: [www.kehs.org.uk](http://www.kehs.org.uk)



# The Role

## Head of Chemistry

**We are looking for an experienced graduate, exceptional teacher and inspirational colleague to lead the department and teach Chemistry across the full age range to A Level in this academically selective school. The person appointed will also be expected to contribute to the School's extra-curricular programme.**

## The Chemistry Department

The Chemistry department is a strong department currently consisting of five full time members of staff and one part time colleague. The department has four fully fitted laboratories with excellent laboratory technician support. There is a strong emphasis on experimental practical work in lessons.

The Sciences are taught separately from entry in Year 7 through to Year 11, with the vast majority of girls taking all three Sciences to GCSE. AQA courses are followed at both GCSE and A level. Chemistry is one of the most popular subject choices for A level in the school. There are four Chemistry groups in the Lower and Upper Sixth Form years, and thirty five to forty girls usually take A level chemistry.

Results are excellent; in 2019 86% of girls achieved 9/8 at GCSE and 66% achieved A\*/A at A level

A large number of girls go on to study science-based courses at university in stark contrast to national norms. Over the last 5 years, many girls have pursued science subjects at top Russell group universities, with a significant percentage successfully gaining places to study Medicine each year.

Staff promote Chemistry and the Sciences through a variety of extra-curricular activities, including a Junior Science Society, Sixth Form lectures at the University of Birmingham, team competitions and individual activities.

# The Role

## Employment Conditions

Teachers are paid on the current King Edward's Salary Scale which is reviewed after every national award. Staff join it at a point relevant to their length of service or recognised experience elsewhere. In adopting a scale and allowances more generous than those in operation in maintained schools, the governors recognised, and continue to expect, that the professional responsibilities of staff here include the following:

- i) the kind of preparation and marking necessary to maintain the highest academic standards
- ii) involvement in extra-curricular activities, including those which take place out of normal school hours and at weekends
- iii) mid-day and/or other supervision
- iv) involvement with recruitment of new pupils
- v) a commitment to upholding the general ethos of the School.

The governors provide all refreshments free of charge (mid-morning, school lunch, tea) and other generous amenities. We value continuous professional development; there is an extensive CPD programme delivered internally and staff are also encouraged to attend relevant training offered by external providers, subject to approval by the Principal.

If children of staff are offered a place at the School, or its brother school, King Edward's School, a governors' fee remission scheme is available.

# How to apply

## **How to apply:**

If you wish to be considered for this post, please complete an application form (available for download at: [www.kehs.org.uk/useful-information/vacancies](http://www.kehs.org.uk/useful-information/vacancies)) giving full details of your qualifications and experience and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of two referees and send it, together with a letter to the Principal outlining the reasons for your application (maximum 2 sides of A4 please).

The deadline for applications is **midday on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January**. Early applications are most welcome. Depending on the number of applications received, we reserve the right to bring the deadline forward.

Email applications can be sent to [recruitment@kes.bham.sch.uk](mailto:recruitment@kes.bham.sch.uk)

**Interviews will take place provisionally on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January.**

As part of the interview process, we would like you to teach a class; further details will be sent to shortlisted candidates.

The person appointed must be able to satisfy the Principal and governors as to their suitability to work with children: They will be required to complete an enhanced DBS check, bring in their qualification certificates for verification and provide evidence of their employment history. The appointee may also be required to undergo a medical examination before the appointment is confirmed.

If you have any queries about the role or would like to discuss it in more detail, please contact [recruitment@kes.bham.sch.uk](mailto:recruitment@kes.bham.sch.uk)

*King Edward VI High School for Girls is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All successful candidates will be required to undergo an enhanced DBS check. A copy of the School's Recruitment, Selection and Disclosure Policy is available on the Schools' websites.*

