



KINGSTON
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
FOUNDED 1561



Director of Rowing

September 2025



Director of Rowing

Rowing at KGS has an enviable reputation. Established in 1889, the Boat Club enjoys a dedicated boathouse facility in Thames Ditton and is located on one of the finest stretches of the Thames. Rowing is one of the principal sports at the School and is well supported: there is an excellent fleet of boats and other equipment. Many students have gone on from KGS to achieve international selection and success and notable alumni include Olympians James Cracknell and Sophie Hosking.

The Director of Rowing will be the figurehead for rowing at KGS and a constant ambassador of its values both within the school and beyond. The successful candidate will be responsible for overseeing all aspects of rowing within the school, ensuring a high standard of coaching, fostering a culture of excellence, and supporting students to achieve their potential both on and off the water. This is an exciting opportunity to shape and grow the school's rowing programme while maintaining a strong tradition of competitive success.

The Rowing Department currently consists of seven members of staff; the Director of Rowing, two full time senior rowing coaches and three part time rowing coaches, plus a part time boatman. Rowing at KGS is supported by the wider sports department and co-curricular members of staff.





5 Person Specification

The successful candidate will be an inspiring rowing professional capable of coaching to the highest standards and managing the rowing department. You will be able to work with the wider school community balancing the students' training and competition commitments alongside their academic studies. You will be able to demonstrate the following:

- A positive 'can do' attitude
- Significant experience in coaching and managing a successful rowing programme preferably in a school environment
- Proven track record of developing athletes and achieving competitive success
- Strong leadership and team management skills
- Excellent organisational and communication skills
- Strong pastoral instincts and a commitment to pastoral care and safeguarding of all students
- Resilience
- The ability to maintain perspective and work flexibly with others
- The ability to think creatively to solve problems
- A full UK driving licence with the qualification and ability to tow boat trailers
- UKCC Level 2 (or higher) coaching qualification or equivalent
- Knowledge of strength and conditioning principles relevant to rowing
- RYA Level 2 powerboat handling certificate
- First Aid and Safeguarding certifications

Rowing at KGS



- Over 80 KGS students have represented GB. We are one of the only schools in the UK to have produced both a male and female Olympic champion in James Cracknell ('00 and '04) and Sophie Hosking ('12)
- In the past five years, five students have earned rowing scholarships at leading US colleges
- Impressive club numbers across all the year groups
 - J14 - J18 in excess of 120 students
 - Senior squad consists of 40 students with an even boy/girl split
 - J15 squad of 30 year round
 - J15 squad of 50-70 students in the summer term
- 2023: Matilda - WU19 World Champion in double
- 2023: Coaching honours - U19 World Championships, Bethan Thomas WU19 Quad Bronze

Rowing Highlights 2024

British Championships

Silver: Men's Coxless Fours
Bronze: Women's Coxless Four

120
students introduced
to Rowing

World Championships
U23 Lily
Bronze in WU23 Quad

1 USA Scholarship

National Schools

2024: Winners - Championship Boys Coxless Fours

Great Britain Representation

2024: Cara - Silver and Bronze in the Coxless Fours, Coupe de la Jeunesse
Amy - Gold in WU19 Coxed Four and WU19 Eight
WU19 Team Champions at Home Countries International Regatta

Schools Head of the River Race

2024: Mixed Eight Winners

Henley Women's Regatta

2024: JW18 Coxed Four
Finalists

The Sherriff Club



- The Sherriff Club is the rowing supporter group for KGS alumni
- It aims to foster a community spirit, celebrate rowing success and organise social and fundraising events
- Events include the Quiz Night, Boat Club Dinner and Auction, plus the Henley Royal Regatta Reception
- It also hosts a sponsored row every four years



1 Kingston Grammar School

Kingston Grammar School is a successful co-educational day school situated in the centre of Kingston upon Thames, Surrey. The School has just over 850 boys and girls from Year 7 to Year 13 and there are around 250 students in the Sixth Form. The curriculum offers a wide choice of academic subjects, and a comprehensive co-curricular programme ensures a rounded education for all.

Alongside traditional subjects, we place a real focus on extension projects such as STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts & Maths) to produce an exciting and vibrant academic diet, designed to challenge and promote intellectual rigour. Our rich and diverse co-curricular programme, which encourages everyone to show a proper regard for people and our environment and which develops in all of us a culture of service, partnership and personal integrity, inspires our students to make a strong connection with the wider world.

Although we are rightly proud of our academic outcomes, the philosophy at KGS is not simply to achieve excellent results at any cost; delivering the right level of pastoral care is key to a child's success and, ultimately, their long-term happiness. We put a tangible value on supporting our students during these formative years with an unrivalled pastoral programme. Encouraging students to think positively about embracing risk and learning from mistakes, we give them the tools to develop true resilience and progress to achieve their ultimate ambitions.

Our aim has always been to produce happy, well-adjusted young adults who want to make their world a better place, and we hope that an education at KGS is a significant step towards this.

2 Sport at Kingston Grammar School

Kingston Grammar School has a strong reputation for sporting achievements, especially in Hockey and Rowing. It is perhaps unusual in that Hockey is the principal game for both boys and girls in the autumn and spring terms. This is reflected in longstanding success, with regular appearances in national finals as well as students winning representative honours.

The School has a strong sporting legacy which includes 26 appearances at the Olympic Games and alumni such as Olympic gold medallists Richard Dodds OBE, James Cracknell OBE and Sophie Hosking MBE. Whilst the sporting legacy continues with current internationals Zach Wallace, Jack Waller, Holly Munro, Sarah Evans and Cameron Spurling amongst the recent alumni.

In recent years, the programme has expanded considerably, with extensive, high-quality provision for a range of additional sports, notably Netball, Football, Cricket and Tennis.

The school has a strong, and wide-ranging, programme of competitive sport, much of which takes place on Saturdays. Sports staff are expected to be fully committed to this.



This is a full-time role, working 52 hours per week including weekends and school holidays offered on a permanent contract.

Salary: Competitive with a generous benefits package

Closing date for applications: 9am on Monday 3rd March 2025

Interview and coaching assessments will be held during the week of 17th March 2025

Application is via eTeach and a full job description is available on request

Kingston Grammar School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Applicants will be required to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

Registered Charity No. 1078461



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