



KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL
BIRMINGHAM



Head of Classics

The School

King Edward's School, Birmingham is a remarkable school and a supportive community, where there is a shared belief in the transformative power of an accessible education in a young, ethnically diverse city. It is also one of the most successful and significant boys' schools in this country.

Founded in 1552 by Edward VI, King Edward's School is the founding father of the King Edward VI Foundation and has always been a central institution in the city of Birmingham which it serves. It is located on a stunning 50-acre site in Edgbaston, which it shares with King Edward VI High School for Girls (KEHS), and educates 860 day boys, aged 11 to 18.

In recent years, the Chief Master and Governors have strengthened their commitment to King Edward's School as a catalyst for social mobility, a place of academic excellence and a community whose strength derives from its social diversity and multi-cultural understanding.

The School's mission is to ensure we provide the best possible education for the brightest boys in Birmingham, whatever their background. There is a strong belief in the power of education to transform lives and a commitment to a truly challenging, intellectual, rich and broad education. The International Baccalaureate Diploma was introduced in September 2010 to enhance the intellectual life of the School and to provide an education appropriate to the challenges of the 21st century.

Academic Life

King Edward's is an academic school and an intellectual school. It is a school where the results are exceptionally good and where boys are clever and hardworking, full of character and originality, and are well respected by their peers. Being an academic school means that everyone strives for the highest academic standards and performance. King Edward's is recognised as the best academic school in the West Midlands and among the best nationally in public exams and university entry. In 2019, of the 120 boys taking GCSEs, 32 boys achieved at least 10 grades 9/8, a further 22 achieved nine grades 9/8, and half of the cohort achieved grades 9/8/7. Overall, the percentage of 9/8 grades attained was 66% and 84% were 9-7. At IB, the average scores have been above 39 out of 45 for three of the last five years (the world average is about 30 points). The School's commitment to the IB is total: a challenging, rigorous and broad education has always been a hallmark of a KES education, and the IB equips boys superbly for the demands of university and the diversity of the world beyond. King Edward's boys are very active in academic competitions in Mathematics, Science, public speaking and debating, and teams regularly win national competitions.



The School

Culture and Sport

Life outside the classroom is vitally important at King Edward's. It complements and supports the academic pursuits of the boys, making them more fulfilled, relaxed and rounded as well as developing essential qualities and experience: resilience, teamwork, commitment and leadership.

There is a very wide range of expeditions and outdoor activities for younger boys and, each year, a large number of boys undertake the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award; the CCF also thrives with RAF, Army and Navy sections. In total, there are over 140 trips and expeditions annually for boys of all ages in term time and the holidays.

Sport is central to life at the School and benefits from excellent facilities, indoors and out. The School has extensive grass facilities and the use of three hockey astro pitches, one of which has a modern pavilion, opened in 2015, and a new athletics track in partnership with the University of Birmingham. A new £5m Sports Centre opened in May 2019. A great variety of sports are offered at King Edward's, including water polo, fencing, table tennis and archery, in addition to rugby, hockey and cricket.

Music is quite exceptional, and supported by a number of music scholarships. Drama is likewise of outstanding quality. There are three major concerts in the year, including one, biennially, in Birmingham's Symphony Hall, and several dramatic productions. There are also numerous opportunities for smaller ensemble playing and student-led drama performances. The stunning Ruddock Performing Arts Centre is the focus for these activities and all activities and facilities are shared with King Edward's High School for Girls next door. Design and Art are central to the boys' experience. The Barber Institute, one of the country's finest small art collections, is across the road.



The School

Location, Campus and Buildings

The School moved to its current site from the centre of Birmingham in the 1930s and the main school buildings, including Big School (the main assembly hall), date from that time. However, they have been significantly enhanced in recent years through the immense generosity of several alumni and other supporters of the School. The Sir Paul and Lady Ruddock Performing Arts Centre, opened in April 2012, provides a 400-seater hall for large-scale music performances, a drama studio, a professional-standard dance studio and many practice rooms. The Andrew Brode Wing, opened in September 2013, houses the Modern Languages department, well-equipped Science laboratories and a wonderful Sixth Form centre. There have been significant investments in specialist indoor and outdoor facilities for sport.

There are more than 30 acres of playing fields, natural and artificial, immediately adjacent to the main School buildings, which are surrounded by the University's botanical gardens, a lake and nature reserve. And yet the school is only a ten-minute bus ride from the cultural heart of the UK's second city where you will find Birmingham Symphony Hall and the Hippodrome, the home of Birmingham Royal Ballet.

King Edward's benefits from a number of excellent transport links including multiple bus routes, cross- and inter-city train lines, and a newly-extended cycle highway. Neighbouring suburbs, including Harborne, Bournville and Moseley, are attractive and affordable, though there are many other appealing residential areas in the region, both urban and rural, to suit all tastes, pockets and families. There are also many good primary and prep schools, with which King Edward's has good links.

The Foundation and its Schools

The Schools of King Edward VI in Birmingham, more usually referred to as the King Edward VI Foundation, is one of the most significant educational charities in the UK. King Edward's School is one of two independent schools in the foundation, the other being King Edward's High School for Girls (KEHS), with which KES shares its campus. The Foundation also sponsors an Academy Trust, comprising six outstanding selective grammar schools and three non-selective secondary academies. Three of these schools have joined the Academy Trust in the last two years and further expansion is envisaged, helping the Foundation to fulfil its long-term aim of improving the life chances and educational experiences of more children in Birmingham.

The Foundation makes an annual grant to King Edward's School of approximately £1.4 million which pays for many of the Assisted Places. Significant capital investments at the School have been funded by generous alumni and benefactors.

The Foundation is located at the top of the driveway to King Edward's School and it is from there that the various administrative and support services are run under the leadership of the Executive Director, who supports both the Foundation and Academy Trust boards and, through them, all ten of the Foundation's schools. The Foundation Office provides a number of services to King Edward's School and is the legal employer of staff.

The Role: Head of Classics

The Classics Department

The Classics Department at King Edward's is one of the most distinguished nurseries of Classicists over the last 150 years (J.D. Postgate, J.E. Powell, F.H. Sandbach, E.W. Handley, M.D. Reeve, M.S. Silk, H.M. Hine, Patrick Finglass, for example). This post offers an exceptional opportunity to a classical scholar and teacher to lead this department with a great tradition, to national prominence.

The Classics Department is at the heart of the School's ethos and vision for the Humanities more broadly. The study of literatures, languages, history, philosophy and ancient civilisation is central to the broad, liberal education we offer in all year groups, and which culminates in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.

There are four teachers, and all pupils take Latin in Years 7 to 9. Classical Greek is taught from Year 9 in an option block with Spanish and German. Both languages can be taken at GCSE, and as part of the International Baccalaureate in Years 12 and 13. The department prides itself on its success in public examinations. At GCSE, up to 40 pupils take Latin and the vast majority gain an 8 or 9. Numbers in Greek are smaller, but still strong (between 5 and 10), but results are equally good. Most boys gain a 6 or 7 on the IB 7-1 grading system, and a number go on to pursue Classics at university.

The department leads trips to the British Museum and Roman Bath each year, as well as regular excursions further afield to Italy and mainland Greece.

There is the opportunity to play a significant role in the King Edward's Foundation and in our partnership activities across Birmingham primary schools.



The Role: Head of Classics

The Role

King Edward's School is seeking a permanent, full-time, well-qualified candidate to lead the strong and successful Classics Department and to teach Classics across the full age range from 1 September 2020.

King Edward's is one of the most interesting, diverse and intellectually ambitious independent schools in the country, situated in a green 'oasis' close to the heart of England's second city; both the School and the city are at an exciting stage of development.

The school teaches IGCSE and the International Baccalaureate Diploma (although IB experience is not essential for this post), and the salary scale is significantly above the state sector.

Job Description

Heads of Department are appointed by the Chief Master and responsible for the overall performance of the department, they attend Heads of Department meetings and report to the Chief Master and the SLT line manager on all aspects relating to the department. They should perform the duties expected from all subject teachers.

Key Responsibilities:

Curriculum and Teaching

- To be responsible for curriculum planning in the department, working within agreed school policy.
To be responsible for the quality of teaching and learning throughout the department and to monitor, evaluate and review the work of the department including the production of an annual development plan.
To co-ordinate the teaching of the subject, particularly by preparing and up-dating department handbooks, assessment and other policies, and schemes of work, which should ensure that teaching takes full account of the range of ability of pupils at King Edward's School. Within the general policy of the school, to decide on external examinations to be taken and to oversee proper preparation for them.
- To keep abreast of developments in teaching and learning methodology, materials, and resources within the subject area(s) and to advise members of the department and the SLT line manager of those developments when appropriate.
- To provide appropriate information for the monitoring and recording of individual pupil's progress for the SLT line manager. To discuss the examination results of the Department with the Chief Master and the SLT line manager.

Staffing

- To involve members of the department in the planning and development of the department, and to co-ordinate the work of the department, particularly by holding regular departmental meetings, and ensuring that accurate records are kept of them.

The Role: Head of Classics

- To assist with the professional development of members of the department, including in-service work as appropriate and the induction of new members of staff; to support and monitor newly qualified teachers, and to participate in the School appraisal system.
- To advise the Chief Master about recruiting and appointing new staff to the department.
- When appropriate, to accept student teachers within the department, liaising with the in-school tutor, and closely supervise teaching practice.
- To liaise with the Director of Studies and Timetabler over the most effective allocation of staff to forms and sets within the subject area.
- Where appropriate, to manage and deploy support staff, and to ensure their training needs are met.

Administrative

- To control departmental expenditure, to submit financial estimates for books and other resources, to order these once the budget has been authorised, and to have an oversight of the use, storage and security of departmental materials and equipment and to keep up-dated records of stock.
- To advise the Chief Master on future needs of the department.
- To promote a safe working environment, liaising with the Safety Officer to this end.
- To prepare the department for Open Mornings and other public events.
- To participate in Warwick and Foundation Subject Groups as appropriate.
- To be responsible for the departmental area particularly in terms of displays.
- To participate in the admissions process to the School when requested.

Pastoral

- To monitor the behaviour of pupils within the department and to liaise with Form Tutors and Heads of Year if difficulties persist.
- To monitor the pupils' academic progress, including the oversight of pupils' subject reports.
- In consultation with the Head of Learning Support, to ensure that appropriate provision is made for pupils with a learning difficulty.
- To promote appropriately high levels of expectation from pupils by setting down clear guidelines for establishing good standards of behaviour and achievement within the department, including homework policy the careful presentation of work and care of books and equipment.

To undertake any other reasonable duty related to the department that the Chief Master may delegate.

The Role: Head of Classics

Person Specification - Head of Classics

The ideal candidate would be expected to show evidence of many of the following skills and qualities. The following information demonstrates qualities that would be considered essential or desirable and how these will be tested during the recruitment process.

Education and Qualifications (tested in application)	Essential	Desirable
A good Honours Degree or equivalent in Classics or a closely related subject area	✓	
A higher degree and/or further professional qualifications		✓
Leadership/Management training/experience		✓
Qualified Teacher Status		✓

Experience (tested in application and interview)	Essential	Desirable
Previous experience of teaching Latin to pupils aged up to 18 in a strongly academic environment	✓	
Previous experience of teaching Greek to pupils aged up to 18 in a strongly academic environment		✓
Experience of preparing students for Oxbridge admission		✓
Experience of the IB Diploma Programme		✓

Knowledge and Understanding (tested in application, interview and references)	Essential	Desirable
Strong subject knowledge	✓	
Understanding of strategic planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation	✓	
An understanding of and strategic use of assessment to support effective learning	✓	

Training and Professional Development (tested in application and interview)	Essential	Desirable
Commitment to on-going personal and professional development	✓	

The Role:

Head of Classics

Skills and Abilities (tested in application, interview and references)	Essential	Desirable
An enthusiasm for Classics	✓	
Ability to motivate and inspire pupils across the age range	✓	
Commitment to the provision of quality and equality of opportunity in the teaching of Classics	✓	
Ability to communicate effectively and appropriately with a variety of audiences	✓	
Ability to build positive relationships with colleagues, pupils, parents and outside agencies	✓	
Ability to lead effectively and work constructively within a team	✓	
Ability to support colleagues in their Professional Development, including the induction of new staff and teachers (including trainee teachers)	✓	
Ability to use qualitative and quantitative data to support, evaluate and improve quality of provision and outcomes		✓
Excellent positive behaviour management skills		✓
Confident use of ICT		✓
A commitment to undertaking an involvement in whole school life		✓
Experience of forming and implementing strategies to enhance learning and teaching through the use of technology		✓

Personal Attributes (tested at interview and in references)	Essential	Desirable
Sense of perspective and empathy	✓	
Organised, positive and able to prioritise and work to deadlines	✓	
Punctuality	✓	
Be a role model to pupils and colleagues, modelling the School's values	✓	
Willingness to engage with the wider life of the School	✓	

The successful candidate will be expected to undertake any other reasonable duty related to the department that the Chief Master may delegate.

How to apply

How to apply

To apply for this role, forward a completed application form (available for download at <https://kes.org.uk/about-us/vacancies/>), a CV and a covering letter addressed to the Chief Master by email to: recruitment@kes.org.uk.

The deadline for applications is midday on **Friday 24 January 2020**.

Interviews will take place on or around **Tuesday 28 January to Thursday 30 January 2020**.

If you have any queries about the role or would like to discuss it in more detail, please contact Jo Ollier, Acting HR Manager (recruitment@kes.org.uk).

King Edward's School 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 School website.

