

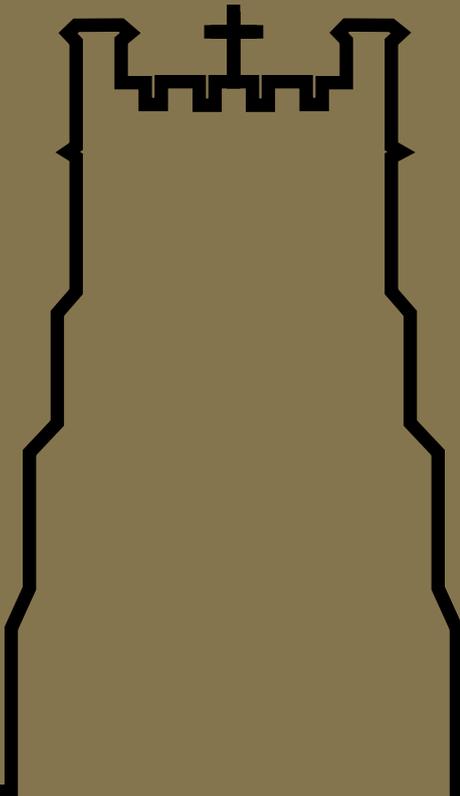


KING HAROLD
ACADEMY



Challenge • Support • Inspire

KING HAROLD ACADEMY



King Harold Academy works collaboratively with our sister school Debden Park High School to ensure the very best outcomes for all students.

Head of School's Welcome

King Harold Academy has a rich history. Named after the last Anglo Saxon King of England Harold Godwinson the school was first opened in 1952. Six generations have passed through the gates of King Harold having spent the "best days of their lives" being prepared for their futures. The school has witnessed huge changes in life and society and has always adapted to the needs of the students it serves.

King Harold Academy is riding a crest of recent success and will continue to adapt and improve in the interests of every child that attends the school. Learning is central to everything we do at King Harold and it is our central belief that schools work best when teachers love teaching and students love learning.

Students experience great lessons, great teachers, and are afforded great opportunities to develop both academically and socially both in and outside the classroom. Students are taught how to think logically and morally. They are challenged to think critically along with learning the core knowledge of English, Maths, and Science. It is our belief that students should be versed in "the best which has been thought and said" along with understanding the modern and changing world in which we live.

We pride ourselves on being an open school. We know that students achieve best when there is a partnership between teachers and parents. We are providing one of the most important services a family can receive; the education of their children and this is most successful when the school, the students, and their parents work together.

Please feel free to visit, take a tour and speak to our students and teachers. I am certain you will be impressed.

Mr Ian Tilbury
Head of School



Teaching and Learning

“Where teachers love teaching and students love learning.”

Teaching and Learning is everything at King Harold Academy. The most important aspect of the day to day life at King Harold is what happens in the classroom, science lab, gym and sports field. We know that for children the most important part of their schooling is the teaching they receive. Central to everything we do is the belief that *“Learning happens when you think hard.”*

Our teachers are highly skilled practitioners who are passionate about their subjects. They are constantly trained in teaching techniques that have been proven to maximise students learning. We put a primacy on teachers constantly improving.

As part of the Kemnal Academies Trust we work collaboratively with our sister school Debden Park High School in order to share teachers, resources, ideas and research. By investing in teachers’ development we are investing in students education.

Students are required to “think hard” in lessons. They are challenged to go beyond what they thought possible. Lessons are ambitious in the depth and breadth of subject content along with the necessary skills needed to use new knowledge.

“Struggle is not a sign of failure but of progress.”

Student progress is regularly evaluated and communicated to both parents and students. Feedback is given which is timely, alongside support so that students can improve.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Time	
8:30 - 9:00	Lesson 1
9:00 - 10:00	Lesson 2
10:00 - 11:00	Lesson 3
11:00 - 11:20	Break
11:20 - 12:20	Lesson 4
12:20 - 13:20	Lesson 5
13:20 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 15:00	Lesson 6
15:00	Finish

Tuesday

Time	
8:30 - 9:30	Lesson 1
9:30 - 10:30	Lesson 2
10:30 - 10:50	Break
10:50 - 11:50	Lesson 3
11:50 - 12:50	Lesson 4
12:50 - 13:30	Lunch
13:30 - 14:30	Lesson 5
14:30	Finish

During lesson 1 students spend half an hour with their tutor preparing for the day and being taught a full programme of PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education). This covers a wide range of topics including; healthy behaviours, self esteem, managing stress, as well as, learning about real life issues and current affairs. In addition to this timetable, students in examination years are offered a “golden lesson” once a week after school in a subject they need extra support in.

Lessons are characterised by purpose and focus. A rigorous behaviour management system and incredibly high expectations of student conduct ensures that all students’ progress in their time at King Harold. We expect students to demonstrate kindness and politeness inside and outside of the classroom at all times. We are very proud of the King Harold uniform and insist that it is worn correctly and with pride at all times.

At King Harold Academy exceptional behaviour and attendance are both acknowledged and rewarded. We regularly contact parents about student successes. When people visit the school they always comment on how polite and welcoming our students are.

Students are given a range of opportunities in lessons to work individually, as well as, in pairs and groups. Lessons are designed to engage and inspire fusing fun and rigour together so that students learn as well as they can; deepening their understanding; and developing their academic skills.

Homework is provided to consolidate and extend the learning that has happened in the classroom. Students are expertly guided by their teachers on not just what to learn but also how to learn.

In addition to great lessons in the classroom, students are provided with numerous opportunities to go on trips and have experiences whilst learning. From trips to the Battlefields of France and Belgium; to ski trips and football tours; to performing in the local community and beyond.





“Since joining King Harold my teaching has improved significantly. The focus on teachers and the development of their craft means that students get the best possible learning experiences”



Curriculum

Our Challenge, Support and Inspire Curriculum ensures that students study a broad range of subjects at both Key Stage 3 and 4.

The rationale behind our Curriculum is that the belief that students should be versed in the “The best which has been thought and said” along with understanding the modern, changing world in which we live. In essence students are taught to think logically, critically and morally within a framework of subject disciplines.

All students study a programme at Key Stage 3 which covers the foundations of; English, Maths, Science, Computer Science, History, Geography, Religious Studies, Art, Technology, Music, Drama, Dance, French, German and Physical Education. At Key Stage 4 all of these are studied further with the addition of; Sociology, Animal Care, Food Technology, Business Studies, imedia, Food and Nutrition, Health and Fitness and Child Care. In each year students also study a comprehensive programme of Personal Social and Health Education ensuring they are fully equipped to make informed decisions about their lives.

Students are inspired by our curriculum because while academically rigorous it is planned and delivered in an inspiring way. To us “learning is not a spectator sport” we require students to “think hard” and inspire them to do so by teaching methods that foster independent learning. In addition, we give students a range of opportunities to engage and participate in activities outside of normal lessons. Trips to Universities, sixth forms, along with work experience, and excursions abroad help students to engage in the wider world beyond the school gates.





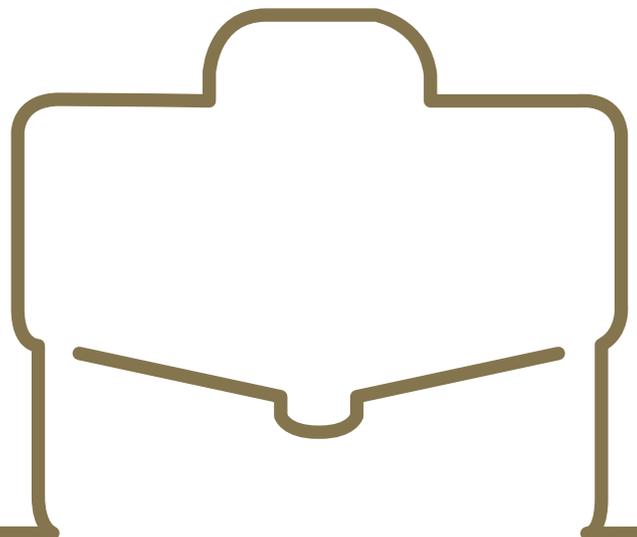
“All students are given the opportunity to follow appropriate courses that allow them to achieve their potential; ensure they are confident; and inspire them to progress into further education and employment.”

Careers Advice and Guidance

At King Harold Academy, we offer exceptionally high quality careers advice and guidance to our students. The support they receive provides them with a clear pathway to their future. Careers education starts in Year 7 and continues in every year group all the way through to Year 11.

At every stage, we expose our students to many opportunities to help them make informed decisions about their future. Our sister school Debden Park High School in Loughton offers excellent A-level provision and we provide many opportunities for students in Year 10 and 11 to visit Debden Park High in order to gain a genuine understanding of A-levels.

We have a wide business network available to us and we are involved in the Yes Partnership, the World of Work Conference, and Business Breakfasts. In addition to this, we also invite in external speakers to provide students with personal experiences, send our students to attend industry days, visits to colleges, organise an annual career fest, mock interviews, and work experience for Year 10. We also provide all our students with one-to-one interviews with our own qualified Careers Advisor and provide them with access to a careers library. We use our programmes and resources to form an essential part of your child's education so that they are prepared and inspired to have a successful future.





Learning Outside the Classroom

We value the importance of enrichment as highly as we do academic success. The aim of our enrichment programmes is to inspire our students to become involved in new experiences and engage with our local community. We truly believe in educating the whole child and finding each child's strength, both inside and outside of the classroom.

We take great pride in the achievements of our students as they take an active involvement in our community by serving as excellent ambassadors when they represent the school. All students are provided with the opportunity to explore the clubs fair, held in September, where departments such as: Music, Art, Drama, Science, English, and Food Technology all inspire our students to become involved with subjects outside of normal lessons.

Our Music department reaches out into our wider community by performing at local events such as: the Carol Concert at Waltham Abbey Church, the Waltham Abbey Town Show, the Cavalcade of the Light procession, and at the Town Hall for many official events. Our students are also provided with opportunities to take part in national competitions as part of our Samba band or 'The Kings Strings' ensemble. Music performances are a regular and popular feature in our school calendar which provide students with the opportunity to showcase the immense talent that we have within the school.

Our PE department provides students with numerous opportunities to represent the school at a recreational level through a variety of sports clubs. They also provide many opportunities for our teams to successfully compete in both local and national competitions. Through their love of sports our students have travelled to Europe to compete on an international level and develop their sporting experiences.

Our students get the opportunity to visit France and Belgium to explore their language skills as well as to discover the First World War Battlefields. The Zoolab Project visits our school to enhance our Geography and Art curriculum.

As part of educating the whole child, we provide many opportunities for students to develop their communication, team work, creative and independent skills outside of the classroom. We offer a variety of options to engage as many students as possible such as: external music workshops, guest speakers to assemblies, PSHE workshops, Museum Take Over days and Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge. Our enrichment programme grows every year and our staff feel passionately about widening our students experience.





Student Responsibilities

At King Harold Academy, we believe that our students should be actively involved in their learning and work together with the staff to constantly improve the school.

Our Year 11 students go through a challenging application process to represent the school and to be a part of our Student Leadership Team. The team is lead by our Head Boy and Head Girl who are true ambassadors and role models for the younger years. They are supported by a team of deputies and prefects.

All members of our Student Leadership Team have focussed roles to help develop the school. Some of our team will be seen in local primary schools, as they are our Transition Ambassadors. We also have members of our team as Media Ambassadors who will liaise with the local press and publish articles for our school website and newsletters. To focus on community spirit we have members of our Student Leadership Team who are dedicated Fundraising Ambassadors whose aim is to think of creative and innovative ways to engage our community to help others.

We believe in students having their voice heard in every year group and our newly appointed Student Voice and Well-being Ambassadors will ensure that this happens. As a community school it is essential that we are part of local life and that we take an active role in our town, therefore we have appointed two Community Ambassadors.



APPLYING TO KING HAROLD ACADEMY

Admissions:

Application forms may be obtained from Essex County Council by contacting them on 0845 603 2200, by email to admissions@essex.gov.uk or apply online at www.essex.gov.uk



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