



# KINGSTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1561

## Further Information



THE  
GOOD  
SCHOOLS  
GUIDE

"The ethos is all about developing the whole person, not just getting them through academic exams. A school that really lives up to its motto, 'Work Well and Be Happy', this is a place that sets young people up for a fantastic future."

# WELCOME TO KGS

With a history dating back to the 12th century, and founded in 1561 by Royal Charter, Kingston Grammar School is a school with one foot in the past but both eyes firmly on the future. We are an academically selective day school with 800 pupils, and are fully co-educational.

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.





KINGSTON



# ACADEMIA

**Our aim is to create an environment in which we work together to encourage the highest academic aspiration and to promote independent thought; one which provides opportunity for engagement in a rich and diverse co-curricular programme, which expects 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.**

It is important to maintain academic breadth at GCSE, providing scope for the development of knowledge and understanding across a wide range of subjects. Our core curriculum is designed to do just that. In common with many independent schools, we offer IGCSEs in a number of subjects. These are international qualifications that are predominantly exam based.

Academically, our Sixth Form is very strong. Students choose from 23 subjects at A Level and Pre-U, and are encouraged to enhance their knowledge and range of interests through independent study. All students attend a fortnightly Sixth Form lecture, and the Lower Sixth students can participate in the Academic Enrichment programme where they undertake options such as the Extended Project Qualification, AS Critical Thinking, GCSE Italian, Introduction to Thermodynamics, NVQ in Leadership & Management, MOOCs and Open University online courses.

At A Level last year, the Upper Sixth achieved over 80% at grades A\* - B, including 50% at A\*/A. Last year 79% of our students went to Russell Group universities, and on average 10% of our cohort attain Oxbridge places.





# PASTORAL CARE

**Our pastoral programme sits alongside our comprehensive and rigorous academic curriculum to complement and support the pastoral and academic development of each of our students.**

Delivering targeted, well-thought-out and groundbreaking initiatives at all levels throughout the School, our overarching aim is to equip each student with the skills and tools to tackle life with confidence and enthusiasm, and achieve all they want to.

Our comprehensive and wide-ranging pastoral programme includes mindfulness for both pupils and staff, strategies for coping with stress and building resilience, modern and bespoke Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and training on the safe and responsible use of social media and the internet. It also tackles the important issues around alcohol and drugs, risky behaviour and preparation for life outside school and university. We are rightly proud of our pastoral provision and it is widely acknowledged to be one of the best in any school in the UK.





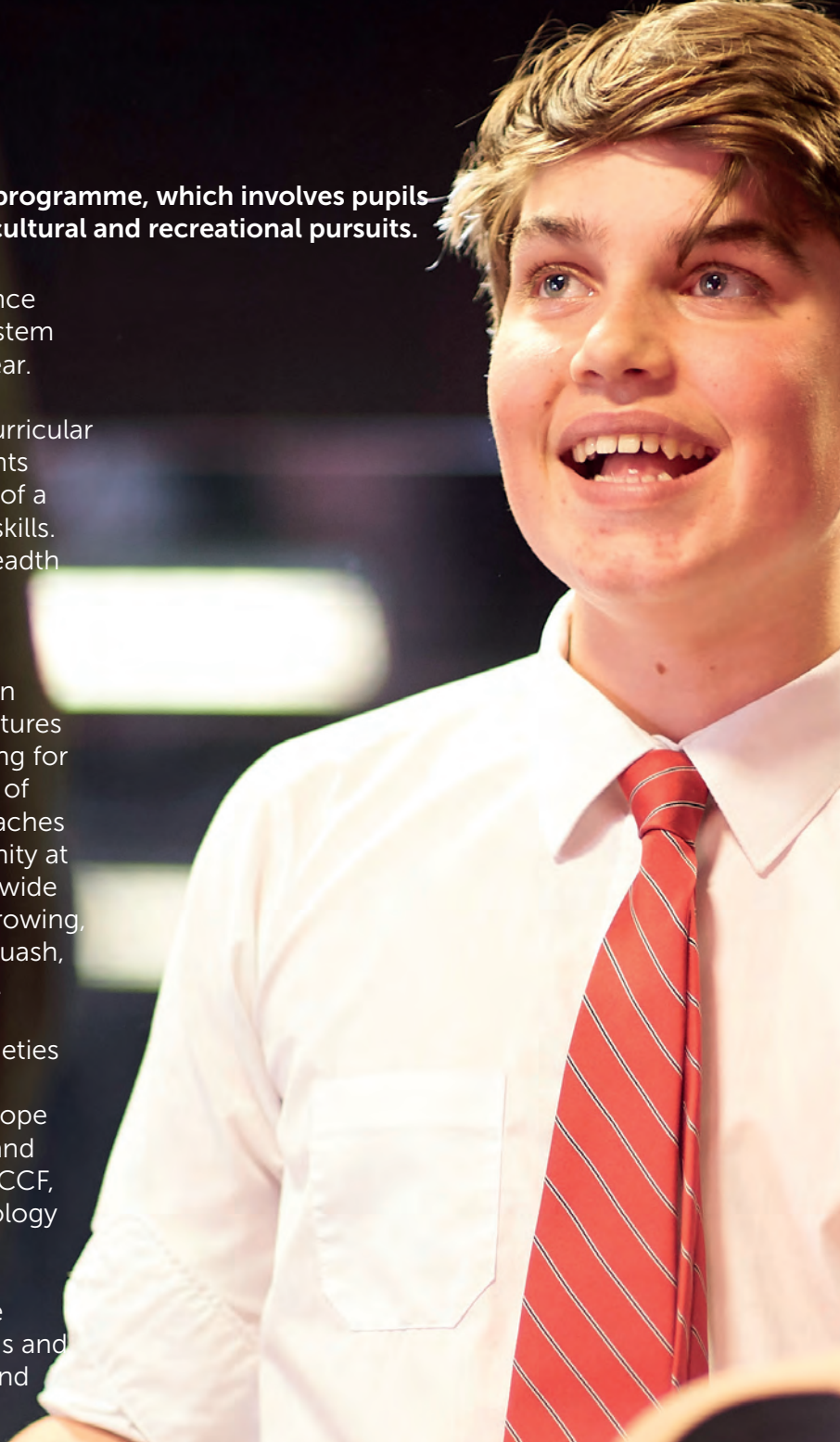
# CO-CURRICULAR

**We provide a comprehensive co-curricular programme, which involves pupils in a variety of stimulating physical, artistic, cultural and recreational pursuits.**

All students are expected to participate; balance is carefully monitored through the tutorial system and recorded on the school report twice a year. Involvement is considered beneficial to each individual's personal development. The co-curricular programme provides opportunities for students of all ages to take responsibility, work as part of a team, face new challenges and acquire new skills. The varied programme is designed to add breadth and depth to the student's own interests and experiences.

The School has a local and national reputation for excellence in hockey and rowing, and nurtures the performance athlete whilst equally catering for the enthusiastic participant. A specialist team of PE teachers, games staff and professional coaches ensures maximum participation and opportunity at all age groups, and for both boys and girls. A wide variety of sports is offered including hockey, rowing, cricket, tennis, football, netball, basketball, squash, badminton, gymnastics, golf and table tennis.

A wide variety of non-sporting clubs and societies offer a range of activities and experiences throughout the school and allow plenty of scope for further student development, leadership and team building. These include: Music, Drama, CCF, Duke of Edinburgh, Young Enterprise, Technology Challenge and Chess. Many subject-based societies offer valuable learning experiences outside the classroom. In addition, the House system runs a full programme of competitions and encourages participation at all levels of age and experience.





# FACILITIES

**The School's historic red-brick buildings are based in the heart of Kingston upon Thames, with its excellent transport links. With easy accessibility to the metropolitan diversity of central London, and its wealth of cultural opportunities, students benefit from what our urban location can offer.**

There is an extensive range of outstanding facilities for co-curricular activities, including an all-weather Sports Cage and dedicated STEAM facilities. The Michael Frayn Theatre (with Green Room) is the centrepiece of our magnificent Queen Elizabeth II Performing Arts Centre. It features state-of-the-art lighting, sound and special-effects technology, and a sprung wooden floor, making it ideal for our students' drama, dance and musical performances. The tiered seating has a flexible configuration, and seats audiences of up to 200. The theatre was officially named on 5th October 2017, with Michael Frayn (OK) as guest of honour.

The Lovekyn Chapel is the only remaining free-standing chantry chapel in England and, dating back to 1309, is the oldest complete building in Kingston. Although it is no longer used for religious services, it's the most popular venue in the Royal Borough for civil ceremonies and partnerships. As an elegant and bright space with excellent acoustics, it is also frequently used for musical performances and readings.

A number of our facilities are available to hire for weddings, parties, conferences, exhibitions performances and more.





# SPORT AT KGS

Our newly renovated, 22-acre sports grounds and boat house on the River Thames, opposite Hampton Court Palace, is the home of KGS Sport. We are particularly renowned for our success in hockey and rowing and as a school are ranked fifth in the UK for producing sporting internationals.

The field is easily accessible by bus services to and from Hampton Court and Molesey, and the South Western Railway service from Hampton Court to London Waterloo.

## **Our state-of-the-art sport facilities include:**

- Six netball courts
- Six cricket nets
- Long jump pit
- Four football pitches
- Four cricket squares
- Eight tennis courts
- Two AstroTurf hockey pitches
- One AstroTurf practice area
- Pavilions
- Boat house equipped with a range of boats and equipment, for those learning to row right through to pupils of national, international and even Olympic standard.





# ISI INSPECTION REPORT

**Our recent Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) inspection report pronounced the School 'excellent' - the top rating inspectors can use - in both pupils' achievement and their personal development.**

The inspectors judged that "the quality of the pupils' academic and other achievements is excellent", noting that their "very strong study skills enable them to display highly independent learning, fostered by challenging and supportive teaching... The high levels of achievement derive significantly from the impact of a culture of all-round accomplishment for all pupils that is so effectively promoted by senior leadership and governors. Pupils are taught to question and challenge ideas from an early age. These attributes represent very successful fulfilment of the School's academic aims."

The inspectors also stated that:

**"Without exception, those spoken to feel that this is a kind school where unkindness is never acceptable."**



An inspection was carried out by the ISI in May 2017, the full text of which is available on the School's website ([www.kgs.org.uk/about/policies](http://www.kgs.org.uk/about/policies)).



# STAFF BENEFITS

**Our teaching and support staff receive a range of benefits whilst employed by Kingston Grammar School**

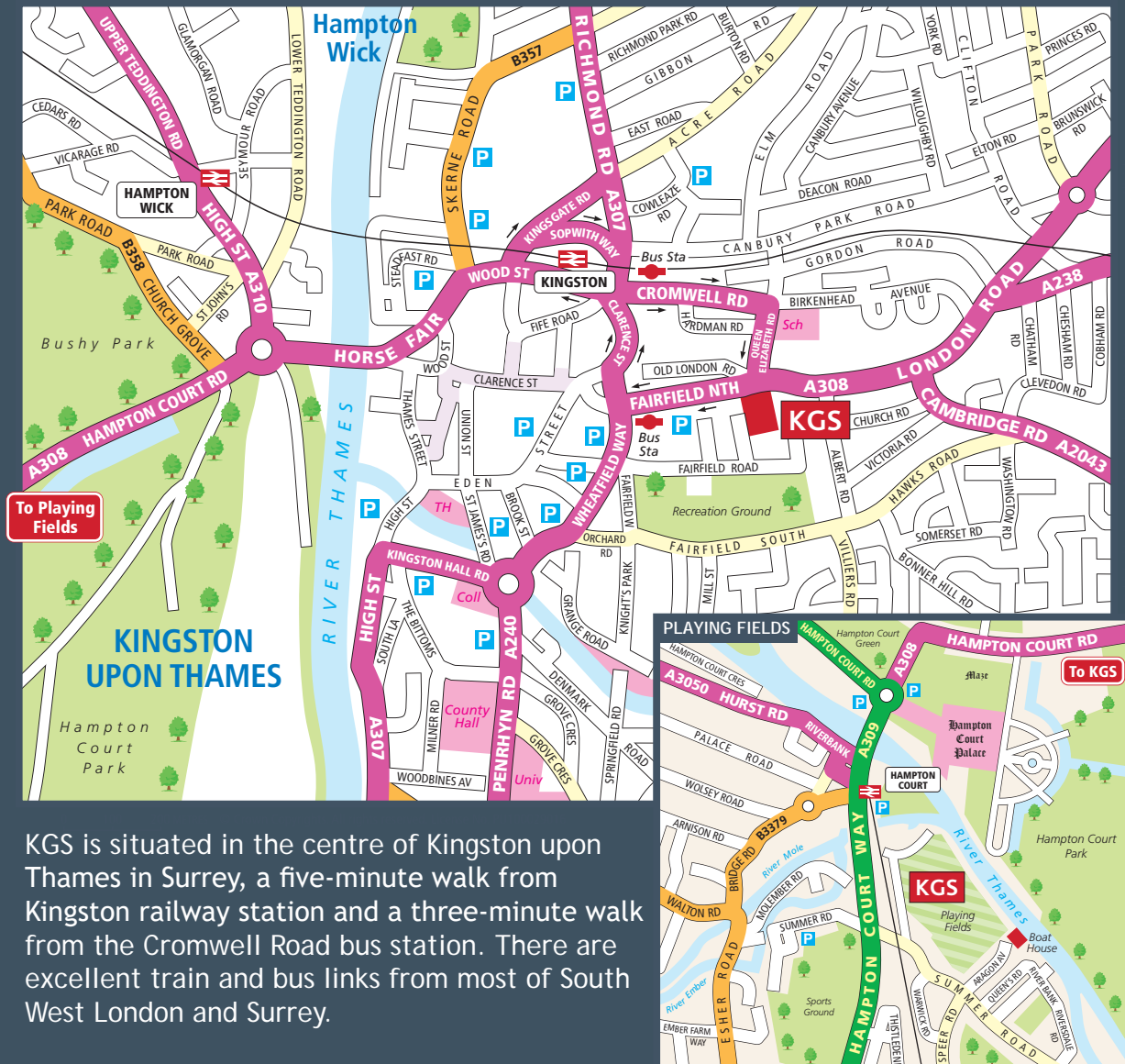
- Teachers' Pension Scheme for teaching staff and either a basic or optional enhanced pension scheme for support staff
- Life assurance for all staff
- Personal accident insurance (including dental)
- Generous occupational sick pay scheme
- Employee Assistance Programme, including counselling
- Charity payroll giving (optional)
- Childcare voucher scheme
- Interest-free season ticket loan
- Bike-to-work scheme
- Discounted school fees for children of staff
- Free lunch
- Library facilities open to all
- Use of school sports facilities
- Training and development support including financial support for postgraduate study







# OUR LOCATION



KGS is situated in the centre of Kingston upon Thames in Surrey, a five-minute walk from Kingston railway station and a three-minute walk from the Cromwell Road bus station. There are excellent train and bus links from most of South West London and Surrey.

"The achievement of so many pupils outside the classroom is due significantly to the breadth of the co-curricular programme which caters fully for their interest and talents, and to the high levels of staff involvement and commitment."

ISI Inspection Report, 2017

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[www.kgs.org.uk](http://www.kgs.org.uk)



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