



**KING EDWARD VI
NORTHFIELD
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**

Educational excellence for our City



Our Prospectus

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King Edward VI Northfield School for Girls
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**KING EDWARD VI
FOUNDATION
BIRMINGHAM**

Educational excellence for our City

Headteacher's Welcome

King Edward VI Northfield School for Girls is a wonderful place to work and to study.

We have three aims for all the children who are part of our school – that they are happy, that they feel safe and that they are able to fulfil their academic potential.

We believe in nurturing our children's talents and supporting their ambitions. In order to do this effectively we ensure a calm and purposeful environment in our classrooms and around our school.

These foundations have seen our school develop an extraordinary offer of over fifty different clubs and societies taking place after school and on Saturdays. These opportunities range from Fencing to Mandarin, from medical ethics to football. This illustrates the fantastic commitment of our staff and our pupils (with over 700 attending clubs each week). This was commented on recently by Ofsted – 'Pupils experience excellent provision to enhance their personal and character development. They benefit from activities including leadership roles, trips, visits and a plethora of after-school clubs that they keenly attend'.

As a King Edward VI school, we have a strong focus on educational outcomes and a broad, ambitious, curriculum. French, History, Geography, Art, Graphics and Technology have been particular strengths in recent years, whilst Maths, English and Science remain on a positive upward trajectory. A growing number of our leavers go on to study at top universities, supported in this ambition through our innovative Aspire Society. We are also privileged in that a number of our ex-pupils return to us after their post-graduate studies to teach here.

It is an exciting time for our school, as we take full advantage of our state-of-the-art building and of being part of the King Edward VI family of schools. Our Sports England-sized Sports Hall, Dance Studio and specialist rooms for Art, Music, Science and Computing mean that our staff can deliver wonderful lessons. Our work with colleagues across the King Edward VI Foundation, means we receive the expert advice, training, support and skills to do so.

It remains a privilege to be Headteacher of our wonderful small school. Please call on 0121 464 8346 to meet with me and to tour our school.



Neil Jones
Headteacher



Great teaching and learning

Our teachers teach highly effective lessons that enable all pupils to be excellent learners who: enjoy their learning, are self-motivated, resilient, articulate, allows them to fulfill their potential and be successful in whatever their next steps are.

All teachers plan for a knowledge rich curriculum, sequencing lessons in such a way that allows for plentiful spacing, interleaving and retrieval practice. We have high expectations and teach our pupils to have a good work ethic and behaviour that is conducive to learning.

There is a strong acquisition of knowledge from the moment they enter the room and throughout the lesson that will be aided by the subject specialist: the teacher. Teachers will regularly review pupil's knowledge, provide an expert explanation and continually scaffold and model along the way. Teachers question pupils' so they and the teacher know what they can and can't do and what they do and don't know.

Pupils will have plentiful opportunities to practice and for teachers to feedback resulting in a truly responsive teaching and learning environment that allows for professional autonomy within the classroom.



‘The school drives its ambitions for all pupils, including pupils with SEND and disadvantaged pupils, through a broad curriculum.’

Ofsted

Pastoral care

Introducing Freya Whiteley

We understand that to be confident and successful you first need to feel happy, as a result we devote a great deal of energy into making sure our new Year 7s feel at home, and that their parents don't feel that sudden loss of connection that often comes with transition to secondary school.

Our Head of Transition is also the Head of Year 7, which helps to enable a smooth transition from primary to secondary school. The Head of Year 7 will always be on hand to support pupils as they settle in. They will constantly talk to staff, identifying pupils who are feeling the shock of the change of school and they will keep parents/carers informed of any minor incidents whilst being a friendly face for parents to raise any anxieties they may have about their child's friendships or school work. Most of all the Head of Year 7 will take time to talk to the pupils, to reassure and encourage, to help them overcome the uncertainties and celebrate the successes.

We have a specialist team of Year 7 form tutors, who strive to get to know every pupil in their form and build a strong relationship. Parents often comment on how much they welcome the chance to chat with their child's form teacher at the Meet the Form Tutor Evening, early in their child's time in our school. Pastoral support at King Edward VI Northfield School for Girls plays a huge part in the success of our pupils. From the mentoring and support offered by our expert Learning Mentors, through to the high standards of behaviour actively encouraged by all members of staff.

Our school ethos is "Work Hard, Be Kind" and everything within our pastoral care system helps to underpin this, along with the 5 values we want all of our pupils to develop whilst at school.



‘Pupils get along well. Positive relationships make this school a productive and inclusive place of learning.’

Ofsted





Incredible student progress

As well as achieving a great set of qualifications, we believe that pupils need the chance to discover their strengths and passions.

Therefore, we believe in a broad and balanced curriculum, rather than an 'exam factory'. The confidence and belief that some children find in Dance, Athletics or Art is not a distraction from Maths and English - it enables success in these core areas.



'Pupils respond very well to the school's high expectations of them. This is evident in the improvement in many pupils' attendance and their strong behaviour.'

Ofsted

Academic success

Pupils at King Edward VI Northfield School for Girls achieve fantastic results in their GCSEs. In 2024 the percentage of pupils who achieved a Grade 7 or higher (equivalent to the old 'A' grade) increased by almost 50% since the pandemic. The number of pupils who achieved the very top grade, a Grade 9, has also significantly increased from before the pandemic.

The number of pupils securing higher grades, 5+ was also remarkable. Across a wide range of subjects, pupils achieved excellent results, with over 65% achieving 5+ in Art and Graphics, 54% in French and 55% in History.

Our broad curriculum, which allows pupils to follow practical qualifications, has also allowed many pupils to secure a career path into public services with high pass and distinction rates in the BTEC courses. A particularly pleasing outcome of 2024's exams was the number of pupils who achieved the very highest grades, 8s and 9s, notably in Physics, Chemistry, Biology History and Geography. Placing these talented and hard-working pupils amongst the best and brightest in the country.



'The school has high ambitions for every pupil, including disadvantaged pupils and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).'

Ofsted





Extracurricular

Our provision of clubs and enrichment activities is a remarkable testament to the enthusiasm of our pupils and the commitment of our staff. We regularly have over 50 extracurricular clubs running each week with outstanding regular attendance. Clubs that run over the academic year include:

- Science
- Eco
- Running and Walking
- Medical Ethics
- Cooking
- Singing
- Dungeons and Dragons
- Mathmagicians
- Creative Writing
- NSG Newspaper
- Drama
- Library
- Keyboard and Performance
- School Choir
- Music Theory
- Band
- Art
- Coding
- Aspire
- Netball
- Football
- Trampolining
- Dance
- Badminton
- Pound Drumming
- Fitness
- Rounders
- Yoga
- Fencing
- Crochet
- Debating
- Music Composition
- Tennis

- Textiles
- School Ensemble
- Sparx Maths
- Further Maths
- Guitar
- Chinese/Mandarin Language and Culture

Every day afterschool we run a supervised homework club until 5.00pm providing a safe and calm place for pupils to complete homework. Pupils have full access to the library and PC's to help them in their homework.

Saturday Morning Clubs

On Saturday mornings we run a Drama and Sports club offering our pupils a healthy, active and social way to kick off their weekend!

All clubs (afterschool and at the weekend) are free for all pupils to access. Our extensive range of extracurricular activities boost pupils' confidence to interact with others, extend their social network and provide them with new skills and abilities. Above all, they offer an important space to have fun and relax, away from the pressures of school work.

The importance of educational trips

Every single pupil at our school will take part in at least two visits to theatres, museums, art galleries and historical sites, fully funded by the school each year. This will ensure that no child misses out on crucial opportunities for enrichment. **These visits include Art Galleries, Museums, University visits and other activities across the country.**

In addition to these core educational visits, our pupils will enjoy a range of additional trips and opportunities. We have recently taken our first group of pupils on a skiing trip, during February half term. Our approach to educational visits mirrors our ethos - we believe that every pupil should enjoy their time at school and be able to take advantage of all the opportunities we can provide.

There is also the opportunity to participate in both the Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh awards which is fully funded by the school. This helps young people build lifelong belief in themselves, supporting them to take on their own challenges, follow their passions and discover talents they never knew they had.

In addition to these educational visits, any Year 7s who arrive at our school without a reasonable competency in swimming are taken for a weekly swimming lesson which is fully funded by the school.



Supporting the needs of all our pupils

The Special Educational Needs Department works exceptionally hard to make sure all of our pupils are able to access their learning and find success in their studies.

We do this through building close relationships with pupils and their parents/carers, making sure they feel part of their child's journey through school. Our team of Teaching Assistants combine experience with enthusiasm, with expertise ranging across a wide range of needs. Please contact our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator, Marie Campbell, via the school office, to have a tour of our facilities and to meet the team.

The most academically able pupils are pushed to succeed in all aspects of school life. We have a strong record of success in achieving the highest grades across a wide range of subject areas. This is in part down to excellent and inspirational teaching but also testimony to the work ethic fostered from Year 7 onwards.

These young pupils will be further supported through the Aspire Club and a dedicated member of staff. The Aspire Club includes visits from leading academics, masterclasses by the very best teachers within the King Edward VI Schools and visits to top universities in the school holidays.



'Pupils hugely value the many opportunities that they otherwise may not have. Therefore, pupils are very well prepared for later life.'
Ofsted



Uniform

Our uniform is smart, practical and affordable, comprising of:

- Black blazer OR black V neck jumper with school badge
- White shirt
- School tie
- Black knee length skirt or school trousers
- Sensible flat black shoes
- Plain white or black socks or plain black or natural tights
- A PE uniform comprising of black polo shirt with school badge and black leggings, joggers or shorts

Our uniform is available to purchase from local stockists at very competitive prices. Parents have the freedom to buy school uniform from other outlets. We also keep a stock of second hand uniform in good condition please contact the school (0121 464 8346), if financial issues mean you require confidential assistance.

Admissions, open evening, school visits

We follow the Birmingham Local Authority guidance on admissions.

For your child to join our school at the start of Year 7, please indicate a preference for our school on the Local Authority form (return by 31st October). For in-year admissions (if you have moved into the area or have other reasons for seeking a change of school for your child), please call Admissions (0121 464 8346) or collect a form from our reception.

Visit our website for open evening details: <https://nsg.kevibham.org>. We welcome visits during the school day, so you can see our school in action. Please call 0121 464 8346 to arrange a tour with the Headteacher, Neil Jones or the Head of Year 7, Freya Whiteley.

