King Edward VI

Camp Hill School for Girls

Sixth Form

History

The King Edward VI Foundation





When in 1547, a Royal Commission dissolved the Gild of the Holy Cross, certain influential men of Birmingham petitioned Edward VI for the return of the gild lands in the form of an endowment for a free grammar school.

On 2nd January 1552 letters patent were sealed, granting this request and appointing 20 of the foremost inhabitants of the town as Governors of a school to be held in the old gildhall in New Street.

By an Act of Parliament in 1831 the Governors were empowered to create other schools and between 1838 and 1853 eight elementary schools were opened. However, by the 1870s the elementary schools had outlasted their usefulness, and the pressing need was for grammar schools. The structure of the Foundation was changed once more and grammar schools were created at Aston, Camp Hill (Boys and Girls), Five Ways and Handsworth.

Camp Hill School for Girls gained its grammar school status in 1883 and its first headmistress, Miss Harriet Grundy, was appointed. In 1958 the school moved from Camp Hill to its current site in Kings Heath where it has flourished ever since.


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SCHOOLS
WELCOME
RECEPTION FOR GIRLS' SCHOOL



King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls aims to provide a full range of quality experiences, within a forward thinking and supportive environment.

Sixth Formers play a vital part in our community...





One of the voluntary aided, selective, 11-18 grammar schools which belong to the Foundation of The Schools of King Edward VI in Birmingham. The success of the school and its students speaks for itself. Judged by OFSTED to have 5 Exceptional and 2 Strong gradings under the new framework (March 2026), King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls consistently achieves top positions in National Performance Tables. We were delighted to be awarded State School of the Year for 2025 by The Sunday Times in recognition of our excellent outcomes and our broad programme of enrichment, all underpinned by a culture of care and support which collectively enables our students to flourish. At Sixth Form, students join us from a range of other schools. Degree courses in the Arts are increasingly popular; our students are very aware of the multitude of career pathways available through these, due to our informative careers programme.

We aim to create a learning environment where students are given the opportunity to achieve the highest possible standards in all areas of school life, in the belief that this will lead to the full development of individual potential. They are encouraged to acquire the understanding, knowledge, skills, qualifications and interests that will help them to find fulfilment in their future lives and careers.

Every year almost all of our students attain the Advanced Level grades necessary to fulfil their university course and career aspirations. Whether applying to Oxbridge or for highly competitive courses such as Medicine, Dentistry, Language Courses, Architecture or the Humanities, our students routinely secure places at the leading universities.

The excellent working relationship between Sixth Formers and staff provides a stimulating and enjoyable environment in which to learn and develop. Our students recognise that the Sixth Form provides an outstanding foundation for them to meet the challenges of life in the 21st Century and to achieve their aspirations.

The school values the cultural, academic and community activities which extend the learning experience outside the classroom.

Outstanding Facilities





The Upper Common Room provides a spacious and sociable area for all of the Sixth Form to relax during recess and lunchtime. Our purpose built extension to the Sixth Form block provides additional study, dining and social space for students. Sixth Form students also benefit from a range of facilities including two purpose built quiet study rooms with computer access, a kitchen area, and a comfortable seating area. This is supplemented by study space in the Library and Studio in the Main School.

There are a number of recent developments within the school including the STEM Centre, the Learning Hub for Geography and Biology teaching; refurbished laboratories and the Studio Dining Room in Main School. Sixth Formers have access to these areas at all times. We also have various specialist teaching areas including a brand new music centre, art and design studios, numerous computer rooms, a Dance Studio, Drama Studio and recently refurbished Drama Workshop. In Summer 2025, we unveiled a brand new Art Studio and a Gallery. This includes a separate workspace specifically for Sixth Form Art students. We also opened our beautiful new library last academic year and our Wellbeing Hub. It's an exciting time to be joining our school community! Whether students' interests lie in sport, music, art or the sciences, our fabulous facilities provide an environment that enriches the academic experience at Camp Hill.





Enriching Experiences and Opportunities

The Sixth Form offers a variety of opportunities for intellectual enquiry and exploration, often beyond the confines of our unrivalled breadth of A Level subject choices. As well as attending university lectures, conferences and summer schools, students can choose from a range of highly regarded academic qualifications to supplement their A Level programme.

Sixth Formers organise and run clubs and societies for themselves and younger students. Examples of these include Senior Debating, Drama and Dance Clubs, Reading Groups, LGBTQ+ Society as well as Med Soc and subject-specific societies such as Biology Society and Computing Society among many others. There are lots of sports-based clubs and mentoring opportunities for the Sixth Form to work with our younger students.

Every year, Sixth Formers also set up and lead new clubs such as the Medical Ethics Society, the Law Society and the Philosophy Society to help other members of Years 12 and 13 to prepare for their university applications. Whatever a student's interests, there will be a club to which they can belong. If there isn't, they can set one up themselves with like-minded individuals. The Engineering in Education Scheme enables teams of Year 12 students to experience the world of industry and business through work-related projects and interactive workshops.

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is a free standing qualification that gives students the opportunity to research a topic of their choice. They are given free choice to identify an area of intellectual interest, which must be either an extension of or separate from their A Level subjects, and then plan, research, evaluate and present an independent project. Choice of topic is often related to a student's aspirations for study at university, but is only limited by their imagination. Projects cover a spectrum of disciplines and require students to develop the independent learning skills and confidence which will be essential for study at university.

Involvement in sports and creative extra-curricular activities is highly encouraged, and helps to ensure our students develop a sense of the importance of community, and that they leave us as well-rounded individuals with a range of interests. Music offers students a wealth of opportunity, with numerous ensembles, choirs and orchestras to become part of. The school prides itself on the quality of the concerts and shows, and we encourage students from all age ranges and abilities to take part in such performances. The annual Dance show, led by Year 13 students, is extremely popular with students of all ages, and prominent displays of Art work are shown throughout the school.

Community Involvement





Year 13 students students have the opportunity to commit to a weekly voluntary placement within the local community. Such activities are an important part of our students' journey of personal development in the Sixth Form.

Students source their own placements, and these often reflect their specific interests, or help to prepare them for their chosen course of study at university. For example, students sometimes volunteer at care homes for the elderly, or a medical centre if they are considering medicine. Other popular choices include voluntary work for a local or international charity and assisting in a local charity shop.

Students who complete voluntary placements return to school invigorated and with a deeper appreciation of the merits of community involvement, along with an enhanced understanding of the need to be flexible, organised, responsible and have lots of goodwill!

Students who do not opt for either an EPQ project, or a community placement, have the opportunity to participate in regular taught games sessions, benefitting from the team spirit this fosters, as well as the health and wellbeing benefits gained from regular exercise.


SIXTH FORM



A sense of community is fostered, while ensuring that each student is valued as an individual.

Supportive

On entry into the Sixth Form, students are divided into Tutor Groups. The friendly atmosphere of these groups enables students to settle quickly into Sixth Form life and develop relationships that become an integral part of life at Camp Hill. With the support of a highly experienced team of tutors, students are encouraged to realise their academic and personal potential. PSHE lessons form a core part of the Pastoral curriculum and are carefully designed to meet the needs of Post 16 students. These sessions ensure that all students are equipped with relevant information in preparation for life after Camp Hill.

Here at Camp Hill School for Girls, we have a comprehensive induction programme. For our Year 12 this begins in July prior to the start of the academic year, when all students meet their new tutor groups and the Form Tutors who support them throughout the two years, as well as members of the Senior Prefect Team in Year 13. Students attend 'taster' lessons in their chosen subject areas, and in addition there is an Induction Evening for parents and carers. Students are supported with the transition from GCSE to A Level with study skills seminars which focus on strategies to support high achievers.

Our students are required to adhere to a formal business dress code which encourages a smart image and reflects high expectations and the ethos of the Sixth Form.

The School supports students to develop self-disciplined, independent study habits to help them to succeed in their studies. Progress and achievement are continually monitored throughout the Sixth Form. At intervals students' performance is assessed and reported to parents and carers. This is key in helping students to adjust to A Levels and monitor their individual progress to fulfil their targets. Parents and carers can also discuss their child's progress at the formal Progress Evening. Partnership between home and school is essential to success, and school encourages communication with Form Tutors in the first instance if there are concerns.

The Home-School contract which students and parents/carers sign outlines the high expectations we have of all. Where a student requires additional support to help reach their target grades, intervention strategies including academic mentoring will be implemented along with dialogue with parents/carers. This is in line with our 6th form achievement protocol which places emphasis on students responding to the advice given by their teachers, as well as communication with parents/carers to ensure the most effective partnerships throughout the two year A Level journey. We are delighted to be opening a brand new Wellbeing Hub later in 2025 which will be a designated space of calm, support and advice for all students in school, including Sixth Formers.

The school reflects the diverse multicultural population of Birmingham and the West Midlands.

Building our Community





Sixth Formers are expected to provide leadership and to act as role models for younger years. We strongly encourage all Sixth Formers to make a contribution in this way to enhance their own skills and experience, whilst helping others. Every year a Senior Prefect Team of students in Year 13 is nominated by peers and staff and they fulfil a variety of roles including Head and Deputy Head Prefects, House Captains, Year Prefects and School Council Chairs.

Service to the school as well as to the wider community, alongside academic success, underpin our ethos of excellence and opportunity. In Year 12, prefects work with lower years in supporting Form Tutors. In addition, many Sixth Formers take on the role of mentors for students in subject areas. A team of trained Peer Mentors in Year 13 support students from lower years in overcoming academic or other problems.

There are six Houses in the School, creating further opportunities for our students to develop their leadership skills. The House system promotes a healthy competition in the School and at the end of Year 12, a highly anticipated themed House Festival is organised for students in Main School. Many charitable fund-raising events are also organised by Sixth Formers, including a whole school Macmillan Coffee Morning.

To ensure students have the opportunity to voice their thoughts and opinions on the way in which the school is run, nominated students in Years 12 and 13 participate in the Student Council to discuss matters relating to both the Sixth Form and the Whole School. The different strands of School Council include: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion; Wellbeing; Sustainability; Curriculum; and Facilities.


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Providing information, bespoke advice and guidance with regard to Higher Education and careers is essential in the Sixth Form.

Fulfilling

Students are provided with information they need to make their next steps and to realise their ambitions. A cycle of mock interviews is arranged for Year 13 students, both subject-specific and skills based, to help them to develop their interview technique. The School has an enviable record of placing students in Higher Education and employment. There is also a planned programme for students who wish to access the more competitive options at degree level, such as applying for a place at Oxbridge or applying for courses such as Medicine.

Every year, we offer places to a number of students from outside the school wishing to join our community. We are particularly keen to welcome students who are keen to study the Arts, Languages, Humanities and Computer Science. The number of places available to external students varies each year according to the availability of places on courses. However, typically we welcome around 60 students into Year 12 from other schools. We hold an induction day and welcome events for those students who receive an offer of a place from us. We strongly recommend interested students attend our Open Evening in November. Details of how to apply for a place at our Sixth Form will be explained at this event, and shared on our website afterwards.

Most of our Year 11 students choose to remain at Camp Hill for their post 16 studies and will have the opportunity to discuss their A Level courses with a senior member of staff.

We offer financial support for eligible students through our 16-19 Bursary. Students may claim the bursary if they are eligible for free school meals (or have been eligible in the last 6 years, either at Camp Hill, or at a previous school). The bursary can be used to pay for items which support a student's education, such as transport, school trips, equipment, books and stationery.





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