



The King Edmund School

A Business & Enterprise and Applied Learning Academy



Sixth Form Prospectus 2018-2019

*“Our students and staff are **enterprising** and approach challenges with a ‘**can-do**’ attitude”*



Achievement

At KES our students are at the centre of all that we do - helping them to achieve their ‘Personal Best’ in every aspect of Sixth Form life is what drives us in our pursuit of excellence. We aim to inspire our students to continually want to do better and improve on what they have already achieved.

Our Sixth Form is open to all, regardless of ability. We are confident that we run courses that suit a wide range of abilities and aspirations and aim to help all students develop the skills and mentality to be independent, proactive and resilient.

Even though we have a comprehensive intake, last year we achieved a 97% pass rate at A Level, with over 50% at A*-B. In vocational courses there was a 100% pass rate with 75% of grades at Distinction or Distinction*. All students who wished to go to university were successful – 60% of students moved on to Higher Education against a national average of 58%.

As well as preparing students for exams and university entrance, we ensure that our students also develop a range of other skills and attributes that will prepare them for adult life. All students follow the Employability for Life Charter Plus scheme, and are encouraged to build a portfolio of all their achievements. Students are motivated by a system of rewards and privileges and we endeavour to recognise all their achievements, in and out of lessons.

From the outset we set challenging targets for our students. Regardless of which programme they are on, we endeavour to help them achieve at the highest level. If you want to go to Oxford or Cambridge, we can get you there; if you want to be a carpenter then we will give you the tools for success.



*“Our school is **welcoming,** inclusive, has a real **community** feel and is a place where everyone is **valued**”*

Curriculum

We believe our students should have the opportunity to study subjects that are best suited to their skills, interests and abilities. Subjects that they are enthusiastic about and that allow them to use their creativity to access their full potential.

Uniquely in the local area, students are able to mix and match A Level and BTEC courses, allowing them to follow a broader curriculum that keeps their options open. It is our intention that most Level 3 students will follow A Levels (or equivalent vocational courses) plus the Extended Project Qualification. Level 2 students spend 3 days in school and 3 days in a work placement.

A Levels

Art and Design
 Biology
 Business
 Chemistry
 Computer Science
 Drama and Theatre Studies
 Economics
 English Language and Literature
 English Literature
 French
 Geography
 History
 Law
 Mathematics
 Further Mathematics
 Media Studies
 Music
 Music Technology
 Physical Education
 Physics
 Product Design
 Psychology
 Religious Studies
 Sociology

Level 3 Vocational courses (=1 or 2 A Levels)

Applied Science (Forensics)
 Personal and Business Finance
 IT
 Hospitality
 Sport
 Health and Social Care

CACHE Diploma (=3 A Levels)

Childcare and Education
 (Early Years Educator)

Level 2 Vocational courses (1 year courses)

BTEC Extended Certificates

Construction
 Health and Social Care
 Public Services

CACHE Diploma

Early Years Education and Care

Level 2 Apprenticeship

Hairdressing (2 years)

*“Our culture
is one of
continuous
improvement,
creativity and
enthusiasm”*



Opportunities

We have active links with universities and local businesses to ensure that students achieve their career aspirations and are ready for the next stage – whether it be university or work.

We have our own Progression Manager in the Sixth Form, whose job it is to help support students get to the next stage. We arrange visits to universities, careers fairs and local employers and students can arrange work experience opportunities during non-contact time. Some students can complete internships in the summer between Years 12 and 13.

Students are often inspired by visits and talks from noted authors and artists, key industry figures, and even the odd famous face. There is also the opportunity for students to experience different cultures on the various school trips on offer each year. There have been trips to Spain, Germany and Poland recently, as well as day trips and outdoor pursuits in the UK. Every year, Year 12 students attend the Roadster experience with free driving lessons and road safety awareness. They are also offered an enrichment scheme which runs one afternoon each week.

We run a wide range of after school activities that enable our students to explore other avenues of learning and develop team working skills and leadership capabilities. Students can be involved in performing arts and sporting activities or run events and competitions. We encourage our Sixth Formers to start their own clubs and societies, or run them for others. Our students regularly complete volunteering projects, are active in the local community and have raised large sums of money for charity.

Students are encouraged to take responsibility at every stage; Sixth Form students are part of a student senior leadership team, and our they regularly get involved with mentoring or coaching younger students, participating in the paired reading scheme, and acting as subject ambassadors. Our students lead on School Council and have their own committees to influence what they do in the Sixth Form.



*“Our
environment is
safe and clean
with everyone
sharing
responsibility
for it”*

Environment

In order to deliver excellent teaching and learning, you need to have excellent facilities and an environment where students feel safe and happy.

We have excellent facilities and specialist staff who enable students to excel in their chosen subjects.

Our classrooms have excellent ICT facilities with cutting edge technology in science, media, music, product design, catering, sport and construction. Our science labs have recently been refurbished with state of the art work space and equipment on hand for the highest level of study.

Our students enjoy relatively small class sizes with teachers who are enthusiastic and committed to their education. Relationships between staff and students reflect that our Sixth Formers are young adults who want to deepen their understanding of the world. Our students are treated as individuals and we aim to meet everyone’s needs.

The Sixth Form block boasts its own purpose-built and attractively furnished common room, as well separate study and dining facilities. Students contributed to the design process and are expected to take responsibility for their environment. There is a Sixth Form car park for those who pass their test during their time with us.

For those joining us from Year 11, we offer a familiar environment where students feel relaxed and secure. We know you as students and you will already know how much we will drive and support you to achieve your very best. However, the Sixth Form is a genuine fresh start; we appreciate you have chosen to join us and we will encourage you all the way.

New students can be reassured that you will be warmly welcomed on arrival. We will buddy you up with other students and ensure that you settle quickly and make rapid progress in your new environment. Students who come to us from other schools tell us that they very quickly feel like they have been here all along.

*“Our students
and staff treat
each other
equitably,
fairly, with
kindness and
with mutual
respect”*



Expectations

We expect high standards from our students - standards that we believe help them to achieve their full potential.

The Sixth Form continues to operate a continental style school day. The day starts at 07.55 and finishes at 14.10 with two 25 minute breaks and five periods of learning. This allows for a full day of study as well as time to attend the many extra curricular activities after school has finished. We believe that students achieve better results if they have a busy timetable and are not distracted by other things.

Our Sixth Formers do not have to wear uniform, but we expect them to follow the Sixth Form dress code and ensure that their appearance is appropriate for school.

We expect our students to work hard, but we understand that Sixth Form study can be more challenging than it has been in previous years. Therefore we provide space in the day for students to study independently. Supervised study sessions allow students to complete some of their work during the school day, however we expect students on Level 3 courses to be doing around three extra hours, per subject, per week, independently at home.



*“Our school is one where everyone is **encouraged** and **supported** to achieve their **personal best**”*

Support

In the Sixth Form we continue with our belief that a strong partnership with parents and carers allows students to achieve their best.

Sixth Form students are young adults and we treat them as such, however this doesn't mean that we don't recognise the strong role of families in supporting them.

We will contact parents when students have unexplained absences and we will keep parents fully informed about a student's progress. There are termly progress grades, an annual report, target setting/review meetings as well as an annual parents' consultation evening. We are always available should you have any concerns.

Each student has a personal tutor and the Sixth Form team work hard to ensure that students stay on track to achieve and then exceed their target grades. Early intervention, when students encounter difficulties, enables us to solve issues quickly and effectively and our strong pastoral system ensures that everyone feels supported throughout.

We have a full time learning mentor to help students to manage their workload and overcome obstacles to their learning.

There is a Sixth Form bursary for students who may be struggling financially; this can be used to pay for trips, books or special equipment. Please contact us as soon as you enrol and we will set up regular payments if you qualify.

Contract buses continue to transport students to and from school if you are from Woking and Canewdon. The school subsidises the cost of this service.

Should a family need further support at any time, the Rochford Extended Services team are based on site at KES and are able to provide assistance. The team recently won a nationally recognised award for the services they provide.

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