



The King Edward VI School

Prospectus 2023/24





Welcome

Welcome to our 2023/24 school prospectus. The King Edward VI School is a high-achieving school, with a reputation for academic excellence for all. We aim to prepare all in our care to leave the school fully equipped to meet the challenges they may face and with a sense of service to their communities.

We value our positive relations between staff and students and are proud of our friendly and purposeful atmosphere. Our dedicated staff ensure that students are challenged to meet their potential in a supportive environment. We have a holistic view of education and pride ourselves on offering a fully rounded educational experience.

It is not only in the academic sphere where our students excel. Our commitment to extra-curricular activities is very strong and we offer our students an extensive enrichment and extra-curricular programme. We believe there is something here for everyone.

We are proud of our staff and students. Please take some time to look at our website kevi.cheviotlt.co.uk to get a further insight into what our school has to offer.



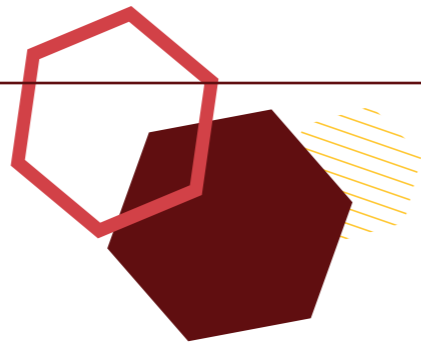
Clare Savage
Headteacher

About us

We are a high school situated in the town of Morpeth in Northumberland. We serve both the town itself and the areas of Coquet and Wansbeck Valleys. We provide for over 1,450 students from Years 9-13 and have a thriving Sixth Form of around 450 students. Through highly effective tutor and pastoral support teams, we get to know the individual to ensure we support their academic and personal development. We are one of the top ranking schools in the north east of England for academic achievement.

At The King Edward VI School, every student really does matter and our excellent range of curricular, extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities ensure all our young people can flourish. Ofsted also recognised the efforts of staff to provide a wide range of enriching experiences beyond the classroom, as the school firmly believes that education is about the whole person and not just exam results.

The King Edward VI School is part of the newly formed Cheviot Learning Trust. The trust provides education across 18 schools in the Morpeth, Rothbury and Prudhoe areas. As a Trust we work jointly to ensure excellence of education to all students within our care. We maintain the best traditions of our history, build upon our considerable strengths and meet the challenges of the future with confidence. The Cheviot Learning Trust is a unique and innovative, outward-facing organisation open to learning from



the best practice. Considered research and evaluation at local, national and global levels, will inform our priorities and growth. Our schools have shared values and priorities.

A single Board of Trustees is responsible for the strategic direction and performance of trust.

In September 2021, The King Edward VI School was designated lead school for the newly established Three Rivers Teaching School Hub. The Teaching School Hub facilitates and delivers high quality professional development across Northumberland, Newcastle and North Tyneside for teachers at all stages of their careers.

Our aim

To foster academic and personal development in a caring and challenging environment so that each individual can achieve his or her potential and become an accomplished student.

Our principles

The underlying principle for all of us in this school is that:
Everyone will act with courtesy and consideration to others at all times.

Our purpose

Our fundamental belief is that everyone matters and can make a valuable contribution to the world in which they live. We provide experiences to inspire, motivate and meet the needs of all learners. We encourage a lifelong love of learning to enable all to develop the attitudes, skills and knowledge to become confident communicators and responsible citizens.

We want our young people to:

- Make a positive contribution now and in the future
- Aspire to be the best they can be and to achieve success in their learning
- Develop the skills to be successful for life beyond school
- Make informed decisions for a healthy and safe lifestyle
- Understand, appreciate and respect the diverse world in which we live

We aim to provide:

- The highest quality teaching, learning and assessment
- A broad, balanced and creative curriculum
- Personalised support and guidance for all
- Enrichment activities for development, challenge and enjoyment
- A flexible and enabling learning environment

School expectations



- Everyone will act with courtesy and consideration at all times
- Do as you are asked by any staff – first time, every time
- Act with respect – use appropriate language and listen carefully when someone else is talking
- Work to the very best of your ability and allow others to do the same
- Arrive on time fully equipped and ready for every lesson
- Wear your school uniform correctly at all times
- Look after property and put litter in the bin

The Curriculum

At The King Edward VI School, we have high expectations for all students. We offer a coherent, challenging and personalised curriculum allowing students to develop their particular skills and abilities.

Our aim is that all students should leave us with qualifications reflecting their potential and the skills to be responsible citizens, confident individuals and successful learners.

In addition to the National Curriculum subjects, students can choose from a wide range of options at Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5.

Year 9

In Year 9, students follow a varied timetable to give experience in a wide range of subjects. These include Art, Design Technology, Drama, Food and Nutrition, Geography, History, ICT/Computing, Music, Physical Education and Religious Education.

Maths and Science follow the GCSE schemes of work to better prepare students for the new curriculum changes. English and both French and Spanish deliver a bespoke

Our approach to learning allows social, moral, spiritual and cultural topics to be embedded into lessons and enrichment activities, providing students with a deeper knowledge and understanding of the wider world.

Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education is taught via tutors each week during an extended registration period, with further development of themes within Core RE lessons.

KS3/GCSE curriculum fully preparing students for the demands of GCSE.

Students make their choices for their remaining GCSEs in February of Year 9 and begin these courses after May half term, which we call Roll Forward. This allows an early start on GCSE courses to ensure the maximum amount of learning time.

Years 10 and 11

In Year 10, students continue to study core subjects of Maths, English Language, English Literature, separate or combined Science, RE/PSHE and PE. Students also have a choice of four subjects from the subjects listed below:



Subjects

Art and Design

Art Graphics

Business Studies

Children's Play Learning and Development

Computer Science

Drama

Design Technology

Food Preparation and Nutrition

French

Geography

Health and Social Care

History

ICT

Music

Physical Education

Religious Studies

Separate Science

Spanish



Sixth Form

We have a large, vibrant and highly successful Sixth Form, with one of the largest range of subjects in the region offering over 30 A Level/Level 3 courses. Students are well supported with specialist mentors and a modern study centre to help develop independent learning skills. We have an exemplary track record of helping students successfully move onto the next phase of their life whether that be university, apprenticeships, college or work.

Inclusion and Support

Our team of dedicated support staff, working within the Access Department, endeavour to provide the appropriate support to students across all age ranges. We aim to help them fulfil their own academic potential as well as guide them towards an individual pathway which will help them achieve their aspirations. We know students will have a range of needs encompassing many different areas and we work with them and their families to help them develop skills in learning as well as in their social and emotional development. Our goal is to prepare our students for life beyond school in a person centred way, helping them to find their voice and learn to advocate for themselves in order that they can follow their chosen pathway successfully. We work with individual and small groups of students to support their learning both in and outside of the classroom. Close communication with classroom teachers allow us to find the most effective strategies to enable progress and achieve desired outcomes.

More detail on how we support students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities can be found in our SEN Information Report on the school website.



Careers Information, Advice and Guidance

At The King Edward VI School, we pride ourselves on the quality of information, advice and guidance we provide our students to ensure they can progress beyond school into a fulfilling and successful career.

Our participation in the national pilot for Good Careers Guidance, status as a Lead School in the North East Careers Hub and gaining the Quality in Careers Standard has been extremely productive.

We offer a range of support to students from one to ones, careers exhibitions, visits from employers and alumni as well as our

use of Unifrog that contains a wealth of information for students and parents/carers. In Year 9, students and parents/carers will be offered an interview to discuss option choices.

King Edward's Inspires is an extraordinary event which brings together universities, apprenticeship providers, employers, training providers and local colleges with our students and parents/carers to offer an insight into future pathways.

Our careers programme is supported by a qualified careers adviser and dedicated lessons within PHSE.



King Edward's Inspires

King Edward's Inspires is now well established as our flagship careers and guidance event and continues to go from strength to strength.

As part of our commitment to supporting young people to make decisions about the next stage of their education or training and their future career, we bring together representatives from a huge and varied range of organisations across a wide range of sectors to provide parents/carers and students with the best possible information, advice and guidance.

It is an opportunity to:

- **Be informed:** learn about the different options and opportunities Post 16 and Post 18
- **Be advised:** receive accurate and up to date information about the industry or sector they aspire to have a career in, direct from people who work in and represent that industry or sector

- **Be inspired:** if you can see it, you can be it; we aim to broaden horizons and promote aspiration
- **Be motivated:** identify their short and long term aspirational career goals and the steps they will need to take in order to achieve them
- **Make connections:** speak to and network with local and national education providers and employers who might be able to help them achieve their career goals, now or in the future as well as establish links for work experience



Sport

We have an excellent PE department. All our students are encouraged to make the most of the opportunities we offer. We enter both local and national competitions in a vast range of sport, allowing individuals and teams to achieve their potential.

We have:

- A six lane, synthetic, floodlit running track
- A synthetic hockey pitch
- Football and rugby pitches and two gymnasiums
- Netball and tennis courts

There are a huge number of sport based extracurricular opportunities on offer including hockey, football, rugby and cricket. We recently achieved the School Games Gold Mark Award. To reward and recognise school's engagement (provision and uptake) in the School Games against a national benchmark and to celebrate keeping young people active. We are delighted to have been recognised at this level for our success.



The Arts

Provision for the Arts across the school is outstanding. From our Sold out musical production of 'Annie' to our photography and art exhibitions, the school aims to provide students with real experiences of commercial art and performance. We aim to provide students with as many experiences of performing on stage as we can from rewards evenings to dramatic productions.

"Annie exploded onto the stage last night in a glorious riot of singing, dancing, music and joy which lit up the night sky to the moon and beyond."





Enrichment

There are a large array of enrichment activities on offer which have a very high participation rate. Many clubs have students leading them and range from Debate Society to Steel Pans, KEVI Space Agency to Dissection Club. We encourage students to set up clubs where there is demand and develop their own leadership skills.

Enrichment involves more than just sports and clubs. The school offers extensive opportunities for students to learn outside the main curriculum, particularly during Enrichment Week when students are taken out of their comfort zone.

We aim to offer a range of trips, visits, assemblies, visiting speakers, competitions, events, and evenings.

We aim to develop much more than pure academic achievement and hope that students look back on their time at King Edward's with a real sense of fun, fantastic experiences and personal growth; developing into Accomplished Students.

The School Council

The School Council is led by our Senior Students from Sixth Form. Each tutor group elects two Form Representatives, who consult their peers on issues and ideas. These form a Year Council and feedback to Year Leaders, with a real emphasis on Student Voice. Each Year Council selects two Year Representatives and they form part of the whole school Executive Council. The School Council is a powerful voice for change and we encourage every student to get involved to make a positive difference to our school community. Students have made positive contributions to school lunches, the outside areas of school and environmental initiatives.



Houses

Each tutor group is allocated to one of four houses: Collingwood, Davison, Hollon or Turner.

Students earn points for their House by:

- having excellent attendance
- earning House Points from teachers for excellent work
- earning House Points for taking part in enrichment activities and clubs
- raising money for charity
- taking part in House matches
- being nominated for prestigious Year Leader or Headteacher Awards

The house with the most points across all year groups at the end of the year will win the House Cup and have the name of their House engraved on the cup.

Care, Support and Guidance

In today's world, students can feel overwhelmed by educational, social and personal issues. We endeavour to identify, intervene and support at an early stage.

To do this we employ a range of counselling staff, student mentors, chaplains and Pastoral Coordinators who are available to students.

Our Safeguarding and Inclusion lead supports families with issues such as attendance, health and wellbeing and anxiety.

Admissions

We have places for 320 students in Year 9 (aged 13+) and subsequently in Year 10 and 11. Most of our students come to us at the age of 13 from one of three middle schools: Chantry and Newminster in Morpeth and Dr Thomlinson in Rothbury. There are usually a number of admissions at age 13+ from schools outside the area and from independent schools.

All parents must complete a school request form and forward it to County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 2EF. Parents who wish to apply therefore, should always do

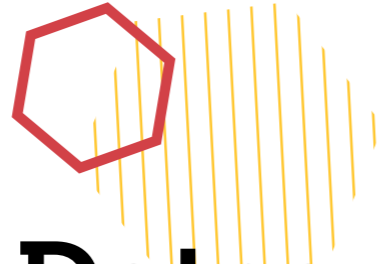
so even after the October deadline. If there are more applications than the school can accommodate, places are allocated by the local authority according to the guidelines on the school request form.

In a large school however, there is always movement before the beginning of the autumn term. Parents who wish to apply therefore, should always do so even if after the October deadline. We welcome many students from other schools into our Sixth Form.

Transition

The transition from middle to high school can be a daunting prospect for some children. To support you and your child through this process we have a comprehensive calendar of events in the summer term of Year 8, including: parent information evening, student information evening, two transition days and a one-to-one induction meeting.





Important Dates

Thursday 20 June

Year 8 transition open evening

Monday 24 June

Year 8 into Year 9 one-to-one meetings
for Newminster

Thursday 27 June

Year 8 into Year 9 one-to-one meetings
for Chantry

Tuesday 2 July

Year 8 into Year 9 one-to-one meetings
for Dr Thomlinson (at Rothbury)

Tuesday 2 and Wednesday 3 July

Year 8 transition day
for Newminster and those out of catchment

Thursday 4 and Friday 5 July

Year 8 transition day
for Chantry and Dr Thomlinson



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