



KING EDWARD VI COLLEGE
STOURBRIDGE
— EST. 1552 —

Parent Handbook

2026/27



Welcome to King Ed's

Welcome to King Ed's! Our job is to do everything we can to steer your child towards a successful future: to do that, we need your support. In this guide you will find all the information you need to help your child to make a great start at college, to keep in touch with us whenever there is a need, and to stay informed about progress.

One of the great goals of being a sixth form student is to become independent, with the work ethic and organisational skills to tackle adult life. This means that there will be some differences to how things happened at school, with more communication directly with the student and less to parents, but the partnership between parents and college is still essential. We will keep you informed with regular emails – if you're not getting them, please call the college so that we can check we have the right details. The need to attend classes, do homework and treat others with respect is as important as ever, and we rely on parental support to help students get these things right.

I look forward to working with you and hopefully seeing you at one of our many concerts, events and performances. Thanks for reading this, and for choosing to join us.



Holly Bembridge
Principal

Our Mission

Forging a better future by giving talented youth the tools to be successful, independent and community-minded.

Our students are talented. It is our duty to help them build on that talent, but also to nurture broader capacities so that they make a positive contribution to wider society. We do this through helping them to:

- connect with each other and form bonds that will support them in their future lives
- make ambitious and courageous choices
- pursue knowledge and apply it to new contexts, creating new ideas and artefacts
- step into the world as resilient young adults

We want all of our students to have one of the most fun, enriching and transformative experiences life can offer – studying at a fantastic college!

Student Framework

Students joining us have ambition and a drive to succeed. It is vital that we stoke and nurture this ambition throughout their short time at college. We have very high expectations for our students, and we want to support them to develop all of the necessary skills and habits to be successful. The student framework makes clear the attitudes and behaviours we expect of our students, with three main foci: kinship, effort & discipline and self-knowledge (KEDS). The framework focuses on what is needed for success in their academic work, but also the importance of being a good citizen – of the college, but also the wider community and in their futures. Please talk to your child about the framework, and support them to ensure they are meeting the college expectations.





Standing for **Future Mapping at King Eds**, FutureMake is how we help prepare your young person for life after college.

FutureMake connects the different experiences at King Ed's that help students understand themselves, develop confidence and independence, explore their options and make informed decisions about their future. Rather than careers, personal development, enrichment, work experience and progression feeling like separate activities, FutureMake brings them together as part of one journey.

The aim is simple: by the time your young person leaves King Ed's, they should understand who they are. They will know what they can do really well, but also their blind spots. They will have applied this understanding to help them know where they are going and what they need to get there.

The Parts of FutureMake

FutureMake Sessions

Your young person's weekly sessions form a two-year personal development curriculum and are delivered by their Personal Tutor. Sessions are organised into modules that build on each other. Students will explore everything from succeeding at college, independent learning and wellbeing to relationships, online safety, money, careers, applications and preparing for adult life. Each session provides opportunities to think, discuss and apply learning, with regular Impact reflections helping students turn that learning into action.





Careers and Pathways

Students do not need to arrive at college knowing exactly what they want to do. FutureMake gives them opportunities to investigate where their subjects could take them, understand different careers and industries, use labour market information and meet people who can provide authentic insight into different routes. University is one possibility, but apprenticeships, employment, gap years and other pathways are equally part of the conversation.

Work Experience and Employers

Sometimes the best way to learn about a possibility is to experience it. Through work experience, employer encounters, projects, networking, alumni and workplace visits, students will have opportunities to test their interests and develop the professional behaviours that employers value. FutureMake helps them prepare for these experiences and, importantly, reflect afterwards on what they have learned from them.

Aspire, Enrichment and Leadership

FutureMake is also about going beyond your young person's courses. Enrichment, volunteering, leadership, university opportunities, cultural experiences and Aspire can stretch students, introduce them to new people and ideas, and help them discover strengths and interests they might not encounter in lessons. Ambition is for every student, with additional opportunities and support available where they are needed.

FutureMake Unplugged

Technology is an important part of modern life, but some capabilities are best developed by putting the screen aside. Unplugged experiences give students opportunities to practise face-to-face communication, sustained attention, creativity, teamwork and cultural engagement through activities that do not depend on a device. It is not about being anti-technology; it is about developing a healthy balance and strengthening distinctly human skills.

Impact and Reflection

Taking part is only the beginning. Throughout FutureMake, students will be encouraged to reflect on significant experiences: What did I learn? What does this tell me about myself? What will I do differently as a result? Their Impact reflections help them build a picture of their development across college and give them and their Personal Tutor something meaningful to use when discussing progress and next steps.

Reflect → Explore → Act

This cycle sits at the heart of FutureMake. Students will reflect on where they are, explore new ideas, people and possibilities, and then act on what they have discovered. Then the cycle begins again.

Students are not expected to have their future mapped out on their first day. FutureMake is about gradually building the knowledge, experiences and confidence to help them create it.

Attendance

One of the most important things students can do to support their success at college is attend all their timetabled sessions. There is no substitute for being in the classroom when studying your courses. The graph below was produced for all A level students in sixth form colleges across the UK based on their outcomes. This is data collected for thousands of students and presents a very strong correlation and represents what happened to real students in terms of their A level results in summer. As soon as a student's attendance drops below 90%, there is a clear impact on results and how many grades below their projected grades they will be. This shows that there is simply no substitute for being in the classroom, even if students who have been absent can find lesson resources on Teams. Catching up following a missed lesson is never as effective as being in a live lesson face to face with a teacher.

Similarly, attendance at tutorials (now known as FutureMake) is vital for developing study skills and hearing about progression opportunities such as applying to university. We always challenge students whose attendance is falling or whose punctuality threatens their chances of academic success. You will be able to view attendance figures for your child through our 'ParentPortal' system. Please do study these carefully and where necessary, challenge your young person over missed time at college. If you need further help or advice with this matter, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's Personal Tutor who will look support you.



Study Programme

A programme of study at King Ed's is not just about A levels. There are a number of other key elements to help equip students for their onward destination, whatever that may be. These additional elements include:

Tutorial Programme - known as FutureMake

Personal tutors oversee and facilitate a FutureMake programme designed to develop the key competencies of the Student Framework and address how to prepare themselves for adult life. The first few weeks of FutureMake sessions will concentrate on settling students into college and equipping them with the skills and habits required for successful study. Students will have a taught session every week with their tutor.

Support for Next Steps

The KE careers team provide students with excellent careers advice and guidance to ensure students are able to make the best decisions regarding their future. This includes impartial careers advice and guidance, support with finding work experience placements, university and apprenticeships guidance and opportunities to join a range of pathways and hear from guest speakers.

GCSE English and Maths

In line with government guidance, students who have not achieved a grade 4 or above in English or Maths are required to have the GCSE resit subject added to their programme.

Core Maths

The Core Maths qualification helps students discover how to tackle practical problems, analyse data and make informed decisions. Most students won't need to know abstract mathematical concepts going forward in their careers. Core Maths equips students with the practical mathematical tools needed for success in various fields, for example, financial maths, critical analysis and the maths that they will be using in their A levels. All students studying subjects with maths content, will be encouraged to take Core Maths. Students studying Psychology, Accounting, Geography and Economics who have not gained a 6 or above, and those studying Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Computer Science who have gained a 6 will be added to this qualification automatically.



Changing Subjects

Right from a student's first contact with the college, we work to ensure that each student chooses the right combination of subjects for their individual skills and aspirations. However, it is inevitable that some students will realise that they have chosen a subject they do not want to continue. For this reason, we allow students to change a subject within the first few weeks of starting their programme. Change requests are granted on the basis of available space, entry requirements and suitability. Once this course change window has closed, changes are only agreed in extraordinary circumstances. Students will have opportunity to meet with senior members of staff to support them in their subject changes.

Keeping Parents Informed

We appreciate that you will want to keep abreast of your child's progress. We have 3 subject assessment points (SA points) through the year that will allow you to see your child's progress. We also conduct subject 1-1's in the Autumn Term of Year 12, one set is held during the college day and the other is held online between subject teachers and students. You will be able to join your child for the online meetings. We also have Year 12 consultation evenings during the summer term where you can book in alongside your young person. Please check our regular communications and termly newsletters for further information about these events nearer the time.

Progression

Towards the end of the first year, at Subject Assessment 3, students will find out whether they can progress to Year 13. Progression is straightforward for the vast majority of students. However, for a small number of students, an alternative pathway may be more appropriate. This could include agreeing a different programme of study for the second year or, where the college is no longer considered the most suitable environment for the student to achieve their goals, supporting them to explore alternative opportunities elsewhere.



Timetable

Students are issued with their timetable at the induction day in September with the majority of students studying three A levels. We expect students to spend an additional five hours per subject on independent learning and completing homework per week. **Any free periods on a student's timetable should be regarded as study periods and used productively for independent learning, coursework, revision, or completion of assignments.**

Whilst some students may wish to complete their independent study time at home, all students are encouraged to make use of the library and other facilities in college to undertake some independent study during the college day. Enrichment activities are in addition to set lessons and each club or society will publicise the time it will take place. We expect all our students to take an active part in the wider college community and embrace all the opportunities on offer.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
08.45-9.55	8.45-9.00 Staff Briefing	F	A	F	B
10.00-11.10	9.00-10.00 CPD/Meeting Time	B	C	D	E
11.10-11.25	10.10-11.20 D		Break		
11.25-12.35	11.25-12.35 A	B	C	D	E
12.35-13.35			Lunch		
13.35-14.45	A	E	F 5 minute break	B	C
14.50-16.00	E	D	F	C	A

Your Guide to Assessment

Helping Every Student Reach Their Potential

At King Edward VI College, we believe assessment should do more than measure progress – it should help students learn, improve and succeed.

Our approach to assessment, feedback and reporting has been developed using educational research and is designed to give students the best possible preparation for their examinations and future progression.

Our Principles

Everything we do is based on four simple principles.



Assessment should improve learning

Regular opportunities to practise, check understanding and receive feedback help students build secure knowledge and confidence over time.



Feedback should lead to action

Students receive clear guidance about what they have done well, what they need to improve and, most importantly, how to improve.



Reporting should be meaningful

Formal assessments provide a clear picture of each student's progress and help us identify where additional support or challenge may be needed.



Everyone can improve

Assessment is not simply about awarding grades. It is about helping every student make progress and achieve their potential.

What Will Students Experience?

Throughout the year students will take part in:



Regular practice

Lessons will include quizzes, exam questions, retrieval activities, discussions and other learning activities that help teachers check understanding and adapt teaching where needed.

These activities are designed to support learning and will not routinely receive grades.

Your Guide to Assessment

✓ Formal assessments

Students will complete five planned formal assessments across their two years at college. These assessments:

- reflect examination standards
- assess learning over time
- provide information for progress reporting
- help students prepare for external examinations.

✓ Dedicated Improvement Time

Following each formal assessment, students will complete **Directed Improvement and Reflection Time (DIRT)** tasks.

During these lessons, students will revisit their work, respond to feedback and complete improvement activities that help strengthen their understanding before moving on.

How Will This Benefit My Child?

Our approach will help students to:

- develop stronger long-term understanding
- become more independent learners
- know exactly how to improve
- receive consistent assessment across subjects
- build confidence for final examinations.

Rather than simply receiving a grade, students will receive feedback that helps them make their next piece of work even better.

Working Together

Success comes from the partnership between students, parents and college. We encourage students to:

- attend lessons regularly
- prepare fully for assessments
- act on feedback
- ask for support when they need it.

Together, we can ensure every student has the knowledge, confidence and support they need to achieve their very best.

Student Support Team



Sarah MacKenzie

Assistant Principal
(Safeguarding Lead)



Laura Day

Senior Safeguarding
Officer
DDSL



Clare Bramall

Vice Principal
DDSL



Ajay Mehta

Faculty Director
DDSL



Medhi Didarzadeh

Lead Tutor & DDSL



Emily Guest

Lead Tutor & DDSL



Nikki Hadley

Lead Tutor & DDSL



Stuart Parkes

Lead Tutor & DDSL



Sam Watkins

Lead Tutor & DDSL



Rebecca Williamson

Lead Tutor & DDSL



Mark Brown

Counsellor



Yvette Browne

Counsellor



Jay Rogers

Counsellor

Learning Support Team



Lowri Saenger
SENCo (DDSL)



Susan Clarke
Inclusion Coordinator



Hannah Dulson
Inclusion Coordinator



Vanessa King
Inclusion Coordinator



Axelle Parker
Assistant SENCo



Jo Preston
Exam Access
Arrangements Coordinator



Sophie Fellows
Assistant Exam Access
Arrangements Coordinator

Personal Tutors



Zoe Emery



Louise Fulwell



Julie Gwinnett



Karen Lloyd



Timothy Middleton



Rachel Oldham



Stuart Parkes



Marie Prime



Sharon Rollason



Rikki Sehmbi



Jono Smith

Supporting Students

At King Ed's, we get to know our students as individuals so we can provide the motivation and encouragement they need to excel during the two years they are with us. Our academic and pastoral support teams will guide and support them, happily and successfully, on every stage of their journey with us.

Personal Tutors

All students are assigned a personal tutor (PT) who will be their first port of call and provide on-going support and guidance throughout their two-year programme. The PT will meet with their tutees in individual one to one reviews to discuss their personal, social and academic progress, set targets and address any issues.

Lead Tutors

Lead tutors work alongside the faculty directors (FDs) and have oversight of your child's programme of study. They also work closely with personal tutors (PTs), have safeguarding training and can signpost your child to services and advisors for additional or specialised support. You can always rely on there being someone available for students to sit down and talk to in a safe, supportive environment.

Safeguarding Team

Keeping students safe is the most important thing we do at college. Our safeguarding team are available to help whenever students feel unsafe, are at risk or in danger. We work with external agencies to secure the most appropriate level of support for students and, where appropriate, their families.

Mental Health Support

We have designated senior and deputy mental health leads who work with the mental health support team from Reflexions. Their Education Mental Health Practitioners work with our students experiencing a variety of mental health concerns including low mood, worry, sleep issues, panic and exam stress.

Counselling Service

Students have access to three fully qualified counsellors on-site who deal with a variety of issues in complete confidence. Students can refer themselves or be referred via their Personal Tutor, Lead Tutor or any member of staff. Students are offered an initial assessment and, if appropriate, this will be followed by a series of one to one sessions. Our counsellors have a wealth of experience in working with this age group and are available full time during term time.



Learning Support

The college is a supportive and inclusive environment where all learning differences, physical disabilities, mental health and medical conditions are treated sensitively. Disclosing such a condition will enable us to support your child appropriately. Staff at King Ed's are here to assist students in achieving their full potential, and the Learning Support team can help to make the transition from GCSE to A level a smoother and less daunting process. We have a well qualified team of inclusion co-ordinators who can offer one to one support where appropriate.

If your child has already been diagnosed with a condition which qualifies for special examination access arrangements, such as extra time, the Learning Support team will work with you to ensure this adjustment is applied at college. If you suspect your child has a learning difference, please contact us so we can provide advice, guidance and support. Any questions should be directed to Lowri Saenger, our Special Educational Needs Coordinator. Email learningsupport@kedst.ac.uk.

Exam Access Arrangements

If your child had specific arrangements in place for their exams at school that were not disclosed on application, please email details to learningsupport@kedst.ac.uk as soon as possible in order for us to review this need before the end of year 12 exams. The latest date that any arrangements can be reviewed for end of year 12 exams is 12th February as it allows enough time for any arrangements, that are in place for exams, to become a student's normal way of working, as per JCQ regulations.



Communicating With Us

MailChimp

We use a system called MailChimp to keep in touch with parents and carers. We collect your email details during the application and enrolment process and will use this platform throughout the year to communicate with you.

Parent Portal

Students use a system called 'Portal' to view their timetables, attendance and progress grades. They are shown how to use Portal during their induction. Parents can also access this information through 'Parent Portal' by going to parents.kedst.ac.uk.

It's really simple to use, just put in your email and it'll send you a code. It may be that your child needs to grant you access. This is really easy to do and they will have been shown how to do this in the first few weeks of term.

**Parent
Portal**
Click Here

Student Email

All students are given a college email account which is the main method of communication between the College and students outside of lessons. Details of how to access their email account will be provided on induction.

Reporting an Absence

If students are ill or unable to attend college unexpectedly, for **Year 12** students, their parent/guardian should inform the College by emailing: attendance@kedst.ac.uk or calling **01384 398179** at the earliest opportunity. **Year 13** absences can be reported by students or parents/guardians. If a medical appointment is reported by a parent/guardian, no additional evidence is required. If a medical appointment is reported by a student they must either provide a screenshot of the appointment as evidence or get a parent/guardian to email attendance and confirm it. Students should also inform their Personal Tutor and teachers to find out what work they will be missing. If students know in advance that they are going to be absent for short events like appointments or university open days, they can email: attendance@kedst.ac.uk in advance of the day attaching a screenshot of the booking notification as evidence. If students are absent from college for more than two days, they must fill in a leave of absence form available from reception. Where possible, appointments such as driving lessons, driving theory tests and medical appointments should be arranged so they do not clash with timetabled lessons. Find out more about our absence reporting process on our website [here](#).

Payments to College

We use a system called myEvolve. This is used for all trips/visits payments, resources your child might need (e.g. art materials) and also tickets for events at the college. It is super easy to set up! Click the link [here](#) and follow the quick instructions. Make sure it's the same email that is listed as a contact for your child as it will automatically link the two accounts. There's also an app - just search for myEvolve in the App/Play Store.



Keeping Medical Information Up to Date

Students should have declared any medical conditions, allergies, disabilities, or other health-related needs as part of the application process. Parents/guardians are encouraged to check that this information has been provided accurately and in full. If a student's medical condition, medication, healthcare needs, or emergency contact information changes at any point during their time at the College, both the student and parent/carer must inform the student's Personal Tutor as soon as possible. Keeping us updated ensures that we can provide appropriate support, make any necessary adjustments, and respond effectively in the event of an emergency. Prompt communication is essential to help us safeguard students' health, wellbeing, and success at College.

Complaints and Concerns

We know that life can throw some curve balls every now and then. Where difficult situations arise, early communication is key. Please let us know if you have any worries that you think may affect the education of your child. Usually the best point of contact will be their Personal Tutor, who can then arrange to speak to you, or find the best person to respond.

If you are unhappy with the college's response, we have a complaints procedure and we will always put a remedy in place if we are at fault. Please be aware that like any other business we will not tolerate rude or aggressive behaviour towards our staff. So, if emotions are running high, please be thoughtful about how that gets expressed.

Reporting a Safeguarding or Bullying Issue

If you or your child are worried about their safety, or the wellbeing of a friend, you or they can contact their Personal Tutor, Lead Tutor or a member of the safeguarding team. You can email: [**safeguarding@kedst.ac.uk**](mailto:safeguarding@kedst.ac.uk)

We have a duty of care to young people and take our responsibilities for child protection very seriously. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all of our students, both within the college environment and outside. We aim to promote a positive, supportive and secure environment in which students feel respected and valued. High self-esteem, confidence, supportive friends and clear lines of communication with trusted adults are important elements of prevention. We recognise that safeguarding incidents could happen anywhere, so all staff are trained to be alert to any possible causes for concern. King Ed's has a comprehensive anti-bullying policy. All accusations and incidents will be fully investigated and dealt with appropriately.

Holidays During Term Time

We do not authorise students to take holidays during term time. The evidence from research conducted in the sixth form colleges sector demonstrates a strong correlation between absence and underperformance in examinations. Given the strength of this research, our position is that no leave of absence, for any reason, is approved during term time.

Please be aware that if a student's absence drops below 90%, regardless of the reason, they may be subject to monitoring through our student intervention system, which keeps an eye on any potential under performance and provides appropriate support.

Financial Support

**Bursary
Information**
Click Here

16-19 Bursary Fund

Financial support may be available to students who need assistance to help them study at King Ed's. The broad focus of the support is to help those students with essential costs where paying for them would be a barrier to them remaining in education. Students who come from households where the annual income is £32,000 or less may get assistance towards the following costs.

Transport

Travel costs can be a major consideration when deciding where to study. To help with this, students who live in excess of 1 mile from King Ed's may be able to get their travel cost fully reimbursed. Students from outside the Network West Midlands area may be able to get further support towards the additional cost of college transport, train travel or other bus operators.

Other Costs

Eligible students will receive all relevant course items such as books, equipment, stationery, compulsory trips etc. It is worthwhile emailing the Bursary Administrator via bursary@kedst.ac.uk to request additional support.

Free Meals

Free meals is a completely separate entitlement to the 16-19 Bursary fund. However, we assess eligibility for Free Meals whilst assessing Bursary applications. Acceptance of your application for Free Meals will mean the student will receive breakfast and lunch whilst they are in College.

How to Apply for the 16-19 Bursary

Fund eligibility for the 16-19 Bursary Fund and Free Meals will be assessed upon completion of a 16-19 Bursary Fund application through our online portal. The application portal and guidance notes are available on the King Ed's website in the Finance section under Student Support or through this link [here](#).

Alternatively, you can contact the 16-19 Bursary Fund Administrator.

Email: bursary@kedst.ac.uk



Commitment to All

We're justifiably proud at King Ed's of our proactive stance on equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI). The college is committed to celebrating diversity, challenging inequality and stereotypes and treating all students and staff with dignity and respect.

We encourage our students to involve themselves in EDI in numerous ways. Regular wellbeing and cultural activities are events which help to raise student awareness and provide opportunities to celebrate equality, diversity and inclusion at the college. If you have a question or a concern regarding an EDI issue, please contact the college via your child's Personal Tutor.



Student Responsibilities

Dress Code

At college, we don't have a uniform. We value self-expression and individuality, and we recognise that students may choose to dress in a wide variety of styles. However, college is a shared and professional learning environment, and we ask all students to dress in a way that's appropriate for study and respectful of others.

To maintain a positive and inclusive environment, please don't wear:

- Hats, caps, hoods, or coats worn in lessons (unless for religious or medical reasons)
- Clothing that deliberately exposes underwear
- Outfits that are excessively revealing
- Items with language or images that could be considered discriminatory, violent, or offensive

We understand that styles vary and that expectations evolve. This guidance is not about judging anyone's personal choices—it's about setting shared expectations for a respectful, inclusive, and safe environment.

Registration

Attendance for all taught lessons, FutureMake sessions and enrichment will be recorded and monitored.

Lanyards and ID cards

For safety and security, it is important that we are able to see at a glance that everyone who is on campus has the right to be here, so all students and staff are required to wear their college ID card and lanyard. We expect all students to wear their lanyards throughout the day and use them to gain access to the college site. Lanyards are vital to ensure the safety and security of all members of our college community. If students do not have their lanyard when they arrive at college; they are likely to have to pay for a new card or will be sent home to collect their lanyard.



Valuables

Unfortunately, the College cannot accept responsibility for valuable items brought onto the site. Students should keep valuables with them at all times.

Student Agreement

All students are required to sign an agreement based on the student code of conduct at the start of each academic year. By signing the student agreement, students commit not only to attend all lessons and complete all work as might be expected, but also to treat all members of the college community with respect at all times. This expectation extends to social media and we encourage parents to take an interest in their child's use of these online applications. Where a student is not fulfilling the terms of their contract, we intervene to support them. Stronger disciplinary procedures may be implemented for serious breaches of the agreement.

Illness or Injury

A member of the First Aid team will attend to any incident which requires immediate attention and if the student is unable to travel home alone a member of the team will remain with them until they are collected. If a student needs to leave college due to illness, they should complete a self-certification form, available from reception, either before they leave, or when they return.



Student Code of Conduct

By following the Student Code of Conduct, your child will contribute to creating an environment in which they can flourish and fulfil their career and further study aspirations.

- Show respect for all members of the college community
- Take pride in all aspects of your work
- Be polite and courteous
- Understand the expectations placed on you
- Take responsibility for your actions and choices
- Complete all work and study diligently
- Attend all timetabled commitments and meetings
- Follow reasonable instructions and requests made by members of college staff
- Wear your college ID card and lanyard at all times
- Contribute to good communication and read college emails at least daily
- Use mobile phones responsibly and know when to put them down
- Respect members of the public around the town and bus and rail stations
- Respect the college buildings and other property
- Arrive punctually and prepared for all activities
- Meet deadlines

Sometimes, students do not always meet our high expectations for work and attendance. In these cases, we aim to support students get back on track through limiting their free time during the college day outside of lessons and providing supervised study sessions to help students catch up. At times, these may also be after the college day if students are not using opportunities during the day to improve their attitude to learning.

Getting to College

Public Transport

The college is a five-minute walk from Stourbridge Interchange, the combined bus and train station which provides excellent links across the West Midlands and beyond. The public transport fares available to students depend on where they live. Students who live in the Network West Midlands (NWM) region* can apply for a 16-18 Photocard which allows them to buy a season ticket and pay fares on buses and trains at child rates (50% discount). Application is via the network's website. Click the link to find out more.

* NWM student rates are available for students who live in West Midlands Combined Authority i.e. Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

Students travelling by train from outside the West Midlands (predominantly students living in Worcestershire) can buy a West Midland Trains (WMT) Scholar's Season Ticket which offers around 25% discount on the cost of travel with WMT. In order to purchase Scholar's tickets, students must first obtain a West Midlands Trains photocard from any staffed ticket office. Photocards are free of charge and students need to provide a passport size photograph. On the photocard will be a number which should be quoted when purchasing the season ticket online from. Click the link to find out more.

When purchasing, 'Stourbridge Town' should be identified as the destination. Scholars Tickets are only valid for their respective term and need to be renewed before the start of each term (usually about one month in advance).

Cycling

A bicycle shed is available on campus outside the Maurice Wilkes building. Students are required to provide their own locks. There are shower facilities available.

Student Parking

Although there is no parking on campus for staff or student cars (other than for those who are blue badge holders), there are public car parks close by. If students choose to park on a street, they should be considerate of local residents and businesses. Police and parking wardens are very active in the area and will not hesitate to give out fines!

Dropping Off Points

We ask that students are dropped off and collected in Lower High Street, as Duke Street has a high volume of student pedestrians at the beginning and end of the college day. To ensure their safety, we need to minimise traffic on this road; therefore, we would ask you to find another suitable location for drop-offs and pick-ups.



**Public
Transport**
[Click Here](#)

**West
Mids. Rail**
[Click Here](#)

**Public
Transport
Map**
[Click Here](#)

College Transport

The College offers chartered coach services to support students living in areas with limited or no public transport links to Stourbridge.

Current routes:

- Bridgnorth
- Cleobury Mortimer (via Bewdley)
- Bromsgrove
- South Birmingham (Longbridge, Northfield and Rubery)
- West Worcestershire (Martley, Great Witley and Stourport)
- Wolverhampton

The subsidised cost for all of the routes from September 2026 is as follows:

Year 12 students = £567 (£56.70 per month, for 10 monthly payments, September - June)

Year 13 students = £378 (£47.25 per month, for 8 monthly payments, September - April)

To find out more about our routes (including timetables), and to make a College Transport reservation request, please visit [our website](#).

Help with Travel Costs

Students who are eligible for financial assistance from the 16 -19 Bursary Fund can claim support towards the costs of travel. Although payments do vary, for many students this payment will cover the total cost of travelling to college.

College
Transport
Map
Click Here



Opening and Closing Times

During term time students can access buildings from 7.45am. Classrooms and study areas should be vacated by 4.00pm (after 4.00pm, students are required to make their way to our fully staffed library until closing to continue independent studying). Other college services are available as follows:

Reception (and switchboard services)

Monday - Tuesday: 8.00am – 4.30pm

Wednesday - Friday: 8.00am – 4.00pm

The Library

Monday - Thursday: 8.15am - 5.45pm

Friday: 8.15am - 4.15pm

During study leave the librarians advertise any changes to these opening hours as required. However, during the holidays the library is closed.

College Closure Procedures

Sometimes we are forced by circumstances to close the college site, for example, due to severe weather conditions, power failure or loss of heating. Where possible lessons would move online.

The travel arrangements for students will be given particular attention in the decision making and communication processes.

The primary source of information regarding college closures will be the college website which will show details about both closure and expected re-opening. We will communicate college closure notifications and updates via student emails and social media.



Extra-curricular Activities

A programme of study at King Edward's is not just about A levels. There are a number of other key events and programmes to help students develop and become enriched by their experience at college.

Enrichment

The college offers a wide range of opportunities for students to engage in, such as societies, sports activities, music and performing arts. We have common time slots on the timetable when most activities will occur. The range of activities is extensive and includes a wide variety of sports, music and performing arts groups, Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award and specialist interest clubs and societies. Students sign up for these early in the autumn term and their choice of activity becomes part of their programme of study.

Trips and Visits

The college runs many trips throughout the year and is proud of maintaining these opportunities for its young people. Recently these have included history students visiting Boston; geography and geology students visiting Iceland; a mixed group of students spending a week in The Gambia; theatre visits, art exhibitions and ski trips, as well as visits to conferences and university lectures. For students experiencing financial hardship, support for trips and visits may be provided through the bursary fund. Guidance can be found on the college website along with the application portal. Students taking part in trips and visits are expected to have a good attitude to work and a good level of attendance.

The Aspire Programme

Our Aspire programme is mandatory for all students with GCSEs that meet the criteria for getting into top destinations, and open to any student looking to maximise their potential and develop their skills beyond their A level curriculum. We provide a range of activities and opportunities designed to challenge, inspire and guide you.

Students joining the Aspire programme can expect:

- Presentations and debates on a wide range of topics, developing thinking and reasoning skills
- Inspirational talks and lectures by visiting speakers
- Open Day visits to top universities, including Girton College Cambridge and Oriel College, Oxford
- Information about summer schools and masterclasses offered by universities
- Guidance on planning independent research into university choices
- Opportunity to complete the Extended Project Qualification
- Preparation for university admissions tests (e.g. UCAT, BMAT and LNAT)



After King Ed's

After their A levels, our students leave King Ed's well-prepared for their next adventure, whether they're moving on to higher education, vocational training or the first steps into a worthwhile career.

Throughout their time at King Ed's, they can access one to one careers appointments with one of two qualified and impartial careers advisers and we deliver careers and progression information through weekly tutorials. Students can use Unifrog software to research their university and apprenticeship options, and Venture software to consider gap years and studying abroad.

Students interested in specific careers, such as teaching, medicine, law or engineering, are able to sign up to the King Ed's 'Pathway Schemes', which ensure they have access to a variety of specialised opportunities and support needed for their chosen careers. They are also able to access support in gaining work experience, apprenticeships and employment, and in their university applications for destinations such as Oxbridge.

Throughout the year, there are talks from a variety of universities and apprenticeship providers, and the opportunity to attend UCAS conventions and local progression events. The college hosts careers events, with delegates representing a variety of careers, providing information to both students and parents. We also host progression events where university delegates and apprenticeship partners deliver talks to students focused on possible HE destinations and apprenticeships. We also hold talks where former King Ed's students discuss their experiences at university and vocational training.

UCAS

Students are fully supported throughout the UCAS process, researching options, creating a personal statement, making their applications, and applying for student finance. Students can also access mock interview support, if the student is applying for courses or universities requiring a more focused and specific interview, and can also access specially tailored mock interviews and one to one appointments.

Work Experience

The careers team assists students who, in line with the expectation that all students should gain meaningful employer engagement, seek to secure work experience and offers support with covering letters and CVs. This includes a DBS check for school experience, mock MMI (Multiple Mini Interviews) for potential medical students and signposting to a range of additional events and talks from which they may benefit.



Senior Leadership

Holly Bembridge	Principal	BA, Cambridge University
Clare Bramall	Vice Principal	BA, University of Durham
Stuart Eaves	Assistant Principal	BSc, Staffordshire University
Sarah MacKenzie	Assistant Principal	BA, Birmingham Polytechnic MSc, Birmingham City University
Ant Derrer	Assistant Principal	BSc, Newman University



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