

King's celebrates excellent inspection report

A highly experienced inspection team from the Independent Schools Inspectorate spent four days at King's in February observing lessons, looking at pupils' work, visiting tutor periods and clubs and activities, interviewing staff, management, pupils and governors, and checking all regulatory standards. Their findings, together with those of a pupil and parental survey, resulted in a fantastic inspection report with almost every area being given the highest possible grade of **excellent**.

Inspectors found the quality of the pupils' achievements and learning **excellent** with results well above the national average. Results in IGCSE Maths and Science are higher than the incredibly high worldwide average. At A Level, results were above the national average for maintained selective schools. Pupils were found to have "an **excellent** attitude to learning with high aspirations, studying with tenacity and perseverance". They were described as "notably skilled in working co-operatively and showing genuine intellectual curiosity". Junior pupils were seen to have a "bubbling enthusiasm for learning".

Our "extensive, academic curriculum" was described as being "supported with a comprehensive range of academic extension enrichment and an extra-curricular programme of over 150 activities which gives pupils the opportunity to challenge themselves". Inspectors also said that "an innovative enrichment programme helps pupils develop higher order thinking skills and independence". The inspectors noted the effective implementation of individual education plans and made some helpful suggestions for how this may be developed for Senior School pupils with SEND.

Our teaching was graded **excellent** with the Junior School having "a supportive and stimulating learning atmosphere in which pupils are encouraged to embark on new challenges with an expectation that this will be fun and they can succeed". The Senior School teachers were reported to "establish excellent relationships and have high expectations of their pupils and offer much help and encouragement".

Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural experience was also found to be **excellent** with pupils described as "well-rounded, independent young people, who respected the views of others and were quick to celebrate the achievements of others". Our students were described as "well behaved, courteous and respectful".

The pastoral arrangements were graded as good. In the Junior School relationships with teachers are excellent and mutually respectful of their peers. In the Senior School, inspectors commented "by the time they have finished the Sixth Form, pupils have matured into confident, well-informed and

socially aware individuals, well prepared for the challenge of adult life". The inspectors suggested some ways to develop our pastoral system to help with our aim of knowing our pupils even better.

The welfare, health and safety of pupils were described as **excellent** with the medical team being praised for its great support of the pupils. The School is fully compliant with all statutory regulations.

The quality of Governance was described as **excellent** and the leadership and management as good. "Their success is seen in the pupils' academic and excellent personal development". The report went on to say that, "detailed and focussed evaluation of development planning by senior managers is very effective in identifying and setting priorities and staff share a sense of clear direction and ownership of the School's vision".

Headmaster, Mr Chris Ramsey said, "I am absolutely thrilled with the inspection report: it recognises the excellent work which I know goes on day in, day out, by the staff and pupils in pursuit of providing our pupils with a transformative experience, making them independent learners who are benevolent and leave King's to follow their dreams and become leaders in whichever career path they choose.

I am extremely pleased with the progress King's has made since the last inspection, and I look forward to moving forward with the two areas recommended for improvement, both of which have already been highlighted by my team and on which work has already started.

I am incredibly proud to lead such a dedicated team and to enjoy the vitality and intellectual curiosity of our fine pupils."

Notes for Editors

The ISI inspection system:

The Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) is the body approved by the Department for Education for the purpose of inspecting schools belonging to Independent Schools Council (ISC) Associations and reporting on compliance with independent school regulations. ISI inspections are also carried out under arrangements of the ISC Associations for the maintenance and improvement of the quality of their membership.