

The King's School
'Specialising in Mathematics and Computing'
Details of the School

The King's School is a popular, over-subscribed school and our history demonstrates strong traditions of excellence in academic areas, Sport and the Arts, with extensive extra-curricular opportunities for our students. Our highly successful 'Positive Discipline for Learning' scheme emphasises traditional values in a modern context, concentrating on rewarding effort and achievement. With a relentless focus on continuously improving the quality of Teaching and Learning, provision of a varied and personalised curriculum and a commitment to the continuing Professional Development of all staff, we continue to go from strength to strength.

The King's School, Pontefract, situated on an elevated site off the Ackworth Road, is one of two 11-16 mixed comprehensive schools serving the town of Pontefract. We are one of 8 schools in the Pontefract Academies Trust, together with Carleton Community High School and 6 Pontefract Primary Schools. Our School has a long history, tracing its origins back to the eleventh century and is reputed to be one of the three oldest schools in Yorkshire. Historical documentation informs us that it was one of several Grammar Schools founded in the reign of Edward VI (1548).

In 1792 it was re-established by Royal Charter in the reign of George III, who is "The King" referred to in the School's name. It closed for a brief period during the 1880's, but was then re-opened on 4 May 1890 and has continued to provide continuous Secondary Education to the town of Pontefract until the present day. Originally a boys' Grammar School, it became an 11-18 mixed Comprehensive School in 1978; an 11-16 High School in 1986; a Specialist School for Mathematics and Computing from September 2005; a Foundation School in March 2011 as a member of the Pontefract Education Trust (PET) and an Academy within the Pontefract Academies Trust (PAT) from 1 April 2013.

The School moved to its present site in 1932, and the Main Block, presently housing the English and Modern Languages Departments, dates from that time. Extensions to the School were added in the late 1950s - housing Mathematics and ICT and in the late 1970s for Art, Design and Technology and Humanities Subjects. From September 1998 further accommodation was provided with a large new Assembly and Performance Hall and in September 2000 a new Science Wing was completed. In addition, the original Great Hall was converted to become the Library/Learning Resource Centre, at the heart of the school. These areas together with a Sports Hall, Gymnasium and extensive playing fields, a refurbished Drama Studio and a Music Suite (with adjacent practice rooms) provide specialist accommodation for the full range of work to be found in an 11-16 mixed Comprehensive School. We work hard each year to maintain, refurbish, update and enhance our environment to be fit for 21st century education.

Recent developments include:

- An additional annex building - affectionately known as BOB (Big Outside Building) housing Teaching and Learning facilities, Conference Room, Inclusion Room and Leadership office;
- A Fitness Suite;
- Forest School and environmental studies area;

- External social areas;
- Extended and fully refurbished the old caretakers house to become a bespoke Inclusion centre - 'The Care-Takers House';
- A large Learning Centre to provide a range of exciting learning areas which has been named The Thornton Suite.

The school has approximately 1040 students and 63 teaching staff and a further 100 additional support staff. We are fortunate to have a committed and involved Governing Body providing appropriate support and challenge and also have a supportive parental body. Parental surveys rate the school very highly. Considerable efforts have been made to retain the traditional character of the school, whilst, at the same time, providing modern facilities and creating a pleasant working environment for our learners.

Safeguarding Expectations of Staff

Teachers and other education staff are accountable for the way in which they exercise authority, manage risk, use resources and protect students from discrimination and avoidable harm.

All staff, whether paid or voluntary, have a duty to keep young people safe and to protect them from physical and emotional harm. This duty is in part exercised through the development of respectful, caring and professional relationships between staff and students and behaviour by staff that demonstrates integrity, professionalism and good judgement.

Staff are expected to follow the policies and procedures of the school. Prior to applying for a post with us, candidates should be aware that The King's School is a No Smoking site and staff are also expected to follow the dress code - dressing appropriately for a formal work setting amongst children and young people. The Ethos for our School revolves around 3 rights - to be safe, to be respected and to learn.

We have made a commitment to develop all employees to achieve our educational goals. Our motto "Success for All" includes the professional learning of our staff. The training and development needs of all employees are regularly reviewed to support and challenge them to be life-long learners.

Other useful information

GCSE Results - 2016

5+ A*-C	71% 5+A*-C (Inc. Eng & Ma)	63%
Maths C +	70%	
English C+	73%	
Capped APS	322	
EBacc	31%	