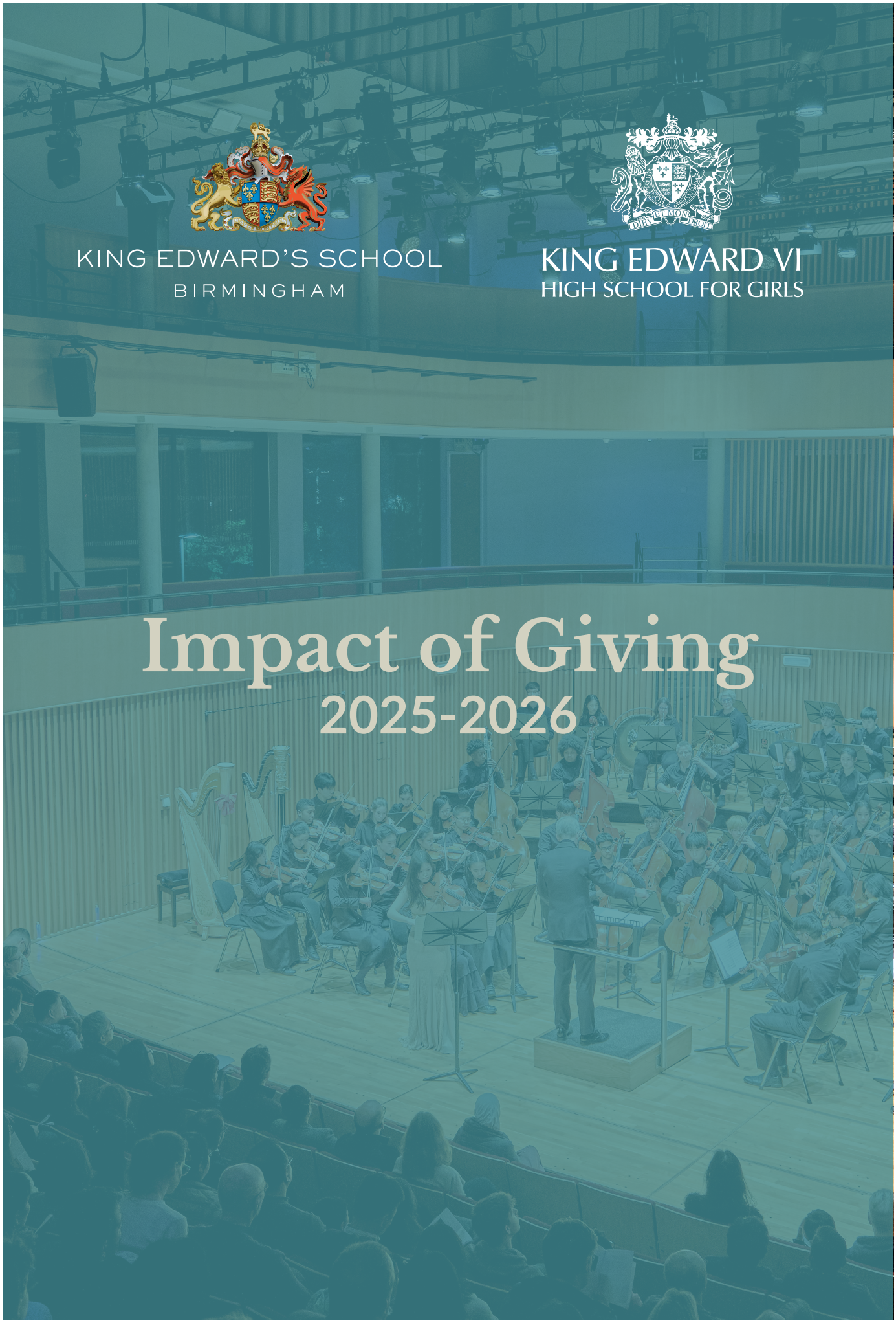
KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL
BIRMINGHAM

KING EDWARD VI
HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Impact of Giving
2025-2026





Every year, talented young people arrive at KES and KEHS with enormous potential. For some, the opportunity to attend depends entirely on the generosity of those who came before them. This report celebrates the donors, volunteers and supporters whose philanthropy is transforming lives today and creating opportunities for generations to come.

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The Chief Master & Principal's Welcome



For almost five centuries, King Edward's School (KES) has educated pupils in the heart of Birmingham. For almost 150 years, King Edward VI High School (KEHS) has enabled girls to receive the same scholarly education as boys.

Together, our two schools have opened their doors to generations of young people whose talents and service have enriched the life of Birmingham, across the United Kingdom, and around the world.

The Schools are united by a shared purpose: to transform lives through the power of education and, in doing so, to contribute to the social mobility and future prosperity of our city. That mission has been sustained and strengthened for generations through the generosity of our alumni, parents and friends, whose support enables exceptionally promising boys and girls to access an education that might otherwise be beyond their reach.

The impact of philanthropy can be seen every day across both schools. It is visible in the classroom, where a pupil on an Assisted Place has access to the very best teaching, and in the confidence and aspirations developed through transformative co-curricular opportunities. It is demonstrated in the outstanding facilities and resources that enrich the educational experience of every pupil and stand as lasting expressions of generosity, and belief in our mission.

Philanthropy is about more than financial support. It is a commitment to the idea that talented young people should be able to flourish, and a belief that what we do as schools is worthy of being sustained and strengthened for those who will follow. Every gift, regardless of size, helps us to create opportunity for others and ensure that the Schools continue to flourish for future generations.

This report is particularly timely as we enter our 475th year of the King Edward's Foundation. This remarkable milestone offers an opportunity not only to celebrate our history, but also to reflect on the generations of benefactors and educators whose vision has enabled our schools to grow and evolve over the centuries. Their example and legacy remind us that the strongest institutions are built by those prepared to think beyond their own time, and invest in the lives of those who will follow.

To all of our donors, thank you. Through your support, lives are changed, and the Schools are better able to fulfil the purpose for which they were founded. I hope this Impact of Giving Report demonstrates the many ways your generosity is changing lives across KES and KEHS, and inspires others to join us in this important mission.



Kirsty von Malaisé, *Chief Master & Principal*

Numbers at a glance

In the academic year 2025-26

80%+ is the average fee assistance awarded to Assisted Place recipients

£138,920 received through legacy gifts

98 pupils received a 100% Assisted Place*

58 boys and 40 girls

£612,864 raised for KEHS

£214,732 given by supporters living overseas

13 countries represented by donors supporting our schools

Over **60** volunteers shared their expertise, experience and time. Countless careers talks, conversations, reunion volunteers and school ambassadors.

£2.4m grant given for Assisted Places by the King Edward VI Foundation

Over **£1.08m** in total philanthropic support received

13% of pupils receive an Assisted Place across KES and KEHS

£474,059 raised for KES

Total donors **225**
Regular donors **201**

£26,158 received through company matched giving schemes

Total donors to date:
2150 KES
KEHS 896

Total donors **635**
Regular donors **586**

£58,304 Recieved in Gift Aid this year enables The Trusts to claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give, at no extra cost to you. Please visit gov.uk for more information as every circumstance is individual.

From the Development Director



It is a privilege to work alongside the many alumni, parents, staff and friends who choose to support King Edward's School and King Edward VI High School for Girls through philanthropy.

Every day, I am reminded of the extraordinary generosity that exists within our community, and I feel both proud and honoured to see the difference that support makes to the lives of our pupils.

My team and I, along with the Trustees, take our responsibility as stewards of these gifts incredibly seriously. We recognise that every donation represents not only a financial contribution, but also a deep trust in our schools and in our mission to transform lives through education.

Every gift received is directed either to the Assisted Places Fund or to the specific purpose intended by the donor. The operational costs of the Development Office are met directly by the schools, ensuring that philanthropic support is used solely for the benefit of pupils and the priorities our donors have chosen to support.

Each year, the Trustees of the respective Trusts determine the level of grant that can be distributed to the schools while safeguarding and growing the value of their endowments which underpin the long-term support. This careful balance ensures that financial assistance remains available not only for today's pupils, but for future generations.

Alongside this, the King Edward VI Foundation provides more than £2.4 million annually towards Assisted Places, and together these resources enable exceptional educational opportunities to be offered to young people with the potential to thrive.

All Assisted Places are awarded entirely on the basis of financial need through a transparent and rigorous means-tested process administered by the King Edward VI Foundation Fees Office. Detailed financial assessments and individual interviews help ensure that support reaches those who will benefit from it most. This process is subject to regular review to ensure it remains fair, robust and aligned with our mission.

In this report, you will read the stories of pupils whose lives have been transformed by the opportunities they have received. These stories are a powerful reminder that an Assisted Place is about far more than school fees. It is about confidence, aspiration, opportunity and the ability to realise potential regardless of background or circumstance.

To everyone who has supported our schools, thank you. Your generosity is changing lives today while creating opportunities for pupils who have yet to walk through our doors. On behalf of the boys and girls whose futures are brighter because of your support, and on behalf of my colleagues at school, I offer our sincere gratitude.



Laura Salt, *Development Director*

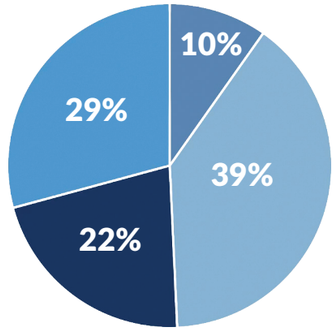
KING EDWARD VI FOUNDATION BIRMINGHAM

"The King Edward VI Foundation is immensely proud to support King Edward's School and King Edward VI High School for Girls in their shared mission to provide outstanding educational opportunities for talented young people, regardless of financial circumstance. Through our annual contribution of more than £2.4 million towards Assisted Places, alongside the generous support of charitable trusts and donors, we help ensure that ability and potential, rather than means, determine access to a life-changing education."

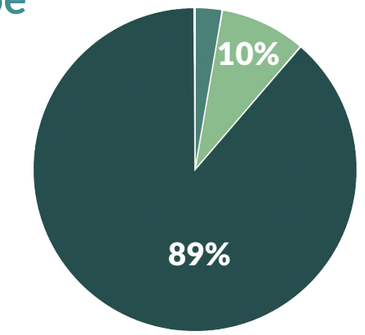
Greg Langston, *Interim CEO, King Edward VI Foundation*

Giving by numbers

Gifts by type



KES	
Single Gifts	£46,401
Regular Gifts	£187,143
Major Gifts	£102,094
Legacy Gifts	£138,420
Grand Total	£474,059



KEHS	
Single Gifts	£16,564
Regular Gifts	£52,607
Major Gifts	£543,193
Legacy Gifts	£500
Grand Total	£612,864

Gifts by number

548	Alumni	177
1	Former Staff	1
1	Organisations	1
44	Parents	34
37	Past Parents	12
3	Staff	1
1	Other	0
635	Grand Total	225

Gifts by constituency

£427,167	Alumni	£582,802
£63	Former Staff	£333
£10,000	Organisations	£2,500
£10,865	Parents	£7,625
£25,028	Past Parents	£19,566
£563	Staff	£38
£375	Other	£0
£474,059	Grand Total	£612,864

Gifts by fund

Sum of Gift Amount	Funds	Sum of Gift Amount
£475,500	Assisted Places Endowment Fund	£150,905
£134,114	Assisted Places Fund	£306,084
£3,250	Assisted Places Support Fund	£2,044
£0	Other Gifts	£15,026
£612,864	Grand Total	£474,059

How our trusts work

Each school is supported by its own charitable trust, through which philanthropic gifts are received and directed. The founding purpose of both trusts is clear: to expand access to a King Edward's education and ensure that financial circumstance is never a barrier to talent, potential or ambition.

Since their establishment, the Trusts have worked in close partnerships with the Development Office, the schools and our community of supporters to strengthen and grow Assisted Places provision, enabling talented boys and girls from a wide range of backgrounds to benefit from the opportunities a KES or KEHS education can provide.

Over the past year, the Trusts have received exceptional support from Old Edwardians, parents, staff and friends of the schools. This generosity has taken many forms, including regular gifts, one-off donations, support from charitable trusts and foundations, and legacies from those who have chosen to remember KES or KEHS in their wills.

Together, these contributions reflect a shared belief that the life-changing opportunities offered by a King Edward's education should be available to every young person with the ability and determination to thrive, regardless of their financial circumstances.

That belief is as important today as it has ever been. Demand for Assisted Place support continues to exceed the funding available, with many more families seeking assistance than we are currently able to support. The Trusts remain committed to increasing access, widening opportunity and advancing social mobility across Birmingham.

Alongside meeting immediate need, the Trusts are focused on building a more sustainable future. Growing their endowments and strengthening long-term philanthropic support, will aim to ensure that future generations of pupils can benefit from the same pathways to achievement and personal growth that have shaped the lives of so many before them.

THE KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL BIRMINGHAM TRUST

"Attending KES on a free place changed the course of my life. It opened doors that I could never have imagined and reinforced my belief that talent should never be limited by financial circumstance.

Having benefited so greatly from that opportunity, I have been proud to support the Trust personally and to encourage others to do the same. As Chair, my ambition is to help build a stronger, more sustainable Trust so that in the years ahead many more talented boys can benefit from a KES education."

Ian Metcalfe (1976), *KES Trust Chair*

THE KEHS TRUST

"My place at KEHS gave me far more than an outstanding education; it gave me the confidence to aspire higher and to achieve more than I had thought possible.

That experience inspired my own support, my role on the KEHS Trust and my commitment to its future. I am passionate about growing the Trust's resources so that generations of talented girls can access the same transformational opportunities that helped shape my own life."

Hilary Evenett (1982), *KEHS Trust Chair*

Leaving a lasting legacy for our pupils

A gift in a will is a deeply personal and meaningful act - one that carries your values forward and creates opportunities for generations to come.

Such gifts play an extraordinary role in helping pupils thrive, and ensuring that the environments in which they learn, grow and discover remain truly exceptional.

Legacy gifts have played an important role throughout the histories of both schools, helping to create opportunities, strengthen educational provision and ensure that financial barriers never prevent talented pupils from fulfilling their potential. Today, they continue to make an extraordinary difference to our pupils and our community.

Peter Trevis (1953) has chosen to leave a gift in his will to the school:

"The School played an important role in my life and in the lives of my family. My parents took great pride in the education that my brother and I received, and the opportunities it created for us. By remembering the school in my will, I hope to help ensure that those opportunities remain available to talented young people for many years to come."

"I believe that The KEHS Trust will ensure that the school continues to open its doors to bright girls who deserve a place but cannot afford to come without some form of financial assistance. I am also excited about the new opportunities that the Trust will offer the school and generations of future pupils. I have thus been pleased to include a legacy to the Trust in my will."

Anonymous (1974)

Last academic year, the schools benefited from almost £140,000 in legacy gifts. Today, 49 members of our community have informed us of their intention to leave a gift in their Will, while a further 47 are considering doing so. Their generosity will help ensure that future generations of pupils continue to benefit from a KES and KEHS education for years to come.

Whether supporting Assisted Places, specific programmes or the areas of greatest need, legacy gifts help secure the future of our schools and extend the impact of a donor's generosity far beyond their lifetime.

Thank you to everyone who has, or has thought about, a gift in their will.

Learn more about legacy giving:

https://oldeds.kes.org.uk/legacies
https://oldeds.kehs.org.uk/legacies



Read more

Learn about tax effective giving:

https://oldeds.kes.org.uk/tax-efficient-giving
https://oldeds.kehs.org.uk/tax-efficient-giving

"When I was at the School, most of us were there because we'd passed the exam and the local authority paid our fees - it didn't matter how much money our parents had. So a much wider range of boys from Birmingham and beyond could benefit from all that King Edward's had to offer. For a period, that wasn't the case, but the Assisted Places scheme is again giving many more people the chance to come to the School, both to benefit and to contribute to the breadth of community. I'm delighted to be able to donate, to help give others the chance which I had."

Andrew Hudson (1976)

A global community of support

Our supporters are truly global. In addition to the generous support we receive from across the UK, KES benefited this year from £171,188 in gifts from alumni and friends of the school based in 13 countries worldwide, while KEHS received £43,544 from supporters across five countries.

This generosity is a powerful reminder that the impact of a King Edward's education, and the desire to give back, extends far beyond Birmingham. Many overseas donors choose to support the schools through tax-efficient charitable giving schemes available in their country of residence, helping to maximise the value of their philanthropy.

We are grateful to everyone who has chosen to give from overseas, strengthening our global community, a community that is united by a commitment to creating opportunity for future generations of pupils.



> "Supporting King Edward's School through the British Schools and Universities Foundation (BSUF), a US 501(c)(3) public charity, has given me a simple and tax-efficient way to give something back to a school that played such an important role in my life. I'm particularly pleased to support KES sport, which was such a memorable and formative part of my time at the school. It's rewarding to help ensure that future generations of pupils can enjoy the same opportunities, experiences and sense of community that meant so much to me."
>
> Siddharth Singh (2016)

> "I chose to support the KEHS Trust Endowment Fund because I want my gift to have an impact not only today, but for generations to come. Strengthening the Trust's long-term resources will help ensure that talented pupils continue to have access to the opportunities that shaped my own life."
>
> Nicola (Thomas) Ralston (1974)



Read more

Learn more about international giving:

https://oldeds.kes.org.uk/international-giving/
https://oldeds.kehs.org.uk/international-giving/



Matched Giving

Did you know that many employers will match charitable donations made by their employees? Through matched giving schemes, a company may match a gift pound-for-pound, effectively doubling the impact of a donation at no additional cost to the donor.

This year, we were delighted to receive **£26,158** through company matched giving schemes. These additional funds have further strengthened our Assisted Places programme and will enable us to further programmes that prepare pupils for the future.

We are incredibly grateful to the companies that have supported the schools through matched giving, and to the donors who have taken the extra step of requesting their employer's support. Together, they have multiplied the impact of their generosity and helped widen access and enhance opportunities for pupils today and tomorrow.

Could your employer help?

Matched giving is a simple but powerful way to increase your support. Please contact the Development Office to find out how your gift can be matched and its impact doubled.

> **"I'd encourage everyone to check whether their employer offers matched giving. My employer matched my donation in full, so the school received twice the support at no extra cost to me. It was a simple way to make a bigger difference."**
>
> Malcolm Crawford (1983)

Supporting Excellence Beyond Assisted Places

While Assisted Places remain the primary focus of our fundraising efforts, we are equally grateful to those donors who choose to support other areas of school life.

Their generosity enriches the experience of every pupil, helping to provide facilities, resources and opportunities that might not otherwise be possible.

Over the years, philanthropic support has helped enhance our schools in many different ways, from improving facilities and equipment to new buildings and new initiatives that broaden pupils' horizons beyond the classroom. These gifts reflect the many ways in which our community chooses to invest in the future of KES and KEHS.

A recent example of this generosity is the support given in memory of Old Edwardian Liddie Christenfeld (1957). Her family and a group of KEHS friends have collectively contributed **£58,336** to establish annual travel awards. First awarded this year, the recipients, Upper Sixth pupils, will embark on their trips this October and return with experiences and insights to share with the wider school community. In Liddie's memory, a Leadership Award has also been established and will be presented annually to the Upper Sixth pupil who demonstrates exceptional selfless leadership and service to others.

Gifts like this demonstrate that philanthropy comes in many forms. We remain deeply grateful to all those who choose to support our work and leave a lasting legacy for future generations.

Case study: KES



Bhavan Aulakh (Class of 2022)

Princeton University, Class of 2026 | BA Philosophy



Before joining KES, I attended a local state primary school in Oldbury and had never heard of King Edward's School.

Having visited my local secondary school and sat the grammar school entrance exam, I was surprised to receive a letter inviting me to sit the KES entrance examination. I assumed there must have been a mistake. Once my family and I learned more about the school, we quickly realised that, without an Assisted Place, attending would not be possible.

I was invited for an Assisted Place interview and was subsequently offered a place at the school. Reflecting on that, I cannot overstate the impact my seven years at KES had on my life, and now looking back, I cannot have imagined having gone anywhere else. The opportunities I have enjoyed since leaving school were, in large part, made possible by the lessons I learned, the confidence I gained, and the people I met during my time there.

Looking back, KES changed the course of my life. The school introduced me to opportunities, experiences and ambitions that I could never have imagined as an eleven-year-old. Through sport, I discovered rugby and water polo, developing skills and friendships that continue to shape my life today. Those experiences ultimately helped me join the Princeton Men's Water Polo team and compete across the United States.

Academically, KES opened doors in equal measure. During the International Baccalaureate, I discovered a passion for Philosophy, which I went on to study at Princeton. The exceptional teaching and small class sizes encouraged curiosity, critical thinking and intellectual confidence. KES also nurtured my love of languages, enabling me to study both French and Spanish throughout much of my time at school before continuing Spanish as a minor at university.

Outside the classroom, I developed confidence and leadership skills, ultimately serving as School Captain. My Shell-self would never have imagined that possible. Public speaking, representing an organisation larger than myself, meeting distinguished guests and having the confidence to introduce myself to anyone are all skills that I developed during my seven years at KES and that will continue to serve me for life.

I could write a book on all of the things that KES did and keeps doing for me, not least how many lasting friendships I made there. But one great example has to be how KES opened up the opportunity for me to attend the best university in the world. I was fortunate to meet staff at the school who were dedicated to supporting pupils with their international university applications, ensuring that we were equipped with the knowledge we needed. It gave me the best opportunity for success.

After months of essay writing, ACT prep, and university research, I was offered a place at Princeton University. This simply would not have been possible without KES, especially the Senior Leadership Team, the US admissions staff, and select close teachers who supported me during my entire KES journey.

I am excited to begin my career, as well as having a Master degree lined up, and my ambition is one day to manage my own theme park. Most importantly, an Assisted Place made all of this possible. In my final year at school, I was proud to work as a student caller during the telephone campaign, speaking with alumni and supporters about the impact Assisted Places have on young people's lives. Seeing the enthusiasm and generosity of donors firsthand reinforced just how transformative their support can be.

To pupils on an Assisted Place, my message is simple: embrace every opportunity, even those that initially feel daunting, and make the very most of them.

My school highlights:

- School Captain
- Rugby 1st XV
- Cyprus Water Polo Tour
- Philosophy, French and Spanish studies
- CERN Summer School for Physics
- KES Peer Support Program Founder

Case study: KEHS



Nikita Saggar Fackrell (Class of 2010)

Director, CBRE | Chartered Surveyor (MRICS)

My parents came to the UK at a young age and completed their education to GCSE level. For both them and me, the opportunity to attend KEHS was beyond anything we could have imagined. An Assisted Place gave me access to exceptional teachers, ambitious peers and opportunities that encouraged me to aim higher and achieve more than I thought possible.

As the eldest of three children, my experience at KEHS also helped shape my family's future. The opportunities available to me encouraged my younger brother and sister to be ambitious in their own education and careers, creating a lasting impact beyond my own journey.

KEHS offered an extraordinary breadth of opportunities, both inside and outside the classroom. I represented hockey at county level, trained as a lifeguard, played in the orchestra, sang in the choir, and took part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. These experiences developed my confidence, resilience, teamwork and leadership skills, while creating lifelong friendships.
One of the defining moments of my time at school was participating in the World Challenge expedition to Kenya and Tanzania. Spending a month travelling and working as part of a team pushed me out of my comfort zone and helped me develop independence, problem-solving and leadership skills that have stayed with me ever since.

Academically, KEHS continually encouraged me to exceed my own expectations. Achieving an A* in Business and Economics, in the first year the grade was introduced, remains a proud milestone. More importantly, the confidence and ambition I gained helped me become the first person in my family to attend university and later complete a Master's degree.

Receiving an Assisted Place was truly transformative. It opened doors that might otherwise have remained closed and provided a platform from which I could build my future. Today, I am a Director at CBRE, having joined the firm as a graduate and progressed through a career in commercial real estate. Alongside advising clients, I lead graduate and apprentice development programmes across the Midlands and South West, helping to support the next generation of talent.

To any pupil on an Assisted Place, I would say: embrace every opportunity and make the most of your time at school. The experiences you have, the people you meet and the confidence you gain can shape the rest of your life.

To those considering supporting bursaries, I can say firsthand that your gift changes lives. An Assisted Place is about far more than funding a school place. It opens doors, broadens horizons and gives young people the confidence and opportunity to fulfil their potential. Every gift has the power to shape not only one future, but generations that follow.

Gifts are not just financial

During the 2025-26 academic year, more than 60 alumni, current parents, former parents and members of our wider community gave their time to support KES and KEHS and its pupils, past and present.

They supported the schools in countless ways; sharing their expertise, experience and enthusiasm to enrich the lives of current pupils, fellow alumni and the wider school community.

Many volunteers support our careers and higher education programmes, workplace insight, networking opportunities, careers talks and mock interviews. Their contribution helps pupils broaden their aspirations, make informed decisions about their futures and gain valuable perspectives from those who have gone before them.

Others play a vital role in the governance and strategic leadership of our schools, ensuring that both institutions remain true to their mission while continuing to grow and thrive for future generations.

DURING THE YEAR:

14 Old Edwardians and two former members of staff supported the work of the schools through their service on the committees of the Old Edwardians' Association and the Birmingham Girls' Old Edwardian Club.

10 Old Edwardians and one former member of staff served as trustees of the KES Trust and KEHS Trust to help safeguard the growth of the schools philanthropic funds.

Four Old Edwardians served as Governors to the Independent Schools with three serving as Governors to the King Edward VI Foundation. Two Old Edwardians sit on sub-committees as advisors. All of whom dedicate their time, expertise, energy and leadership to ensure the continued good governance of the schools.

Alumni Year Group Representatives have helped strengthen connections between the schools and our alumni community.

Whether sharing professional expertise, supporting events, providing strategic oversight or championing the schools within their communities, our volunteers make an extraordinary difference.

We are immensely grateful to everyone who gives their time, talent and energy in support of KES, KEHS and the wider Foundation community.









Read more

Learn about Careers Link:

https://oldeds.kes.org.uk/careers
https://oldeds.kehs.org.uk/careers

Academic Achievement

The results shown below highlight how Assisted Place pupils perform alongside their peers, illustrating both the life-changing opportunities created through philanthropic support and the exceptional outcomes that follow.

GCSE Performance: Assisted Places v Whole School Cohort

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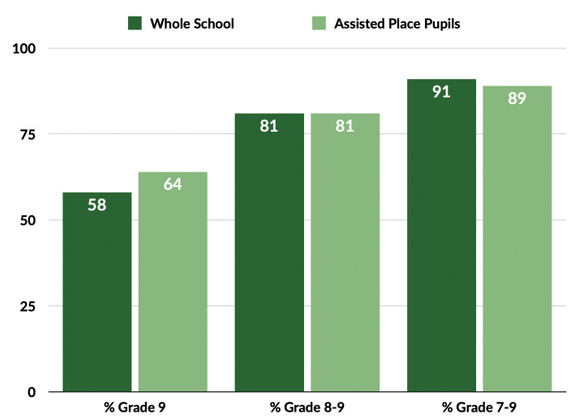

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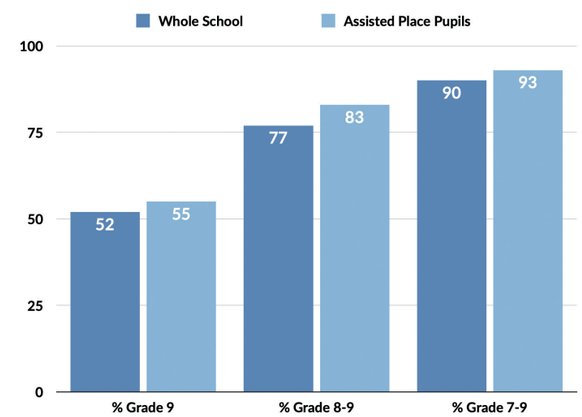
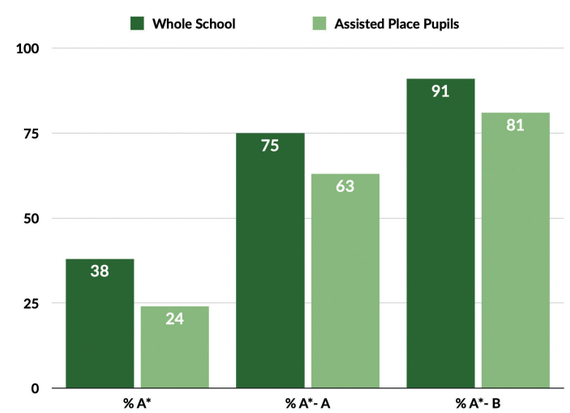
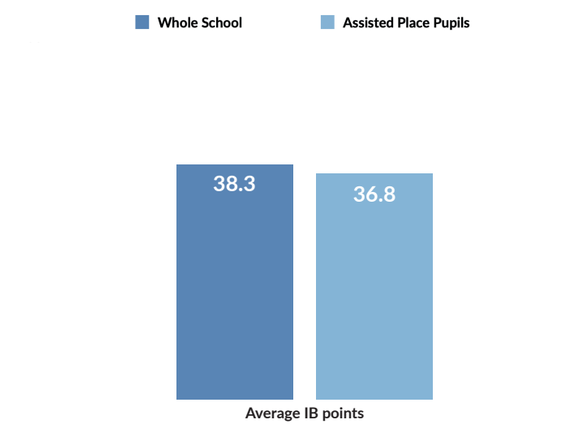


A Level Performance: Assisted Places v Whole School Cohort



IB Performance: Assisted Places v Whole School Cohort



Every opportunity described in this report began with someone choosing to help. Whether through a donation, legacy pledge, matched gift or gift of time, your support is opening doors for talented young people today and creating opportunities for generations to come. Thank you for being part of this story.

Contact Us

The Development Office is responsible for all fundraising activities undertaken in support of the two schools.

If you would like to make a gift to KES or KEHS, or are considering remembering a school in your will, and would like to discuss, in confidence, how you might choose to shape your support, the Development Team would be delighted to speak with you contact:

Development@keschools.org.uk

More information about supporting the school can also be found by scanning the QR codes below.

THE KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL BIRMINGHAM TRUST

THE KEHS TRUST

The KES Trust Registered Charity Number **1129776**

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

The KEHS Trust Registered Charity Number **1159413**