



School Self Evaluation

'For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.' 1 Corinthians 12

HEADTEACHER INTRODUCTION

Trying to capture in words the culture of such a truly unique school presents a huge challenge. How can such an outstanding pupil experience, lived by thousands, be summarised as an introduction to a review document?

On one level, we are rightly proud and protective of the traditions which make this school so individual: our history as a Henry VIII 1541 school and our continued education of the choristers from Peterborough Cathedral; our daily acts of worship which bring the whole community together; our House music and sporting competitions overseen by student leadership groups; and our strong music and sporting traditions.

The culture at King's goes deeper than this, being formed by those daily habits which remain as important now as they ever were; students who hold open doors, say hello and thank you, give of their best and throw themselves into a wide range of activities, trips and charity work. Let's not forget the staff. Staff who care deeply about their students, go the extra mile and provide as many opportunities for their students to grow in confidence and knowledge as they are able to.

Of course, there is a considerable and important academic success to celebrate within this document. Both A-Level and GCSE results were outstanding both in terms of attainment and progress. The school community is rightly proud of these achievements.

Despite the challenges of Covid, our school ran an incredible number of trips and extra-curricular activities: highlights include the World Challenge Expedition to Romania, an Economics trip to Budapest, a packed activities week, and a chance for students to live and study in Montpellier!

Leadership opportunities remained strong at King's, with over a hundred sixth form students involved in either mentoring or supporting our student commission group; over fifty students continue to work towards their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award; and over £12,000 was raised for charity. In Music, incredibly, over 250 students continue to benefit from one to one music lessons, a number of students took part in our whole school musical ('We Will Rock You') and House Music continued (albeit as a virtual performance). In extra-curricular sport, students took part in over twenty different activities and the school achieved notable success in Athletics, Badminton and Basketball.

Just as important as tradition though, is the willingness and appetite to continue to strive for personal excellence for each and every one of the young people in our care. This self-review document uses a range of gathered information to reflect upon provision at our school. It includes commentary around those externally validated areas such as strong GCSE and A-Level results, feedback from the range of quality assurance activities completed during the last academic year, and reflects the input from parents and students during the annual survey. Our school continues to carefully consider how it can best serve the school community and be the school of choice within the local and regional area; this document also includes key targets that reflect my own as a new Headteacher and ultimately that of all our staff.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Thank you for taking the time to read this document. Available on our website, is a more detailed self-evaluation that celebrates the life of the school from the academic year 2021-22. This document is designed to reflect on the key aspects of school life.

Results Outcomes

- At A-Level the school celebrated a superb set of results from our students. **52% of all grades were A*/A and 78% of grades were A*-B.** The % of grades at A* (25%) were higher than the previous two years which had been based on centre assessed grades. Performance based on progress was high in a number of subjects, most noticeably Art, Business, Further Maths, Geography, Physical Education and Psychology.
- At GCSE attainment and progress were incredibly strong. **55% of all grades were 9-7 and the unvalidated progress 8 score was 0.84.** Progress was 1 grade above expected outcomes in 10 subjects.
- We were proud of the progress our most vulnerable students made. Both **pupil premium (0.81)** and those students with an **Educational Health Care Plan (0.51)** achieved strongly reflecting the strong support of our pupil premium and SEND teams.
- At Key Stage 2, students performed well above the national average. Whilst it is important to review the results in light of a modest size cohort (15 students) **Reading was 114 average, Maths 112 and Writing 104.**

Curriculum Development

- **Computer Science** was examined for the first time at A-Level in 2022 and Psychology was taught within the main curriculum with a full-time teacher appointed. Additional curriculum time given to Religious Studies as a core subject.
- Work was completed to provide a **bespoke curriculum** to those students in Years 7 and 8 (for 2022-23) who have a range of additional learning needs. This included the appointment of a primary specialist to support transition.
- **Over 200 hours of tutoring** were delivered as part of our support for those students in Years 7 to 11 who had fallen behind in their learning. This was managed by our **pupil premium leader** and mentor team. 19 staff delivered over 100 hours of post 16 tutoring as part of the national tuition funding agreement.
- Lesson observations viewed teaching as being exceptionally strong with **>95% of all lessons judged by Heads of Department as Good or Better.**
- **Over 100 Sixth Form students** supported the learning of our younger students through either the **mentor programme or the Student Commission for Learning**, a unique aspect of the school.

Behaviour and Personal Development

- **Attendance** remains **well above the national average** for the country.
- The over-whelming majority of students **demonstrate mature attitudes** towards their learning. More than 80% of students received only one negative behaviour point for the entire academic year.
- **Our Christian ethos** continues to be an important aspect of school life, with students taking part in whole school, house, year and tutor assemblies regularly.
- The school has a number of **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion groups**, led by a senior teacher and supported in strong numbers by our students. Student mental health was a priority in 2021-22 with a number of strategies deployed.
- **100% of all our students took part in one or more field trip.** For many the number was significantly more than this. Trips were both national and international despite the challenge of Covid. **Over 50 students were engaged in Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme** which included Bronze and Gold Award.
- Over **200 students** took part in the **annual house music** competition; **55 students** took part in the musical production of **'We Will Rock You'**.

- **Students raised over £12,000** through a range of **charity** events at the school.

Careers and Progression

- Over **95% of students** in Year 10 and Year 12 completed **face-to-face work experience** – an incredible achievement when many schools were not able to support this work due to Covid restrictions.
- **49% of our students** achieved places at **Russell Group Universities or competitive degree apprenticeships**. This included **10 students achieving Oxbridge places**.
- Sixth Form students benefitted from **a range of academic lectures** (e.g. Sir Leszek Borysiewicz), Future Skills Days, and a programme of enrichment opportunities to broaden their curriculum.

Key Targets for 2022-23

The individual targets below summarise the key priority areas for the school for the academic year 2022-23. These themselves can be best viewed as *'ensuring all students benefit from the full King's School Experience.'*

- **KS2:** Maintain the current very high standards and continue to achieve significantly better progress than national standards in maths, reading, writing and SPaG; extra focus on writing.
- **KS4&5:** Maintain the current very high standards and continue to achieve significantly better progress than national at GCSE (progress 0.5-1.0) and A-Level (0.2) for all groups of students across the majority of subjects.
- Ensure dedicated resource and curriculum provision is in place to provide an outstanding education for young people on Education Health Care Plans (EHCPs), and those who are vulnerable or have significant learning needs.
- 90% of all observations of Teaching and Learning as carried out by Senior Leaders are good or better with 40% being outstanding.
- Whole school attendance is above national averages or 95% whichever is the greater.
- Enhance the use of rewards within School to further promote positive behaviour.
- Enhance the extra-curricular and trips programme forward so that it is an exceptional offering across every year group.
- Further develop and deepen our approach towards diversity, equality and mental health.