Welcome to King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys

The original school opened at Camp Hill, close to the city centre, in 1883 and moved to Kings Heath in 1956 because the original site was proving too small for a growing school. Camp Hill is a small and friendly community – where expectations and standards are high, and where a well-rounded education helps to prepare boys for the challenges and opportunities of adult life. Camp Hill Boys shares a beautiful campus with our sister school and can genuinely claim to be one of the highest achieving and best equipped schools in the country.

We are a relatively small community of about 950 boys, who get on well together. The boys are inspired by their excellent, well qualified teachers and are supported by parents, Governors and Old Boys. As a result, every year, Camp Hill Boys features prominently in national league tables for examination results and value added statistics which measure the attainment and progress of the boys. However, for most of the boys, most of the time, priorities usually lie elsewhere – in sport, music, drama, chess and the breathtaking range of activities and opportunities available at Camp Hill.

These views of the school were supported by Ofsted reports in 2000, 2006 and 2009 which judged the school to be “outstanding”. More importantly, the Inspectors found that Camp Hill was committed to go on improving, stating it has a “relentless pursuit of excellence in all aspects of the school’s work”.

Hopefully, this prospectus and our website will give you a flavour of our school. Education for able boys should be about challenge and enjoyment. They should feel supported and cared for as they grow up in a community which expects and delivers the highest standards.

This is what Camp Hill Boys is all about – come and join us...

M J Garrod MA
Headmaster
About the school
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys is a voluntary aided, selective grammar school

It became a converter academy on 1 August 2011. In 2017, it was one of the seven Birmingham schools which formed the King Edward VI Academy Trust. The Trust has continued to grow since then.

In the academic year 2018-19, the school took significant steps to develop two key objectives: to be an engine driving social mobility and to become more closely linked to its geographical community. For boys entering Year 7 from September 2020, the school has defined a catchment area. All boys of grammar school ability (defined by achieving the “qualifying score” in the entrance test) who are eligible for Pupil Premium and who live in our catchment area will be offered a place. The remaining places will be allocated first to boys of sufficient ability who live in our catchment area. (See our formal Admissions Policy on the website for details.)
The original Camp Hill Boys buildings still sit next to a roundabout on the Stratford Road, just outside the city centre.

By the 1950s it was clear that the original school site was too restricted. Therefore, in 1956, Camp Hill Girls and Camp Hill Boys moved to new buildings set in beautiful grounds on Vicarage Road, Kings Heath.

The schools not only share a wonderful campus, but boast teaching facilities that are the envy of most schools. Extensive boys’ playing fields include 4 rugby pitches, 6 tennis courts, 2 cricket squares, a 25 metre indoor swimming pool and a Sports Hall and Drama Studio. The school has a suite of modern laboratories, well-equipped classrooms, a modern library, an excellent music suite and state-of-the-art facilities. Senior boys share a Sixth Form Centre with the Girls’ school.

The opening of the Sports Hall and Drama Studio in 2007 marked the completion of the first phase of our exciting Capital Development programme. Phase II saw the building of a new Library, English classrooms, Sixth Form study facility and two new Science Laboratories completed in 2008. In September 2010 the tennis courts were resurfaced, re-fenced and repainted. A new “Practical Food Technology” building was completed by February 2011 – a joint venture with Camp Hill Girls. In 2011, new cricket nets were installed. A suite of two labs and three classrooms was opened in September 2016. An additional Sixth Form Common Room and servery was opened in September 2018.

The range of activities on offer is breathtaking. Besides an extensive sporting programme the students also take part in high quality music and drama activities.

OFSTED
The school offers a balanced, broad curriculum

Given its selective nature, the school recognises its special responsibility for academic excellence and the preparation of all pupils for national academic qualifications which lay secure foundations for progression into Further and Higher Education.

In Years 7 to 9, all pupils study English, Mathematics, three separate Sciences, Art, Computing, Geography, History, Music, Religious Studies and Technology; they also take PE and Games. Two forms in Year 7 study French, two study German; all boys will study both subjects in Years 8 and 9.

All pupils follow ten GCSE subjects in Years 10 and 11. Mathematics, English (Language and Literature), Science (three separate Sciences) and a Modern Foreign Language (French or German) are compulsory. The other three subjects are chosen from Computer Science, Design Technology, Geography, History, Art, Music, French, German and Religious Studies. There is also an option for students to sit a free-standing Additional Mathematics qualification.

All the GCSE subjects are available at A Level, together with Computer Science, Economics and Further Mathematics. A common Sixth Form timetable with the neighbouring Camp Hill Girls’ School enables Music and Computer Science to be taught jointly, whilst also providing flexibility of choice of A Level subjects. Boys may be able to study Politics, Psychology, Spanish or Theatre Studies at the girls’ school.

In addition to their specialist A Levels, pupils also undertake an enrichment course. Virtually all Sixth Formers enter degree courses at university on leaving school.

All year groups have a games afternoon, where traditional team sports are taught for 90 minutes on average per week. This is in addition to timetabled PE lessons of 60 minutes per week. Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) is taught as a discrete subject in Years 7 to 11. Throughout the school, emphasis is placed on making the learning experience enjoyable, challenging and interesting.

“Teachers really care about students. They are prepared to go the ‘extra mile’ whenever you want them to.”

PUPIL
The school places great emphasis on the value of extra-curricular activity to the provision of a well-rounded education.

We are proud of the quality and variety of what is made available. The aim is to create as many opportunities as possible for all pupils to participate. This is partly achieved through the operation of a flourishing House system, which exists mainly for games purposes. Excellence is encouraged through competition, especially in sport, within the House activities and against other schools. Each year, a number of pupils are encouraged to achieve representative honours at county, regional, and national level. The Duke of Edinburgh award is an extremely popular programme at the school.

A wide range of sports is played at the school, including Rugby, Cricket, Hockey, Soccer, Basketball, Badminton, Tennis, Cross-Country Running, Fencing, Athletics and Swimming. Practices and fixtures for school teams in these sports take place at lunchtime, after school and on Saturdays. The teaching staff are well qualified, and additional support is given by professional coaches where possible. There are strong links with Camp Hill Rugby Club.

The quality and quantity of music at Camp Hill is outstanding, enhanced by the most up-to-date facilities and expert tuition. Pupils are encouraged to perform in concerts at school and every year around 45 of them also play in one of the City Orchestras or ensembles. Together with Camp Hill Girls, our schools have a reputation for wonderful joint music and drama productions. A number of clubs and societies meet regularly in the lunch hour. Exchanges, trips and sports tours abroad occur frequently throughout the year.
Community
The welfare of pupils is afforded the highest priority at Camp Hill

Under the leadership of the Deputy Head (Pastoral), Form teachers and the seven Pastoral Heads of Year are responsible for pastoral care. Our aim is to encourage boys to be considerate and responsible members of the community. Opportunities for taking responsibility are created through the appointment of Prefects and within the House system. All School Prefects are expected to deliver a full school assembly. Pupil involvement is also promoted by the School Council, whereby the student body is consulted on matters of administration and organisation. In recent years, the School Council has reviewed school rules, the uniform policy and school meals provision; it has advised in the appointment of senior staff.

Camp Hill is a happy, lively community which expects a high standard of behaviour from its pupils, with particular emphasis being placed on courtesy, self-discipline and consideration for others. School Rules, expectations for Standards, Behaviour, Homework and Anti-Bullying policies are all detailed in a Year Planner which is given to each pupil.
Joining the school
Entry to the school is by examination. Parents complete two application forms – for The King Edward VI Grammar Schools test and for the Local Authority. Further details and the admissions policy can be found on the website.

Visiting the school
This prospectus may have answered many of your questions, but we would like you to meet our best advertisement – our pupils. Details and dates of open days are available on our school website. In addition, we have Welcome Days and Induction Days for those students who have already received an offer of a place from us.

Examinations
The school enters each pupil for public examinations. Each pupil sits ten GCSEs (or their equivalents) in Year 11. In Years 12-13 boys take three subjects which will be full, two-year, A level courses; suitable candidates are able to study Further Maths A Level as well. A statement of the most recent public examination results can be found on our website.

Ofsted
The school prides itself on its Ofsted record, with inspectors consistently rating the school as ‘Outstanding’, the highest possible ranking. All of the school’s Ofsted reports can be downloaded from the website.

“I enjoyed every single second of my time at Camp Hill Boys.”

PUPIL
Information