



KHS is moving to co-education, welcoming girls for the first time, from September 2021 – please see below for FAQs...

Will the KHS ethos and values be maintained?

Yes. We believe that the unique brand of a well-supported, all-round education at KHS is desirable and there is no intention of changing our values. If anything, a move to co-education will enhance the credibility of our ethos and give it 21st century validation, rather than supplant it.

Will girls be offered the same subjects? Will new subjects be introduced?

All subjects will be offered to both boys and girls equally. The KHS curriculum is a notably broad mix of core subjects together with those designed to stimulate creative, digital and physical enterprise and is equally suitable for both boys and girls. The School regularly reviews its timetabled subjects and makes adjustments accordingly. This system of curriculum management will continue year to year in order to offer the very best product for our pupils.

Will girls and boys be taught differently?

No. The nature of our classroom teaching will remain unchanged, with the high quality of teaching being one key driver of pupil success and the innate knowledge of our pupils as individuals the other.

Will class sizes grow?

No. We believe in keeping class sizes small to allow for excellent individual support within the classroom. Our maximum class size is 18 but the typical class size is much smaller than this.

Will you hire more female teachers?

We will always employ the best candidate for the job. While a school with co-education is likely to attract more female applicants, we will continue to pursue a policy of making appointments for the benefit of the pupils and the School. Most of our academic staff have experience of teaching both boys and girls and many have come to KHS from coeducational schools. At present, there is a healthy ratio of male and female staff which we will seek to build upon in the future.

What will the girls' uniform look like?

Work has started to make sure both boys' and girls' uniforms are suitable and complement each other. We anticipate that details of girls' uniform will be issued before the end of the autumn term.

Will School lunches change?

It is likely there will be an evolution, rather than immediate change, but KHS is always keen to devise healthy and balanced menus that appeal to the appetite of all pupils. We have researched other schools carefully and have a good working knowledge of how catering works for both boys and girls in co-educational settings. We will continue to support a range of dietary requirements.

How will my daughter get to and from school?

Like many schools, KHS has several bus routes to take pupils to and from school. We are also well-served by public transport with Epsom mainline station a short walk from the school gate. A full review of transport options is underway with the aim of introducing more options to allow pupils to travel safely and conveniently to and from school, as well as incentives to travel on foot or bicycle when and where safe to do so. Further information will be available soon with a summary of arrangements.

How many places will there be for girls?

There is no set quota for the number of girls although we will aim to manage a careful gender balance in each class and cohort in the future. KHS will remain a very open-minded school in terms of admissions with the key criteria being an ability to access a mainstream curriculum (with relevant support if needed), good behaviour and a character which suggests an ability to make friends.

Will places be available to girls from all kinds of schools?

Yes. Much like our current boys, who come to us from many different schools, we hope to welcome girls from a similarly varied range of schools, whether they be independent or maintained settings.

When can I visit with my daughter?

You can visit at any time via an appointment and there are also two Open Mornings at which you are most welcome to meet key staff over a coffee and tour the school with some of our pupils.

Are there any changes to the application process?

No. All parents wishing to register their sons or daughters for entry in September 2021 can do so by completing the registration process. All useful dates can be found on our Admissions pages.

What is the entry procedure?

The first step is to complete a registration form, usually following a visit to the school, following which your child will be invited for a taster day (individual) and/or an experience day (collective) dependent upon the time of year, during which an academic screening in English and mathematics will occur. Reports will be collated from the current school. You will normally be given informal feedback at the end of the day and a letter from the Headmaster will follow.

Will girls be able to access bursaries and scholarships?

Yes. The most up-to-date information about applying for bursaries and scholarships, along with application deadlines, is available on the School website.

Are girls able to join in any year group?

Yes, in theory, but it will be dependent upon available spaces and the balance of the cohort. The main focus upon marketing for girls at KHS will be into year groups up to and including entry into Year 7 in September 2021. The rationale for this is to ensure a smooth, gradual and carefully managed transition to coeducation but if a girl applies who will benefit from being at KHS, and it is determined that she will augment the dynamic of a class, we will consider the offer of a place higher up the school.

Will girls and boys socialise together?

Yes. We encourage our current pupils to make friends within the School and this mind-set will not change. The fostering of 'soft skills', such as emotional intelligence and empathy, is a significant part of our educational philosophy. It is our ambition that a social platform be cultivated from which KHS pupils will form friendships based on respect and understanding, which will serve them well for their future family lives and professional careers beyond the school gate - truly, a preparation for life.

Please do contact Mrs Helen Parker, Registrar, to arrange an appointment with Mrs Angela Liu, Head of Admissions & Marketing, or Mr Duncan Murphy, Headmaster, if you would like to talk further about any aspect of admissions or co-educational provision.

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