



**King  
Ethelbert  
School**



*Designing the Future*

# Welcome

We encourage our students to be individuals and to take responsibility for their own choices as well as teaching them tolerance and respect towards others. We develop in our students an international approach to society and an appreciation and understanding of the culture, history and languages of other countries. We want our students to be citizens of the world, to be active, compassionate, lifelong learners and to develop the confidence to know and understand their own worth and purpose.

In recent years King Ethelbert School has gone from strength to strength each year building on the success of the previous year, constantly looking for ways to give every opportunity we can to every one of our students.

*“This is a happy school where pupils learn well because they feel safe. They enjoy school and are respectful of each other and staff.”*

Ofsted October 2018



**Kate Greig**  
Headteacher

**Vicky Willis**  
Head of School

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There is an emphasis on core skills in English and Maths across all year groups and this, combined with our wide range of academic and vocational subjects, means that we can offer programmes of study to suit each individual need. We believe strongly in preparing our students for the future by helping them achieve the qualifications they need as well as develop the confidence and spirit necessary for the next steps of their lives.

We want everyone to be happy and successful, to have an excellent, positive experience at King Ethelbert School and to leave feeling they have absolutely achieved their full potential.

King Ethelbert is a happy place to be. There is an ethos of care and support combined with driving ambition by the staff as they encourage each student to find their true talents and abilities. The high standards set by our enthusiastic staff, not only in their subject teaching but as members of a well ordered, caring community are what brings about the true success of the school.

At King Ethelbert School everybody is valued and supported, everybody is important and everybody works together to make our school an excellent place to be.

# King Ethelbert School aims to...

- Encourage in all students high expectations and high standards
- Provide a supportive and caring environment within which each student is valued and able to develop to his or her potential
- Develop students who are internationally minded and promote tolerance and respect for the diversity of cultures within our world, so that students embrace intercultural differences.
- Provide a diverse, world class curriculum of international education, with quality of teaching that fosters an enjoyment of learning and develops skills for life, enabling students to become lifelong learners
- Promote tolerance and respect for the diversity of cultures within our world
- Develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who are active, compassionate responsible citizens with a keen social, moral, cultural, economic and political awareness.
- Promote within the local community a sense of commitment and pride in our school

*“Pupils are prepared well for life in modern Britain and beyond. One pupil spoke for others when she said, “we learn about being in the world in this school.” Pupils talk to each other respectfully about sensitive topics. This includes discussions about differences in cultures and faiths.”*

Ofsted October 2018

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# Learning for success!

King Ethelbert School is a co – educational high school for 800 students; large enough to offer a wide range of provision, small enough for each child to be known, valued and feel secure.

The school was lucky enough to be chosen in the first wave of Kent schools for the Building Schools for the Future programme. The new buildings sit alongside a complete refurbishment of the whole school with state of the art technology in all learning spaces. Large breakout spaces for independent and group learning as well as traditional classrooms means that students have the space required for all the different learning experiences the school has to offer.

“Teachers plan engaging lessons. They use imaginative ideas to support pupils well in their learning.”

Ofsted October 2018

“Pupils’ behaviour is good. They enjoy a wide range of after-school activities and exciting visits. They are proud of their school and value the opportunities they have.”

Ofsted October 2018



“We are often given choices about what we learn and how we present our work. My teachers encourage me to be independent and this makes me feel like they want to know about me and my interests.” Tigris, Year 7



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“Pupils enjoy and engage in lessons that challenge them to learn.” Ofsted October 2018

## Key Stage 3

Year 7, 8 and 9 students are grouped according to ability and follow a curriculum which includes learning in the following areas:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Art & Design
- Design
- Music
- Drama
- History
- Geography
- Religious Studies
- Physical Education (including dance and team sports)
- Citizenship
- Spanish
- Information and Communication Technology
- Personal, Social and Health Education (including citizenship and careers education and guidance)

“I love being challenged in lessons, we are always pushed to do our best. ”

Callum, Year 8

“Our practical lessons are really engaging and help us to learn new things.”

Daniel, Year 7

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## Key Stage 4

“Teachers’ passion for their subjects is a strength. Pupils are supported well because teachers want pupils to learn about their subjects. As a result, pupils engage well and enjoy learning.” Ofsted October 2018

Learners in years 10 and 11 each follow a pathway suited to the individual’s abilities and needs. This is determined in consultation with students and their parents in year 9. A common core of examination subjects is followed by everyone to ensure that essential areas of knowledge and understanding are covered, including:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Personal, Social and Health Education
- Physical Education
- Careers education and guidance
- A vocational area of learning - the school offers a wide range of vocational subjects for study, both within school and in partnership with other institutions.
- The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is a pathway chosen by many of our students.

“I really enjoy lessons where we do activities that involve the whole class working together. We had a wide range of option subjects to choose from.” Andrew, Year 11

“We do presentations in some lessons and I also enjoy learning by teaching certain topics to each other. This has really helped my confidence.” Bailey, Year 11

In addition, students complete their chosen curriculum by selecting from a range of GCSE subjects including:

- History
- Geography
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- Spanish
- Dance
- Information Technology
- Film Studies
- Computer Science
- Citizenship
- Photography
- Philosophy and Ethics
- Sport Science

All students will also study at least one vocational subject:

- Art and Design
- Music
- Health and Social Care
- Business
- Performing Arts
- Sport
- Travel and Tourism

## Sixth Form

King Ethelbert is an IB World School and all students in the sixth form take on the challenge of the IBCP (International Baccalaureate Career - Related Programme) which offers an exciting package of Level 3 courses that will develop rounded, confident and capable individuals ready to move on to Higher Education, Further Education or employment with training. The school has received global recognition for the inspirational leadership and delivery of IBCP at King Ethelbert. Learning as part of a community and challenging new experiences are central features of the student experience. Our Sixth Form welcomes applications from students from other schools, alongside those who studied with us.

“Every year our 6th Form students achieve University places, higher level apprenticeships and jobs in a wide range of places and subject areas across the country and the wider world, due to their impressive results through the IBCP.” Vicky Willis, Head of School

The IBCP allows students to combine a Level 3 vocational BTEC qualification with two academic IB diploma subjects. This is underpinned by a ‘core’ programme that builds a broad skills set and provides opportunities for community projects. Universities and employers are impressed by the independent, resilient, outward looking learners that graduate with the IBCP.



## Learning at home

All students are expected to complete homework tasks on a regular basis. The conscientious completion of homework on a regular basis throughout Years 7 - 13 develops an independent work ethic and gradually builds up student confidence and competence in tackling examinations/coursework requirements and achieving individual potential.

A wide variety of homework tasks can be expected depending on the nature of the subject and the type of work and content being covered. The amount of work set will vary according to age and ability. Short, regular tasks will be set at KS3 alongside a number of themed, cross-curricular homework projects designed to develop their independent learning skills and creativity. At KS4 and KS5 tasks are overtly linked to examination courses and revision.

Both parents/carers and students can view homework set on Show My Homework. This online resource provides details of homework, including resources and deadlines, allowing parents/carers to monitor and support the completion of homework to a high standard.

*"I like the homework projects, especially when we are encouraged to make stuff. When it is a competition it really motivates everyone to win!"*

Jasper, Year 8



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## Learning.....abroad

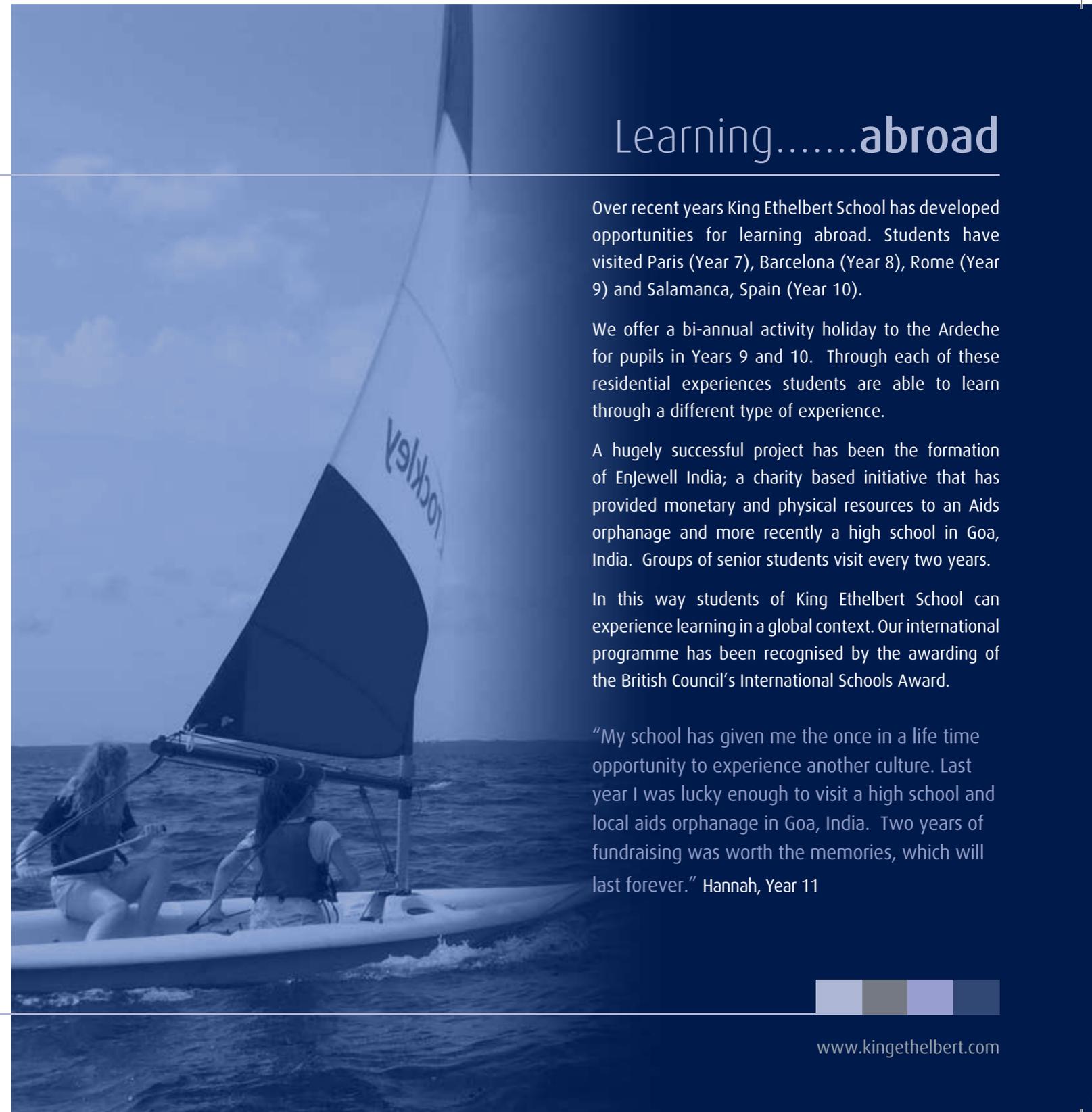
Over recent years King Ethelbert School has developed opportunities for learning abroad. Students have visited Paris (Year 7), Barcelona (Year 8), Rome (Year 9) and Salamanca, Spain (Year 10).

We offer a bi-annual activity holiday to the Ardeche for pupils in Years 9 and 10. Through each of these residential experiences students are able to learn through a different type of experience.

A hugely successful project has been the formation of EnJewell India; a charity based initiative that has provided monetary and physical resources to an Aids orphanage and more recently a high school in Goa, India. Groups of senior students visit every two years.

In this way students of King Ethelbert School can experience learning in a global context. Our international programme has been recognised by the awarding of the British Council's International Schools Award.

*"My school has given me the once in a life time opportunity to experience another culture. Last year I was lucky enough to visit a high school and local aids orphanage in Goa, India. Two years of fundraising was worth the memories, which will last forever."* Hannah, Year 11



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## Learning.....out of hours

There are many opportunities for students to develop confidence and maturity, through a wide range of extra-curricular activities including homework club in our well equipped Learning Resources Centre, where students can receive help and supervision in the completion of their homework. All subject areas offer extension learning clubs. We offer a variety of musical activities, including singing club, dance and peripatetic lessons in singing and a range of instruments. Sports clubs include football, netball, rugby, trampolining and tennis.

Students often choose to access other facilities such as the fitness room and IT suites after school. A third of Year 10 students participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Opportunities for both academic and practical application of study take place throughout the year. For example, the annual debating competition with Dane Court Grammar School, the BBC News Report Day the STEM Engineering Challenge, The Business

of Enterprise Challenge. Students also take part in public performances through the year including our annual school production.

“Pupils engaged enthusiastically with Spanish pupils visiting the school...This helped develop their language skills as well as learning about different cultures. Other opportunities such as performances by pupils at local theatre help develop their wider appreciation of the arts.” Ofsted October 2018



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## Personal development and well being

“Pupils study a broad and balanced curriculum which includes strong careers guidance that helps them make informed decisions about their futures. The social, moral, spiritual and cultural provision for pupils is also strong.”

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King Ethelbert School has a strong tradition of high quality pastoral support. The school operates a year tutorial system and students are allocated to tutor groups according to academic ability. Form tutors monitor and review individual progress and provide mentoring support for students throughout their time at the school. Tutors meet with parents/carers on consultation days, providing an opportunity to reflect with their child on their progress and agree targets for the future.

The school has a Pupil Services Centre which provides a “one stop shop” for students; a qualified first aid officer is available to respond should any student become unwell during the school day.

The school has established a strong family ethos, with older students taking responsibility for supporting younger learners. The school has a strong sense of team and the House System provides opportunities for students of all ages to compete for the much coveted House Cup. Buddy schemes, peer mentoring, bus monitors and prefects are all ways in which students can demonstrate leadership qualities.

Our elected school council, KESzone, has representatives from each year group and house and works with staff on important decision making.

Regular attendance is essential if a child is to be confident and make good progress in school. If a student is absent, parents are asked to telephone the school’s Pupil Services Centre and to send a short note explaining the absence upon their child’s return. Wherever possible, medical and dental appointments should be made outside school time.

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# Royal Shakespeare Company



King Ethelbert School are proud to inform parents and the local community that we work in partnership with the Royal Shakespeare Company and The Marlowe Theatre as a Hub School. This means that we are the lead school in a network of four primary and four secondary schools across Kent, known as a "cluster".

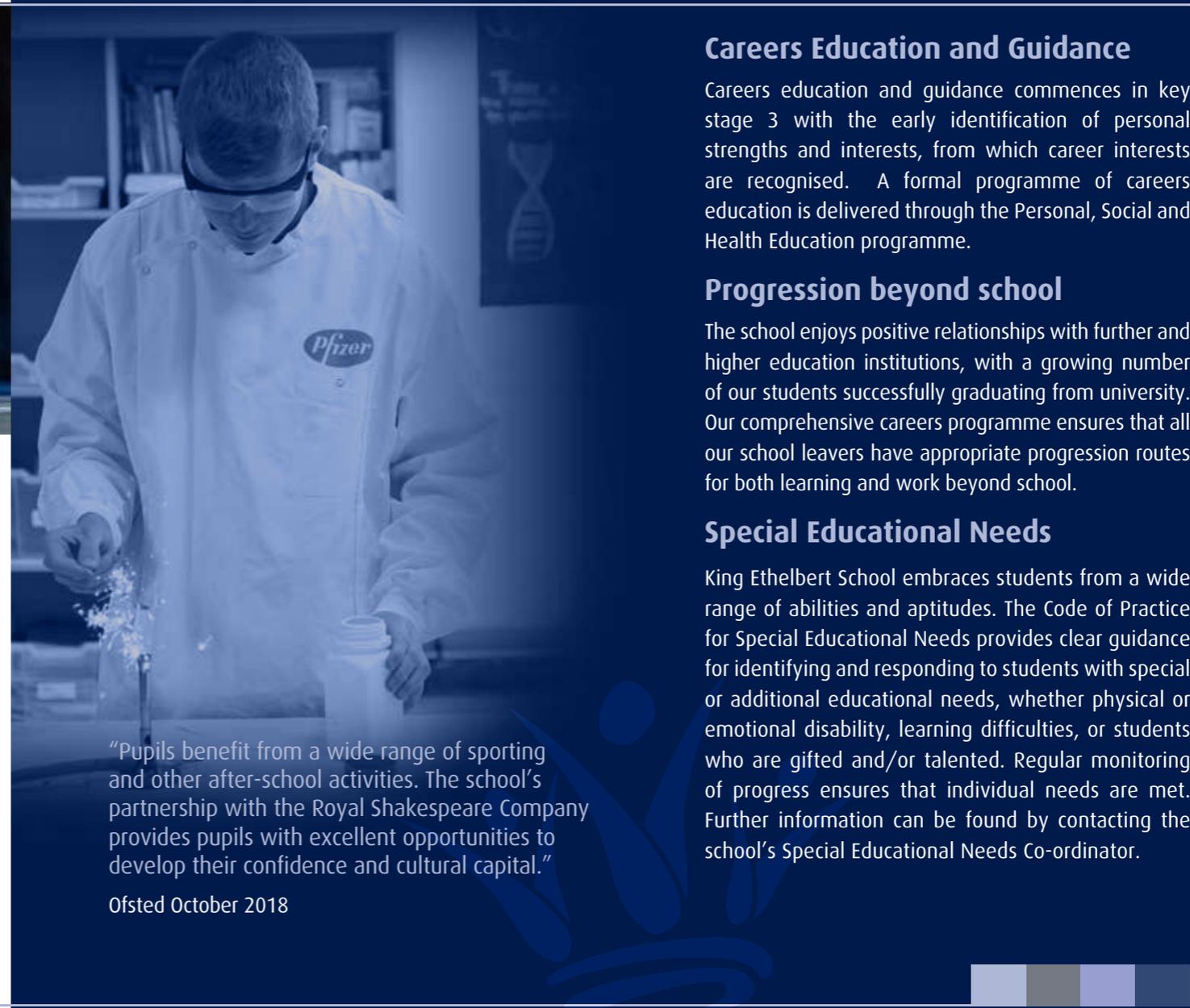
The core values of our cluster work are to embed active approaches to the teaching of Shakespeare across our cluster of schools and their communities. This means getting Shakespeare "off the page" using various active workshop approaches to make students' encounters with Shakespeare active, lively, engaging and enriching. We aim for our students to be able to discover the richness of Shakespeare's language without fear or preconception and with an open mind, so that they can access the best of British culture and heritage freely and with enthusiasm.



There are three driving principles that we support the Royal Shakespeare Company in delivering:

1. Do it on your feet.
2. Start it early.
3. See it live.

For more information and to see videos, interviews, photographs and blogs, please visit our school website under the RSC tab and BBC School News Report.



## Careers Education and Guidance

Careers education and guidance commences in key stage 3 with the early identification of personal strengths and interests, from which career interests are recognised. A formal programme of careers education is delivered through the Personal, Social and Health Education programme.

## Progression beyond school

The school enjoys positive relationships with further and higher education institutions, with a growing number of our students successfully graduating from university. Our comprehensive careers programme ensures that all our school leavers have appropriate progression routes for both learning and work beyond school.

## Special Educational Needs

King Ethelbert School embraces students from a wide range of abilities and aptitudes. The Code of Practice for Special Educational Needs provides clear guidance for identifying and responding to students with special or additional educational needs, whether physical or emotional disability, learning difficulties, or students who are gifted and/or talented. Regular monitoring of progress ensures that individual needs are met. Further information can be found by contacting the school's Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator.

"Pupils benefit from a wide range of sporting and other after-school activities. The school's partnership with the Royal Shakespeare Company provides pupils with excellent opportunities to develop their confidence and cultural capital."

Ofsted October 2018

# Parents & Carers

Parents/carers are informed regularly of the progress and achievement of their child. They are actively encouraged to come into school to support their child's learning at every level to get involved in learning themselves. There is a programme of events for parents/carers to engage in, examples of which are the New Beginnings programme, homework project celebrations, e-safety updates, cooking on a budget and local history information.

## Community learning

It is of huge importance to us that King Ethelbert is at the heart of the local community.

A wide range of guests regularly visit the school from local interest groups and the world of business and enterprise to share their work and provide important links for students. Each year there are opportunities for students to be engaged in a range of local community ventures, from fundraising to more active participation in wider community events. This enables a greater understanding for students of their role as citizens within the local and global community.

The school keeps in close contact with many of its ex-students who come into school to support the learning of its current students. In this way a very strong sense of community is created.

"Parents see the school in a positive light. Parents shared with inspectors that they feel their sons and daughters thrive and receive excellent support and personal care."

Ofsted October 2018

"As a parent I am very happy and proud to be a part of the King Ethelbert family. Both my sons are encouraged and supported in everything they do. I am always well informed in their progress and feel very involved in their school life. I know that all the staff at King Ethelbert School are devoted to the students. I feel very lucky that the children attend this school."

Year 10 and 12 Parent

"King Ethelbert is one big family which we were very much made to feel a part of when my son started school at KES in Y8. He was quickly settled into a class and had buddies to help him find his way on his first few days. The progress tracker system is very helpful in keeping up to date on his levels and my son feels he is supported well by his teachers and he knows he can speak to his form tutor if he has any concerns. He has been involved in many school activities, the house competitions are a particular favourite. I know my son will achieve the best he can whilst at KES because his strengths are encouraged and any weaknesses are supported and worked on by teachers so he will reach his potential."

Year 11 Parent





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