



# Sixth Form

Scholarship-Character-Community

[www.hwga.org.uk](http://www.hwga.org.uk)



# Welcome from the Head Teacher

King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy is proud to serve the community of Handsworth and North West Birmingham. We are a non-selective, comprehensive, thriving, diverse and academically successful school for girls aged 11-18. Our Academy is part of the King Edward VI Academy Trust and we are committed to delivering our shared values and resolutely believe that education can:

- Raise aspirations to transform the lives of young people and to enhance the well-being of individuals and the community.
- Give young people the chance to live rich, fulfilled lives and to contribute to society.
- Provide more than the teaching of knowledge and skills.
- Develop curiosity and independence of mind.
- Create a love of learning, which will foster creativity, imagination and the capacity to communicate.
- Provide the chance to participate in sport, music, drama, outdoor pursuits and involvement in the wider community.
- Build character and relationships, along with a sense of morality, care and respect for others.



Regardless of their background or starting points, we expect all our students will achieve the highest academic standards. We also believe if we equip our students with the universal values of scholarship, character and community it will serve them well at university, in training, the workplace and their lives.

We are committed to the value of a broad and balanced curriculum, which is flexible and responsive to the needs of our students and well-matched to their aspirations.

If you would like to come and see the Academy in action please contact us by phone, our website, or via email at [enquiry@hwga.org.uk](mailto:enquiry@hwga.org.uk) and we will be delighted to show you around our Academy, which we are extremely proud of.

**Mr Qamar Riaz**  
Headteacher



# Welcome from Assistant Head Teacher – Post 16

Welcome to the Sixth Form at King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy. We can offer you not only excellent teaching, but also the opportunity to become involved in a wide range of enrichment activities. We have high academic standards and expectations for our students which are reflected in our excellent results at A Level and BTEC. A comprehensive induction programme is provided so that all students quickly settle into the academy.

We regularly monitor academic progress with students, parents and teachers working closely together to ensure that all students achieve their full potential. Excellent attendance, hard work and determination are the key skills that we promote to allow our students to become independent and prosperous, both in the Sixth Form and their future career. We regard our Sixth Formers as role models for younger members of the academy and are keen for them to be involved in the wider aspects of academy life. Sixth Form students contribute significantly to many activities, including our extensive extra-curricular programme. Our Sixth Form Ambassadors, led by our Head Girl, play a tremendous part in supporting students across the academy.

We provide a high level of guidance and support for students as they prepare for life after King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy, whether this is embarking on a career or going on to higher education. Each year an increasing number of our Year 13 students progress to the university of their choice. Whatever course a student decides to follow in the Sixth Form, we stress strongly that it will be different from year 11. A greater responsibility will be placed on the student. We expect a mature and motivated response to work from our students.

This will support them in negotiating successfully further in higher education and/or employment. We are certain that King Edwards VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy Sixth Form provides an exciting environment in which students can flourish. If you have any queries about Post 16 opportunities here, then please do not hesitate to contact us.

**Mr L Billingham**

Assistant Headteacher | Director of Post 16 and IT





# Ethos, Aims and Values

## Vision

Our vision is to work together to achieve educational excellence and full personal potential.

## Mission

Our mission is to unlock a thirst for learning for all so that students can successfully access a range of opportunities in an ever-changing world. To overcome barriers and embrace challenges to enrich themselves and our community.

## Values

Scholarship  
Character  
Community

## Intellectual Virtues

Reflection  
Critical Thinking

## Moral Virtues

Tolerance  
Respect  
Gratitude

## Performance Virtues

Resilience  
Ambition  
Confidence

## Civic Virtues

Social Justice  
Volunteering





# High Performance Learning

**We use the High Performance Learning philosophy and framework in our school. This means that we believe that all the students can be high performers, and we teach with these expectations in mind.**

Using the research-based High Performance Learning approach helps us to systematically build the cognitive competencies that lead a young person to thrive in school and in later life.

We embed the HPL philosophy throughout our school. We never tell our students they cannot achieve; it is just they are not doing it yet but with practice and persevere it will happen. If you want to discover more about High Performance Learning please visit [www.highperformancelearning.co.uk](http://www.highperformancelearning.co.uk)



## ACPs

Advanced  
Cognitive  
Performance  
Characteristics

## How to think

Meta-thinking  
Linking  
Analysing  
Creating  
Realising

## VAAs

Values  
Attitudes  
Attributes

## How to behave

Agile  
Empathetic  
Hard-working





# Character Education

**Character Education fosters the development of ethical individuals by empowering students to embrace good values. Aristotle once wrote, “we are what we habitually do.” The habits that children learn and practice when they are growing up follow them through into adulthood. Character Education reinforces the “whole child” agenda that shifts the emphasis from academic achievement to long-term learning and personal development.**

Whilst KEVI Handsworth Wood Girls’ Academy are committed to ensuring that all students achieve their personal best, we are also dedicated to ensure that students flourish and become the best version of themselves by:

- Teaching students about the positive traits that inform their motivation whilst guiding conduct.
- Providing them with the knowledge, core values and skills necessary for success throughout life.
- Helping students grasp what is ethically important and how to respond appropriately in a range of situations.

Teaching students to consider the right course of action that correlates to a given situation, basing decisions for the right reasons.

At KEVI Handsworth Wood Girls’ Academy, we strongly value the development of the whole child. We know that strong examination results are important for future success, however, we strive to provide a fully rounded education whereby our students become great citizens who can function effectively throughout life in modern Britain.

To that end, our Academy virtues are at the heart of all we do; we reflect upon these across the Academy. Our 10 virtues are embedded across the curriculum, through our rewards events, assemblies, tutor time, PSHE and personal development days.

Human flourishing requires the acquisition and development of intellectual, moral, civic and performance virtues. All are necessary to succeed in life. KEVI Handsworth Wood Girls’ Academy take pride in promoting our 10 Academy virtues to develop confident, compassionate students, successful learners and responsible citizens.

These virtues (amongst others) can be “caught” from interactions in our community, “taught” through educational experiences and reflection, and “sought” out by people who come to pursue and direct their own character development.



**Students are able to benefit from a broad range of courses in the Sixth Form that facilitate progression to any university course.**

## **Character Caught**

Character is ‘caught’ at KEVI Handsworth Wood Girls’ Academy by using this common virtue language with students both inside and outside of the classroom. Character is caught from staff modelling behaviours and through emotional transmission. The positive ethos is encompassed in all aspects of Academy life.

## **Character Taught**

Character is ‘taught’ at KEVI Handsworth Wood Girls’ Academy through the direct teaching of character education in PSHE lessons, tutor time activities, personal development days, and in all subject areas. Making character education explicit and visible helps students to understand the importance of developing their characters to embrace life’s challenges, while building an inner resilience to overcome barriers.

## **Character Sought**

Character is ‘sought’ out at Handsworth Wood Girls Academy through ensuring that all of our students have access to the widest range of learning opportunities through our extensive enrichment programme, competitive house system and wide range educational visits and trips, that contributes to the development of good character. These pursuits give everyone the chance to experience something meaningful regardless of where they are from or their background.



# Curriculum

### Standard academic entry requirement

5 GCSE's/Level 2s Grades 9-5 Including GCSE English Language\Literature and GCSE Mathematics plus minimum requirement for each subject as given in the table below.

### Standard vocational entry requirement

5 GCSE's/Level 2s Grades 9-4 Including GCSE English Language\Literature and GCSE Mathematics plus minimum requirement for each subject as given in the table below. Grade 3 in either GCSE English Language\Literature or GCSE Mathematics will be accepted in exceptional circumstances.



### Academic Entry Requirements

Subject:	Course specific entry requirements:
Art*	Grade 5 or Merit in Art related course at GCSE/Level 2 + Standard academic entry requirement
Biology	Grade 6 in GCSE Biology or GCSE Combined Science 6,6 + Standard academic entry requirement
Chemistry	Grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry or GCSE Combined Science 6,6 + Standard academic entry requirement
Drama*	Grade 6 in GCSE Drama + Standard academic entry requirement
English Literature	Grade 5 in GCSE English Literature + Standard academic entry requirement
French*	Grade 6 in GCSE French + Standard academic entry requirement
Geography	Grade 5 in GCSE Geography + Standard academic entry requirement
History	Grade 5 in GCSE History + Standard academic entry requirement
Law	Standard academic entry requirement
Mathematics	Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics + Standard academic entry requirement
Media	Standard academic entry requirement
Music*	Grade 6 in GCSE Music + Standard academic entry requirement
Product Design	Grade 5 in GCSE Product Design or related course + Standard academic entry requirement
Physics*	Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics, Grade 6 in GCSE Physics or GCSE Combined Science 6,6 + Standard academic entry requirement
Politics*	Grade 6 in English Literature + Standard academic entry requirement
Psychology	Standard academic entry requirement
Religious Studies	Standard academic entry requirement
Sociology	Standard academic entry requirement

### Vocational Entry Requirement

Subject:	Course specific entry requirements:
Business Studies	Standard vocational entry requirement
Childcare	Standard vocational entry requirement
Health and Social Care	Standard vocational entry requirement
ICT	Standard vocational entry requirement
Science	Standard vocational entry requirement

\* Indicates the subject may not be taught at KEVI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy but at another King Edward VI Birmingham Trust School.



# Careers

Careers Education, Guidance and Employability play an important part in the lives of students at KEVI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy. The aim of our programme is to provide students with the skills and knowledge to make wise and informed choices regarding their future and develop skills to prepare them for their working life.

Help and advice is given to students so that each one is able to make an informed choice about continuing in education, jobs and training.

Employability skills and work experience is a major focus in year 12 in preparation for work experience and in 6th form a robust programme is in place to ensure that students are very well prepared for their next phase of life.



The school works closely with an external and impartial Careers Advisor, who visits the school regularly. In addition to individual interviews and group sessions the Aspirations Leader will offer drop-in lunch time sessions and Careers guidance is available at parents' evenings. Students have access to up-to-date information about their future options in the Careers sections of the Library where leaflets, books, magazines and university prospectuses are available.

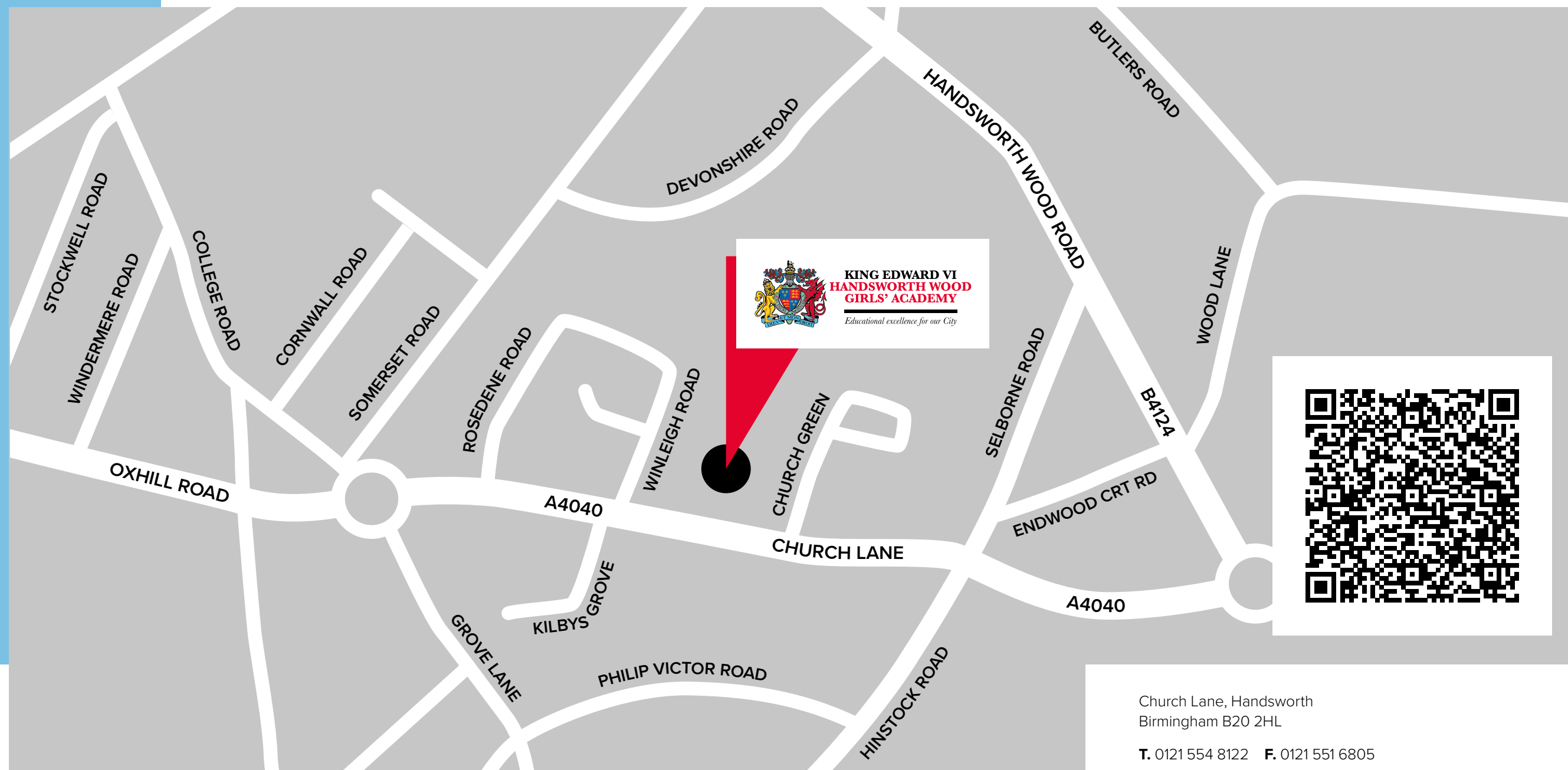
We have links with employers such as West Midlands Police, Shakespeare Martineau Law Firm, Aecom and BMW and work closely with The Universities of Aston, University of Birmingham, UCB, Oxford and many more.





**KING EDWARD VI  
HANDSWORTH WOOD  
GIRLS' ACADEMY**

*Educational excellence for our City*



Church Lane, Handsworth  
Birmingham B20 2HL

**T.** 0121 554 8122 **F.** 0121 551 6805

[enquiry@hwga.org.uk](mailto:enquiry@hwga.org.uk)

[@hwgacademy](https://twitter.com/hwgacademy) [@hwgacademy](https://www.instagram.com/hwgacademy)