

SECONDARY SCHOOL

KEY FACTS 2010–2011

Introduction

We look forward to welcoming our second group of year 7 pupils to King Solomon Academy in 2010. This sheet gives key facts for Year 6 pupils and parents. It should be read in conjunction with the academy prospectus.

More time for learning

Summer school

All incoming pupils are expected to attend an induction summer school, which runs from 25 July to 6 August 2010. If you are interested in your child attending KSA, please keep these dates free so that your child makes the best possible start to their journey at KSA. For pupils already at the school, the summer term always finishes two weeks later than for neighbouring schools.

Longer school day

The secondary school runs a longer school day. Pupils are expected to arrive at school by 7.55am. Lessons finish at 4pm on Monday and 5pm on Tuesday to Friday.

Saturday learning

One Saturday a month the secondary school provides extra-curricular learning opportunities, including community service and visiting museums. All secondary pupils are required to attend these sessions.

The curriculum we offer

Depth before breadth

At secondary school, we prioritise mastering English and mathematics as the building blocks of all learning.

Our specialisms: Music and Mathematics

Music: We expect all pupils to develop a love of and aptitude for music, including those who do not have a musical background. Our pupils receive 4 hours of music a week, with a variety of extra-curricular bands and choirs on offer.

Mathematics: We invest heavily in mathematics, hiring exceptional teachers who find a way for every child to enjoy and succeed in the subject.

Enriched curriculum

We aim to broaden our pupils' horizons with trips that extend learning. We bring to life our aspiration that all our pupils should work hard and have the opportunity to go to university when they graduate from King Solomon Academy. Every year we take our pupils on a residential trip to experience and study at a university so that they are in a good position to make informed choices when they prepare to leave KSA.

Relationships matter

We believe pupils at the start of secondary school benefit from a smaller scale environment where they can be known as individuals. Our pupils have fewer teachers who see them for more time. In particular, they are taught a combined English and Humanities curriculum for two hours every day by one teacher. By knowing each pupil so well, this teacher is able to make the difference and make sure pupils make superb progress in literacy.

A healthy, happy place

Sports

Our pupils have the option to take part in physical activity every day, either at lunch time, during PE lessons or on our weekly sports afternoon.

Lunch and nutrition

All pupils take school lunch. Pupils are provided with a healthy midmorning snack a freshly cooked lunch, and an afternoon snack, all for the price of £2.50 a day. Pupils eat in a family service style, serving one another from communal dishes. We provide a healthy balanced diet that prepares pupils for the learning ahead. Pupils may not bring food or drink from outside the academy.

Living up to expectations

Uniform

Uniform is purchased directly from the school, in order to keep the cost to a minimum. Pupils are expected to be in perfect school uniform every day.

Behaviour

The secondary school is a very disciplined environment. Pupils move between lessons in silence, knowing that not a second is to be wasted if they are to realise their goals. We hold our pupils to high expectations. If pupils choose not to meet these expectations we endeavour to help them to do so. This includes a consistent approach to behaviour management. If pupils behave badly they will be kept behind for detention.

Homework

We know we must give 100% everyday to achieve success for our pupils. We expect the same from them, especially in terms of their homework. Pupils will have one and a quarter hours homework every night in Year 7, increasing as they progress through the school. Pupils are provided with their teachers' phone numbers to ask for assistance with homework when needed.

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