



King's College  
TAUNTON

TODAY  
KING'S  
TOMORROW

2025-2030  
OUR FIVE-YEAR PLAN

TODAY



"From the moment I arrived at King's, I knew that this was a uniquely special place: a close-knit community, where pupils of all ages were confident, happy and valued as individuals.

King's offers the perfect environment at every age and stage for each child to thrive and succeed: we are determined to build upon this long-standing culture and well-respected reputation.

As you read this document, you will note that the core narrative focuses on the child. This makes perfect sense; however, it should not be ignored that it also relates equally to the adults in our community. For example, I expect our governors, staff, and myself to be courageous in our decision-making, and the level of collaboration between teachers and parents is fundamental to our success.

#### We already have five key advantages:

- *Our school is the ideal size across two glorious sites.*
- *Location, location, location – beautiful Victorian and Georgian buildings combined with state-of-the-art facilities amid acres of fields, just a 10-minute walk to Taunton or the beautiful Somerset countryside.*
- *Our passionate belief in co-education.*
- *Best of both worlds in boarding provision – an integrated House system, leading to a cohesive and inclusive approach.*
- *An understanding of, and determination to liberate, each pupil's unique aspirations – a key philosophy underpinning our educational achievements.*

Our parent community recognises these strengths and appreciates what King's is currently delivering to their child whether they be in Pelican Nursery or Sixth Form. These aren't just my words – an independent online survey of our current parents conducted in 2024 by a sector leading research company, showed that 87% feel very positively about us. By their metrics, this is significantly above the average score they see across the independent schools' sector.

The key takeaway? We already create a highly valued education for Somerset and beyond.

But standing still simply isn't an option.

That's why this strategic vision is vital for our continuing success..."

**Michael Sloan**

Executive Head, King's College Taunton

# WHY WE'RE SPECIAL

You might expect pupils from a school renowned for sporting success to swagger. But that's not the attitude here at King's: from the earliest years of their journey with us, our pupils remain grounded, respectful and open-minded.

This may have something to do with our family-oriented culture, Christian ethos and commitment to the local community. It also reflects our nurturing environment with personalised support that enables each child to thrive, from Pelican Nursery through Prep, Senior School and Sixth Form.

With small class sizes, alongside exceptional learning and pastoral care focused on developing the whole child, King's commands a strong academic reputation. That's also because during formative years and beyond we expect – and encourage – curiosity, teamwork, excellence, endeavour and risk-taking. After all, the acres of open space in which to play and explore offers the ideal backdrop for adventurous free spirits. And the friendly atmosphere around school exudes a quiet confidence.

But we're never complacent...

We are moving forward with planned new investment in both enhanced teaching talent and intellectual innovation, as well as providing high-quality facilities across both of our sites.

So, while we're obviously proud of seeing former pupils opening the batting for Somerset, the exciting next chapter for this school will be based on so much more than an existing local reputation for quality. You could even say: 'it's not just cricket'!

Key reasons:

- *Family-oriented culture*
- *Christian ethos*
- *Commitment to community*
- *Small class sizes*
- *Exceptional learning and pastoral support*
- *Strong academic reputation*





# OUR MISSION

To inspire a lifelong love of learning, creativity and courage in every child within a nurturing and joyful community.

We develop confident, resilient, collaborative and compassionate individuals, through a comprehensive education and outstanding pupil support that's enriched by innovative technologies and grounded in humanity.

# OUR VALUES

We aim, in our pupils of all ages, to inspire a lifelong love of learning through the following core values:



## COMMUNITY

Respect is the fundamental basis of all communities and the King's community is no exception. We are a tolerant and nurturing community that cares about each of its members and the world around us; we are a part of society, not apart from it. Our inclusive ethos gives everyone the freedom to flourish and grow.

*Inclusion, spirituality, care, compassion, empathy, courteousness, nurturing, tolerance, respect.*



## COURAGE

King's pupils will have the courage to overcome challenges, persevere and endeavour to reach their full potential by always striving to be the best version of themselves.

*Challenge ideas, independence of thought, risk-takers, resilience/try again, endeavour, freedom to take risks with learning.*



## CURIOSITY

We encourage pupils to think critically, challenge ideas and take on board different perspectives. We instil a lifelong love for learning and provide our pupils with a skill-set that will enable them to meet the as-yet unknown challenges of the future workplace.

*Thinking outside the box, challenge/question ideas, independence, different perspectives, evaluate, aspiration both at and beyond school, conscientious.*



## COLLABORATION

A collaborative learning atmosphere is at the heart of all we do at King's.  
We listen and work together to support each other, enabling us  
to aim high and succeed.

*Listening, embracing new ideas, helping others, teamwork, responsible,  
accepting peer support, learning from others.*



## CREATIVITY

Higher-order creative thinking is a fundamental part of the learning  
journey at King's. By liberating imaginations from the outset,  
embracing a reflective, risk-taking and problem-solving approach  
we embody creativity and expression in all stages and  
areas of the curriculum.

*Problem-solving, flexible, higher-order thinking, making links,  
experimental with new ideas, risk-taking, reflective,  
bold, language.*

TOMORROW



# THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN

This high-level plan spans all ages from 2 to 18 years and plots our progress towards 2030 and beyond.

Formulated with our traditional Woodard Christian roots at its heart, this is a roadmap to ensure we stay ahead in an evolving world – for the benefit of our pupils and the wider world.

We're already moving forward towards our goals through significant investment in ensuring our beautiful sites are fit for purpose.



## OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS WE WILL FOCUS ON

We will deliver a quality driven outstanding education, grounded in proven teaching methods and enriched by cutting-edge technologies – alongside excellent pastoral care for every pupil.

Steeped in history, we are committed to staying at the forefront of educational advancements, fostering personal growth, ensuring our pupils are at the centre of all we do, preparing them to thrive in an ever-evolving world.

Through sound governance, shrewd financial investment and forward thinking in our decision making, King's is in a robust position to enhance and deliver an exciting and broad educational offering across our twin sites.

The most recent example of this investment is our £6m Sixth Form Centre, featuring state-of-the-art classrooms, Creative Learning Space, Futures Room and breakout areas, which positively impacts the academic experience of our senior pupils.

There will inevitably be more refurbishment and new buildings as we continue to invest further as required, and we intend to remain free of debt throughout these projects.

Due to our longstanding reputation as a quality British school for nearly 150 years, we have also gained an enviable international presence: three King's College Schools are currently operating internationally, in Doha, Riyadh and India, with a fourth school scheduled to open in September 2025.

There are further plans to expand our presence internationally and we have appointed a stand-alone Director of International Schools to coordinate, oversee and grow our international family.

This unique global reach means over 3,000 pupils around the world are currently educated by King's, setting us apart and providing a huge competitive edge over the vast majority of UK independent schools. This King's family of schools provides outstanding networking opportunities for all pupils, OAs and staff.

By generating valuable annual financial returns to us here in Taunton, our international school revenue helps to insulate us, to a large degree, from any political or economic threats facing the sector.

The final key element of our plan is to maintain and accelerate in Taunton the 'one school/two sites' philosophy – further aligning educational and operational aspects of the Prep and Senior schools, for the mutual benefit of both.



## PRIORITY 1

Staying at the forefront of delivering exceptional educational outcomes for pupils from 2 to 18 through innovative teaching methods via a robust teaching framework.

We will achieve this by:

- Developing a dynamic and flexible learning framework for all ages.
- Incorporating the latest age-appropriate pedagogical research and innovative teaching methods.
- Engaging teachers in continuous professional development to remain current with educational practices.
- Leveraging advanced technologies to create interactive and personalised learning experiences.
- Promoting active, experiential learning through project-based approaches.
- Fostering critical thinking and real-world problem-solving skills.
- Providing continuous feedback to pupils.
- Personalising learning paths for individual pupil needs.
- Engaging parents and the community to support pupil success.
- Ensuring every pupil thrives academically and personally.



## PRIORITY 2

Ensuring unrivalled pastoral care that aids each pupil's age and stage, with an understanding of kindness and empathy balanced with a determination to perform to their best.

We will achieve this by:

- Developing a holistic pastoral care framework tailored to the needs of each pupil at every stage.
- Training staff in emotional intelligence and mental health support to enable personalised care.
- Creating a school culture of empathy and respect, balancing emotional well-being with academic excellence.
- Engaging parents in the pastoral care process.
- Regularly assessing and investing into pupils' well-being.
- Ensuring that every pupil is supported and empowered to perform to their best.



## PRIORITY 3

Investing in outstanding facilities and specialist teachers/coaches to create a state-of-the-art educational offer across both campuses.

We will achieve this by:

- Enhancing sports, arts and technology facilities to inspire pupils to excel at their age and stage in a range of disciplines.
- Recruiting specialist practitioners, teachers and coaches who bring expertise and passion to their fields.
- Integrating advanced technology to create future-ready campuses.
- Engaging with alumni and friends of King's College to encourage a culture of giving and philanthropy.
- Incorporating pupil feedback in the planning and development of facilities to ensure that their needs and interests are at the forefront, fostering a sense of ownership and engagement.
- Implementing sustainability initiatives in facility upgrades to promote environmental responsibility and ensure our campuses are eco-friendly and resource-efficient.



## PRIORITY 4

Investing further in the growth of our international family of schools to build on our success to date in this sphere.

We will achieve this by:

- Exploring future opportunities across the globe to grow our international family of schools.
- Enhancing the already strong connections between our campuses and overseas institutions.
- Developing a seamless integration of our educational philosophy and the 'King's DNA' across all locations.
- Leveraging technology to foster collaboration and communication between global campuses to share best practices and resources.
- Implementing cultural exchange programmes to enrich the educational experiences for all pupils.
- Growing our 'Beyond King's' alumni network to connect current and former pupils across the globe.
- Regularly assessing the impact of our international initiatives to ensure alignment with our overall growth objectives.

# 12 FURTHER WAYS WE'LL ACHIEVE THESE PRIORITIES

1 Growing our culture of academic success and intellectual curiosity.

2 Growing and enhancing our outreach and partnership program across Somerset, rooted in community engagement and enriching the educational experience for all pupils.



3 Implementing paper-less teaching throughout the school.

4 Maintaining and growing our scholarship and bursary fund, to support deserving pupils who would otherwise never have the opportunity to thrive in our outstanding educational environment.



5 Ensuring staff and pupils maintain awareness of generative AI.

6 Encouraging pupils to appreciate cross-curricular links and real-world applications of subject content.



7 Improving inclusion of all learners in the classroom.

8 Encouraging peer academic support.



9 Improving academic monitoring tracking and progress through better reporting.

10 Maintaining diverse revenue streams, including commercial enterprises, development activities, and community partnerships, ensuring sustainable growth and the ability to invest in educational resources and infrastructure.



11 Developing 'whole school' pupil voice and pupil leadership.

12 Growing and promoting our EDI agenda.





# STRIVING FOR OUR ULTIMATE GOAL

Through this new five-year plan, King's College Taunton is beginning a journey of change and improvement.

But our ethos will never change. Authenticity remains vital to our future success.

Independent research already suggests a range of opportunities for growth in key market segments and entry points – which is our first objective.

So we'll continue to strive for the best outcomes for our pupils, maximising the value we can add to their education.

Then our ultimate goal is to consolidate our reputation as one of the UK's leading independent schools and become the school of choice in the South West of England.

**Ready?**

We encourage.  
We are courageous.  
We are King's.



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