



# King Edward VI School

## Church of England Admissions Criteria: Some Frequently Asked Questions



### **King Edward VI School is a Church of England School. What does that mean?**

We are a community school (not an academy, not a free school, not a private school). We believe that every child is special, irrespective of their background, postcode, parental income or faith. We welcome them all. Our approach to education – and how we aim to treat people – is underpinned by Christian values.

### **What does this mean in day-to-day practice?**

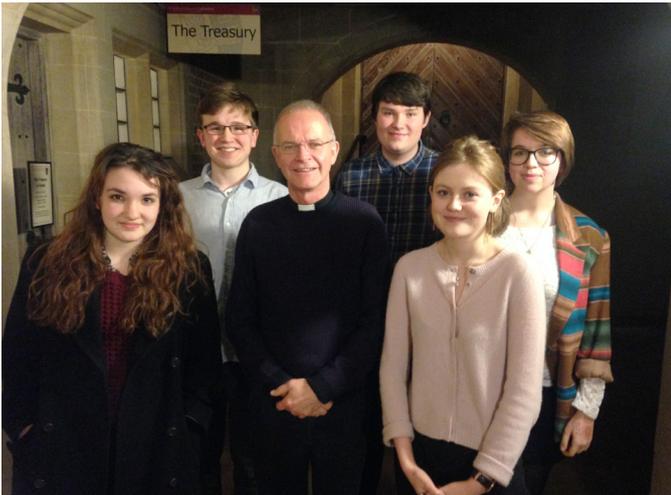
In preparing our students to take their place in a complex, multi-cultural world, we want them to explore faith, morality, ethics, the differences and similarities between people, the art and music that has defined our culture, language that has shaped us, and the sense of what being a modern human entails.

We attend a termly school service at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, sing evensong there, welcome choristers to our choir, work closely with Bury Christian Youth, hold an annual PraySpace week, and have many other projects designed to make faith meaningful to all our students.



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### **Does that mean all your students are Christians?**

Not at all. Students of all faiths and backgrounds attend our school. All are welcome. Our last Church inspection concluded: 'The clearly articulated Christian principles of valuing and celebrating the achievements of each individual ensure that students have a strong sense of self-worth'.

### **Does this mean that you aim to 'convert' children to Christianity?**

No. We aim to exemplify Christian values, not to instruct children about what to believe.





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### **What are your admissions criteria?**

Children who have a statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN) or an Education, Health and Care plan (EHC plan) which names the school must, by law, be offered a place at our school.

These are followed by:

- 1) Looked-after children (children in care) and previously looked after children
- 2) Siblings (children who are brothers and sisters of, or who live as a family at the same address) of pupils who are already at the school or who have already been offered a place, and who will still be there at the time of admission (but not in the Sixth Form).
- 3) Children who are ordinarily resident in the catchment area.

Places will be allocated in the following priority order:

- a) Children whose parents are practising members of the Church of England.  
In practice, this means that you and/or your child attend church regularly (that is to say at least once a month for the past six months)
- b) Children who live nearest to the school. We will measure the distance by a straight line ('as the crow flies'). All straight line distances are calculated electronically by Suffolk County Council using data provided jointly by the Post Office and Ordnance Survey.
- c) Children who live outside the school's catchment area in the same priority order as set out in (a) and (b) above.

### **What does it mean by being regular practising members of the Church of England?**

It means that you and/or your child go to church regularly - that means at least once a month over a six-month period. The form asks for a supporting signature from the vicar of the church that you attend.

### **Will we be given priority if my son/daughter attends a Church of England Primary School?**

No, the usual admissions criteria will apply.



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### **What churches do not qualify?**

Methodist; Baptist; United Reformed Church (URC); Roman Catholic (RC).

For churches in the 'Churches Together' and 'Evangelical Alliance' please contact Suffolk County Council at [Admissions@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Admissions@suffolk.gov.uk) or on 0345 6000981 to check specific churches.

### **Do I need a Supplementary Information Form (SIF)?**

A supplementary form is needed if you are applying for a place because your child and/or the family are practising members of the Church of England.

### **Where do I send the SIF?**

Suffolk County Council Admissions Team, Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich, IP1 2BX.  
We recommend that you get proof of posting.

### **Where can I find the brochure explaining the admissions process?**

The Suffolk County Council Directory of Schools and the Admissions to Schools in Suffolk brochure can both be downloaded from Suffolk County Council's website <http://www.suffolk.gov.uk>

### **Where can I find more details?**

On our school website [http://www.king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk/school/joining\\_us.php](http://www.king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk/school/joining_us.php)