



Kings' School Sixth Form
Al Barsha

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PROSPECTUS
2018/19

Preparing tomorrow's adults, today.



Principal's message

Dear Parents and Sixth Form Students

Thank you for requesting a copy of our prospectus and showing a genuine interest in Kings' Sixth Form.

Kings' is one of Dubai's foremost centres of academic excellence. Our new and dynamic Sixth Form offers an exciting, stimulating and challenging environment for learning, which ensures our students excel in intellectual enquiry, debate and search for explanation well beyond their A Level curriculum.

Students will enhance their intellectual, personal and social development by taking full advantage of the fantastic opportunities that are provided at Kings' through our sport, expressive arts, community service and Duke of Edinburgh programmes, offered as fundamentals to our Kings' Diploma and unique among schools in the Middle East.

All of this and more you will read about in the following pages.

Kings' is very different from a conventional school. Many students remain here long after the teaching day has finished, perhaps to work in our fantastic library, or for extra sport, to rehearse for a play or concert, to attend enrichment classes or a sixth form lecture. We set out to merge academic excellence with outstanding levels of pastoral support. Both Year 12 and Year 13 have their own Head of Year leading a small, dedicated team of tutors. This, combined with small class sizes, allows time and support for education in depth and for a level of pastoral care and attention that is second to none.

The nurturing of our students' individual talents to the highest degree means that there is no such thing as a typical Kings' learner. What we all have in common is the desire to develop articulate, confident Kings' Learners, with a strong moral sense of social responsibility, ready for the challenges of university and the wider world of work.

In recent years we have opened incredible facilities in the Expressive Arts, a wonderful library, sector-leading auditorium and unrivalled technological and sports provision. In terms of subject areas like Design & Technology and Physical Education, we would lay claim to the best facilities in Dubai. All these developments have significantly enhanced opportunities for students joining us in our Sixth Form. This, together with our A Level curriculum and our inspiring and passionate teachers, allow our 'very important pupils', Kings' own VIPs, to fully realise their potential more effectively.

We are confident that the intellectual enjoyment this individual approach brings, 'the best by every child', will ensure that our talented young people, your sons and daughters, will go on to win places at top universities worldwide.

Once you have read this brochure and explored our website, it is always best to have a glimpse first hand of the excitement that lies ahead, and I strongly encourage you to come to one of our Open Mornings before undertaking the formal process of interview for a place in this exciting, innovative, creative and excellent School.



Mr Alan Williamson
Director of Education & Principal Kings' School
Al Barsha

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Why choose us?

Kings' Sixth Form aims to provide students with a complete educational experience, meaning that our students leave as academically successful, well-rounded and mature young adults, ready for whatever the future may hold.

The Kings' Offer

- High quality specialist staff
- First rate study facilities
- Spacious combined social and study area
- Small class sizes for lots of individual attention and support
- Wide range of subjects at A level
- Kings' Diploma
- Leadership opportunities
- Variety of challenging and fun extra-curricular opportunities: from sports to music and theatre.

Advice and support

- Supportive pastoral system
- Approachable and caring staff
- High quality guidance and careers advice. During their time at Kings', students gain experience in a broad range of areas and prepare for life beyond Sixth Form, exploring areas such as finance, enterprise, personal safety, fitness and health.

'Small class sizes for lots of individual attention and support.'

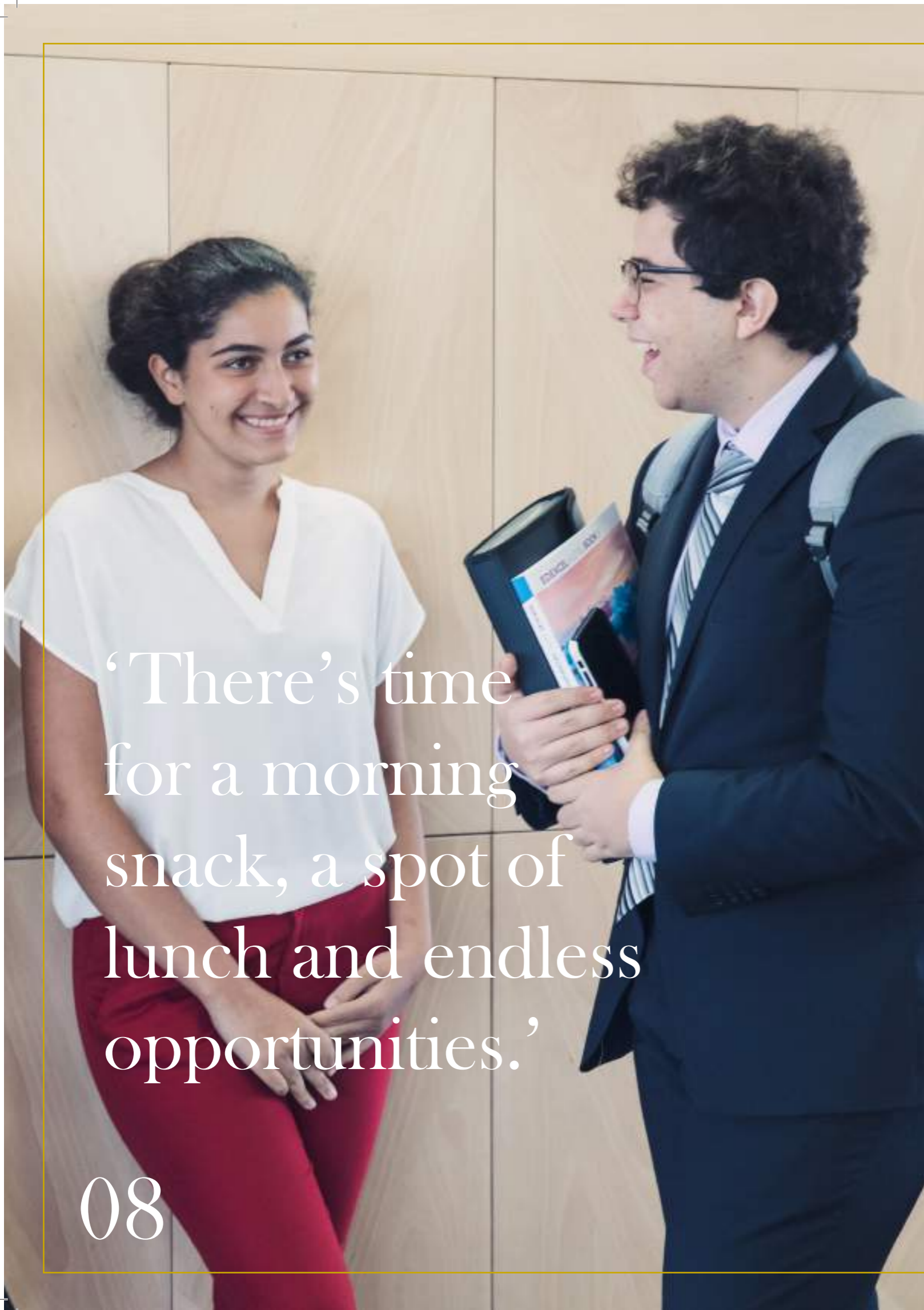
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"We aim for and expect articulate, confident Kings' Learners, with a strong moral sense of social responsibility, ready for university and the wider world of work".

Alan Williamson
*Director of Education
& Principal*

07



‘There’s time for a morning snack, a spot of lunch and endless opportunities.’

What to expect in Sixth form?

You start at 8am and finish at 3.30pm. There’s time for a morning snack, a spot of lunch and endless opportunities.

Do more

Life at Kings has endless opportunities. Instead of lessons, lunch, lessons and home, we provide a wide range of further opportunities, both academic and extra-curricular. From football to dance, there’s something for everyone. There’s even the opportunity for students to take part in community service within school and work-related activities out of school.

Your Own Space

Sit back, relax and socialise in the Sixth Form common room, a grown up environment for students to eat, catch up and make new friends.

Students, have your say!

The Sixth Form Council, with voting members from each tutor group, plays a leading role in promoting and organising student activities. So if you have a good idea, let it out. Make a difference and help shape your Sixth Form.

.....And you too parents

Co-operation between students, parents and the Sixth Form is essential as students are to maximise their learning experience. We therefore arrange for parents to meet form tutors early in the autumn term and for subsequent meetings with subject teachers in Years 12 and 13. Parents are also welcome to contact the tutors or Sixth Form team at other times to discuss student progress or other matters of concern.

A bit of advice

Careers education and guidance is provided for all students. There’s encouragement to take increasing responsibility for work in order to develop the skills needed at university and in employment. There’s also support on hand for when times get hectic, especially during exam periods.

The application process



Entry requirements:

- **6A*-C or Level 5 and above pass grades at GCSE, including English and Mathematics.**
- **Subject specific requirements (see table and individual course pages).**

Applications to Kings' Sixth Form are welcome throughout the year for September entry. Completed applications are reviewed as soon as they are submitted and we will acknowledge and process applications as soon as we can.

Once all documentation has been received, selected students will have a confidential reference requested from their current school. All candidates will be called for an interview with the Head of Sixth Form.

If successful, a conditional offer will be issued, pending GCSE results in August.



The Kings' Diploma

The Kings' Learner Behaviours are central to our students' education. Our Sixth Form students will continue to develop these essential skills in order to prepare themselves for higher education and work.

The Kings' Diploma is a unique and bespoke suite of qualification which ensures our students are able to win competitive places at the top universities around the world.

In addition to A level studies, the diploma involves several wider academic awards, including the EPQ (Extended Project Qualification), Duke of Edinburgh Award (to Gold Level), work experience via top Dubai-based business placements, charity work, community support and leadership challenges & qualifications.



"The new and dynamic Sixth Form at Kings' offers an exciting, stimulating and challenging environment for learning".

Alan Williamson
Director of Education & Principal

“The range of subjects we offer allows students to personalise their pathway to university.”

Rebecca Coulter

Extended Project Qualification

Good education is not only about imparting knowledge - important though that is - but about developing deep thought, independence and creativity, and offering opportunities for intellectual enquiry.

What is the extended project?

At the heart of our Extended Curriculum is the requirement for you to develop and realise an advanced level project entirely of your own devising. Studied during Year 12, the Extended Project offers you the chance to gain real independence, resilience and maturity as an advanced level learner, while pursuing any topic of your choosing. It also offers you an additional AS level qualification alongside your A level choices.

What does it involve?

The Extended Project gives you the freedom and time to explore an idea that interests you and it is an opportunity for you to pursue and research something you feel passionate about. It involves working independently to produce either a:

- Dissertation, investigation or report
- Artefact or design
- Performance, either solo or in a group
- Charity event (group)

What can you do for your extended project?

The answer is 'anything'! As long as it is:

- Safe, practical, ethical and achievable
- Not examined elsewhere

“Sixth Form represents the pinnacle of all we are trying to achieve at the Kings’ Schools here in Dubai: Independently minded students, students who are prepared for the world, and students who have a business like sense of how to go about learning.”

Michael Bloy



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

At a time when entry to universities and the workplace is becoming more and more competitive, you'll need more than just good grades to achieve your ambitions.

Employers and admissions tutors are looking for qualified people with extra qualities - the non-academic achievements that show they have a positive attitude, are self-motivated, adaptable and have skills in problem solving, teamwork, and communication.

A Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a great way to demonstrate that you have all of these extra skills.

The benefits

The Duke of Edinburgh is more than just a qualification. Everyone gets different things out of their award because you get to choose the activities you follow in most of the sections and you set the goals you want to reach. In following a Duke of Edinburgh programme you'll challenge yourself, enjoy loads of new experiences and discover talents you never thought you had.

Anyone can take part. You do not need any experience or special qualifications, just a willingness to have a go.

Gold award

There are no short cuts to gaining a Gold Award and you will have to show a great deal of personal commitment and tenacity to achieve it. You will be helped and guided throughout, but you will have to plan and carry out much of the work yourself.

The expedition

For many, the expedition is the highlight of their Duke of Edinburgh experience. You will have prepared for this throughout the year by attending classroom sessions and training walks before you set off, as part of a team, on a four day unaccompanied walk.

Despite being a very demanding and at times possibly painful experience, the pride and satisfaction of completing the expedition and achieving your Gold Award, is an experience you will remember for life.

FAQ's

How many subjects will I take, and how many should I include on my application?

Most students will take four subjects, comprising three A level subjects plus the Extended Project qualification – which gives all our students the equivalent of an additional one year AS level. These elements make up the core of our study programme, together with enrichment and tutorial support. Some particularly well-qualified applicants will have the opportunity to take four two-year A level subjects if they wish.

We aim to allow you to follow your offered finalised subjects at the time of applying. Depending on how clear you are about your choices, you are advised to enter between three and five A level subjects on your application in your priority order at the time. These subjects and their order can be adjusted later if required.

Will three A level subjects and the Extended Project provide a strong base for progression to the most competitive universities?

Yes. Most university offers will continue to be based on three A levels. Furthermore, the Extended Project qualification is featuring increasingly in university offers. For example, a university might make an offer such as:

- A level grades AAB, or:
- A level grades ABB, plus A or A* in Extended Project

Universities have been clear that they do not expect students to be studying four A level subjects.

Here is what The University of Oxford has said on the subject of curriculum reform:

“A fourth subject to A level has never been a requirement at Oxford. Our courses require students to have not less than three A levels, or other equivalent qualifications. Some candidates do take additional AS levels, A levels, or other qualifications such as the Extended Project Qualification. Additional qualifications can be one way of demonstrating the academic abilities that will be required for the intense studying of an Oxford degree but they are not essential.”

Reference FAQ4 at: www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/course/entrance-requirements/faqs-level-reform



FAQ's

What advice would you give to students about choosing their subjects?

Virtually any combination of subjects is possible; we design our timetable to try to match the combinations requested by applicants.

Needless to say, you are advised to choose subjects in which you are interested and which will together support your future higher education and/or career ambitions. Those ambitions may mean that you are already sure about two or even three of your subject choices. If this is not the case, it may be advisable to choose at least one and possibly more of the following 'facilitating subjects', providing that these subjects play to your strengths and you would enjoy studying them: Mathematics; Further Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology; Geography; History; Languages (Modern and Classical); English Literature.

Are some subjects more likely to be oversubscribed than others?

Application patterns vary from year to year, but students should always apply for the most appropriate subjects which meet their interests, strengths and progression needs.

What happens if I am offered a place but do not achieve the required GCSE grades?

We will aim to allow you to follow your offered course even if your grades are lower than estimated, providing that you achieve at least an average B grade profile (or equivalent) and remain qualified for your subjects. Where this is not possible, for reasons such as timetable clashes or over-subscription of particular subjects, guidance will be offered about suitable alternative subjects. However, enrolment to a fourth A level subject would be conditional on your actual examination grades. Should you not achieve the grades required for any of your subjects, or if you fall below a B grade average profile, we would discuss your options with you in August prior to the start of the Academic Year.

What do I do when I'm not in a lesson?

You study! When you are not in a timetabled lesson you are expected to focus on enhancing your studies independently. It is vital for you to understand the demands of A levels before you begin and learn how to manage your time effectively.



“Preparing students to make a difference in the world they live in.”

Michael Bloy

Sixth Form Overview

PREPARING TOMORROW'S ADULTS, TODAY

“Smaller class sizes ensure that teachers can focus on individual student needs” - Aya

“The great facilities at Kings' make it feel like we are in a professional setting” - Charlie

“The range of subjects allows me to follow my passions” - Rhali

A LEVELS

- Arabic*
- Biology*
- Business
- Chemistry*
- Computer Science
- Design & Technology
- Economics
- English Literature*
- Fine Art
- Further Mathematics*
- Geography*
- History*
- Islamic Studies
- Languages (classical + modern)
- Mathematics*
- Music
- Music Technology
- Photography
- Physical Education
- Physics*
- Politics
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Drama & Theatre Studies

KINGS' DIPLOMA

- Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
- Young Enterprise
- Work Experience
- Extended Project Qualification
- Community Leadership

* Subjects most commonly required or preferred by universities to be accepted on to a range of degree courses