THE KING'S SCHOOL IN MACCLESFIELD

The King's School in Macclesfield is a co-educational day school, educating girls and boys together from Pre-School to the Sixth Form (ages 3–18). There are around 1,325 pupils and around 250 staff in the Foundation; as such, King's is one of the largest HMC schools in the country.

King's was founded in 1502 by Sir John Percyvale and re-founded in 1552 by King Edward VI. It has enjoyed a distinguished history of providing high quality education for local children for over 500 years. The school is the oldest with links to the Merchant Taylors' Company; the school's founder having been Master of the Company before becoming Lord Mayor of London. In 2002, the school's Quincentenary was marked by a visit from HRH Her Late Majesty the Queen. Until 1978 King's served as a boys' county grammar school, accepting the majority of children through the Direct Grant Scheme. It is now completely independent, but retains the tradition of a local school serving its community and providing bursaries to support those whose financial circumstances would otherwise prevent their admission. After 400 years of boys' only education, the school originally admitted girls to the Sixth Form and, following the success of this, opened a Senior Girls' Division in 1993 on the site of the former Macclesfield Girls' High School, which also housed the Infant and Junior Division. The school operated from these two sites, with a third sporting facility at Derby Fields, until 2020 when it moved to a single, completely new, purpose-built campus on the outskirts of Prestbury. The campus boasts 80 acres of Cheshire countryside, modern and impressive indoor and outdoor learning facilities, as well as expansive sporting facilities.

The school is organised into three Divisions: the Infant & Junior Division, Senior Division and Sixth Form Division, and each has its own facilities and separate Principal who reports directly to the Head of Foundation. The school has a strong academic reputation and aims to combine the best of traditional values with a commitment to forward-thinking and broad-based education. In 2025, the percentage of A*-B grades at A Level was 83%. The percentage of grades 9-7 at GCSE was 60%. Pupils benefit from the highly qualified and committed teaching staff, small class sizes and a disciplined learning environment. There is a strong commitment to extra-curricular activities and King's reputation for music, drama and sport is firmly established. The Foundation Choir has been the BBC Songs of Praise Choir of the Year and tours internationally. Interest in a wide variety of pursuits is actively encouraged, and all kinds of clubs and societies flourish. The school has excellent provision for outdoor learning and outdoor pursuits, and is a Duke of Edinburgh operating authority in its own right. A large number of pupils have gained national and international honours for sport.

The school aims to create a caring, friendly community in which the pupils are encouraged to accept responsibility and to set themselves high standards in all they undertake. The quality of personal relationships is of a very high standard at King's; this was highlighted in our most recent ISI Inspection which can be found on our website.