

THE ASSISTED PLACES FUND

TRANSFORMING LIVES TOGETHER



THE COAT OF ARMS OF KING EDWARD VI

THE KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL BIRMINGHAM TRUST

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1129776



THE PAST

The school's historic purpose has been to provide outstanding education for local boys, whatever their family income. Under the Direct Grant system, which operated from 1944 until 1979, the Government directly funded places in the school so that the majority of pupils (perhaps as high as 80%) paid no fees at all. During these years, King Edward's was undoubtedly one of the very best schools in this country in academic terms and the school provided an education that was truly transformational for its pupils.

In 1979 the Direct Grant system was abolished and replaced by the Government's Assisted Places Scheme. However, even at its most generous, this scheme only provided means-tested support for about one third of pupils and in 1997 this also ended. The days of state-funded places for the brightest boys were gone.



"I was fortunate enough to benefit from the Direct Grant system when I was at King Edward's and the education I received gave me a great start in life. I am very keen to make sure that those boys who need support get it so they can benefit from the same opportunity that I received."

Ian Metcalfe (1977)



THE PRESENT

Today, funding for Assisted Places comes largely from the Foundation, which contributes over £1 million each year. In addition, organisations and individual former pupils are directly funding several pupils through the school. The result of this is that, in the current academic year, about 20% of pupils have an Assisted Place at the school and 10% are here for free.

In 2006 the Assisted Places Scheme was radically changed so that many more parents became eligible for financial support. At the same time there was a complete restructuring of the admissions and marketing process. The result has been a massive increase in the demand for Assisted Places, up by 250% in the last three years. However, the school does not currently have the funds to meet this demand. This year 50 boys who requested financial support passed the entrance examination, but the school could only provide Assisted Places for 25 of them. So King Edward's is still a long way from being truly accessible to all bright boys.



"Put simply without my Assisted Place I would not have been able to come to the school and I think it is vital this support continues for boys that need it. I currently give a relatively small amount but I think it is important to realise that if lots of people give then we can fund places together."

Richard Brookes (1994)



THE FUTURE

Our long-term aim is to double the funding of Assisted Places so that 300 boys, or 40% of the school's pupils, are provided with financial support through the school. We believe that at this point we will satisfy the demand that is out there and make the school genuinely accessible to all again.

We hope that, over time, Old Edwardians will help us meet this target either by directly funding boys or by making regular or single gifts which will collectively fund additional places. Our aim for this first year is to raise a regular income that will fund at least ten additional Assisted Places for boys starting in September 2011. This is an ambitious target but we believe that Old Edwardians, by giving together, can help us achieve it.



"I am very grateful to the donors that have enabled me to come to King Edward's. Although I won't be able to directly pay them back I would love the opportunity to support a boy in the future because I have gained greatly from my time here and think it only fair to support others in this way."

Mike Hoffman (2010)

"When I was a boy here people with very different backgrounds came to this school and received the largest single transformational experience of their lives. All we are trying to do with the Assisted Places Fund is replicate that purpose so that all boys, whatever their circumstances, can come here and enjoy exactly the same transformation."

John Claghton (1975)
Chief Master



HOW YOU CAN HELP

THE KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL BIRMINGHAM TRUST

All donations for the benefit of King Edward's School should be made to The King Edward's School Birmingham Trust. You can find information about the Trust and all the different ways of giving outlined below online at www.trust.kes.org.uk.

MAKING YOUR GIFT

Making a regular gift: Regular giving is particularly beneficial as it provides a predictable annual income which is important for the funding of Assisted Places. You can make a gift by Direct Debit by filling in a donation form or online at www.trust.kes.org.uk/regulargift

Making a single gift: Alternatively, you can make a single cash donation by credit card, cheque or CAF by filling in a donation form. You can also make a single gift online at www.trust.kes.org.uk/singlegift

Funding an individual boy: If you are interested in funding an individual boy through the school, either as an individual or as part of a group of donors (e.g. a year group), then please get in touch with the Development Director, Simon Lerwill.



"Words cannot express how grateful I am for my Assisted Place. It has changed my life."

Rajiv Gogna (2010)

INCREASING THE VALUE OF YOUR GIFT

Gift Aid and tax: Gift Aid increases the value of gifts made by UK Taxpayers by 25%. Higher rate taxpayers can also claim tax relief on their gift.

Self-assessment: If you complete a Self Assessment tax return and are entitled to a tax refund, you can choose to have all or part of this repayment sent to the Trust.

Matched giving: Many companies operate a scheme which will match the donations made by their employees.

OTHER WAYS TO GIVE

You can find further information about legacy, share or property giving online or alternatively please contact us.

CONTACT US

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