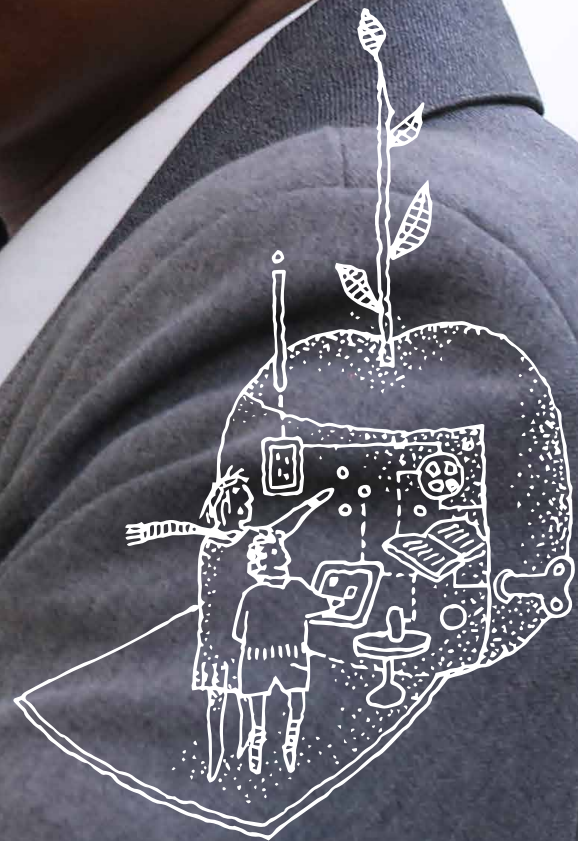




INTREPIDUS

Kensington
Aldridge Academy



OFSTED RATED
'OUTSTANDING'
IN ALL CATEGORIES



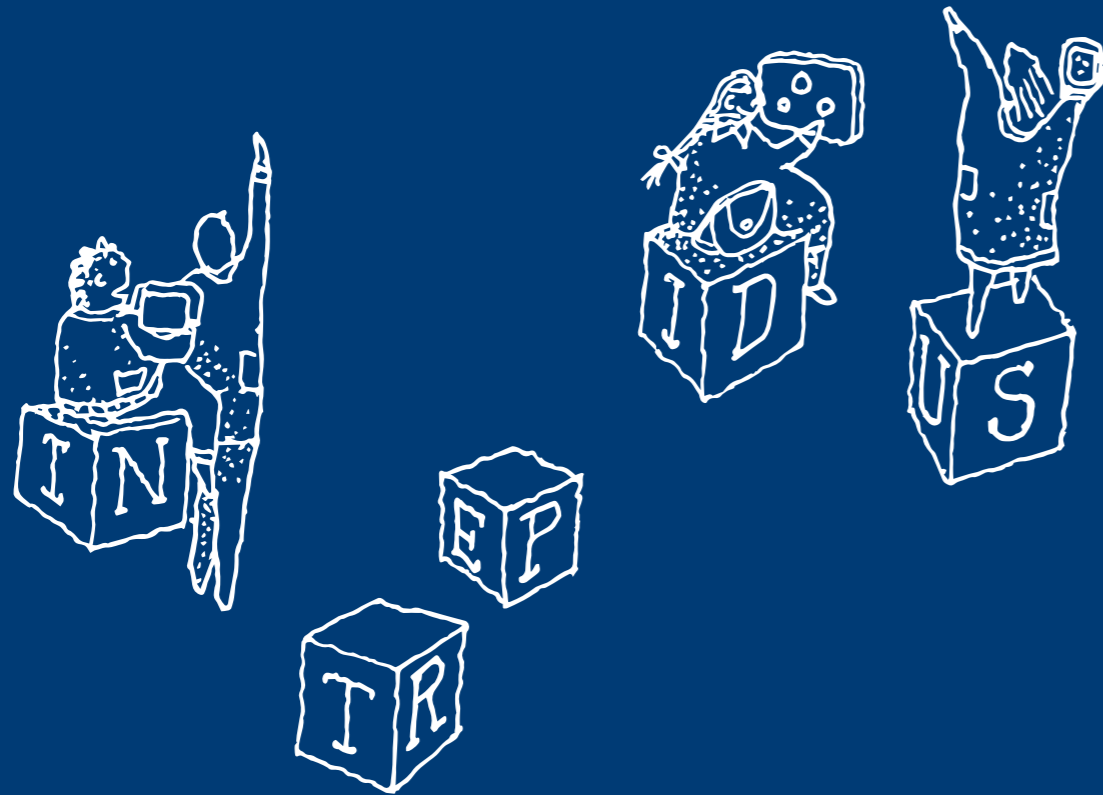
SECONDARY SCHOOL
OF THE YEAR



PROSPECTUS 2023

INTREPIDUS (adj)

DEFINITIONS: UNDAUNTED,
FEARLESS, BOLD



PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Dear Parents / Carers,

I am delighted to welcome you to Kensington Aldridge Academy (KAA), an 11 – 18 school situated in the heart of Notting Hill. KAA opened in 2014 and has grown to become one of the highest performing and most popular state schools in West London. This prospectus offers a flavour as to why.

Both the facilities and the teaching at KAA are second to none. We are blessed with a new, state of the art building, which caters for a full and varied curriculum. We also have a talented and dedicated teacher workforce, who routinely deliver exam results above national averages.

KAA is not a school that stands still. We are currently in the middle of a £4 million expansion project, to deliver seven new classrooms and new outdoor space that your child will enjoy if they come here. We are also delighted that Anna Jordan will be taking over from me as Principal in November of 2023, when I am moving on to a new Headship in North London. Anna has been central to everything KAA has achieved in recent years, and there could be no better person to pass the baton on to.

With best wishes,

David Benson *Principal*

Dear Parents / Carers,

KAA is full of energy and purpose as it moves into its tenth year, and I hope this comes across in the pages that follow. Ours is a buzzing, vibrant school in which children can develop a wide range of talents. Our focus on performing and creative arts adds a distinctive element to KAA which lifts the whole culture, whether your child goes on to study these subjects at GCSE and A Level or just enjoys them in Years 7, 8 and 9.

Last summer saw KAA achieve its best ever exam results outside of the pandemic era. 60% of all A Levels were graded A*-B, with a quarter receiving A or A* and 90% at grade C or above. At GCSE, 61% of all grades were 5 or above, with over a quarter graded 9-7 (the equivalent of A*/A). The results are testament to the hard work of KAA students and the skill of our teachers in preparing them for their exams.

We are passionate what KAA can offer, and many others share that view. Ofsted describe us as 'exceptional' and 'remarkable', and the Good Schools Guide call us 'phenomenal'. But most important will be what you think. I hope very much that you will attend one of our Open Mornings or Open Evenings to see for yourself.

With best wishes,

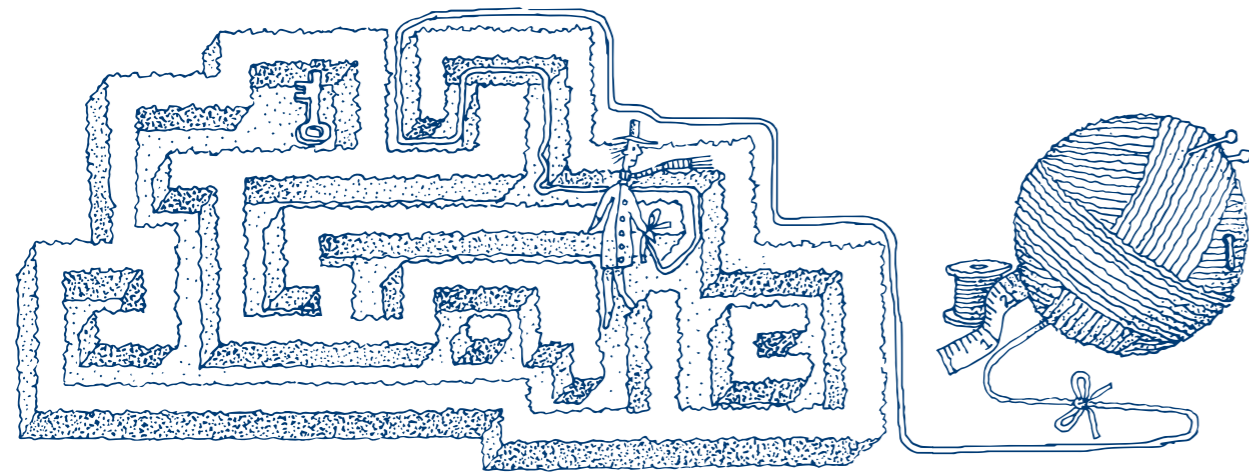
Anna Jordan *Principal*

TEACHING AND LEARNING

All KAA students are taught demanding content from a young age. They learn how to think in a disciplined manner and show understanding of the core concepts in each subject, and never to just recall information or carry out rehearsed responses. Students are taught:

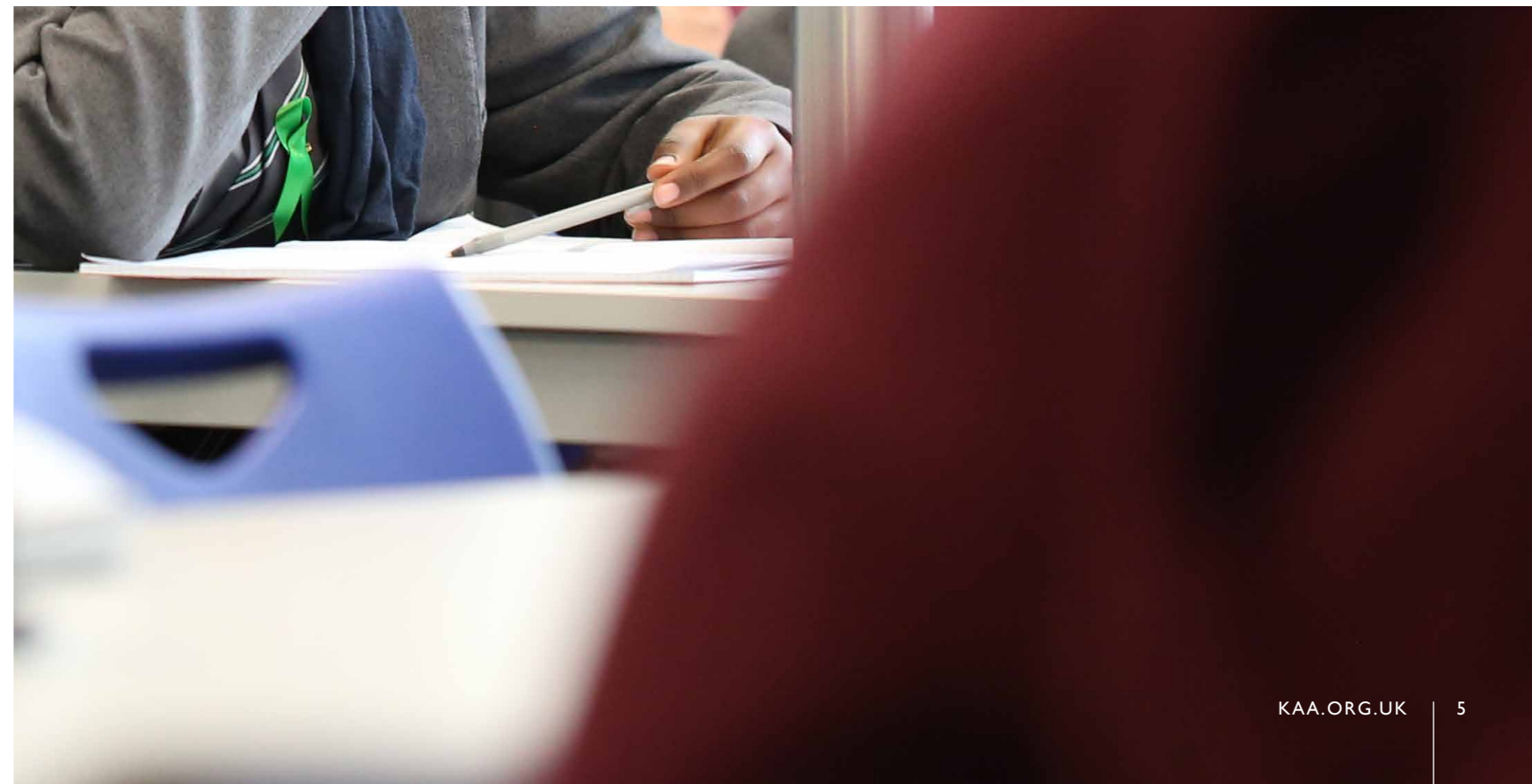
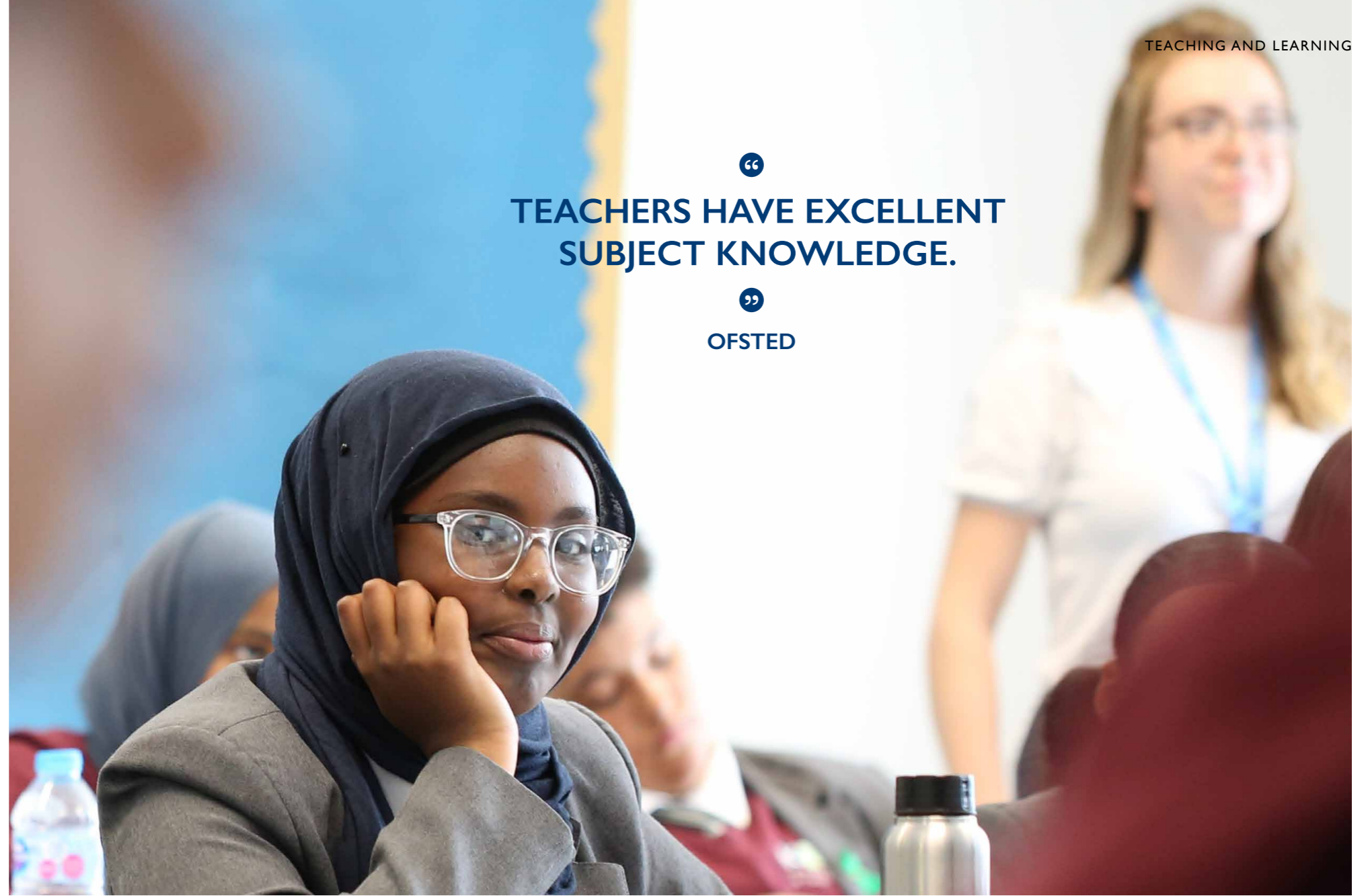
- new ways of thinking: including creativity, critical thinking, problem-solving and decision-making;
- new ways of working: including new forms of collaboration and communication;
- new tools for working: including the capacity to harness the potential of new technologies.

Our emphasis on teaching and learning and our commitment to ongoing training for all staff means KAA students enjoy a consistent diet of excellent lessons that inspire and motivate them, and help them secure the very highest grades.



“
TEACHERS HAVE EXCELLENT
SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE.
”

OFSTED



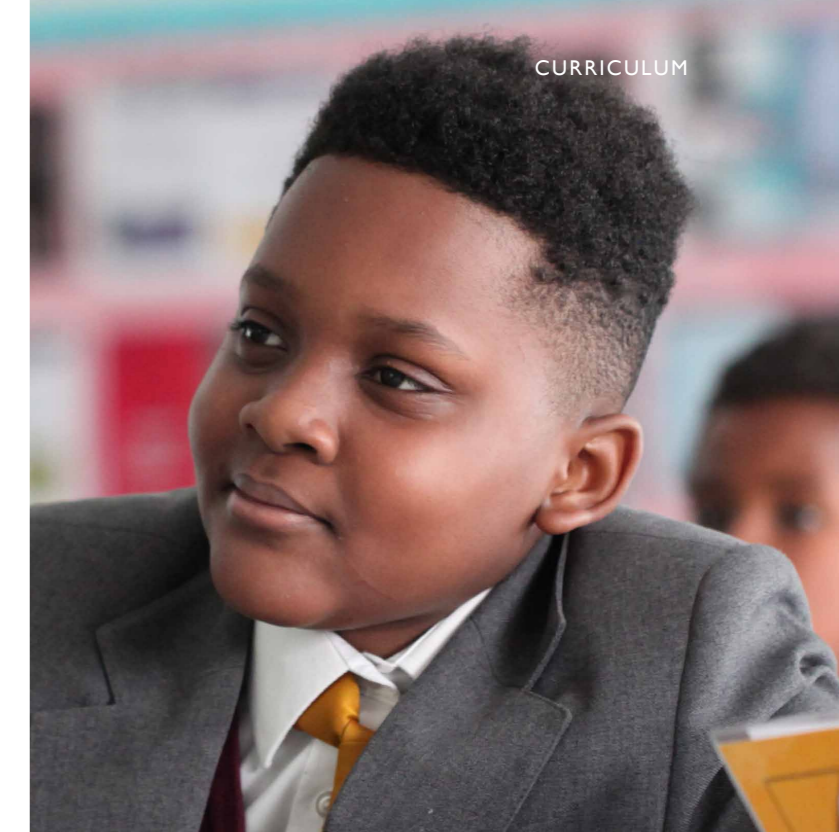
CURRICULUM

The curriculum is designed to prepare students for success at GCSE and A-Level, and works backwards from the demands of those national exams.

In Key Stage 3 we:

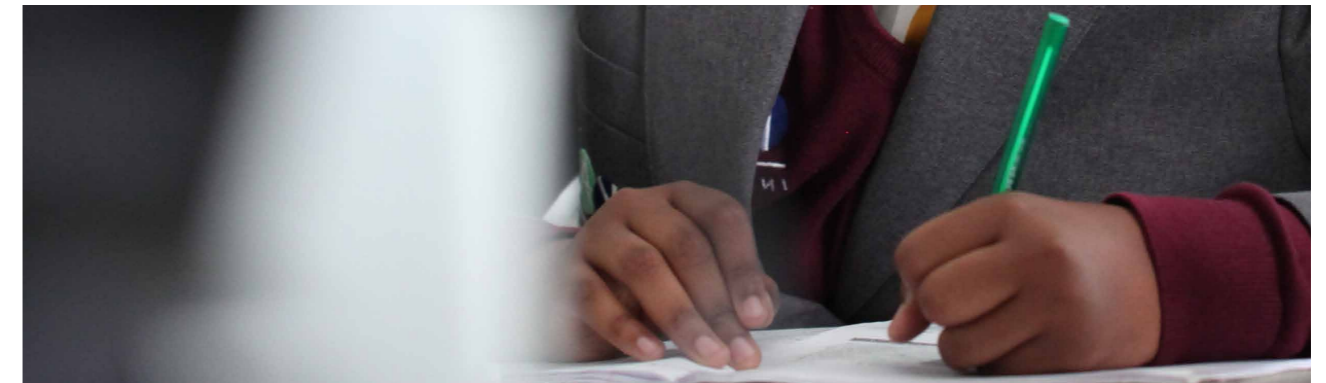
- Commit extra time to English and maths to ensure all students quickly achieve the proficiency in these core disciplines.
- Emphasise history, geography and modern languages, as we believe that these subjects develop the critical-thinking and analytical skills that universities and employers want, as well as giving students a fuller understanding of the world around them.
- Give generous time to the expressive arts, using our specialist facilities and our partnerships to deliver the very best provision in music, art, drama, dance and design technology.

After Year 11, all KAA students are expected to progress onto Sixth Form with us or to other quality destinations, and all are encouraged to progress to university.



“
**PUPILS, INCLUDING
 THE MOST ABLE, ARE
 MAKING EXCELLENT
 PROGRESS.**
 ”

OFSTED



In Key Stage 4, students study the core subjects of English (language and literature), Maths and Science (either dual award or triple award), plus four options.

THE KEY STAGE 3 CURRICULUM

English	Mathematics	Science	History	Geography	French & German	Dance
Religious Education	Design Technology (Food Technology, Product Design, Textiles)	Art	Music	Drama	Physical Education	Computer Science

THE KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM

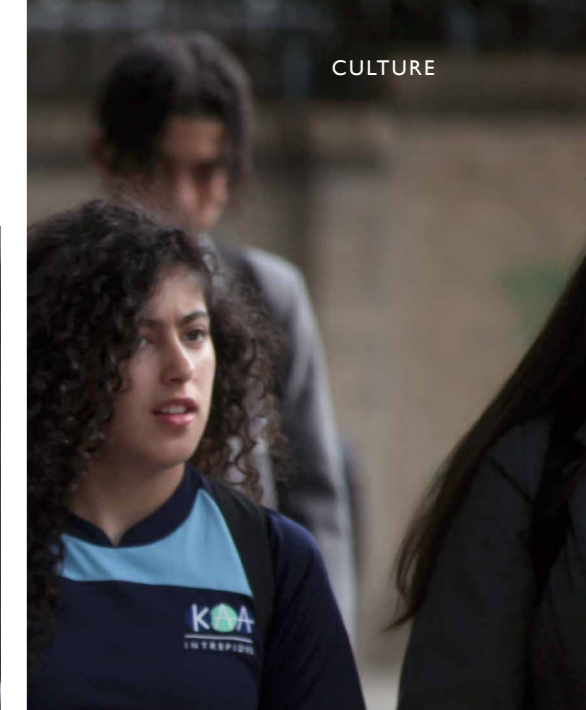
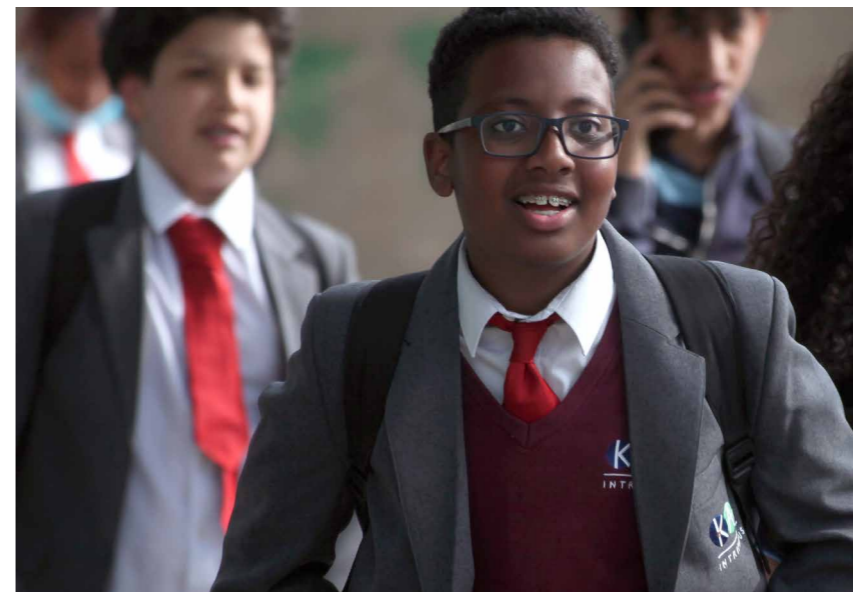
Compulsory Subjects	English	Mathematics	Science	Core PE (not examined)	PSHE (not examined)	
Subject Options (GCSE unless otherwise stated)	Art	Computer Science	Dance	Design Technology	Drama	Food & Nutrition
	French	German	Geography	History	Music	Physical Education
	Psychology	Religious Education	Statistics	Citizenship	Media Studies	CTEC Sport
	BTEC Construction					





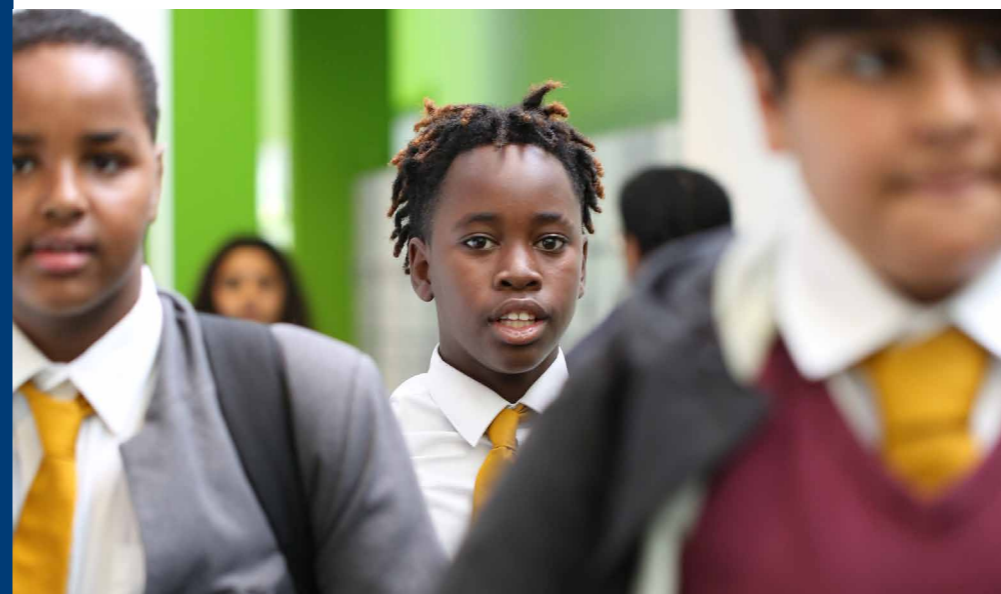
THE HOUSE SYSTEM

At KAA all students and staff are a member of one of our four houses. The house system creates 'schools within schools' – smaller communities of students and staff that develop a sense of belonging, identity and healthy competition. The house system provides a focal point for academy events and rewards, and mixes all ages to allow older students to mentor their younger peers.



CULTURE

A distinctive element of KAA is our rich culture and ethos. Outstanding results and an ambitious curriculum are not the whole story- KAA is also focused on developing good character and a love of learning. We encourage a confident, "INTREPIDUS" mind-set and, through programmes such as after school enrichment, develop a can-do, entrepreneurial spirit in our students. This culture reflects our sponsor Sir Rod Aldridge's own business success and vision.





DISCIPLINE

KAA has the very highest expectations of student behaviour. We operate an unashamedly strict policy, but we do this because we care about students' futures and know that, without good discipline, they will not fulfil their potential. Our expectations are set out clearly in our Code of Conduct and all parents will be asked to sign a Home-School Agreement before they join the academy. Poor or disruptive behaviour from students is not tolerated.



UNIFORM

We are proud of our students and encourage them to be proud of their school. One key aspect of this is that they all wear our KAA uniform, consisting of a grey blazer, maroon jumper, white shirt or blouse (with tie in house colours) and dark grey trousers or pleated skirt. Our smart uniform supports a sense of community and demonstrates that students are ready to work.





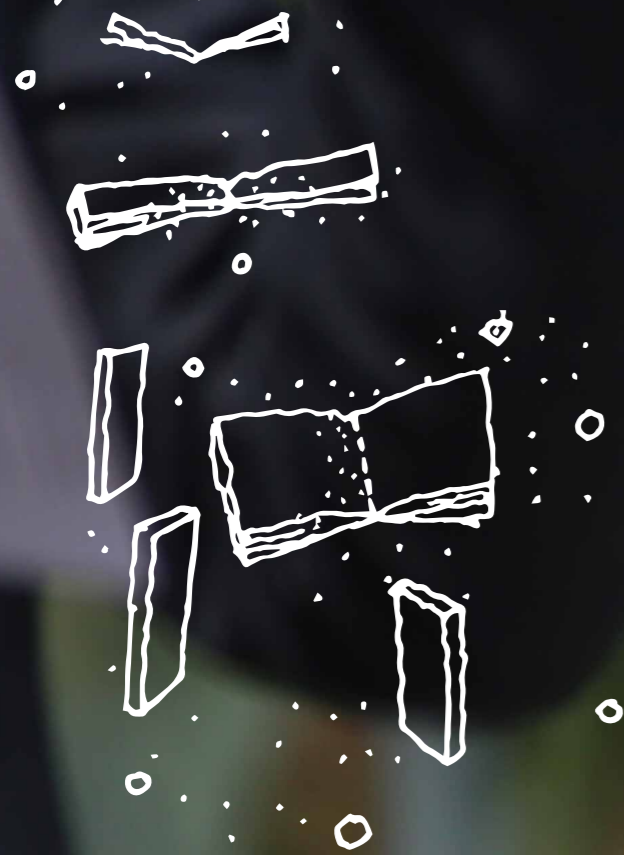
PERFORMING & CREATIVE ARTS

As a performing and creative arts specialist academy we are committed to excellence in art, music, drama, dance and design technology. This means excellent facilities and – most importantly – excellent teaching within these subjects. We believe performing and creative arts provide essential cultural knowledge to our students and develop a wide range of talents, helping them become confident, expressive communicators. Universities increasingly require applicants to demonstrate these skills and provide examples of success that are not purely ‘academic’.

We harness the expertise of our partners LAMDA and the Royal Academy of Dance to give students opportunities that you would rarely find at a state school. In addition, our music curriculum receives private funding to enable subsidised instrumental tuition and all students are encouraged to learn an instrument during their time at KAA.



OUR FACILITIES



Distinctive features of our building include:

- Specialist performing and creative arts classrooms for drama, dance, art and performing arts
- Two music rooms and a professional recording studio
- State of the art design technology rooms, including Graphics, Resistant Materials, Food Technology and Textiles
- Flexible IT spaces – giving students safe access to the right technologies
- Three libraries
- Access to the Kensington Leisure Centre and swimming pool next door to the academy
- A professional theatre
- Our own sports hall and dance studio
- A safe, enclosed rooftop football / sports pitch
- *In 2023 KAA is building additional classrooms and outdoor space as part of a £4 million RBKC expansion project*



OUR PARTNERS

KAA is partnered with four elite educational institutions. We are proud to have such prestigious partnerships which benefit our students in a range of ways.



CHARTERHOUSE

Charterhouse (CH) is one of the great historic schools of England and among the most beautiful. It is renowned for its high academic standards, great sixth form and prowess on the sporting field. As with Godolphin & Latymer, KAA and Charterhouse subject specialists work together on curriculum planning. For example, we hold an annual teacher conference at Charterhouse where teachers from KAA, G&L and CH come together to discuss best practice.



Godolphin & Latymer



Godolphin & Latymer (G&L) is one of the highest performing independent schools in the UK. Each year 20%

of their students go to Oxbridge. G&L is also - importantly - only three short tube stops from KAA. This means our staff and students have extensive opportunities to work together, and we have a small number of girls in our sixth form who study an A Level directly at Godolphin. Heads of Subject at KAA are partnered with their equivalents at G&L and work together to improve curriculum and teaching in both schools.



ROYAL ACADEMY OF DANCE

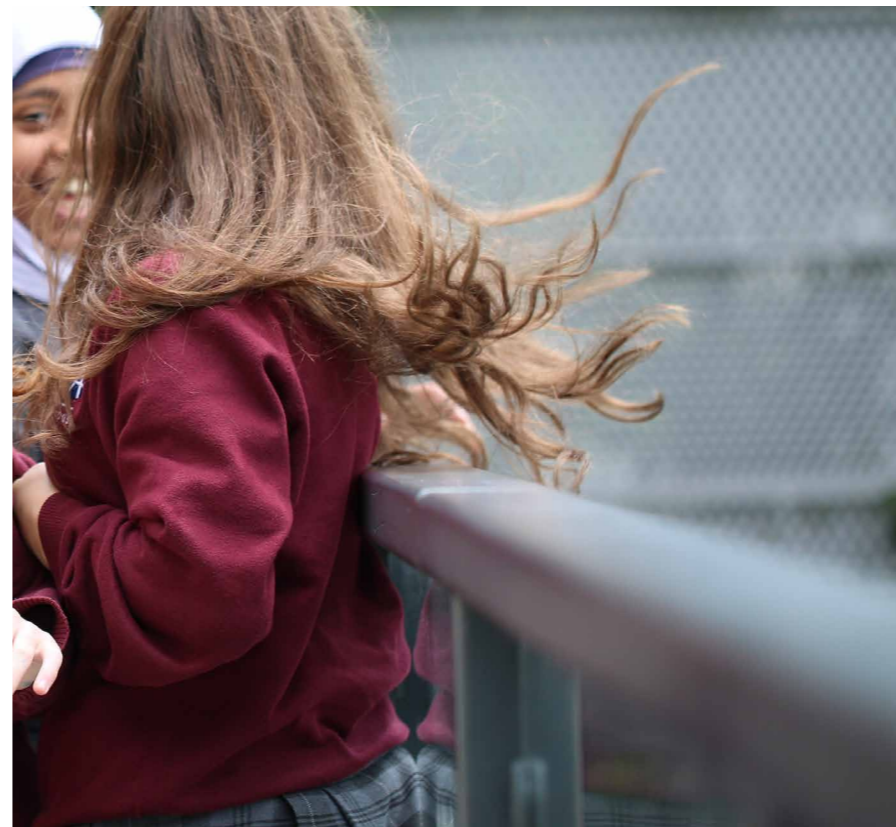
The Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) is an internationally renowned organisation that promotes knowledge, understanding and practice of a range of dance styles – from ballet to street dance. They provide education and training to students and teachers that is second to none. RAD provide workshops for talented KAA students, provide us with access to their events and programmes and offer professional training to our wonderful dance teachers.



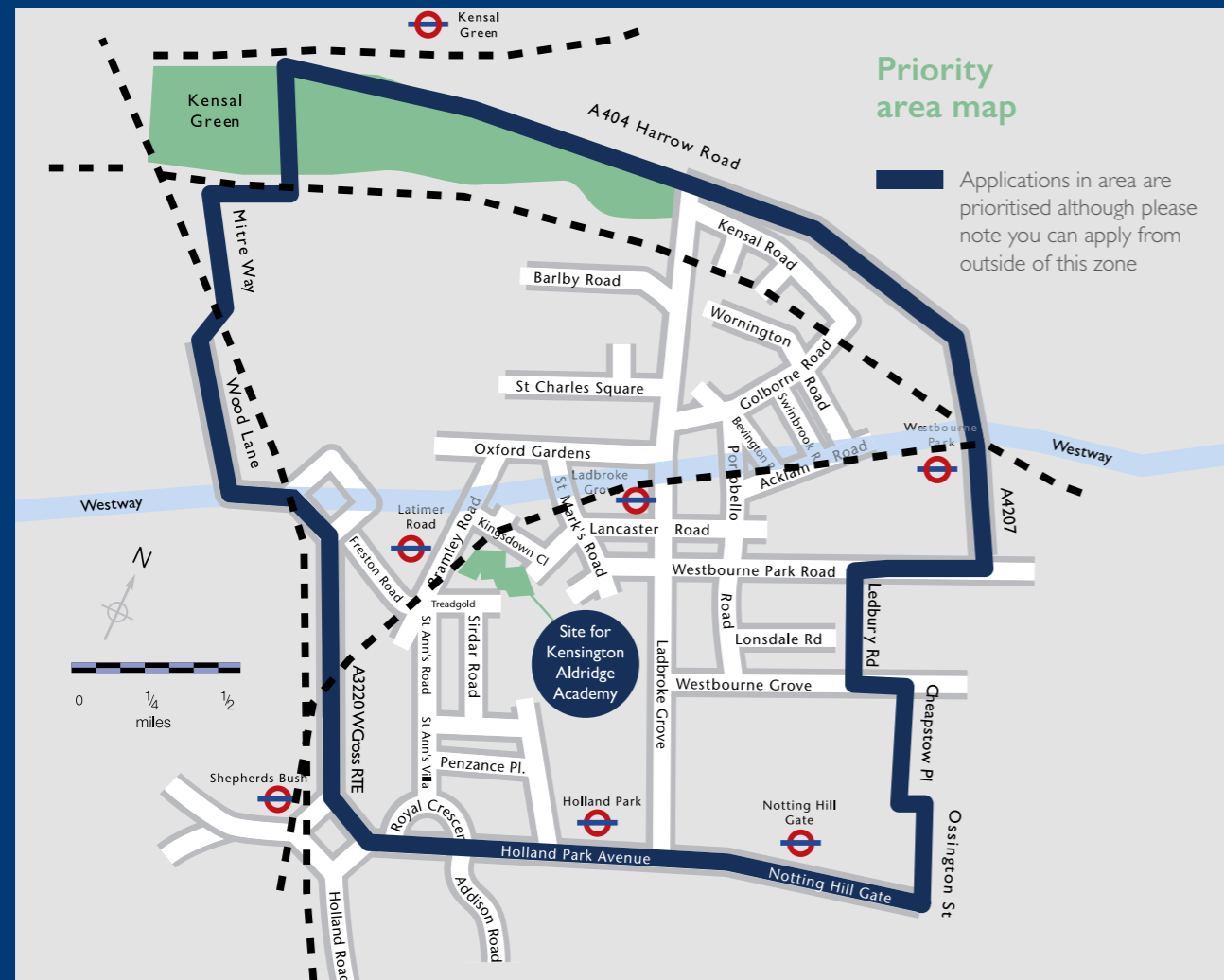
LAMDA

LAMDA (London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art) is a

world-class drama school and educational charity. With over 150 years' experience delivering exceptional training in the dramatic arts, they are a major contributor to the UK's cultural wealth, influencing the performing arts sector as a whole. KAA students can take LAMDA courses and our staff work with LAMDA on delivering key skills through our drama and English curricula.



ADMISSIONS



Applications to the academy for Year 7 are made through the secondary transfer process. The academy follows the standard admissions policy within the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. This means places are allocated according to proximity to the academy and places are prioritised for those with a sibling currently on roll at the school. The academy has a priority admissions area (shown above) but parents are able to apply from outside this area as well. In addition, eighteen places (10%) are offered to students who can demonstrate aptitude in Performing & Creative arts, which is explained overleaf.

If you would like to apply for a place for your child to start Year 7 at KAA in September 2024 you will need to do this by completing the online application through your Local Authority. The deadline for applications for all secondary schools is 31st October 2023. Queries about admissions should not be directed to the academy. Instead, please contact RBKC at school.admissions@rbkc.gov.uk or by telephone Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, on 020 7745 6432 / 6433 / 6434. For further information on admissions please visit <https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/children-and-education/school-admissions/starting-secondary-school>

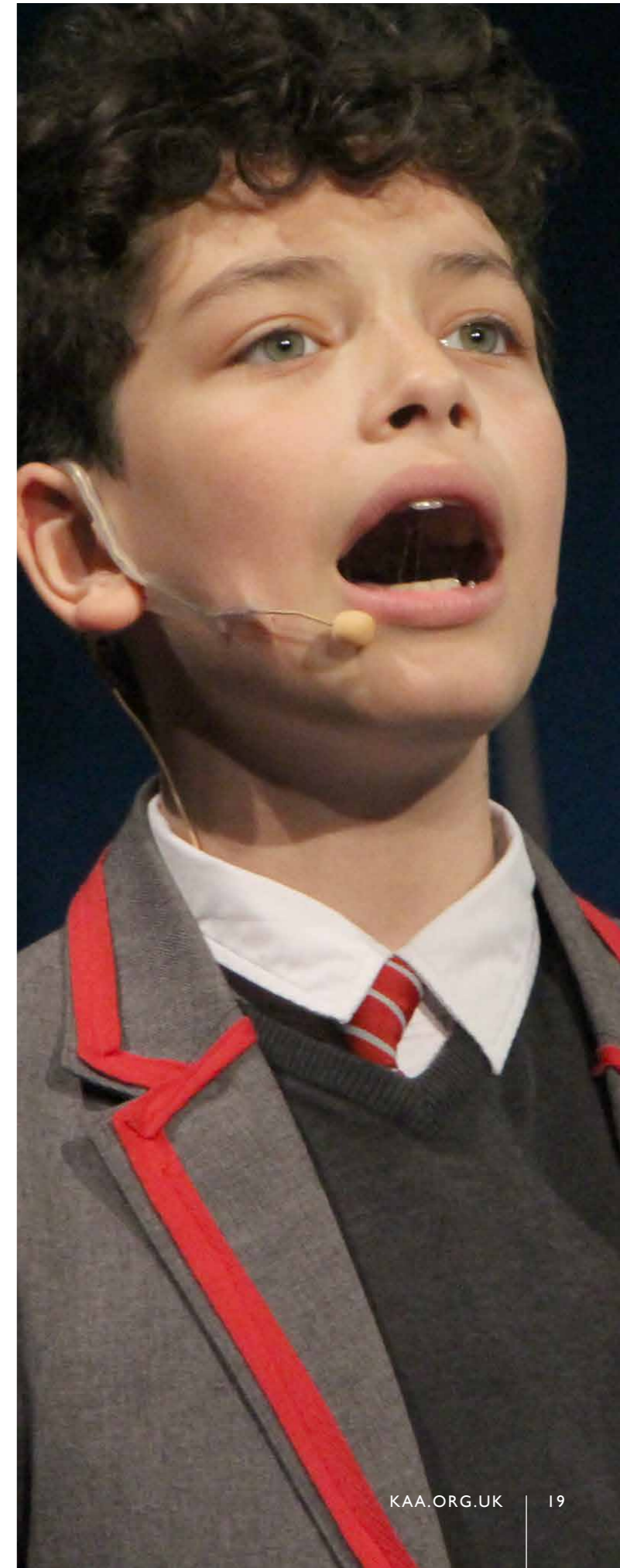


PCA ADMISSIONS

As a Performing & Creative Arts specialist academy we admit up to 18 places (10% of our annual Year 7 intake) to pupils who are able to demonstrate an aptitude in Performing Arts through an aptitude test. These places are offered regardless of distance from the school. We aim for half of aptitude places to be offered to students who qualify for the “pupil premium”.

To apply for a Performing Arts aptitude place, please complete and return the application form at <https://forms.gle/TZaRfSTx1sy7GiLX8> no later than Tuesday 3rd October 2023 at 5pm. Aptitude tests will take place on Saturday 14th October 2023, you will be contacted to confirm the time of your child’s test after the closing deadline.

For further information about performing and creative arts the aptitude test please visit <https://kaa.org.uk/admissions/performing-creative-arts-aptitude-admissions/>.





Principal – Mr David Benson

Kensington Aldridge Academy

1 Silchester Road

London W10 6EX

info@kaa.org.uk

kaa.org.uk

RBKC Admissions

<https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/children-and-education/children-and-education>

020 7745 6432 / 6433 / 6434

school.admissions@rbkc.gov.uk