



INTREPIDUS

Kensington
Aldridge Academy



OFSTED RATED
'OUTSTANDING'
IN ALL CATEGORIES



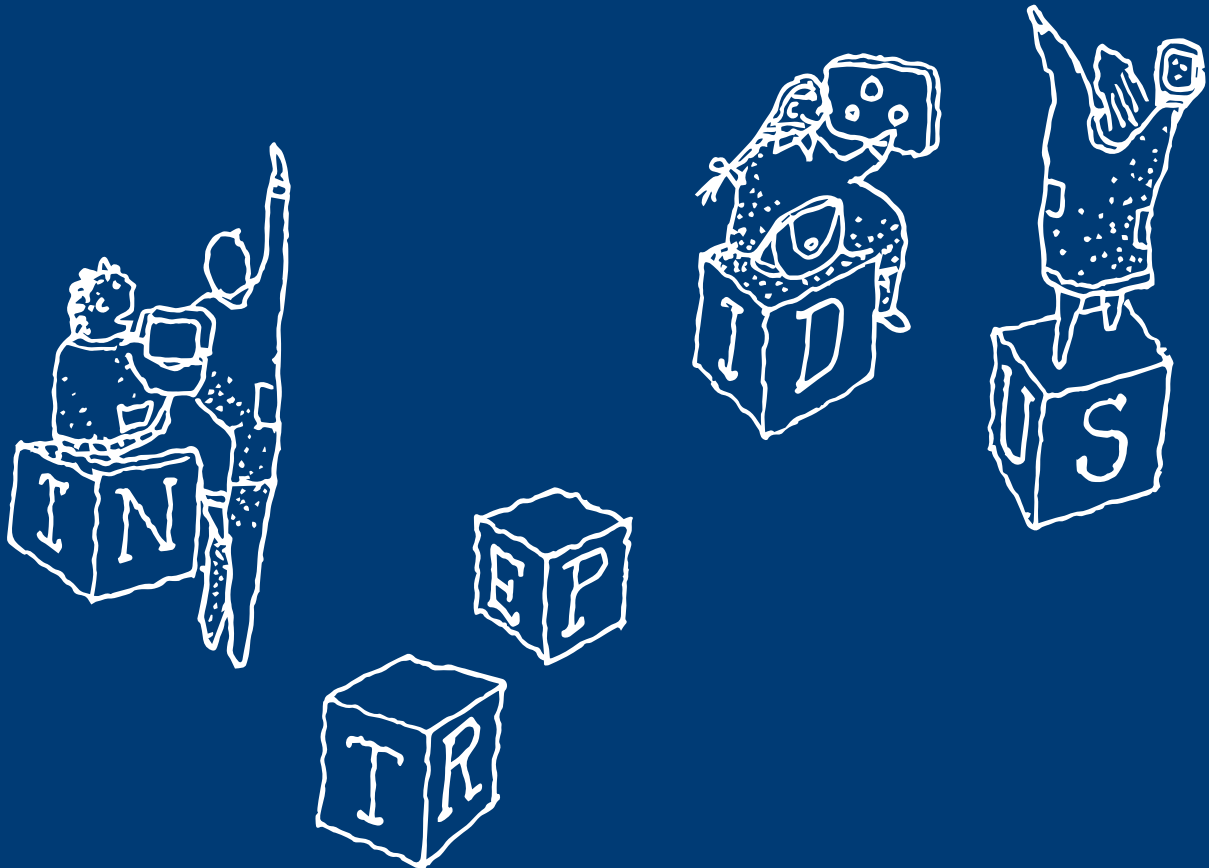
SECONDARY SCHOOL
OF THE YEAR



PROSPECTUS 2024

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. But 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.

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 full of energy and purpose as it moves into its eleventh 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. It is our extracurricular offer which makes us stand apart from other schools – from the house system, to trips and after school enrichment – the offer at KAA supported by the KAA Intrepidus Trust is a unique benefit of being a KAA student.

We are passionate about 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.

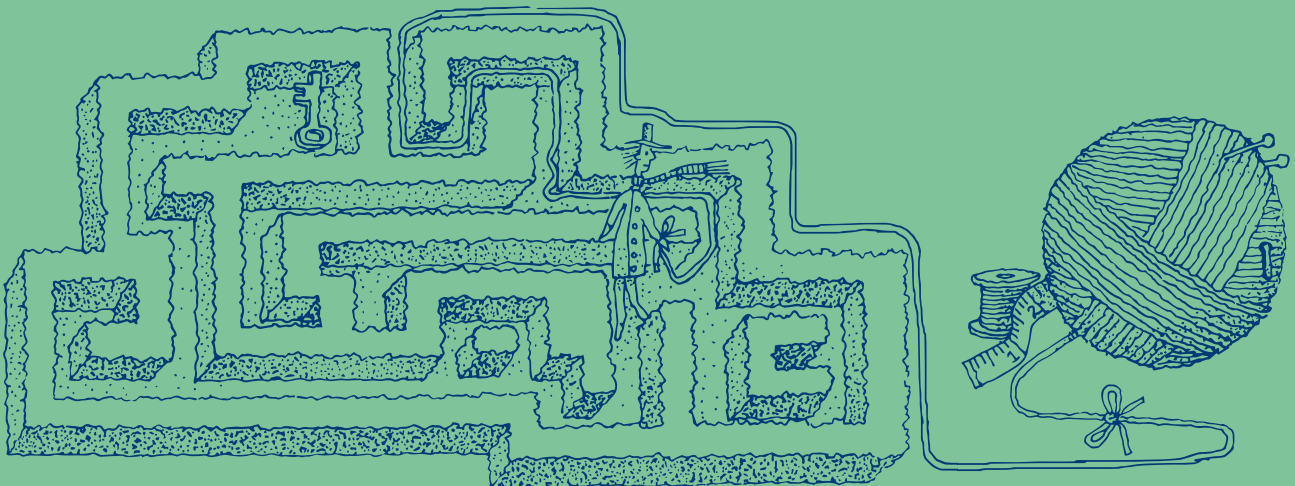
Our emphasis on teaching and learning and our commitment to ongoing training for all staff means KAA students enjoy a consistent diet of excellent lessons that inspire and motivate them, and help them secure the very highest grades.

“

**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.

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.

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

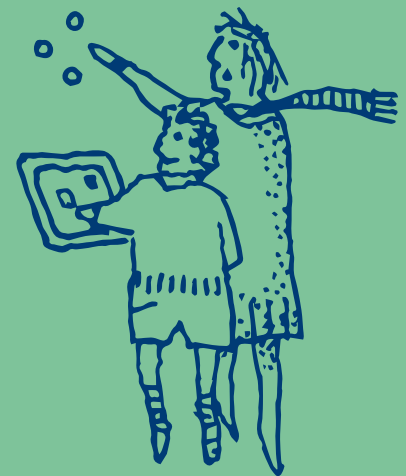


THE KEY STAGE 3 CURRICULUM

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

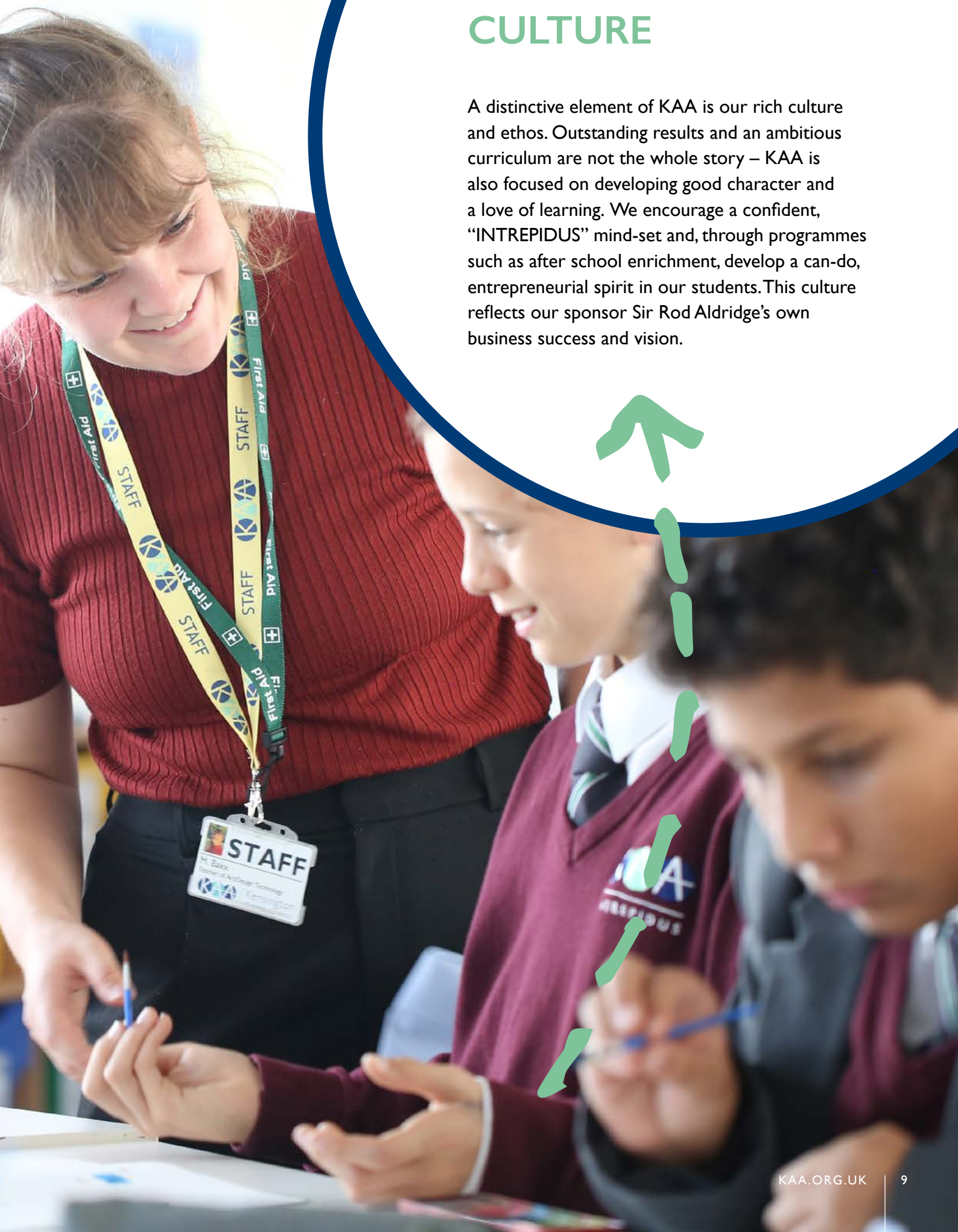


THE HOUSE SYSTEM

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

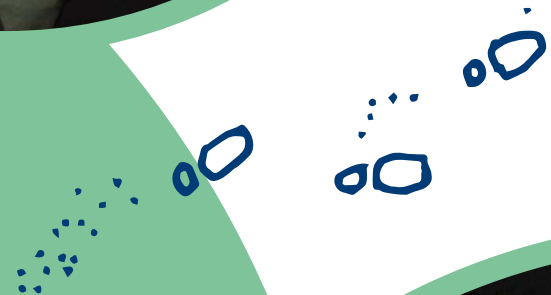
We are proud of our students and encourage them to be proud of their school. One key aspect of this is that they all wear our KAA uniform, consisting of a grey blazer, maroon jumper, white shirt or blouse (with tie in house colours) and dark grey trousers or pleated skirt. Our smart uniform supports 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. We also have unique partnerships with Fremantle and ITV, who support the performing arts programmes at KAA.





oo





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 study spaces and library
- 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 2024-25, 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 school 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.



KAA
INTREPIDUS



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, twenty-one places (10%) are offered to students who can demonstrate an 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 2025 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 2024. 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 21 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/6bTqS6p7DjY5LPYb6> no later than Sunday 6th October 2024 at midnight. Aptitude tests will take place on Saturday 12th October 2024, 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/>



OPEN DAYS

We would love for student and parents to visit the academy for our open events this Autumn to find out more about joining KAA.

To register for any of these events, please visit <https://kaa.org.uk/admissions/academy-open-days/>.

Year 7 Open Evening

Thursday 19th September 2024, 5pm-7.30pm

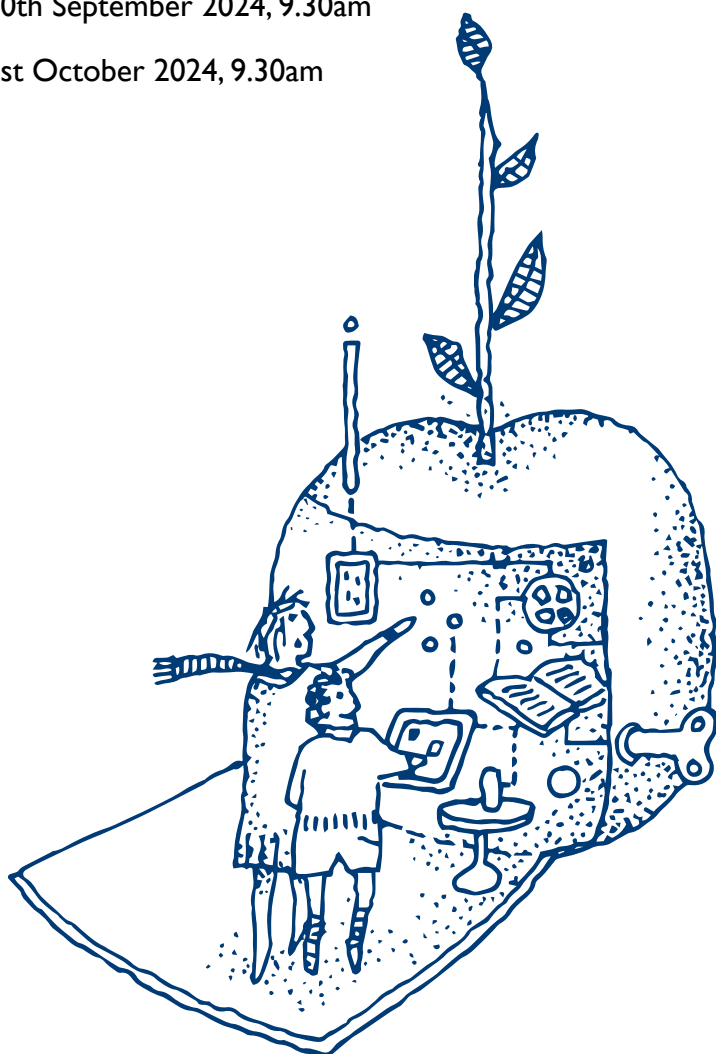
Year 7 Open Mornings

Thursday 26th September 2024, 9.30am

Friday 27th September 2024, 9.30am

Monday 30th September 2024, 9.30am

Tuesday 1st October 2024, 9.30am







Principal – Anna Jordan

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