

The Aims and Ethos of King Henry VIII Preparatory School

- **Confide Recte Agens** – Have the confidence to do what is right. The school motto is the driver for the moral compass we aim to develop in our pupils. We promise that the best interests of the child will always be at the heart of our decision making and as such our motto is equally applicable to our staff.
- King Henry VIII Preparatory School has a **Christian tradition**, in keeping with the other schools in the Coventry School Foundation, however children from all faiths and cultural backgrounds are warmly welcomed. Tolerance, forgiveness and understanding between people of different religions, races, backgrounds and countries are imperatives in a modern world. Children are taught that differences between people and places help to make the world a wonderful and fascinating place. King Henry VIII School has an association with Coventry Cathedral and is a member of its Community of the Cross of Nails which seeks international peace and reconciliation.
- The School seeks to **encourage and develop a range of gifts and talents** amongst its pupils (academic, artistic, creative and sporting). It has high academic standards and aspirations but its timetable is broad. The curriculum has a traditional ‘prep’ school breadth, with plenty of extra-curricular activities. There are outstanding opportunities to experience beyond the classroom, in the form of trips (local and international), outdoor pursuits, dramatic and musical opportunities, cultural and charitable activities. Each year group from the age of 7 is given the opportunity to go on residential school trips. The building of confidence, enthusiasm, self-reliance and leadership are as important life skills developed through these experiences.
- A strong **tradition of pastoral care** exists at the School. Fundamentally, the School seeks to be a happy place where individuals can grow and express themselves. We recognise that each child is unique and will have their own developmental path: we are committed to helping pupils to develop at the appropriate times, in the direction of their talents and interests, and to ensure that all children feel safe and secure. Our Learning Support Department is proactive in offering additional help for those requiring such intervention.
- The School provides care for children before and after the conventional school day as well as during each holiday and thus can be a **‘home-from-home’** for many children whose parents work hours beyond the normal school day.
- There are **strong home-school links**, with parents having regular communication from the School regarding their children’s progress, and being able to meet with staff both formally and informally. Parents are welcomed into the School’s community so that they feel they are stakeholders in the School and have a voice in its direction. The School has a Parents’ Association which is linked with that of King Henry VIII Senior School.