



King Edward's

WITLEY

Appointment of a
Part-time or Full-time
School Counsellor



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Executive summary

This is an exceptional opportunity for a new School Counsellor to join a flourishing boarding and day school, set on an attractive 100-acre campus and in a beautiful part of rural Surrey. The School Counsellor will be part of a multi-disciplinary team that supports the physical, mental health and emotional wellbeing of pupils and staff.

They will work closely with the Deputy Head to contribute to KESW's aims and objectives through:

- delivery and implementation of one-to-one counselling sessions
- workshops with pupils, parents, and staff
- contribution to meetings of the Pupil Wellbeing Committee
- working with key staff to further the development of Foundationers and other pupils with boarding or emotional needs
- advising key staff on issues relating to mental health, preparing them for meetings and conversations



King Edward's – yesterday, today, tomorrow

As one of the longest-standing co-educational schools in the country and one of only two remaining Royal Hospitals from Tudor times, King Edward's Witley has a rich history of providing an education which is holistic, inclusive and progressive.

YESTERDAY

Nicholas Ridley, Bishop of London, convinced the boy King Edward VI to grant his palace at Bridewell on the banks of the Thames to the Lord Mayor of London, so creating the parent foundation – Bridewell Royal Hospital – as a place for the training and education of poor children in 1553. In 1860, the new charity scheme for Bridewell Royal Hospital was created and the House of Occupations was renamed King Edward's School admitting boys and girls from aged 10.

The pupils from King Edward's Boys' School moved to its current site in Witley in 1867 and the School now occupies around 100 acres of stunning Surrey countryside. The School became co-educational again in 1952 and 2017 marked the 150th anniversary of the Witley school on its current site.

TODAY AND TOMORROW

We are steadfastly proud of our heritage and longstanding engagement with the City of London through Bridewell. King Edward's Witley, Barrow Hills School and Longacre School are the operational arms of Bridewell Royal Hospital, a charitable Foundation from which both schools inherit

a culture with diversity, generosity, opportunity and social responsibility at its heart, combining a global outlook with a sense of local belonging. More concretely, a significant endowment from Bridewell allows us to provide boarding places to pupils with a clear boarding need – our Foundationers.

King Edward's holds true to its Founders' mission to offer a foundation for life to young people from a range of backgrounds. At King Edward's this means an exciting and challenging curriculum, a broad range of sporting, artistic, social and cultural opportunities and an environment which is specifically created to inculcate the values of independent learning, responsibility for others and the enjoyment of challenge.

Pupil experience is at the heart of what we do. The School has over 475 pupils, many of whom are day pupils from primary and Prep Schools. Boarding is a core pillar of the King Edward's community, with over 140 boarders accommodated in Houses including an Upper Sixth pre-university House.

All pupils, day and boarder belong to a House and are cared for by their Housemaster/ Housemistress and their team.



King Edward's – yesterday, today, tomorrow *continued*

Around 30% of pupils live abroad, in over 30 different countries and there is a growing cohort of local day pupils. The Sixth Form generally numbers more than 100 pupils, most of whom go on to study at Russell Group, Oxford and Cambridge (in small numbers), and leading European or US-based universities.

Tradition continues to be highly valued and close links with the City of London remain through the Court of Bridewell (Board of Governors). The Lord Mayor attends Admissions Day and the School's annual Foundation Day Service at St. Bride's Church. Pupils participate in a range of events and activities associated with the City of London, perpetuating the School's links with its historic roots.

The School has a long tradition of philanthropy and addressing disadvantage and vulnerability. King Edward's offers welfare

bursaries through Bridewell Royal Hospital, livery companies and other charities, for young people who are less advantaged and who have a particular need for a boarding education. Over 50 pupils are supported by Bridewell Royal Hospital and other charities with financial contributions equal to annual boarding fees to attend the School. King Edward's is proud of its ongoing work transforming the lives of disadvantaged young people through providing a safe, fulfilling and purposeful educational environment.

The Head is a member of HMC.

Further details of the School are to be found in the Independent Schools' Yearbook, or on our website www.kesw.org.





Academic life and life beyond the classroom

ACADEMIC LIFE

King Edward's offers a broad, balanced curriculum, where excellent teaching is provided in a supportive and stimulating environment, enabling pupils to equip themselves with the skills and characteristics needed to succeed in today's ever-changing and dynamically global society.

The School follows the National Curriculum but learning goes well beyond this, enabling pupils to think critically, study broadly but also in depth, and pursue interests in the creative and active sides of life, devoting attention to the wider community. Therefore, the School has two exam pathways at Sixth Form: A-Levels and BTECs to allow pupils to pursue different routes through the post-16 curriculum.

The School is building its academic profile and sees this as its highest priority. Whichever pathway they take, all pupils are encouraged to be independent thinkers, develop a love of learning and be open-minded and principled.

LIFE BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

The 100-acre site at King Edward's and excellent facilities ensure that the School can provide co-curricular and enrichment opportunities that are extensive and wide-ranging.

There is significant ongoing investment into the School's facilities, notably the Academic Hub and Reception area containing a Learning Resource Centre, and a fully refurbished day and boarding House for the Upper Sixth girls and boys.



Pastoral care and boarding

“Pupils of all ages demonstrate outstanding levels of respect for diversity and other cultures. ... [they] contribute enthusiastically to boarding and the community. ... [and] have a highly developed sense of moral understanding.” ISI 2022

King Edward's has a uniquely diverse pupil body – culturally, socially and economically – and this forms a key part of its identity and ethos. Pupils benefit hugely from the outstanding care and support that the School provides which is inclusive and outward-looking.

Unique paired Houses share common rooms, kitchens, television and music rooms allowing girls and boys to mix naturally. This is particularly valued by parents and characterises the School's belief in engendering equality in the community.

Housemasters/ Housemistresses lead each House, ensuring pupils are treated as individuals and encouraged to pursue their passions.

The School also offers weekly boarding and flexi boarding which is particularly popular with parents from London who wish their children to benefit from the countryside and a boarding environment but retain some flexibility.



Leadership, management and governance

The School's Governing Body is known as The Court of Bridewell, reflecting the historic foundation of the School as Bridewell Royal Hospital in 1553. The Chairman of Governors is known as the Treasurer. The Court comprises up to 30 members, all of whom are unpaid volunteers, and includes Aldermen and members of the Common Council of the City of London, and several Governors co-opted for their expertise in education, finance and other relevant areas.

The Strategic Management Team is responsible for overseeing the school's strategic direction and comprises:

- Mrs J Wright, Head (Chair of SMT)
- Mr D Corran, Deputy Head
- Mr M Harrison, Deputy Head Co-Curriculum
- Mr A Kirk-Burgess, Deputy Head Academic
- Dr A N Lennard, Director of Studies and ICT
- Mr D Rogers, Director of Finance and Operations
- Mr Z Siva, Director of Safeguarding & DSL

The Senior Leadership Team, also chaired by the Head, oversees important operational matters and includes all members of SMT, plus:

- Mr J Andrade, Head of Lower School
- Mr T Campbell, Head of Middle School
- Mr J Downs, Head of Digital Innovation
- Mr N Emsley, Senior Housemaster
- Mr S Fitch, Head of Marketing, Admissions & Communications



Role description

SAFEGUARDING DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

The following is expected of all staff:

1. to uphold the School's policies relating to safeguarding & child protection, behaviour, Health & Safety and all other relevant policies
2. to promote and safeguard the welfare of children and young people
3. to ensure full compliance with all statutory regulations, in particular Keeping Children Safe in Education, (latest edition) communicating concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Virtual Schools, other relevant staff, Surrey Children's Services, or the LADO as appropriate.

KEY TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- to provide an independent and confidential counselling service to pupils and occasionally staff at KESW through individual sessions, responding to their personal, social, emotional or educational concerns
- to work with families, with pupils' consent, to promote good mental health and wellbeing
- to assist the Deputy Head and others in developing further the provision for Foundationers to allow them more fully to develop their potential and aspirations in all respects including the academic

- to promote a caring and supportive environment where such concerns may be explored, thereby promoting mental and emotional health at KESW.
- to develop a workshop programme for school pupils, especially Foundationers, parents, and staff to support their emotional wellbeing
- to maintain confidentiality (except in those circumstances, in line with BACP practice, where this should be breached)
- to uphold good practice as described by the BACP ethical guidelines
- to be responsible for their own Professional Development maintenance and updating knowledge and awareness through Continuing Professional Development.
- to make referrals where appropriate and, with pupils' consent, to other agencies
- to maintain appropriate records and to keep these secure
- to liaise with school GPs, Housemasters and Housemistresses, Health Centre staff, teachers, and other professionals as appropriate to ensure the effective operation of the service
- to play an active role in safeguarding children and adhere to the School's safeguarding guidance
- to ensure that as a Counsellor they are properly and regularly supervised, as required by the BACP
- to work with a diverse range of issues including transition, sexuality, eating disorders, self-harm, suicidal ideation, trauma, depression, anger management, anxiety and fears
- to provide reflective supervision to key pastoral staff



Person specification

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

- post-graduate Diploma or Masters level in Counselling or Psychotherapy
- BACP Accreditation
- further therapeutic training or qualification in working with adolescents
- significant post-qualification experience of at least 450 hours
- significant experience working with adolescents and their families
- experience of working as part of a multi-disciplinary team
- ability to work independently, manage own caseload and use initiative
- knowledge of local mental health and CAMHS
- empathy with the aims and ethos of the School

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

- experience of working in a school / educational environment
- experience of working with children aged 5-11
- familiarity with YP-CORE and SDQ or similar to provide analytical data on the effectiveness of the counselling provision.



Terms of appointment and how to apply

The role of School Counsellor will attract a competitive salary in line with experience and benefits including substantially reduced school fees at King Edward's Witley, Barrow Hills and Longacre Schools. There may be single or family accommodation available on or close to the school campus, where the post-holder may choose to live at substantially reduced rates.

Candidates should submit a fully completed Application Form and a covering letter which addresses the competencies outlined as key responsibilities and in the person specification. Candidates may submit a CV in addition.

King Edward's Witley, Barrow Hills and Longacre Schools are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and the Court expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful candidate must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post.

Please refer to our websites or ask HR for our child protection and rehabilitation of offenders' policy. We particularly welcome applications from under-represented groups.





Bridewell Royal Hospital

King Edward's Witley and Barrow Hills School are partner schools of the Bridewell Royal Hospital Foundation.



King Edward's

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Barrow Hills

SCHOOL

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