

KSHS



KING SOLOMON
HIGH SCHOOL

If I am not for myself, who will be for me?
If I am only for myself, who am I?
If not now, when?

Welcome to King Solomon High School





Edison is being given the opportunity to develop his talent in the supportive surroundings of King Solomon High School

Edia and Eddie live in Redbridge with their children, Edison, aged 12, and Edwina, aged ten

Potential spotted

Edia and Eddie are delighted with the wonderful opportunities King Solomon have provided for Edison since he started in Year 7, particularly in the field of Performing Arts. Edia says: "Edison won awards in Hong Kong for ballet and singing and so we are pleased his aptitude has been recognised and he is able to enjoy performing at his new school."

Multicultural school

The family moved to England from Hong Kong a year ago and looked for a good secondary school for Edison. Edia says: "We chose this area of England because we have family living here. The children had attended an international school in Hong Kong, where all cultures and faiths were welcomed, and I wanted something similar for them. Edison spoke English, Cantonese and Mandarin in Hong Kong, so he had no language difficulties and he settled in at King Solomon brilliantly."

Good first impression

"I had a good feeling about the school as soon as I applied because I was made to feel very welcome by the administrative staff. I explained about Edison's background and that he had learnt singing and enjoyed Performing Arts in Hong Kong and sent them a video of him performing."

Help to catch up

"After Edison started, he told me he liked his new classmates and that everyone had made him feel welcome. He seemed to get on well with all his subjects with the help of the teachers. He had been in Year 5 in Hong Kong and so he had effectively missed a year of education. I explained this to his Maths teacher and Edison received extra support to help him catch up. Edison has always enjoyed reading and creative writing and at parents' evening, the staff said they were very satisfied with him," Edia says.

Chance to perform

"Because Edison was learning ballet in Hong Kong, we looked for a good ballet school so he could start doing ballet again. We were pleased when King Solomon invited the children to apply to be a Performing Arts Scholar, because it was a good opportunity for Edison. He decided to give it a try and was asked to sing a song in front of three teachers. They asked why he had chosen that particular song and he said it was because he missed his former home. We had chosen to leave Hong Kong because we wanted to live somewhere with more freedom, but Edison still feels homesick sometimes."

Acting award

"Now he has been chosen as a Performing Arts Scholar, Edison has been given a programme to help him explore more about the subject. He has enjoyed being taken by the teacher to a theatre to see a musical. They employ teachers from outside to teach singing and acting and Edison has earned a distinction for acting." Edison says: "I have enjoyed going to plays in central London and doing sessions with a talent instructor."


Broad education

Edia says: "Edison has also been given lots of opportunities to do sport and was chosen to take part in the long jump at an athletics event. We like the fact that the school is not just focused on academic achievement, but provides the student with an all-round education. We also like the faith element to the school and the fact that they have strong security, which reassures us that Edison is safe there."

Excellent staff

"We really appreciate what all the staff at King Solomon have done for Edison and we feel confident that we have chosen a good school for him. We are now looking forward to our daughter joining the school next year." Edison says: "I have enjoyed all the opportunities I have been given at this school and I like the campus, which has a lot of green space in which I am able to think and develop my learning."

Vision and Values

A photograph of two young men in a library. The man on the left is wearing a white shirt, a dark tie, and a blue kippah with a black clip. He is looking down. The man on the right is wearing a dark suit, a white shirt, and a dark tie. He is adjusting a black device on the left man's wrist. The background is a bookshelf filled with books.

We are a United Synagogue, Orthodox Jewish school, that openly welcomes students of all faiths and of no faith. At our heart, we are a Kehila – a community of learners who look out for and support each other. This idea is embodied in our ethos, which is embedded in all areas of school life and centred on three core pillars: learning, community and charity.

The world stands on three things:

- Torah – learning.
- Avodah – serving the community.
- Gemilut chassadim – acts of kindness.

(Ethics of the Fathers 1:2)

Our motto encompasses the ethos and highlights our aim to develop every student as a rounded and grounded individual through a variety of learning and lived experiences, all infused with Jewish teachings and values. The King Solomon community experience shapes young people into informed, responsible and caring citizens.

*"If I am not for myself, who will be for me?
If I am only for myself, who am I?
If not now, when?"*

(Ethics of the Fathers 1:14)



Daniella, Alfie and Lucia are being encouraged to achieve their best in the friendly environment of King Solomon High School

Sarah and Shpetim live in Hainault with their children, Daniella, aged 14, and twins, Alfie and Lucia, aged 12



Aiming high

Sarah and Shpetim are happy with the high level of achievement their children are attaining at King Solomon. Sarah says: "Daniella has done very well academically and is predicted Grade 9s in all her GCSE subjects next year. She also does well at PE and is often chosen to show prospective families around the school. The school have quickly identified that the twins are both talented at sport and are giving them extra coaching." Daniella says: "In class there is always a more challenging option to help me push myself as much as possible, and teachers are easily accessible if you need them."

Happy atmosphere

Daniella achieved a place at grammar school; however, we still wanted to consider options. Sarah says: "We decided to take a tour around King Solomon and we preferred it because it somehow felt more manageable and had a family feel to it. Daniella loved it straight away and has enjoyed everything about attending King Solomon. She has become greatly confident and embraces all the opportunities she is given." Daniella says: "I have particularly enjoyed helping out at the opening evenings every year, because it has given me the chance to meet so many new people and show them around the school."

Good preparation

Before the twins were due to go up to secondary school, Sarah and Shpetim decided to move them to Ilford Jewish Primary School, which is on the same site as King Solomon. Sarah says: "Alfie and Lucia had been happy at their primary school, but we thought it would be a good idea to transition them in Year 5 to prepare them for starting at King Solomon. I am glad we moved them to the same site as when they joined Year 7, they had already made friends. They are now in separate classes on different sides of the school and are both thriving. They are doing well academically and play for the school football and netball teams and represent the school at athletics."

Extra opportunities

When the students were given the opportunity to apply to be a Sports Scholar, Alfie completed the application and made a video showcasing why he wanted to become one. Sarah says: "He was chosen and now gets the benefit of extra coaching before and after school and has a personalised uniform and a backpack." Alfie says: "The Sports Scholar Programme is good as I am given lots of different opportunities. These include a trip to an England match at Wembley and training sessions with a former Premier League footballer. I am grateful to be part of the programme." Lucia didn't apply to be a Sports Scholar, but has now been identified as talented in PE and will get the opportunity to do extra sports in the Sporting Excellence Programme. Lucia says: "Representing the school in sports has been a fun and joyful experience. Our teams have worked very hard and well together and I always try to play to the best of my ability. The tournaments and competitions I have participated in have been very successful. Being identified as talented at PE means to me that I am advanced in the sports I play and that my teachers want to push me and to challenge me to be the best version of myself."

Approachable teachers

Sarah says: "The staff at King Solomon are always accessible to parents and each year has a pastoral leader who the children can approach if they have any issues. We are grateful the children are safe while they are at school as the site is very secure. Although we are not a Jewish family, we are happy the children are taught Jewish values and that everyone is included, whatever their faith. The school has a nice community feel and we are pleased the staff know all the children well."

Student voice

Giving students the opportunity to improve school life for everyone

Haderech: our student voice

Student voice is very important to us.

Student Observers

Within lessons, our Student Observers learn how to observe lessons and give helpful and constructive feedback to teachers.

Student Council

Our Student Council liaises between the students, the Senior Leadership Team and the staff to listen to suggestions and deal with any concerns.

Improving school life

Together we work as a team on solutions to any problems, to improve school life for everyone. Examples of improvements are school uniform review, worry boxes in toilets, changes to school catering, and benches and table tennis tables outside.

Transition

We do our very best to settle in new students as quickly as possible



It can be very daunting to start in a new school.

Transition comic

To help ease any worries, we produce a transition comic that we hand out to all incoming students, which is based around their key concerns.



Taster days and getting to know students

We also offer students a taster day in the Summer Term, and the Head of Year 7 visits primary schools to get to know the students and meet their teachers. We also hand out a video about what it's like to start in Year 7.

Sometimes we also run summer clubs, where you can get to know the school before starting in September.

Starting a day early

To help new students settle into their new environment, the new term will start a day early before the rest of the school. On the first day there will be lots of fun activities which enable new students to make friends and get to know our staff.

Curriculum: child-centred learning

Our Values are rooted in our core principles of learning, charity and community

- We believe that learning changes lives and must be equally accessible to all.
- We believe that students should embrace the impact of service to others through charity and acts of kindness.
- We believe that every student should leave school with the skills and attributes to play an active and constructive part in the school, local and global communities.

Our Curriculum Intent is to ensure that all our students

- Experience learning that is inspiring and caters to their needs.
- Graduate with the knowledge and qualifications to pursue their desired pathway.
- Can access our curriculum, regardless of their prior learning, individual needs or economic background.
- Engage in activities that enable them to make a positive difference to others.
- Participate in experiences that develop skills in leadership, collaboration and problem solving.

Universal Learning

Our curriculum is delivered according to the principles of Universal Learning, whereby students are offered a range of tools to access and showcase their learning. We ensure that all students are exposed to cultural and collaborative opportunities in order to develop the whole child and open their eyes to a range of possibilities for their future.

Enabling students to play an active and constructive part in the school, local and global communities





Sam and Lewis are both enjoying academic success thanks to the nurturing staff at King Solomon High School

Gill and Greg live in Barkingside with their sons, Sam, aged 18, and Lewis, aged 16



Caring teachers

Gill and Greg are grateful to the teachers at King Solomon for pushing Sam and Lewis to achieve the highest grades possible. Gill says: "The staff saw their potential and didn't want them settling for average grades, which has helped them both to succeed academically. King Solomon is a very nurturing school. There can't be many secondary schools where almost every member of staff knows who you are, and all the students are looked after every step of the way."

Smooth transition

Sam started in Year 7 at King Solomon after attending nearby Clore Tikva School, one of its feeder primary schools. Gill says: "It was a natural progression for Sam as there had been Transition Days arranged between the two schools. We had heard lots of good things about King Solomon as we knew other families with older children there who spoke highly of it."

Encouraged to achieve

"Sam had visited the school while he was at primary school and was used to the environment. He made a brilliant start as he already had lots of friends that went up with him and knew some of the other kids from Transition Days. The staff quickly recognised his academic ability and helped him to achieve by encouraging him to go the extra mile. It felt completely natural and was just the right amount of pushing to get the best out of him."

Flying Start programme

Gill says Sam has taken A Levels in Maths, History and Psychology and, subject to achieving his grades, has a provisional place at Nottingham University to do Accountancy. "The degree is in conjunction with PricewaterhouseCoopers because he has been chosen for their Flying Start degree programme and will do work placements while studying. Sam was chosen from 6000 applicants for one of 250 places and is hoping to secure a job on the PwC Graduate Programme on completion of his degree." Sam says: "The staff have helped me succeed

by constantly monitoring me in my approach to university. I had limitless meetings whilst writing my personal statement and I don't doubt this helped me greatly in receiving my offers. The best part of Sixth Form at King Solomon is the independence. The free periods allow both group and individual work and there is the opportunity to leave early if you have finished your lessons for the day. This allowed me to work where I felt I would achieve the best results and for me was the more useful and enjoyable aspect of Sixth Form."

Ability recognised

Gill says Lewis was used to King Solomon because Sam was already there when he first started. She says: "Lewis also made lots of friends at Transition Days and settled in very well. He is very academic and sporty and has also benefited from being pushed every step of the way by the staff. He was never put under any pressure but was pushed in a good way as the staff can tell when students have ability and they do everything they can to help them." Lewis says: "My favourite thing about King Solomon is the approachable teachers if I have needed help in class or just had general questions. I have always felt very comfortable asking the teachers about them."

Sixth Form independence

Gill says: "Lewis enjoys English and Geography and also loves PE. He is looking forward to going into the Sixth Form and being treated like an adult and planning his own work. He won't have to be in school from 9am till 3pm every day, because he can work at home as well. I like the way they are allowed independence in the Sixth Form as it is good preparation for university. Sam has enjoyed being a Senior Prefect while in the Sixth Form." Lewis says: "The thing I'm looking forward to most about the Sixth Form is the freedom. When you finish lessons, if you are up to date with your work and on track in classes, you can go home. I really like this as I work best on my own terms in my own environment so I think this will hugely benefit me, as well as many others."

Preparation for life

Equipping students with skills for life

Life skills

School is a very important preparation for the future independence of our students, and with that in mind we promote the development of life skills via the curriculum and in PSHCE seminars.

Life skills and PSHCE sessions focus on a wide variety of topics including body image, healthy eating, first aid, drugs awareness, women's safety, road safety and careers sessions in addition to following the national curriculum.

Confidence and presentation skills

We frequently host assemblies from motivational speakers, religious leaders and the police spanning a wide variety of topics such as personal safety, rights and responsibilities, mindset and exam success. Assemblies and seminars are also used to encourage all our students to build their confidence and presentation skills with student-led teaching and group work.



Co-curricular

Exciting activities outside of academic school life

Education within KSHS does not end with the academic side of school life.

Broadening horizons

Co-curricular opportunities are very important to us, including social activities and clubs. All school day trips are paid for by the school for all students in Years 7-13 as part of our commitment to the importance of co-curricular activities. Examples of these trips include Geography field trips to the local area, trips to the London museums, the Tower of London, Legoland and Bletchley Park, and visits to the theatre, opera and musical concerts. We also run trips to watch elite sporting events and outdoor adventurous activities and take students to experience academic excellence for example masterclasses, university lectures and conferences.

Passport to the future

Every student in Years 7-9 will be given a personal 'passport to the future.' This document will record each trip with a 'stamp' and offer space for reflection, feedback and comments. We will keep the passports safely so that they form a permanent record of valuable experiences to cherish and use in the future. The passport will also offer a space to record careers interviews and events so your child can link their experiences to their choice of career, maximising every opportunity to build up 'cultural capital'.

Residential

We also run a number of residential trips across the school year, including trips to Wales, Spain, Israel and Poland.

Charity committee

Our students also take an active part in the local community and are happy to work on our Tzedekah (charity) committees. They regularly volunteer to assist those who need help or are less fortunate, in keeping with our School Motto – "If I am only for myself, who am I?"

Clubs

We run a wide variety of clubs from STEM club, Technical Theatre club and Chess club through to Sports, Music, Photography and Debate clubs.

Sport

We have competitive and social teams in a wide range of sports for all students and we participate in local and national sports events throughout the year.

Scholars programme

For students with outstanding potential

Promoting excellence

Aimed at promoting excellence, the Scholars programme is open to students across Years 7-8. Chosen via a competitive interview process, scholars are young people who have outstanding potential in one of the following areas:

- Art.
- Drama.
- Jewish Studies.
- Music.
- STEM (Science, Maths, Engineering and Technology).
- Sport.

Scholars benefit from a fully funded, bespoke, tailor-made series of learning opportunities, with specific pathways designed to enhance and develop their skills.

Explore, experience and learn

Scholars are encouraged to explore, experience and learn from experts and develop their skills, knowledge and enthusiasm in their subject area. Scholars attend workshops, play in orchestras or sports teams, act in group pieces and meet other like-minded individuals, with whom to discuss their love of their subject.

From the V&A to Kew Gardens and beyond

In the first six months of our 2022 programme, budding performers took part in workshops and enjoyed performances, while our artists took in the splendour of the V&A galleries; aspiring sports people enjoyed specialist coaching while a keen botanist paid a first ever visit to Kew Gardens.



Sixth Form

Studying your favourite subjects in greater depth is highly rewarding

Specialising

Sixth Form is an exciting opportunity to specialise and to study with like-minded individuals in greater depth and under the guidance of teachers who have extensive knowledge of, and are extremely passionate about, their subjects.

More active and intense

The move from GCSE to A Level study sees learning become more active and intense, while subject knowledge goes much deeper. Managing time effectively is an important part of Sixth Form life, and an essential preparation for Higher Education.

Achieving personal targets

We work to ensure that everyone achieves their targets, whether it be Oxbridge entrance or an apprenticeship.

Canteen and coffee shop too!

We are lucky to have a Sixth Form Centre where there is both a canteen area with a coffee shop and a quiet supervised study area. There are plenty of friendly spaces for students to socialise with friends or take part in group or individual study.

Trying out something new

Sixth Form is exciting and challenging. You will undertake work experience, volunteer within the community, attend university and apprenticeship fairs, develop leadership skills and go on trips to other countries.





KSHS



KING SOLOMON HIGH SCHOOL

Forest Road, Ilford
IG6 3HB

T: 020 8498 1300

E: info@kshsonline.uk

W: www.kshsonline.uk

Parking: There is no parking onsite. Craven Gardens car park (entrance is opposite the library car park on Craven Gardens) is adjacent to the school campus. It is a pay and display car park.

Public Transport: Buses: 128, 150, 167, 169, 247, 275 and 462 stop within a 2-minute walk from the school.

Tube: Fairlop Station (Central Line) is a 4-minute walk and Barkingside Station (Central Line) is a 14-minute walk.