

**KING EDWARD VI  
FOUNDATION**

---

*Become a  
Governor*



**KING EDWARD VI  
FOUNDATION  
BIRMINGHAM**

*Educational excellence for our City*



**KING EDWARD VI  
ACADEMY TRUST  
BIRMINGHAM**

*Educational excellence for our City*

# Welcome

---

Our Foundation benefits hugely from the contributions of Governors. Whether at school, committee or board level, the range of experiences, skills and perspectives that these volunteers bring is essential in supporting and challenging executive leaders as critical friends.

At all stages in my career as an educator I have had the privilege of working with some exceptional individuals: as a head of department with a link Governor who would come into school regularly to look at the work of my department; as a headteacher challenged by my school Governing Body and working closely with the Chair of Governors; and now as CEO, answering to the board and putting their mission and strategy into operation. As a non-executive for other organisations, I appreciate the time and effort that Governors give outside of their day jobs. In our Foundation, that commitment supports the education and wellbeing of our 13,000 pupils and 2,000 staff in 14 schools across the city of Birmingham.

We are grateful for your interest and hope to work with you in making Birmingham the best place to be educated in the UK.



**Jodh Dhesi**

Chief Executive Officer  
King Edward VI Foundation



# Contents

---

- 01. Organisational Info
- 03. Our Schools
- 05. Our Mission & Values
- 07. Why Be a School Governor
- 09. Become a Governor
- 14. Testimonials
- 15. Contact Us



# Organisational Info



KING EDWARD VI  
FOUNDATION  
BIRMINGHAM

*Educational excellence for our City*

## Our Aspiration

To make Birmingham the best place to be educated in the UK.

The King Edward VI Foundation is a diverse family of schools serving Birmingham and influencing beyond. We strive for excellence and through our forward-thinking and inclusive education, we seek to raise aspirations and transform lives.

Our schools are a rare combination of independent schools and academies, both selective and comprehensive, which have come together over the centuries since the establishment of King Edward's School, Birmingham in 1552. While the diverse nature of our schools is one of our greatest strengths, all parts of the Foundation share a common purpose and work together to realise our aspiration to make Birmingham the best place to be educated in the UK.

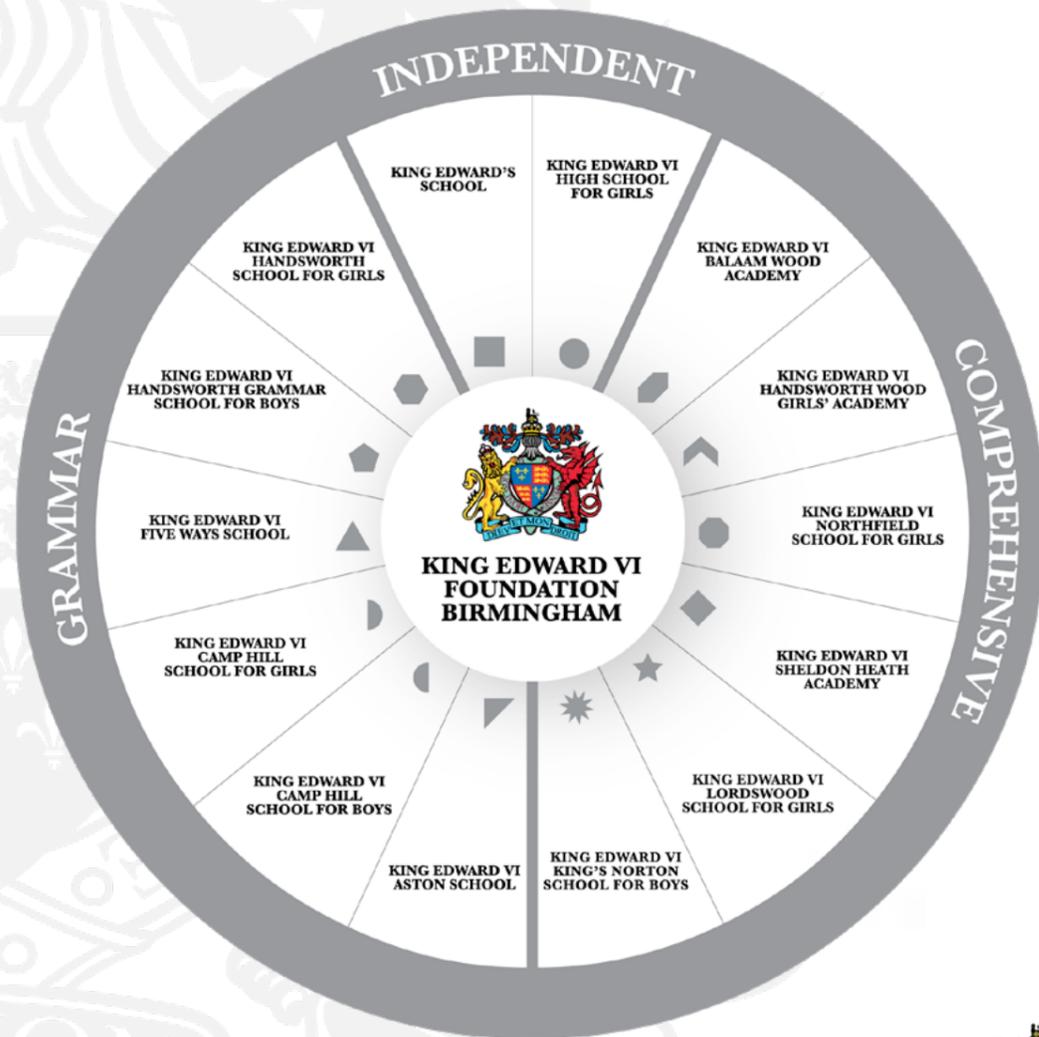
The Foundation comprises of the King Edward VI Academy Trust of six grammar, six comprehensive academes serving some of the most disadvantaged areas of Birmingham; a sponsoring charity (called The Schools of King Edward VI in Birmingham) which operates our two high-performing independent schools drawing in students from across the West Midlands; and the Foundation Office, which hosts our central services. The pupils and staff in our academies and independent schools benefit greatly from this association. It is a partnership based on mutual respect and shared values and one which demonstrates real charitable activity on the part of the independent schools and the historical Foundation behind them.

“ Our schools educate more than 13,000 children and young people: that's 1 in 11 of Birmingham's secondary-aged pupils. ”



# Our Schools

Within our organisation there are currently: two independent schools that are amongst the best day schools in the country, six grammar school academies that are amongst the best state schools in the country and six non-selective comprehensive academies, all of which have added a different dimension to the Foundation and serve their local communities. Each contribute to excellence in education and, as a group, offer opportunities to the diversity of Birmingham's communities.



*King Edward's School*



*King Edward VI High School for Girls*



*King Edward VI Handsworth School for Girls*



*King Edward VI Handsworth Grammar School for Boys*



*King Edward VI Five Ways School*



*King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls*



*King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys*



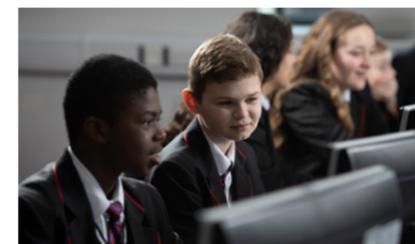
*King Edward VI Aston School*



*King Edward VI King's Norton School for Boys*



*King Edward VI Lordswood School for Girls*



*King Edward VI Sheldon Heath Academy*



*King Edward VI Northfield School for Girls*



*King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy*



*King Edward VI Balaam Wood Academy*

# Our Mission & Values



**KING EDWARD VI  
FOUNDATION  
BIRMINGHAM**

*Educational excellence for our City*

## Our mission

To empower our schools in the heart of the UK to deliver educational excellence, enabling our students, staff and partners to thrive.

## Our values



We strive for excellence in all parts of the well-rounded and forward-looking education our schools deliver.

**We are distinctive in the high quality of education we provide.**



Our schools are accessible and inclusive, providing opportunities for our students and staff to thrive regardless of their background.

**We are accessible.**



The diversity of our schools is a key strength and we work together to make a difference.

**We achieve more together.**



We have high aspirations and encourage students and staff to take advantage of the opportunities on offer.

**We aim high.**



People's wellbeing and growth is at the centre of all we do and we take seriously our environmental responsibilities.

**We make a positive contribution to individuals and society.**



Our actions are driven by doing the right thing at all times and we take responsibility for them.

**We are open and honest.**



# Why be a School Governor?

If you are seeking a voluntary role which is important, interesting and intriguing, you should become a school Governor.

Important because there can be few roles in our society that are more important than ensuring our children have the best possible education. As a Governor, you will have a key role in meeting the challenge we have set ourselves of making Birmingham the best place to be educated in the United Kingdom.

Interesting for the opportunity it offers of working with a school community and with your fellow Governors. Meeting children is itself an enriching opportunity. Visits give insights to the range and skill sets its teachers and support staff need to make a school successful. Your fellow Governors bring a diversity of skills and backgrounds from whom you can learn and also contribute.

Intriguing because of the challenge the role demands in navigating the relationships between the school's professional leaders and its Governing Body. As a Governor, you share a responsibility for challenging the professionals, ensuring they are working towards the school's goals as effectively as possible. Equally, they have an expertise which Governors must recognise and appropriately respect. Being a Governor is sometimes described as like being a critical friend. If you can fulfil that role, join us.



*Hywel Thomas*  
Chair of King Edward VI  
Foundation Birmingham



*Sharon Roberts*  
Chair of King Edward VI  
Academy Trust Birmingham



**KING EDWARD VI  
FOUNDATION  
BIRMINGHAM**

*Educational excellence for our City*



# Become a Governor

## Desired Experience

Governors bring a diverse range of skills, knowledge and experience to the Board. The basic requirements for applicants are enthusiasm and a commitment to working collaboratively with others for the benefit of the Trust and its objectives. We are currently seeking candidates with experience and expertise in:

**People and Systems** - Our staff are the most important part of making our schools a success.

**Education** - Ideally state-funded, at any age-range, in senior positions from Deputy Headteacher upwards.

**Financial Management** - Whether in education, other public bodies, commercial enterprise or accountancy practice.

**Business Operations** - Including project management and multi-site operations.

**Information Technology** - Contributing to our digital systems for sustainability.



**KING EDWARD VI  
FOUNDATION  
BIRMINGHAM**

*Educational excellence for our City*



# Become a Governor

## Competence, Knowledge & Skills

- Ability to build and sustain relationships with key stakeholders and colleagues to achieve organisational objectives.
- Understanding the difference between Non-Exec and Executive responsibilities.
- Good, independent judgement and strategic vision.
- An ability to work effectively as a member of a team.
- Ability to understand and accept the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of Governorship, and the respective roles of the Chair, Governors, Governing Bodies and Executives.
- Dedication to impartiality and fairness and the ability to respect confidences.
- Commitment to the seven principles of public life: Selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.
- Commitment to promoting equality and diversity.
- Commitment to the organisation and a willingness to devote the necessary time and effort.
- A willingness to bring a diverse range of perspectives to the table.
- Willingness to be available to staff for advice and enquiries on an ad hoc basis.



**KING EDWARD VI  
FOUNDATION  
BIRMINGHAM**

*Educational excellence for our City*



## Personal Qualities

### **Governors are expected to:**

- Act in the best interests of the Trust and Foundation. Exercise due care and attention and use reasonable skill in dealing with the Trust's affairs.
- Apply personal skills, knowledge and experience to help the work of the board and assist in decision-making by the Governors.
- Declare potential conflicts of interest.
- Attend board and committee meetings and play an active part in discussions and decisions.
- Serve on board committees and working groups as required.
- Have a strong empathy with our vision to enable success for all.

# Testimonials



“

*For the past 25 years, serving Camp Hill Girls’ School has been one of my most fulfilling experiences. From recruiting Head Teachers to guiding the school through outstanding Ofsted results, I’ve seen firsthand the impact of dedicated governance. As a Governor, I champion diverse career pathways and inclusivity, ensuring every student feels represented. If you believe in shaping young futures, I urge you to step forward—our schools need leaders who reflect and inspire the students they serve.*

Governor

“

*Education plays a pivotal role in a person’s life trajectory and being a Governor provides a tangible way to positively influence the school experience. There are many similarities between education and the my career, such as AI adoption, and being a Governor provides the opportunity to bring new ideas and support to schools. With the significant changes to education and the environment around young people in recent years, I find it incredibly rewarding to work with School Leadership Teams within the Foundation who are going above and beyond to ensure our pupils leave schools with best education possible.*

Governor



**KING EDWARD VI  
FOUNDATION  
BIRMINGHAM**

*Educational excellence for our City*

# Contact Details

---

If you are interested in becoming a Governor, please get in touch.

---

**Deborah Canton**

Governance Manager



King Edward VI Foundation  
Foundation Office  
Edgbaston Park Road  
Birmingham  
B15 2UD



[Deborah.Canton@kevibham.org](mailto:Deborah.Canton@kevibham.org)



**KING EDWARD VI  
FOUNDATION  
BIRMINGHAM**

*Educational excellence for our City*

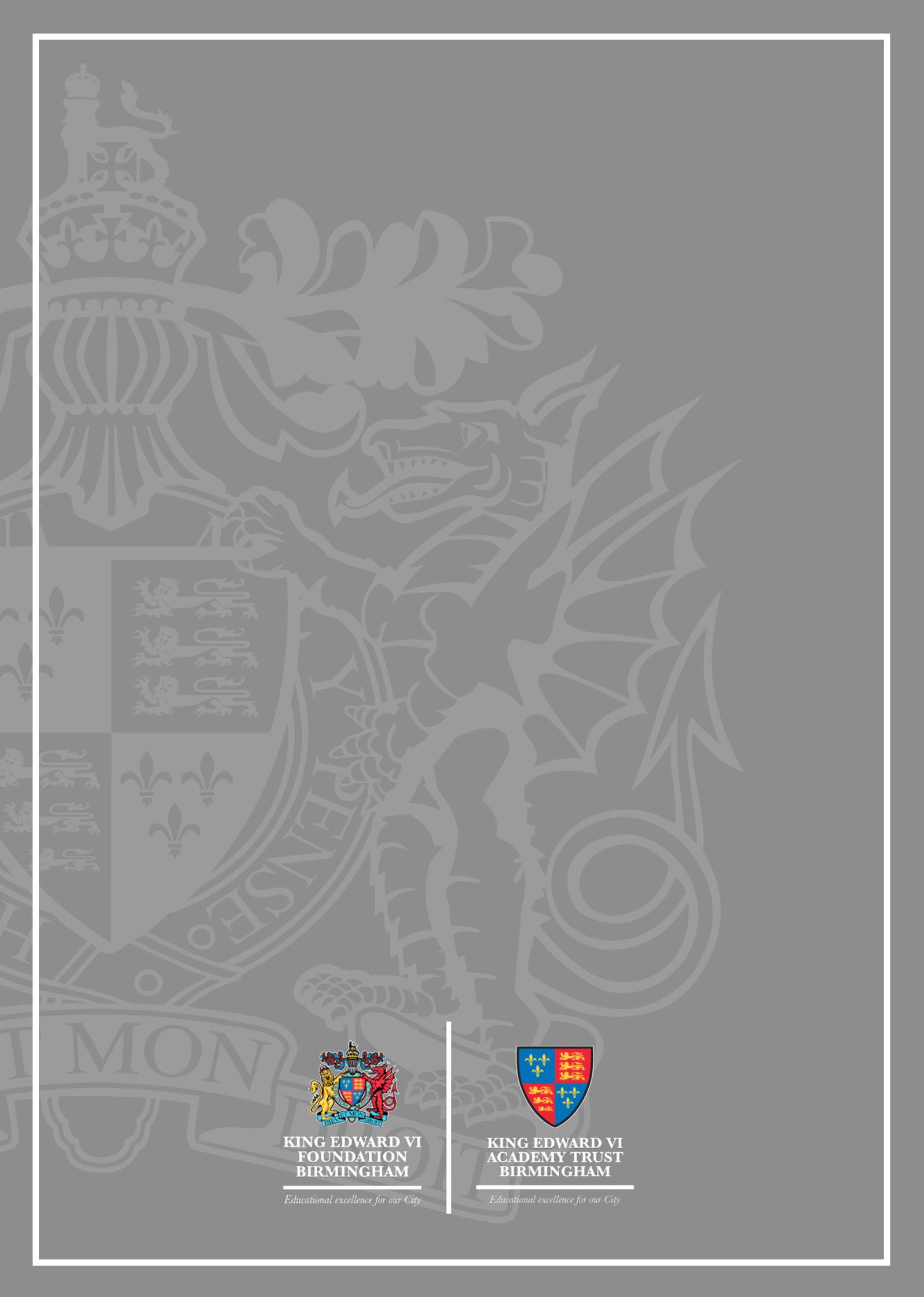




**KING EDWARD VI  
FOUNDATION  
BIRMINGHAM**

*Educational excellence for our City*





**KING EDWARD VI  
FOUNDATION  
BIRMINGHAM**

*Educational excellence for our City*



**KING EDWARD VI  
ACADEMY TRUST  
BIRMINGHAM**

*Educational excellence for our City*