

# SPECIAL TALENT AWARDS

Special Talent Awards (STAs) are available to pupils entering Year 7 who demonstrate outstanding talent in Art, Drama, Music or Sport. Awards attract a fee remission of 5%. They apply until the end of Year 11, subject to the continued strong performance and achievement in the relevant area.

The criteria and standard for each discipline are outlined below. Candidates can only apply for one category, although a STA can be held alongside an academic scholarship and/or bursary. All STA holders are expected to commit fully to the relevant aspect of school life.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Please complete the admissions application form on our website, ticking the box to indicate which Award you wish to apply for (Step 6). This will launch an additional phase, accessible from your homepage. Please note that all Award submissions must be accompanied by at least one endorsement supporting your child's application. This could be from their club coach, class/specialist teacher or Head.

Completed Award submissions and accompanying endorsements must be received no later than **Monday 27 November 2023**. Unfortunately, we cannot consider late applications.

For further details on how to apply for a Special Talent Award, please visit our Admissions page on our website or scan the QR code below:



How to apply...

# SPECIAL TALENT AWARDS

MUSIC  
SPORT  
ART  
Drama



KING  
EDWARD'S  
SCHOOL  
BATH



# SPORT

## KES SPORT

Here at King Edward's, we are looking for Special Talent Award (STA) recipients who enjoy and have a passion for sport, are attentive and willing to learn, are committed to developing themselves and acting as role models to others and are ready to build on their existing sporting credentials in order to fully realise their full potential.

Sport plays a significant role in the life of King Edward's. The School enjoys a strong sporting tradition, with regular success at National and Regional level. Individuals who hold a Special Talent Award are expected to participate in fixtures for our major sports, where appropriate, and to take pride in representing the School.

### WHO SHOULD APPLY?

It is envisaged that candidates applying for a Sport STA will be playing at, or have the potential to play at, district/area level or beyond in at least one of our major sports. They will ideally currently represent the 'A' team within their school or club and have shown themselves to be an outstanding performer at their level.

We will also be looking at the skills that underpin high level performance such as decision making, speed, endurance, co-ordination, balance, agility, teamwork and spatial awareness, and so an obvious ability in these areas is required.

### WHAT WE OFFER...

- ⚙ Holistic development of our athletes, including functional movement, with a focus on developing character, determination, self-confidence and resilience, alongside realising sporting ability.
- ⚙ A team of highly qualified and specialised coaching staff, with links to regional and national academies.
- ⚙ A proven track record of success in national school competitions.
- ⚙ A significant performance pathway programme with Team Bath Buccaneers (Hockey), Team Bath Netball, Talent Academy with England Hockey, Bath Rugby Academy and Bath Cricket Club/ Somerset County Cricket Club.
- ⚙ An ongoing investment in new sports facilities, with a new gym opening this year, complete with dedicated cardiovascular and resistance areas, with a third space given to circuit-training and functional movement.

### ASSESSMENT

**Tuesday 16 January 2024 (13:30 – 15:45)**

Candidates will undertake a series of core ability tests required to perform at a high level, along with some team-based activities.

KES coaches will have an informal conversation with candidates at different points throughout the afternoon, to establish their sporting background, interest and aspirations.

# MUSIC

## KES MUSIC

The King Edward's Special Talent Award (STA) for Music celebrates, encourages, supports and highlights particularly able and gifted individual musicians within the School, and is in many respects similar to other schools' Music scholarship programmes.

These awards help the Music department to support and develop particularly enthusiastic and talented young musicians, providing additional opportunities and teacher contact time to further encourage and challenge their musical interests and capabilities via our wide-ranging and extensive KES Music Calendar.

We challenge and expect those holding STAs to become the leaders in musical ensembles and in the wider musical life of the School, and many go on to be our Music Prefects in Year 12. Music plays a large and important role in the life of King Edward's. In recent years, KES musicians have sung or performed in the National Youth Choir and Orchestra, and there have been four KES finalists at the Bath Young Musician of the Year in the last eight years.

### WHO SHOULD APPLY?

As a guideline, candidates wishing to be considered for a Music STA should be working towards at least Grade 4 or higher.

Whilst progress through to the middle and higher levels of graded exams is a clear indicator of a pupil's musical learning, we are also very much looking for a passion in the subject and natural musical ability.

### WHAT WE OFFER...

- ⚙ Pupils are taught and supported by a team of 23 Music staff, each an experienced and current practitioner in a specialist musical field.
- ⚙ A Music calendar offering over 50 performance opportunities a year, in and outside school, including venues such as the Holburne Museum, the Guildhall and Bath Abbey.
- ⚙ The opportunity to work with our professional Performance Coach & Accompanist, and our Composer in Residence.
- ⚙ Unique and inspirational professional orchestral and vocal partnerships with Bath Philharmonia and the Bath Abbey Choir.
- ⚙ Around seven instrumental and vocal masterclasses a year with superb professional musicians, including some world-class visiting soloists.
- ⚙ The opportunity to compose on one of 32 MAC computers with the latest, professional standard, Logic and Sibelius Music software.

### ASSESSMENT

**Weeks beginning 8 & 15 January 2024 (individual 45-minute assessments)**

Candidates will be required to perform a piece of music for instrument or voice alongside a short passage of sight reading, some basic aural tests and composition/improvisation task.





# DRAMA

## KES DRAMA

Drama plays a vital role in the life of King Edward's School and is so much more than just the study of texts and performing on stage; it is an exploration of life, ourselves and our relationship with the world around us and with others. It is considered to be one of the most collaborative of the arts, incorporating a range of skills and giving pupils the chance to explore their diverse interests and passions through performance, sound engineering, lighting design, set construction or costume design.

The Drama department at KES is keen to see creative and imaginative candidates who demonstrate a clear ability to work well with others and to share their ideas.

### WHO SHOULD APPLY?

The ideal candidate will show a genuine interest in, and passion for the subject, ideally having some Drama experience, such as being in a school play or a member of a drama club.

Other skills may also be considered, alongside a talent for Drama including dance, gymnastics, musical ability or a passion for books.

### ASSESSMENT

**Tuesday 9 January 2024 (13:45 – 15:00)**

Candidates will be asked to give an audition, including some improvisation activities and a short duologue.

There is no need to prepare anything in advance.

### WHAT WE OFFER...

- ❁ An outstanding, purpose-built drama centre (The Rose) with state-of-the-art facilities for teaching and learning.
- ❁ An exciting programme of performance opportunities, with three major productions taking place each year. Recent shows have included *We Will Rock You*, *Antigone* and *Alice in Wonderland*.
- ❁ Exposure to some of the best live theatre in some of the most prestigious theatres in the country.
- ❁ Exceptional results at both GCSE and A Level.
- ❁ Opportunities to take part in different festivals, including the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.
- ❁ Teaching enhanced with visiting workshops from outside practitioners. Recent workshops include physical theatre and stage combat.
- ❁ A well-established and very successful LAMDA programme, with over 50 pupils each year supported by a specialist in-house team.

# ART

## KES ART

We want our artists to experiment, take risks and embrace the creative process. They should enjoy looking at and immersing themselves in Art and be keen to unlock its secrets. The Art and Photography department looks for creative young minds who enjoy expressing their ideas visually and are eager to explore a wide range of materials, techniques and processes. Pupils are expected to be expressive and able to work independently with passion and motivation.

### WHO SHOULD APPLY?

We are looking for children who enjoy drawing in their own time, away from school and who are passionate about Art. Ideally they will enjoy exploring all kinds of creative artworks, including perhaps visiting, or being inspired by different exhibitions or artists.

### ASSESSMENT

**Tuesday 9 January 2024 (13:45 – 15:30)**

Candidates will be asked to produce a series of observational drawings (still life) exploring line and tone.

Candidates will also have an individual meeting with the Head of Art and should bring a portfolio of their recent work, particularly any work produced outside of school.

### WHAT WE OFFER...

- ❁ A programme of visiting artist workshops, talks and life-drawing classes to enrich day-to-day teaching, and a calendar of careers talks spanning the Creative, Design and Art worlds.
- ❁ UK and foreign Art trips ranging from visits to galleries and museums in London, Oxford and St Ives to trips to cultural centres including Amsterdam and Morocco.
- ❁ The department benefits from four bright and spacious classrooms and a separate Photography facility, which incorporates a studio, dark room and creative media suite.
- ❁ We foster strong links with Art Schools, as many of our pupils continue their creative journeys beyond KES, with recent destinations including Central St Martins, Falmouth University and the Courtauld Institute of Art.
- ❁ In recent years KES pupils have benefited from a series of partnerships with the Holburne Museum to include exclusive access to exhibitions and workshops.