

Headteacher - David Martin

Good evening and welcome to Katherine Warrington School and our Sixth Form Open Evening — it's great to see so many of you here. I'm proud to lead KWS and to share what makes our school such a special place. This evening gives you the chance to explore our facilities, meet our staff, learn about our A-Level and BTEC courses, and hear directly from our students. Choosing your post-16 pathway is an exciting step, and our Sixth Form offers a supportive, ambitious environment to help you succeed. We are fortunate to have a modern, well-resourced school designed for 21st-century learning, underpinned by strong values.

At KWS, we focus on three key principles:

- **Knowledge** — high-quality teaching delivered by expert staff.
- **Well-being** — strong pastoral care and personalised support for every student.
- **Success** — excellent outcomes, with KWS ranked in the top 20% nationally for progress and attainment.

We pride ourselves on providing a complete education that enables every student to reach their full potential. KWS Sixth Form is an excellent opportunity to join or continue your journey with us, and we look forward to building your success together.

Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth form - Chris Laing

I feel incredibly lucky to do this job — it's an honour to work with such fantastic students every day, including Year 12 students like Tendai and Mia. I've been a head of Sixth Form since 2016 in my previous school, and this is honestly the best group of young people I've had the pleasure to work with. Looking at the KWS Year 11 students here tonight, I can see the potential and talent in the group — it's an exciting time for the school. This evening is all about you — giving you the information you need to make an informed decision about Sixth Form, whether you are already a KWS student or visiting for the first time.

A warm welcome to all new students and parents — it's great to see you, and I hope you have a fantastic evening.

Why choose KWSixth?

I visit lessons every day and see the amazing learning that happens — committed students, working hard, with dedicated teachers who know their students inside out. Tonight, you'll have the chance to speak directly to both teachers and students. We offer a broad curriculum — students typically take three subjects. Check the booklet, ask questions, and think carefully about your choices. While we don't yet have Sixth Form outcomes, all external data points to superb results: our last two GCSE cohorts achieved outstanding grades, many 7-9s, and in our current Year 12, 35 students achieved an average point score above 7 at GCSE. These results reflect committed teachers, deep subject knowledge, and motivated students inspired by excellent teaching.

We've recruited lots of experienced Sixth Form teachers from other schools, so we're confident that these outstanding GCSE results will continue into Sixth Form.

Our pastoral system is excellent — with a relatively small Sixth Form (108 in Year 12, 83 in Year 13), we can offer personalised support, intervene when needed, and help students stay on track. As part of a consortium with three local schools, we can offer even more subjects — details are on our website. There are fantastic opportunities for student leadership, enrichment activities, and full UCAS support to help students achieve their goals.

KWS Character

Of course, we want our students to achieve fantastic grades and outcomes — that's important. But more than that, it's about who our students become as people — kind, passionate, and knowledgeable. A great example of this is the work on display here (See slide 10), like last year's senior citizens tea party, which was one of my favourite events of the past year. We focus on helping students develop the skills and values to make a real difference in society.

Ultimately, we want KWS leavers to go out into the world as great young people.

Deputy Head of Sixth form- Miss Gardner -

I have a real passion for supporting and helping our Sixth Form students — it's why I joined KWS. Our Sixth Form offers so many opportunities for students to grow and succeed. We provide individualised UCAS support, which helps students create incredibly strong applications. There are lots of opportunities for students to develop their skills and competencies. (See slides 15 and 16) This includes leadership roles, enrichment activities, and Period 7 sessions.

Life as a sixth former is different to that of a year 11 student. You have opportunities which extend beyond your timetabled lessons. For example, VESPA is a study platform we have invested in which helps students develop more independence and bridge the gap between Key Stage 4 and 5. Sixth formers enjoy their weekly enrichment slot where they have a wide range of subjects to choose from, some opt for the EPQ for more valuable UCAS points whilst others go for the Dragon's Apprentice which involves working with a local charity and business to turn £100 into £1000. We have links to both local and Russell Group universities and our excellent track record this year of students who have applied for Oxbridge stands at 100% of students gaining an interview and 50% successfully being offered a place (the other students are still waiting for a final decision).

The list of some of the potential destinations for our year 13 students can be found on slide 17.

Head Student - Mia

Hi, I'm Mia, part of the Head Student Team at KWS, studying A-Level History, English Literature, Biology, and an EPQ. Tendai and I have been at the school since Year 7, so we've seen it grow and have helped shape the sixth form as part of the second cohort.

This time last year, I was in the same position as you, considering my options and visiting other local schools to make the right choice for my future. Although I received offers elsewhere, KW Sixth stood out because of the supportive and expert teachers, friendly students, and wide range of opportunities.

After achieving grades 7–9 at GCSE, choosing to stay felt natural — and I'm really glad I did. The teachers genuinely care about our progress, lessons are engaging, and this motivates me to do my best. In History, activities like mock law trials and debates have deepened my understanding and confirmed my interest in studying law at university. KW Sixth offers unique opportunities beyond the classroom, including trips and super-curricular experiences. I'm one of four students selected to visit Auschwitz with the Holocaust Educational Trust, which will support my history studies and future applications. I've also completed the STEP Leadership Foundation course, helping me develop leadership skills and gain a valuable qualification.

Overall, KW Sixth has been the right choice for me, and I hope to see you here in September.

Head Student Tendai -

Hello, I'm Tendai, one of the Head Students at Katherine Warrington School, studying A-Level Biology, Chemistry, and BTEC Performing Arts. I've been at KWS since Year 7, so I've seen the school grow into the strong, supportive community it is today.

Teachers consistently support us not just academically, but also through extracurricular activities and personal development, preparing us for university, apprenticeships, and careers beyond school. I'm involved in enrichment opportunities such as Interact Club, which has helped me develop organisation and project-management skills..

Outside academics, KWS offers school productions, sports teams, competitions, and house events, helping students develop soft skills and showcase their individual talents. Being involved in theatre productions has helped me build confidence, friendships, and unforgettable memories, allowing me to stand confidently in front of you today. Period 7 sessions further show how the school supports every student in reaching their full potential. Small class sizes, such as my Biology class of 15 and Performing Arts class of 13, allow for personalised teaching and quick identification of areas for improvement. Our close-knit sixth form and more relaxed, professional approach to learning create an environment where students take responsibility for their progress.

Overall, KWS provides the perfect environment for me to grow academically and personally, supporting my aspiration to attend a Russell Group medical school. I believe KWS is a great fit for many of you, whatever your future plans may be, and we'd be happy to answer any questions after the assembly.

