



The King's School, Canterbury

Founding Principal

The King's School, Canterbury (www.kings-school.co.uk), dates back to the year 597 though it acquired its name 'The King's School' in 1541 when the institution was re-founded under King Henry VIII. Today, it is a leading UK independent co-educational boarding and day school, situated in the heart of the historic Cathedral city of Canterbury in Kent, UK. The Senior School (educating pupils aged 13-18, 80% of whom are boarders) occupies various historic sites around the Cathedral. **The Junior King's School** (www.junior-kings.co.uk), with pupils aged 3-13, is located in a nearby rural setting.

Situated in the UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Canterbury Cathedral and St. Augustine's Abbey, the architecture of the Senior School reflects a respectful mix of old and new, ranging from the 13th Century Meister Omers House to the 21st Century New Grange. The Junior School also occupies an historic site, formerly a sixteenth century country mansion. This setting of both schools creates a community that is spiritually aware, historically informed and appreciative of aesthetic beauty.

King's provides an all-round education based upon strong academic roots (emphasising scholarly excellence) and co-curricular opportunity supported by a caring pastoral and tutorial system. Music and drama are outstanding, both having the finest traditions and producing performances of the highest standards. King's Week, the school's own annual Festival of Creative and Performing Arts, attracts thousands of visitors at the end of each Summer Term.

In September 2018, the school will open a new **International College** in Canterbury (www.international.kings-school.co.uk) and in 2019 its first overseas school in **Shenzhen, China**.

The International College in Canterbury will enjoy a state-of-the-art new building, based upon modern pedagogic principles, on a former industrial site in the city. King's, both Senior and Junior, already embraces international students but the College will offer more opportunities for children from around the world to experience our all-embracing and forward-looking education. This spirit of internationalism and innovation are also reflected in our desire to share our education with children in Shenzhen.

The King's School, Canterbury, Shenzhen International, will be a K12 school numbering in total 1300-1400 students of whom 300-350 will be in the Kindergarten (the Pre-Prep). Both the Kindergarten and International School will be on the same site, though in separate buildings, and fall within the overall responsibility of the Principal.



Our vision is to work closely with our local partners to bring one of the world's oldest schools to the newest city in China in state-of-the-art buildings designed entirely for providing education of the highest quality. In so doing, we shall combine both a long and trusted tradition with the best of modern pedagogical practice in magnificent new buildings for the benefit of everyone concerned: King's in Canterbury will learn as much from King's in China as the other way round.

The new School is, therefore, a joint UK-Chinese collaboration between the King's School, Canterbury International Ltd and its local partners. The School is largely a new-build designed by UK architects, Walters & Cohen, in conjunction with Heng Yue, Shenzhen, as directed by King's. The Kindergarten will open in September 2019 with the rest of the School following in 2020. Leadership is currently being sought for the Kindergarten/Pre-Prep.

This is, therefore, a sharing project in which two cultures work together with a dedication to educating children and an international vision. We expect this collaborative narrative to continue with regard to the development and everyday running of the School. In the modern world where travel and the sharing of information is much easier, we envisage that our students and staff will liaise and co-operate on joint projects and the development of ideas in a way that will make a real difference to their lives and to those of others.

Shenzhen



Shenzhen is a first tier city located along the southern tip of the country along the eastern bank of the Pearl River. The city covers an area of 1,992 sq km and, as of the end of 2017, its permanent population stood at 12.53 million (estimated today at closer to 15 million).

The city has become a magnet for technology start-ups. It is home to the Shenzhen Stock Exchange as well as the headquarters of numerous multinational companies such as Vanke, JXD, Hytera, CIMC, Shenzhen Airlines, Nepstar, Hasee, Ping An Bank, Ping An Insurance, China Merchants Bank, Tencent, ZTE, Huawei and BYD. Shenzhen ranks 18th in the 2018 edition of the Global Financial Centres Index. It also has become one of the busiest container ports in the world.

Shenzhen's modern cityscape is the result of its vibrant economy made possible by rapid foreign investment since the institution of the policy of "reform and opening" in late 1970s when the SEZ was established. The local government aims at building Shenzhen into a core engine, in terms of both technology innovation and financial support, driving development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and, by 2035, into a global technology innovation hub, dubbed the next Silicon Valley.



Though land is extremely expensive, Shenzhen is a relatively cheap place to live for the foreigner (much cheaper than nearby Hong Kong). It is clean and efficient; there are plenty of things to do. There is a large, and growing, ex-pat population.

The Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong high-speed trains will be operated in the 3rd quarter of 2018; by then, it will take only 14 minutes to travel from Hong Kong to

Shenzhen. Moreover, there are two international airports, the Hong Kong International Airport and Shenzhen Bao'an International Airport, both within one-hour's drive.

The King's School Canterbury in Shenzhen

The King's School, Canterbury, Shenzhen International, is being designed as a world class K12 School to deliver an all-round education from early years right through to entrance to the top international universities. The school will be an example of the best of its type, a modern school in a modern city, but built on strong historical, educational roots. The location of the site is excellent and possesses a superb background of tree-lined hills.

The design of the whole school accommodates a divisional breakdown as below:

- Kindergarten/Pre-Prep (ages 2-5)
- Junior School (ages 6-8)
- Lower School (ages 9-11)
- Upper School (ages 12-14)
- Senior School (ages 15-18)

The Nursery and Kindergarten, known as the Pre-Prep School, is targeted to open in September 2019 in bespoke accommodation. All classrooms will have safe indoor and outdoor areas both for play and for educational activity. The Pre-Prep will have its own International Head (reporting to the Principal) who will be supported by a Chinese Deputy. Classes will have at least two teachers: one international and one Chinese.



The rest of the School (covering ages 6-18) is scheduled to open in September 2020. Teaching & learning will take place in state-of-the-art spaces comprising a mixture of traditional classrooms and exciting breakout research or maker-spaces. Teaching groups will be a maximum of 22 for the younger years, but smaller for the more specialist education required at the highest level.

The curriculum will specialise in an all-round STEAM education with Science, Technology and the Arts (visual art, music, drama, dance, etc.) in equal measure. Robotics, space and the environment will feature heavily as we look to recognise the strengths of modern day Shenzhen. The main rooftop library and the Senior School Study Centre will be a wonderful attraction that will draw people to the School, making research an enjoyable activity. There will be extensive indoor sporting and performing facilities, and an outside running track. Sport, music and drama will feature strongly in the life of our students. The stunning site has helped to inform the design and we expect that the grounds will form part of the overall learning experience. The intention is also to make full use of the wonderful external setting both within the curriculum and outside.

Although this is a large school, it will also benefit from being very much a community. This will be achieved by providing top quality boarding facilities for 300 boys and girls and a substantial number of staff apartments on site.

The teaching staff will be a mixture of international and local Chinese.

Aims and Ethos

The King's School in Shenzhen will reflect both the traditions of King's in Canterbury and those of modern China, but will be a truly global community both in nature and outlook.

A King's education is built upon the twin pillars of academic excellence and co-curricular opportunity, supported by the highest standards of pastoral care. The School is, therefore a place of learning, opportunity, activity and safety. Our aim to help our students to flourish as human beings in every sense.

We expect our parents and our students to buy into this aim and be prepared to be engaged and active in all that we do. The sense of a supporting community will be a central feature. To help achieve this, a substantial number of our older pupils will live on site, as will some of our key teaching staff. Boarding allows the community to expand beyond the immediate region and even beyond China and help to create further the global vision.

In addition, the school will continually reach out to parents; they will be encouraged to attend concerts, plays, sporting events, etc., as well as receiving regular updates on the children's progress.



The Opportunity

The opening of this prestigious UK International School in China in September 2019 provides a unique opportunity and responsibility to shape this important phase of King's long and rich history.

The Principal will work closely with the King's School's International Director and its local partners to develop and lead a school that is simply the best of its type in the region. S/he will build a team of staff dedicated to providing the highest standards of education reflecting the aims and ethos of the King's School.

This is a very exciting project in a very fast-growing modern and innovative city, easily accessible from Hong Kong. The successful candidate will have a high local and international profile and be an essential figure in the international development of such an historical brand. The role brings many wider responsibilities, and the Principal will need to be in full sympathy with what it means to have a King's education.

The Principal should be in post by September 2019 to oversee the Kindergarten and the building, furnishing, staffing and marketing of the International School. Thereafter, the role will be more that of a traditional Head with responsibility for day to day running of the School, alongside marketing and public relations. S/he will need a multitude of different leadership skills and ideally will have worked in both the UK and internationally.

The position will command a very competitive salary to be discussed on appointment. Accommodation on site will be provided. The wider package will include: annual return flights for all the immediate family; family medical insurance and schooling for children.



The Role of Principal

The Principal will report to the Board of Directors comprising representatives from each of The King's School and the local partners along with two or three others to be selected.

S/he will be the main public face of King's in Shenzhen, representing and promoting the School and the overall brand as well as managing the education and pastoral care of students on a day-to-day basis.

September 2019

1. To liaise with the design and construction teams, ensuring that the School opens on time and to the highest standard.
2. To lead and manage the School's running, development and promotion, ensuring that the aims and ethos of King's are fully embedded in the School.
3. Supporting the Director of Marketing and Admissions in building networks, locally and internationally.
4. To be line manager to the Head of Pre-Prep.
5. To work with the Director of Marketing and Admissions on recruiting students for the International School.
6. To work with the Head of HR with regard to the recruitment of teaching and support staff.

7. To ensure that appointed staff are fully prepared for their roles.
8. To ensure that the curriculum is written and approved.
9. To oversee the first timetable and the structure of the week.
10. To ensure that the pastoral care system is in place and approved.
11. To ensure that all required policies are written and approved.
12. To oversee the construction of departmental budgets and the spending on set-up.
13. To report to the Board of Directors, individually or collectively, as required.
14. To be an example and role model for the whole community.
15. To write the strategic plan for the School, setting attainable targets.
16. To seek and ensure appropriate accreditation for the School.
17. To work with the Bursar on the preparation of the overall budget forecasts.

September 2020

Points 2-17 above continue, but with the full school up and running, there are now further responsibilities:

18. To promote and safeguard the welfare of the children.
19. To ensure that the School is an integrated, cohesive and desirable community.
20. To hold and chair weekly Senior Management meetings and regular staff meetings.
21. To lead, manage, inspire and review all teaching staff.
22. To lead, manage and inspire the student-body.
23. To ensure that there is effective communication with, and reporting to, parents.
24. To ensure that students and staff leave the School flourishing and ready for their next challenges.
25. To welcome and entertain, as appropriate, all guests to the School.
26. To ensure ongoing curricular, co-curricular and pastoral development.
27. To prepare for and oversee any school inspections.

The Person

Most candidate details usually include a list of virtues. However, everyone is different; we are simply looking for the 'right' person for this very prestigious and important role. That person should be a graduate, teacher, leader and manager, with an outstanding record, ideally in a prestigious UK or British-curriculum school internationally. Previous teaching or management experience in Asia might be an advantage. S/he must have cross-cultural sensitivity and be approachable and welcoming, willing to work within, as well as lead a team. S/he must also be firm and decisive, able to make strong but difficult decisions. S/he must be able to present and speak on public occasions with authority, fluency and humour. S/he must, of course, be willing to embrace new ideas and effect change if required.



Procedures for Applicants

Applications should be submitted electronically as pdf attachments to hr@kings-school.com.cn by **23:59 (GMT) Monday 8 October 2018** comprising:

- a factual *Curriculum Vitae* (with past employment in chronological order starting with present position)
- a Personal Statement in which the candidate should state her/his educational philosophy and outline what s/he will bring to the role
- a covering letter addressed to Ms Cynthia Chow in which the candidate should explain why this post is suitable at this time in terms of her/his career and family

Long-listing interviews will take place during October and early November with the final interviews in Shenzhen on 19-20 November.

Enquiries or questions prior to application can also be addressed to hr@kings-school.com.cn.

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. All applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening including checks with past employers and criminal records.