

Choosing a School for Your Child: Questions to Consider

Choosing a school that is the best match for your child and your family is an important and challenging process.

To help you evaluate your school options, we've created this handy list of 16 questions that you can reference to gather information on each school you are exploring.

Good luck finding the right school!

School Name: King School

Address: 1450 Newfield Avenue, Stamford, CT

Grades: PreKindergarten – Grade 12

Admission Contact: Nina Newman

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Admission Requirements:

Different requirements depending on child's Grade.

Please see details at kingschoolct.org/admission.

Overall

1. What are the school's top strengths?

King School is known for its exceptional Faculty who provide a challenging academic program rooted in a personalized approach to teaching and learning. Students thrive within a culture of integrity, kindness, perseverance, and respect. Our graduates succeed in the top colleges and universities and pursue lives of ongoing inquiry and accomplishment.

2. How would you describe the students?

King students are engaged learners in and outside the classroom. Students from over 30 towns bring to King their wide range of passions, talents, and goals, creating a mix of diverse perspectives and boundless energy.

3. What is the school culture?

The King community is guided by our four core virtues: Integrity, Kindness, Perseverance, and Respect. We emphasize acceptance, social responsibility and skills needed to succeed in a multicultural world. Students with a range of backgrounds from over 30 towns come together to form our diverse community that celebrates different perspectives and talents. Students and Faculty are inspired to serve in the King Cares Service Program, offering a rich array of coursework, clubs, and travel opportunities.

Parents and the Parents' Association (PA) play a vital role in the community. Parents are active volunteers and are very visible on campus in a wide range of projects and programs from Lower School to Upper School.

4. How does the school help new students join the school community?

The King Connections program lets King's new and current families get to know one another over the summer. Plus, grade level activities at the start of school and teacher outreach further help new students and their families become embraced within King's kind community. The Directors of Teaching and Learning create a Student Learning Profile for each student, so teachers can help each student continue to grow.



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Academics

5. Why do Faculty choose to teach at the school?

Faculty are attracted by King's growth mindset, exemplified by the deep expertise of the Faculty body, the school's personalized approach to teaching and learning, and the school's deep commitment to ongoing professional growth and renewal.

Over 81% of King Faculty hold advanced degrees. Faculty are committed to their students and to a personalized approach to teaching and learning which keeps students engaged and enthusiastic. 100% of Faculty participate in at least two Professional Growth and Development training sessions each year. Teachers also present at national and regional conferences, pursue graduate programs, and are eligible for summer sabbaticals.

6. How does the school ensure that each child realizes his or her unique potential?

King supports each child through a personalized approach to teaching and learning, which includes:

- The Department of Teaching and Learning has experienced professionals dedicated to training teachers, working with students, observing classes, and guiding methodology and best teaching practices.
- King created an online database, the Student Learning Profile System, to provide a detailed snapshot of each student's strengths, challenges and goals. Faculty actively contribute to and draw from this informative resource to guide their teaching.
- King's extensive investment in Professional Growth and Development and Peer Coaching enables teachers to learn the latest in brain research, best practices, and new approaches to instruction and assessment.
- Small classes provide a forum for students to express themselves and to get to know their teachers. The average class size is:
Lower School: 11, Middle School: 13, and Upper School: 12.

7. How does the school challenge students who are above grade-level?

Our teachers use student-centered approaches to teaching and learning, leveraging the latest research on best practices in education. Our dedicated team of Directors of Teaching and Learning in each division guide and support our Faculty. King has developed a proprietary, internal system that highlights each student's individual strengths, challenges, and goals. Teachers actively contribute to and utilize this database to support each student's development over time as each student moves through our rich, rigorous academic program. Advanced and accelerated courses are available throughout the academic program, including 22 AP classes and the opportunity for Middle School students to take classes at the Upper School.

8. How would you describe the program for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)?

Students PreK-Grade 12 learn both the concepts and content typically addressed in core disciplines such as biology, physics, math, and computer science, while also understanding deeply how those disciplines influence one another. Students passionate about STEM can elect to graduate with a Certificate of Distinction in STEM and pursue challenging courses, research, and club activities, culminating with a Capstone Project.

9. How does the school help students become stronger analytical thinkers and communicators?

Students in Lower, Middle and Upper School learn how to read carefully, write clearly, think critically, and communicate powerfully. Students tackle challenging texts in English, History, Science, and Social Sciences and learn how to conduct thoughtful research in order to develop and support a claim. King emphasizes the importance of cultural, contextual, and technical aspects of written expression, and equips students with a set of tools enabling them to approach a text on personal, communal, and global levels.



College Counseling

10. How early does the school's college counseling program begin and why?

The College Counseling Office offers a four-year developmental program to help guide each student in preparing for and discovering the most competitive match. A College Counselor is paired with each student to work one-on-one and in groups. The Counselors focus with students Grades 9-10 on course selection, extra-curricular engagement and discussing a variety of colleges. For students Grades 11-12, the Counselors guide college visits and discussions of college choice, addressing the many aspects of what constitutes an excellent application to college, primarily focused on: college essay development, standardized testing timeline and strategy, resume development, letter of recommendation guidance, application completion, interview preparation, and a thoughtful final decision. The Grade 12 student to college counselor ratio is 29:1.

11. What is the school's reputation with colleges?

King's Mission states that: "King is dedicated to preparing its students to thrive in a rapidly changing world." Colleges recognize that King does indeed offer the type of rigorous academic education that enables students to develop the academic and interpersonal skills, confidence, and curiosity to thrive, self-advocate, and lead. Annually, 40-50% of our seniors will attend the 60+ colleges categorized as Most Competitive and another 40-50% will attend the 100+ schools ranked as Highly Competitive.

Additional Opportunities

12. What opportunities for leadership does the school provide to students?

Students learn principles of leadership in the Leadership Foundations course and can choose to graduate with a Certificate of Distinction in Leadership. Students have so many opportunities to discover and pursue areas of interest and strength in the classroom, through leading clubs and activities, on the field, on stage, in the art studio, plus more!

13. How does the school prepare students to think globally?

King Global Education is a comprehensive program woven into the PreK-Grade 12 curriculum. King prepares students to recognize the need for their active participation in socio-economic, scientific, political, ethical, and cultural issues. Plus students can participate in exchange programs abroad and at King, and cultural and service programs abroad. Students can become fluent in world languages and choose to graduate with a Certificate of Distinction in World Languages or Global Studies.

14. How does the school support students who excel in the areas of Arts or Athletics?

King Faculty recognize that students are multi-talented and provide the encouragement and scheduling flexibility so students can pursue passionately both the Arts and Athletics.

King students dive into many forms of creative expression to pursue artistic passions through painting, drawing, printmaking, collage, ceramics, sculpture, and digital media. In the theatre arts, music, and dance program, students can choose from multiple beginning to advanced courses as well as perform on stage in a state-of-the-art Performing Arts Center.

Students compete on a variety of High School and Middle School athletics teams. Lower School students strengthen sports skills and strategies as part of the Physical Education curriculum. Over the past 10 years, King has won over 31 FAA Championships, 10 New England Championships, and 8 awards for sportsmanship.



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Tuition

15. How many families receive financial assistance? Who generally qualifies?

King is an inclusive and diverse community, and over \$2.8 million in need-based financial aid is distributed to 14% of King's student body. Many families, who believe they will not qualify for need-based Financial Aid, do qualify as a result of the high cost of living in this area. This is particularly true for families sending multiple children to tuition bearing schools. Parents are encouraged to discuss with the Admission Office their unique financial circumstances.

16. What does the tuition include?

Tuition includes the use of textbooks and supplies. There is an additional activity fee that covers additional expenses such as class trips and additional optional fees for lunch, PA dues, tuition refund insurance, and student accident insurance.

www.kingschoolct.org

A co-ed college preparatory school educating PreK-Grade 12 students from 30 towns ...
Bedford | Darien | Greenwich | New Canaan | Norwalk | Pound Ridge | Stamford