

2023 Annual Report *Snapshot*

Message From Key Bodies

2023 saw a renewed sense of anticipation and, as we emerged from the pandemic years of 2020-2022, the School Community embraced the challenges with agility and determination.

The 2023 Higher School Certificate results were exceptional, marking the best results in the School's history. The School attained 11 State rankings (two students achieving First in Course) and 22 All-Rounders (students achieving a Band 6 or equivalent in 10 or more units). The total number of Band 6 results (481) was a record achievement. We also had a record number of nominations (85) for subjects with HSC practical works for OnStage, Art Express, Encore, Shape and InTech with four selections for Visual Arts and one for Music.

Preparations for offering the International Baccalaureate Diploma to students in the Senior School is well underway, with implementation set to occur in 2025. The King's School is already an IB World School with its delivery of the PYP in the Preparatory campuses at Parramatta and the Southern Highlands. The introduction of the IB Diploma in 2025 will provide another pathway for students seeking an international university placement.

2023 also saw a change in Chair of the School Council. I would like to thank Mrs Rosemary Abrahams for her commitment and service to our School as a Governor and Chair, and welcome Mr Ken Chapman into the role. The School is blessed to have such an accomplished, experienced and qualified group of men and women on the School Council, two-thirds of whom are Old Boys of our School, committed to ensuring that The King's School holds true to its founding purpose to produce young leaders of Christian character and wisdom willing, ready and able to live lives of service for the betterment of others. I also wish to thank the commitment, professionalism and hard work of the School's Extended Executive across all the School campuses and members of LeadCOMM.

As we reflect on the achievements of 2023, we look forward to the continued growth and success of our students, staff, and the entire School community. Thank you to our students, parents, staff, families, Old Boys and extensive diversity of volunteers, from Sports Clubs to Music Groups to the King's Women's Network and our Governors. The King's School is an extraordinary Christian community seeking to make an outstanding impact for the good of society.

Fortiter et fideliter!

Mr Tony George Headmaster

In 2023, The Council of The King's School met eight times, and the Council Executive met five times, to oversee the governance of the School. There were an additional twenty meetings of the various sub-committees of Council. The Council underwent a governance review, which resulted in changes to the sub-committee structure and an improvement in the governance arrangements.

The Council is responsible for policy, strategy, risk management and the financial oversight of the School, including the setting of fees. The day-to-day running of the School is delegated to the Headmaster.

The Council currently comprises of the Archbishop of Sydney, fifteen Governors, ten of which are appointed by the Synod of the Sydney Diocese of the Anglican Church and five of which are appointed by The King's School Old Boys' Union. There are two Council appointed positions that are currently vacant.

In 2023, the following persons were members of the School Council:

The Most Reverend Kanishka De Silva Raffel (President), Mrs Rosemary Abrahams (Chairman of Council) (retired in August 2023), Mr Mark Bradford (Honorary Treasurer), Mr Ken Chapman (appointed Chairman of Council in August 2023), Dr Christine Grice, The Reverend Dr Ed Loane, The Reverend Martin Robinson, The Reverend Canon Timothy Swan, The Reverend James Warren, Mr Mark Webeck (retired in February 2023), Mr Peter Whittington, Mr Charlie Taylor, Mr Edward Lloyd, Mr Rowland Long, Bishop Gary Koo (joined in February 2023), Mr Grant Bonner (joined in March 2023, with his term ending in September 2023), Mr Craig Turner (joined in September 2023 and resigned in October 2023), Mrs Emma Maple-Brown (joined in September 2023), Mrs Julia Anderson (joined in December 2023), Mr Andrew France (joined in December 2023).

Mr Ken Chapman Chairman of Council

Inaugural address excerpts:

"We are incredibly privileged to receive a world-class education from a school like King's, that is equipping us with the ability to make a difference. Our eight core values guide us through uncertainty and affirm our purpose in improving the world for others. King's teaches us to tackle challenges with tact and belief and it is for that reason that we should be full of hope.

... coming to King's means building resilience by getting familiar with failure. Whether it's stepping out of your comfort zone at the confidence course, overcoming your nervousness when trying out debating, or testing your physical limits in the School Cross Country, we persevere. King's teaches us about the value of continuous improvement, and seeing success as a journey rather than a destination.

Our biggest strength as a school is that even as the world becomes increasingly individualistic, our King's community only continues to grow more vibrant and diverse... Even though we are different in what we believe or where we come from... we are a community that cares about each other. We care about the School. We care about our shared purpose in becoming men of character to serve others... If we care, King's will be the strongest it's ever been. If we care, we can overcome the challenges of our time. And if we care enough, we can go on to change the world. Caring can change the world."

Ethan Zhu Senior School Captain

The Preparatory School is an amazing place with endless possibilities and adventures. It has been an honour and privilege to serve as the Prep School Captain for 2023. Our School has been the most essential, inspirational source in shaping us into fine Kingsmen over the past year. We have learnt to take risks, to make good choices daily, and learnt life skills, such as coming out of our comfort zones.

Learning is a major part of the school day-to-day activity. A few highlights have been Kindergarten Rocket Day, launching ten small businesses in Year 4 and conducting independent investigations into global issues such as discrimination, the cost-of-living crisis and linking with experts in the field to assist with inquiries in Year 6.

We have learnt the importance of community spirit and giving back to the community throughout the year. We have also learnt the meaning of respectful relationships within and outside of our school. At each year level, we have interacted with our sister school Tara, whether it be joint choirs, music days, sport lessons, write a book in a day, and learning about leadership together. These experiences shape our values for life, and we are grateful to have been given the opportunity.

Ethan Natkunamanickam Preparatory School Captain

Tudor House is an amazing adventure and I am grateful for all the adventures and opportunities this community has provided me. Adventures are fun, exciting, can take us to new places, require us to try new things and force us out of our comfort zones. Learning to take risks and set challenges involves making decisions in different circumstances. We can and should aim to make good choices each day.

For me, TUDOR stands for so much and I will share some words to describe the best Tudor has to offer:

T for Tradition (and for teamwork), U for Unique (there's no school like Tudor), D for Difficulties (and challenges to be overcome), O for Outdoors (and the 169 acres we have at school), R for Risk-taking – responsibly and respectfully.

Our school isn't just about academics and sporting achievements; it's about values too. We've learned about respect, compassion, humility and the importance of looking out for one another. It is

Contextual Information About The School

Academic Standards – NAPLAN


