



## Why Teach at AKS?

### Our Reputation

AKS is a strong and successful independent school, resulting from the merger of the Arnold, King Edward VII, and Queen Mary schools. Arnold was founded in 1896, while King Edward VII School dates back to 1908 and Queen Mary School to 1930. Both Arnold and KEQMS have attracted pupils of the highest calibre from the Fylde Coast and surrounding areas. Our notable alumni include: Sir William Lyons, the founder of Jaguar Cars; Dr Michael Smith, who received the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1993; Professor John Guy (eminent academic); James Armfield CBE, High Sheriff of Lancashire, (43 caps for England Soccer, 15 as captain); Alderman Rhodes Marshall (Honorary Freeman of Blackpool and twice Mayor of Blackpool); Dame Edith Kellet-Bowman (former MP); Audrey Howard (novelist); Jonas Armstrong, (Theatre and TV actor); Christopher Lowe, (One of the 'Pet Shop Boys'); and Jenna-Louise Coleman, (TV actress), among many others.

### Our Pupils

Our pupils are highly motivated, hardworking, well-mannered and a pleasure to teach. Examination results at GCSE and A level are consistently excellent, with strong value added at each stage. One of the most enjoyable aspects of teaching at our schools - and one often commented on by new members of staff - is the happy and respectful relationship between our teachers and our pupils.

### Our Staff

We operate professionally as a close and mutually supportive team, with a shared enthusiasm for working with young people and bringing out the best in them. Our staff give willingly of their time and this is recognised and appreciated by our pupils and their parents. Our teachers have a passion for their subject, a belief in young people, good humour, energy, initiative and a genuine sense of teaching vocation, which is fully rewarded by working at AKS.

### Our Facilities

In September 2013, AKS co-located on the Lytham site, which had benefited from a substantial investment over the previous 18 months, in excess of £6.2 million, to refurbish the existing buildings and build a brand new Junior School. The senior school campus now has completely upgraded Art, Computing, Design & Technology, Drama, Library, Music, Reception, Science, Sixth Form and Staff facilities; a new Sports Hall complex opened in 2014. Every classroom is equipped with a Promethean interactive whiteboard, which is supported by ActivInspire software and ActivExpression pupil handsets, in addition to other innovative educational technologies.

### Our Opportunities

Through our membership of United Learning all teaching staff benefit from a high standard of professional training. All schools within the United Learning group communicate frequently and mutual support is always available, at all levels. The Group provides tailored INSET days for schools as well as a full range of INSET courses throughout the year for individuals to attend. The United Learning pay scale offers appropriate remuneration, as well as incremental progression and one-off bonus payments at the Headmaster's discretion for exceptional service. The school contributes in full to the Teachers' Superannuation Scheme and there is a fee-remission scheme for children of staff, who are educated at the school.

### Our Co-Curricular

Whilst the pursuit of high academic standards is undoubtedly important, all our pupils take advantage of the broad range of experience which our school offers, to nurture creativity and to encourage a spirit of voluntary contribution to the school and the wider community. In recent years pupils have raised tens of thousands of pounds to support charities both at home and abroad. Our main games are rugby, football, hockey, cricket and athletics, with strong fixture lists and several national and regional titles. This extensive programme provides competition and challenge for all pupils and touring sides have travelled as far afield as Argentina, Chile, the Caribbean, Canada, Australia and

South Africa. As well as sport we also offer a Combined Cadet Force in all 3 sections, Duke of Edinburgh at bronze, silver and gold levels, a thriving House system, Young Enterprise, debating, dance, chess and much more. Drama and music also feature prominently and inspire countless pupils each year to take part in award-winning productions, concerts and recitals.

### **Our Location**

Our school dominates an impressive position in Lytham St Annes, overlooking the sand dunes of the Ribble Estuary and the Fylde coast. Preston, the Ribble Valley, the Lake District and Manchester are all within easy reach by direct motorway.

For further information about our school, please visit our website at [www.akslytham.com](http://www.akslytham.com) which is updated daily with news and events.

Our most recent ISI inspection reports are also available at [www.isi.net](http://www.isi.net).

For further information about the United Learning group, please visit [www.unitedlearning.org.uk](http://www.unitedlearning.org.uk)