

The context in which the school works

The school's context and, particularly, any significant changes in its circumstances since the last inspection

The main characteristics of the learners and the communities served by the school including: • their attainment on entry; • their social and economic backgrounds, indicating the level of prosperity or deprivation. A brief summary of the distinctive aims and a description of any special features of the school. An outline of specific contextual or other issues that act as aids or barriers to raising performance.	Kesteven and Grantham Girls' School is a selective Academy with approximately 1,200 students on roll, of whom 315 constitute the sixth form. Our pupils come from approximately 75 feeder schools in Grantham and the local area (Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Rutland). Students are also admitted from the adjacent counties of Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire. Entry is based on the Lincolnshire County Grammar Schools' 11+ examination. Students are selected from within the top 25% of the ability range. Attainment on entry is above average. The mobility of our students is low and the majority of students come from affluent areas. At KGGs, we aim to provide a learning environment which is stimulating, challenging and supportive and one in which students are able to develop their intellectual and personal qualities as well as achieving academic success. The current School Development Plan exists to implement strategies to raise standards as well as remove the barriers to achievement by closing the achievement gap between the most successful and less successful student. One significant barrier to improvement had previously been the lack of suitable physical space. Over recent years, our high levels of retention and expanding numbers (particularly in the sixth form) had placed increased pressure on the suitability to room students in order to meet the demands of the curriculum. Following the granting of Academy status and a successful capital bid to the EFA, we were able to add a new Creative and Expressive Arts centre; increase the number of science classrooms; and improve the facilities available to the Sixth Form with an additional common room and improved private study areas. In terms of academic achievement, the school has enjoyed steady progress with our A*/A pass rate at GCSE averaging 58% each year. Progress 8 data in 2016 shows that we are ranked 3rd in Lincolnshire. In 'The Times' Top Secondary Schools list which was published in November 2016, we were ranked 104 – the highest position of any school in Lincolnshire and the East Midlands. At Advanced level, the school achieved 66% A*/B passes (72% without General Studies), in 2016. The average points score for our A-Level students is consistently above the national average. We currently have 81 students on the SEN register (including sixth form).
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The school offers an active extra - curricular programme that fosters and promotes achievement both within, and extraneous to, the school curriculum. This has included World Challenge expeditions, Bar Mock Trial Competitions and exchange visits to partner schools in France, Germany, Spain and Japan. The school also offers a wide range of extra-curricular sporting and fitness opportunities. Finally, our students are strongly represented in both local and regional musical events.

As a school, we work closely with the local community and forge partnerships at both local primary and secondary level. Traditionally, we have worked closely with King's School and Walton Girls' High School to help offer a broad range of post-16 courses for our students. In addition, our sixth form students also undertake voluntary work in the local community.

In recognition of the effectiveness of the good practice demonstrated by the outcomes achieved by the school, we were selected to be showcased in the 2015/16 edition of the Parliamentary Review (Secondary Education) published in November 2016.