

Quotes from Testimonials

When I decided to change schools, not only did I want an IB school, but I wanted an environment that pushed students to fulfill their entire potential. I wanted a place where material was taught because it was interesting and useful, not just because it would get more marks. I wanted to be challenged, not to fulfill the diploma requirements but because it would make me grow as a person. At King William's College I got what I wanted and more.

Camille

Although the IB proved to be a challenge, one of the best things about the KWC sixth form was the continuous support of the teacher. There was always someone there to lend a hand, and that really helped us get through.

My eventual aim is to gain a PhD in chemistry related field and be involved in research into nanotechnology. These are goals which I would definitely not have thought were achievable without KWC and the IB which have both challenged me and given me more confidence.

Jessica

To say that the best times of my life have been at KWC would be no understatement; equally, some of the best people I've ever had the fortune to meet have been at this school. It's said time and time again, but KWC is a small community which is, above all, a friendly one. As we go our separate ways, I am sure that the rest of the U6 would agree that we were a year group who have grown up together, shared jokes together, laughed together, cried together, worked together...

Caitriona

Having completed the IB I would urge everyone to do it. It was a challenge but I felt that made it very rewarding. The fact you have to do six different subjects with such an international syllabus really opened my eyes to how subjects connect to each other and made me really interested in subjects I may not have chosen if I had done A levels. I feel like a much more rounded person having done the IB and feel as though I can take on more challenges with confidence.

Vanessa

Testimonial no. 1

When I decided to change schools, not only did I want an IB school, but I wanted an environment that pushed students to fulfill their entire potential. I wanted a place where material was taught because it was interesting and useful, not just because it would get more marks. I wanted to be challenged, not to fulfill the diploma requirements but because it would make me grow as a person. At King William's College I got what I wanted and more.

From historical banter to hilarious discussions in music lessons to magic tricks in maths, I have many great memories from KWC. In addition, the boarding house has become a tight knitted and supportive community full of movie nights and pancake outings. Not only have I made many friendships that will last me a lifetime, but I will keep in touch with the many teachers possessing astounding dedication to making their subject come alive. I take with me the confidence that I am prepared for whatever awaits me at Stanford University this September, and I will never forget the school that was well worth travelling 5000 miles for.

Camille van Neste

Testimonial no. 2

Although the IB proved to be a great challenge, one of the best things about the KWC 6th form was the continuous support of the teachers. There were times for all of us when we were struggling or the work was too much, but there was always someone there to lend a hand, and that really helped us get through.

Another time when college really helped me was in my application to Oxford. Innumerable people checked my personal statement and when it came round to interview time, I was given the opportunity to practise countless times until I felt completely confident. In the end it turned out that my actual interviews at Oxford were much less stressful than some of my practise ones- which I was very glad of!

Finally, being Head Girl was the opportunity College gave me in which I learnt the most. It was a great experience and I learnt a lot of important life skills that will be useful to me when I come to get a job. However, you don't have to be given a position in the 6th form to feel you have played an important role, even in L6 when I was brand new to College people helped me get involved and feel like I could make a difference.

In the future, I would like to go to university to read chemistry and then pursue a career in scientific research. My eventual aim is to gain a PhD in chemistry related field and be involved in research

into nanotechnology. These are goals which I would definitely not have thought were achievable without KWC and the IB which have both challenged me and given me more confidence.

Jessica Andrews

Testimonial no. 3

Of my time at College, I think I have to quote Edith Piaf: *“Je ne regrette rien.”* To say that the best times of my life have been at KWC would be no understatement; equally, some of the best people I’ve ever had the fortune to meet have been at this school. It’s said time and time again, but KWC is a small community which is, above all, a friendly one. As we go our separate ways, I am sure that the rest of the U6 would agree that we were a year group who have grown up together, shared jokes together, laughed together, cried together, worked together... well perhaps that final one stretches acumen, but as a year group we have had some really fantastic times.

The staff at College has undoubtedly enriched my time at the school. I would be lying if I were to say that the IB has been plain-sailing; yet the teachers were always there to offer support, encouragement, and a swift kick up the backside when one was called for. Of course the standard of teaching has been fantastic, but more importantly, the teachers have always made lessons enjoyable – I’m not sure that having a “The Color Purple” themed party, complete with a purple cake, really furthered my understanding of the complexities of characterisation in the novel, but it was certainly entertaining.

One of the aspects of College life that I’ve enjoyed the most has been the sport. KWC might be the smallest island Secondary School, but it certainly punches above its weight on the sports field. In particular, my three years on the Hockey 1st XI were brilliant: winning both the Island League Shield and Cup every one of those years is an achievement of which I am very proud. Another highlight would have to be my time as Head of Walters House – winning house shout for the first time in the history of Walters was no mean feat, but enormously fun!

Yet I cannot write about my time at College without mentioning the trips. If I were to offer one piece of advice to new L4 pupils, it would be this: get on as many schools trips as possible, it doesn’t matter if you have to beg, plead or even sneak onto the plane on somebody’s suitcase, it’ll be worth it! KWC has taken me to France, Russia, the USA, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Singapore and Indonesia. Some experiences were more comfortable than others – I doubt anyone on the Russia trip will forget the sleeper train from Moscow to St Petersburg – but all were incredible. Snowball fights in Red Square, karaoke in the Hard Rock Cafe Singapore and the Lincoln Memorial at night: moments which I will never forget. Above all, KWC trips are awash with banter, about which we will still be laughing for years to come.

Provided my results are what I need, in October I'll be off to Cambridge to study medicine. While I'm sad to leave College behind, I'm also excited about what's to come next. I owe much to the staff at KWC for helping me secure my offer – the countless interview practices, extra guidance on reading and work experience, and even careers advice from the illustrious Chris 'Bob' Marley. Without their help, I'd have been sunk, so thank you.

Even though sometimes a double maths lesson or a chapel service can seem to drag on for an eternity, in truth my seven years at KWC have flown past. I'm not really sure what more I can add without sounding painfully soppy, but I think I can conclude that my time at College couldn't really have been much better.

Cat Cox

Testimonial no. 4

I was lucky enough to spend the whole seven years at King William's College, with my final U6 year as a boarder, and I wouldn't have had it any other way; I thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it! You will often hear schools promising to give you the best start in life, however I truly believe that College really has given me the best start in life.

With the vast amount of extra curricular activities offered at the school, you are able to find something that you're good at or just passionate about and I can say through personal experience that the amount of school productions I was involved with helped me to grow in confidence, an attribute that continues to help me in all areas of my life. I have also been involved in many activities which I was not so strong at, such as water polo, although I do not regret embarrassing myself in the pool, as it was great fun and an opportunity not readily available elsewhere on the Isle of Man. The amount on offer is unbelievable and makes college not just a place of academia but an exciting place all students want to be.

One of the things I will really miss about College is the incredible school trips on offer (pick your subjects accordingly!). During my time at College, trips have included China, Russia, Washington DC and New York City, Canada, Birmingham clothes show, Colorado, France, Spain, Poland, Malaysia, Vietnam and Cambodia and various other equally as exciting destinations. I have been very lucky to go on quite a few of these trips, and they were truly unforgettable. Even now we have left KWC, we are often reminiscing about our water sports trip to France in U4, as well as our last trip to Washington DC and New York City, which was my personal favorite. I cannot explain how much I enjoyed these trips and the private jokes and memories really do last, they are also very

educational, for any parents reading this! If given the chance again, I would go on any College trip without hesitation.

The extra curricular activities and trips integrate all students and Common Room to a certain extent and this gives College a real family feel, which I loved. If you had a problem you always knew there was someone you could go to. I was lucky enough to be given the position of a school Prae in the U6 so I really did see from every angle how dedicated the teachers were to helping their students. I felt this again particularly in the boarding community and wished that I would have started boarding earlier. Being in Colbourne made the IB more bearable by always having teachers on hand to help me and my friends around to moan to.

I also loved making friends with students from different parts of the world and picking up on their traditions and trying their food! I already miss boarding! The Colbourne activities were always really fun and really made us all feel like a family. I know I have made friends for life!

Having completed the IB (note - this was written before results day!) I would urge everyone to do it. It was a challenge but I felt that made it very rewarding. The fact you have to do six different subjects with such an international syllabus really opened my eyes to how subjects connect to each other and made me really interested in subjects I may not have chosen if I had done A levels. I feel like a much more rounded person having done the IB and feel as though I can take on more challenges with confidence. It definitely taught me that meeting deadlines makes life much easier!

I will really miss everything about College, even the things I may have moaned about while being a pupil but I am very proud to say that I went to College and am upset to have left such an amazing school.

Vanessa Simpson