



TEXTS AND TOPICS 2026

SIXTH FORM CONFERENCE

2nd July 2026

9:00 – 14:45

KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL, BIRMINGHAM

Edgbaston Road

Birmingham

B15 2DU

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UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL
BIRMINGHAM

The Birmingham and Midlands Classical Association invites sixth form students to the 2026 Texts & Topics Conference at King Edward's School, Birmingham.

Students will take part in three workshop strands: Latin, Greek/Classical Civilisation, and a culturally-themed topics workshop based on the specification.

The Latin and Greek workshops will be directly linked to the A Level syllabi, supporting set texts and key skills for exam preparation and understanding.

An optional tour of the University of Birmingham will be held at lunchtime.

The conference is free for state schools and costs £5 per student for independent schools. Students should bring their own lunch.

Keynote address:

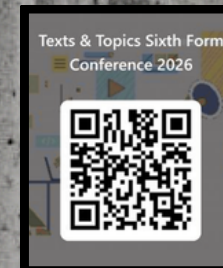
Dr Andrew Bayliss
(University of Birmingham)

'Growing Up Spartan:
Myth, Reality, and the
agōgē'

Plenary lecture:

Dr Liz Gloyn (Royal Holloway, University of London) 'Seneca, Stoicism and Desire'

Please contact Ana Henderson, Head of Classics at KES, Birmingham for more information using [email](#) and/or register interest using [the form](#) (available as a QR code).



Texts & Topics Sixth Form
Conference 2026

THE PROGRAMME

09:00–10:00 – Registration

At King Edward’s School, Birmingham (RPAC)

10:00 am keynote:

Dr Andrew Bayliss (University of Birmingham)

“Growing Up Spartan: Myth, Reality, and the agōgē”

LATIN/CLASSICAL CIVILISATION
NEEDS COMPLETE REWRITE

A LEVEL TEXTS:

GROUP B – GREEK / CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

GENDER AND HEROISM IN THE HOMERIC EPICS
EXPLORING GENDER NORMS, HEROIC ETHICS, AND
KEY PASSAGES OF THE ODYSSEY.

SPEAKER: DR LISA DOYLE (BIRMINGHAM)

ENGAGING PUPILS’ IMAGINATION IN TEACHING
GREEK THEATRE AT A LEVEL
INTRODUCTION TO NEW DIGITAL TEACHING TOOLS;
APPROACHES TO GREEK TRAGEDY AND COMEDY.

SPEAKER: DR EMANUELA BAKOLA (WARWICK)

BEING A CITIZEN IN CLASSICAL ATHENS
NEW SCHOLARSHIP ON ATHENIAN DEMOCRACY
FOCUSING ON LIVED EXPERIENCES.

SPEAKER: DR WILL MACK (BIRMINGHAM)

GROUP C – CURIOSITY SESSIONS

ARCHAEOLOGY WORKSHOP (UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM)
INTRODUCTORY SESSION ON ARCHAEOLOGY AND
PREHISTORIC LANDSCAPE MODELLING.
SPEAKER: PROFESSOR HENRY CHAPMAN

REIMAGINING ANCIENT MYTHS FOR MODERN
AUDIENCES
DISCUSSION OF MEDUSA AND MEDEA; AWARD-WINNING
MYTH RETELLINGS.
SPEAKER: ROSIE HEWLETT

13:00–14:00 – Lunch & Optional University of Birmingham Campus Tour

14:00–14:45 – Closing Lecture

“Seneca, Stoicism and Desire”

Dr Liz Gloyn (Royal Holloway, University of London)

