

Taylor House History

The opening of Taylor House on Friday 4 August marked an important occasion for girls at King's College. The arrival of 14 girls in 1980 became the forerunner of what is now a very large demand for girls to spend their last two years at King's. There will be over 125 girls here in 2007 and there is no doubt that they will gain a great deal from these two important final school years.

The King's College Board and Headmaster, Mr Iain Campbell, made the courageous decision to include girls in 1980, following on from a Board review which took place in 1978.

Initially the numbers of girls increased slowly, with 35 entering King's in 1985, rising to 52 by the end of the decade. The arrival of Headmaster, Mr John Taylor, saw numbers increase substantially to 97 in 1995 and 112 by 2002. John Taylor was a passionate supporter of girl's at King's College and for this reason it is appropriate that the new House is named after him and he was delighted to be asked to open the new building.

The decision to separate the girls into two Houses was based on a number of factors, including:

- * To address the pastoral needs of boarders and day girls separately and effectively.
- * To overcome the administrative difficulties in running a House with over 120 senior girls.
- * To give the day girls a home of their own, without having to 'intrude' on the space originally set aside for the boarding girls.
- * To provide more leadership opportunities for the girls.
- * To provide the opportunity to increase the number of girls at King's College at some time in the future.