



TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS

September 2017

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and dedicated graduate who possesses a genuine passion for Mathematics alongside a capacity to share this effectively with pupils of all ages. A commitment to maintaining the high standards of the department would be expected, and there is excellent scope for an inspirational teacher to develop and apply their skills and knowledge at all levels. Involvement in the wider activities of the department would be expected, and the ability to teach Further Mathematics modules and help prepare pupils for Oxbridge may be an advantage. The successful applicant would be required to commit to the School's pastoral system and wide range of co-curricular activities. NQT Induction or School Direct training would be available where appropriate.

The Mathematics Department

The Mathematics Department at Whitgift consists of 20 graduates, who deliver the Mathematics curriculum throughout the School from Year 6 to Year 13. There is a wealth of experience, with several of the department involved in other roles within the School. The Head of Mathematics, assisted by the Deputy Head of Mathematics, oversees the day to day running of the department, and all members are expected to contribute towards this as appropriate. The Department is dynamic and confident, bringing together teachers with interests in a variety of fields within the subject, and the team works together excellently. Mathematics is presented as a vibrant subject in its own right whilst, alongside this, recognising the importance its application holds. It is the most popular subject in the Sixth Form.

The majority of lessons from Year 8 upwards are taught in dedicated Maths classrooms, all with white board and projector. There are Interactive White Boards in two classrooms and training opportunities are available to help staff wishing to develop their use of mathematical software and graphical calculators in their teaching. There is also a Maths store room and office, currently the work space for 11 members of the department. Extensive collaboration and levels of support are central to the department in working to encourage and inspire boys of all ages.

Mathematics is a core subject throughout the curriculum to age 16. In the Lower School (Years 6-9), there are two broad aims: to develop and nurture a familiarity and enthusiasm for the subject and to introduce and utilise the more formal processes which lead into the examination years.

In the Fifth Form (Years 10-11), the boys work towards the Edexcel International GCSE: in 2015 the results were 71% A*, 92% A*- A and 100% A*- C. The new Edexcel (9-1) specification will be followed from first teaching September 2016. At present, around 50 boys take the OCR Additional Maths qualification in Year 11; last year 29 of these achieved an A grade.

In the Sixth Form, boys choose between A Levels and the International Baccalaureate. With 3 different levels, Mathematics is a compulsory part of the IB Diploma with levels being awarded out of a maximum 7 points; last years' average scores were 6.0 at Higher Level, 6.6 at Standard Level and 6.7 for Mathematical Studies, the latter being taken at the end of the Lower Sixth.

For those taking the A Level route, the OCR modular course is followed. In addition to those studying the IB, Mathematics is a hugely popular choice, with over 200 of the current Sixth form studying the subject. Many of these are taking some Further Mathematics modules and there 2 sets of Further Mathematicians taking up to 15 modules in the Upper Sixth. The results at Maths A Level for 2016 were 89% A*-B in Maths A Level and 100% A*-B in Further Maths A Level. The linear A Level will be introduced in September 2017.

		2016	2015	2014
GCSE	A* - A	92%	92%	95%
AS Level	A - B	69%	69%	71%
A Level	A* - B	89%	89%	91%
IB (Higher Level)	7 – 6	80%	75%	67%

It is particularly gratifying that each year there are a number of boys who wish to continue their study of the subject further and go on to read Mathematics at university. Whitgift has a superb record of success at Oxford, Cambridge and other top universities in this respect, and helping students to prepare for their applications and for STEP exams can be a particularly rewarding experience. There are also many other applications for Maths related degrees which offer significant support by the department.

Junior and Senior Maths Societies offer structured opportunities for those seeking extension work to explore material beyond the syllabus, and the School takes part in a number of challenges and competitions, as well as giving boys the chance to consider the applications of the subject as part of the School's STEM program. More recently, a biennial residential trip to Cambridge has been established, offering the best pupils the opportunity to explore exciting topics outside the classroom environment and to work in mixed age groups on a range of Olympiad style problems.

The Department is very busy and expectations within the School are very high. The successful candidate must be someone who is confident, proactive and reflective about their teaching, has excellent communication skills, is capable of contributing positively within a team and is committed to raising attainment through excellent teaching and learning.

As a Boarding School, stimulating opportunities may be available for the right candidate to contribute to the pastoral care of students as a Boarding Tutor, both resident and non-resident.

Contact

Please feel free to contact Miss Kathryn Coffin, Head of Mathematics, on 020 8688 9222 or e-mail kjc@whitgift.co.uk if you have questions or would like to know more.

Conditions of service

The salary will be on the Whitgift Foundation scale (substantially above national scale) according to qualifications and experience. Accommodation may be available. Assistance is offered towards removal expenses etc., up to £1,000 in total.

All staff are required to make a significant contribution to the co-curricular life of the School and this is reflected in the salary offered. A strong commitment to the pastoral and house system is also anticipated.

As a result of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996, employers now have to verify that new recruits who are not British Nationals are eligible to work in this country. Therefore, any such candidate who is offered a post will be asked to forward a photocopy of their passport and/or visa with their letter of acceptance. It is normal practice for the School to ask for copies of degree certificates and other qualifications at the same time.

Whitgift School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people, and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening including checks with past employers and the Disclosure & Barring Service.

Candidates for this post should apply via our website at www.whitgift.co.uk/vacancies.

Closing date for applications: Please apply as soon as possible.