



MERCHANT TAYLORS'
School



Head of Chemistry

Information for candidates

Excellence, integrity, and distinction since 1561

For boys 3-18



Contents

- 03 The School
- 05 The Person
- 07 The Department
- 09 The Position
- 11 The Benefits
- 13 The Process



The School

Merchant Taylors' School has been one of the top ten boys' schools in the UK since its foundation by the Merchant Taylors' Company, one of the twelve Great Livery Companies of the City of London, in Suffolk Lane in 1561. One of the nine original 'Clarendon schools', its alumni have achieved distinction throughout history. However, the school wears its heritage lightly, its strong sense of tradition very much at the service of the future. Through the Merchant Taylors' Educational Trust, it retains close links with other Merchant Taylors' schools, and with the Merchant Taylors' Company itself.

Relocated from the City to Sandy Lodge, Northwood in 1933, the school occupies a superb setting: 286 acres of lakes, playing fields, and woodland, all within easy reach of central London, Middlesex, Buckinghamshire, and Hertfordshire.

There are four distinct boys' day schools on campus. The Nursery, the Pre-Prep & the Prep cater for 340 boys from 3 to 13

years of age, while the Senior School has some 890 pupils from 11 – 18, with over 300 in the Sixth Form (The Prep School shares some of its facilities with the Senior School, but is a separate school in its own right).

Competition for places is fierce, and entry is by competitive examination at 11+, 13+, and 16+.



Public examination results are outstanding, the majority of students proceeding either to Oxbridge or other leading universities and medical schools in the UK or abroad.

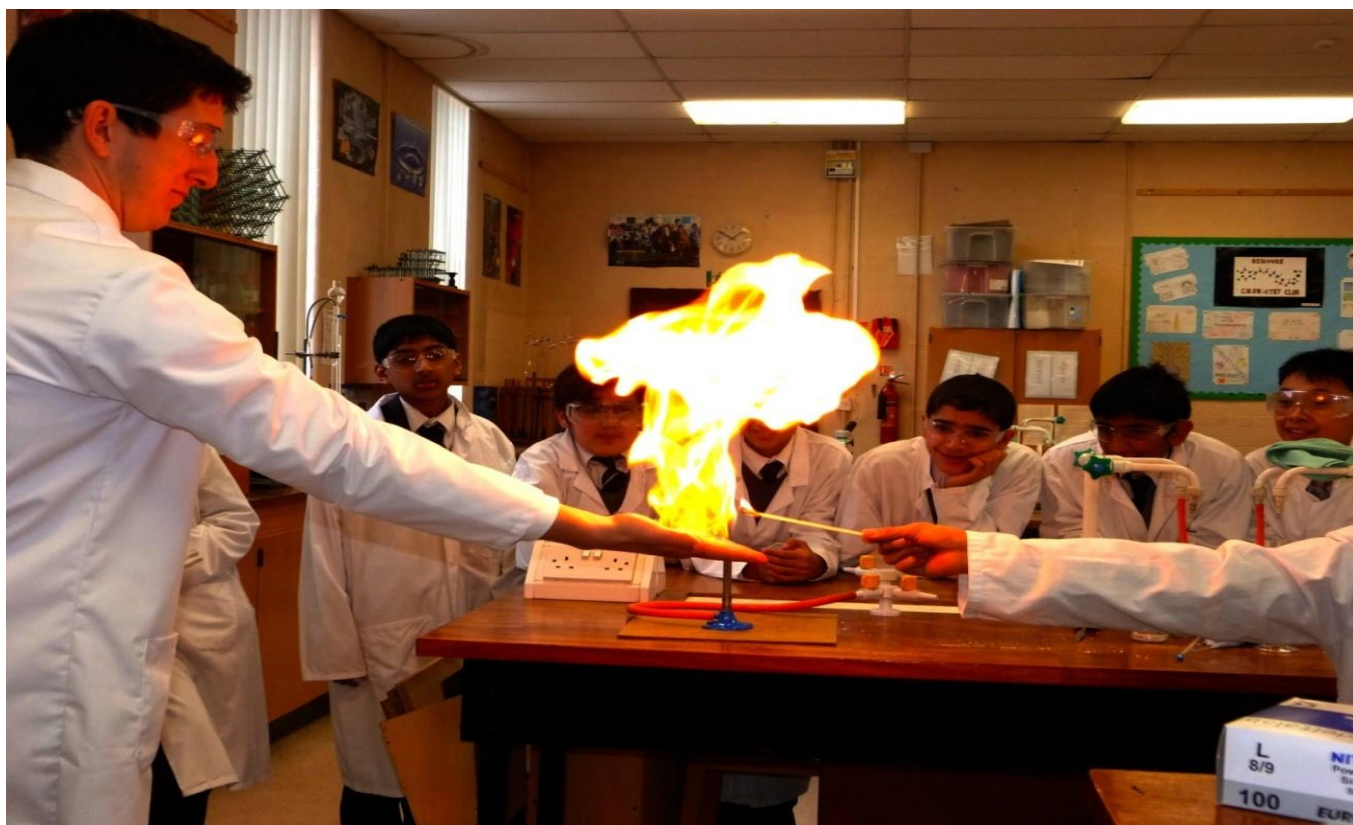
We pride ourselves on our outstanding pastoral care as well as our excellent academic results, and aspiration in all areas goes well beyond the norm, making Taylors' a particularly exciting and rewarding place to teach.

The 2014 Inspection Report accorded the school the highest accolade of "exceptional", finding that pupil achievement & learning are exceptional, and the teaching, curricular and co-curricular provision are all excellent: "Pupils are receptive, alert, highly

articulate and well-motivated... friendly, happy and self-reflective... highly articulate... logical and independent thinkers... and show high levels of creativity".

Merchant Taylors' is an exciting, rewarding environment in which to teach and work. For those with talent, ambition, and commitment, Merchant Taylors' provides the means for the development of a successful and satisfactory career in a place with a real sense of community.

Probably the best way to get a taste of life at Taylors' is to read our weekly magazine *Scissorum*, which is available on the school's website www.mtsn.org.uk/scissorum



The Person

A well-qualified, graduate teacher of Chemistry is required for September 2017 to lead this extremely successful department. The key task will be to organise the teaching of Chemistry throughout the school, leading, supporting and guiding the other members of the department, including the Chemistry technicians. The successful applicant will be expected to teach throughout the age range to Oxbridge level. S/he will serve as a member of the Heads of Department Forum and as a UCAS adviser to those seeking to study Medicine or other Chemistry-related subjects at university; there is substantial scope for involvement in related academic matters such as supervising boys' EPQ projects.

We are looking, first and foremost, for an enthusiastic teacher of Chemistry who is an effective classroom practitioner and who will communicate a love of the subject to boys and colleagues as head of an experienced, committed and friendly team. The successful applicant will need to be a skilled and successful leader with a keen and clear vision for the subject in the 21st century, and the ability to make this become a reality. S/he will need to possess good administrative and communication skills, and to be resilient, determined, tactful and decisive. This represents an

outstanding opportunity for a candidate who may already be a Head of Department or a member of (possibly second in) a large department and who has the ambition and drive to take Chemistry at Merchant Taylors' forward from its very strong base.

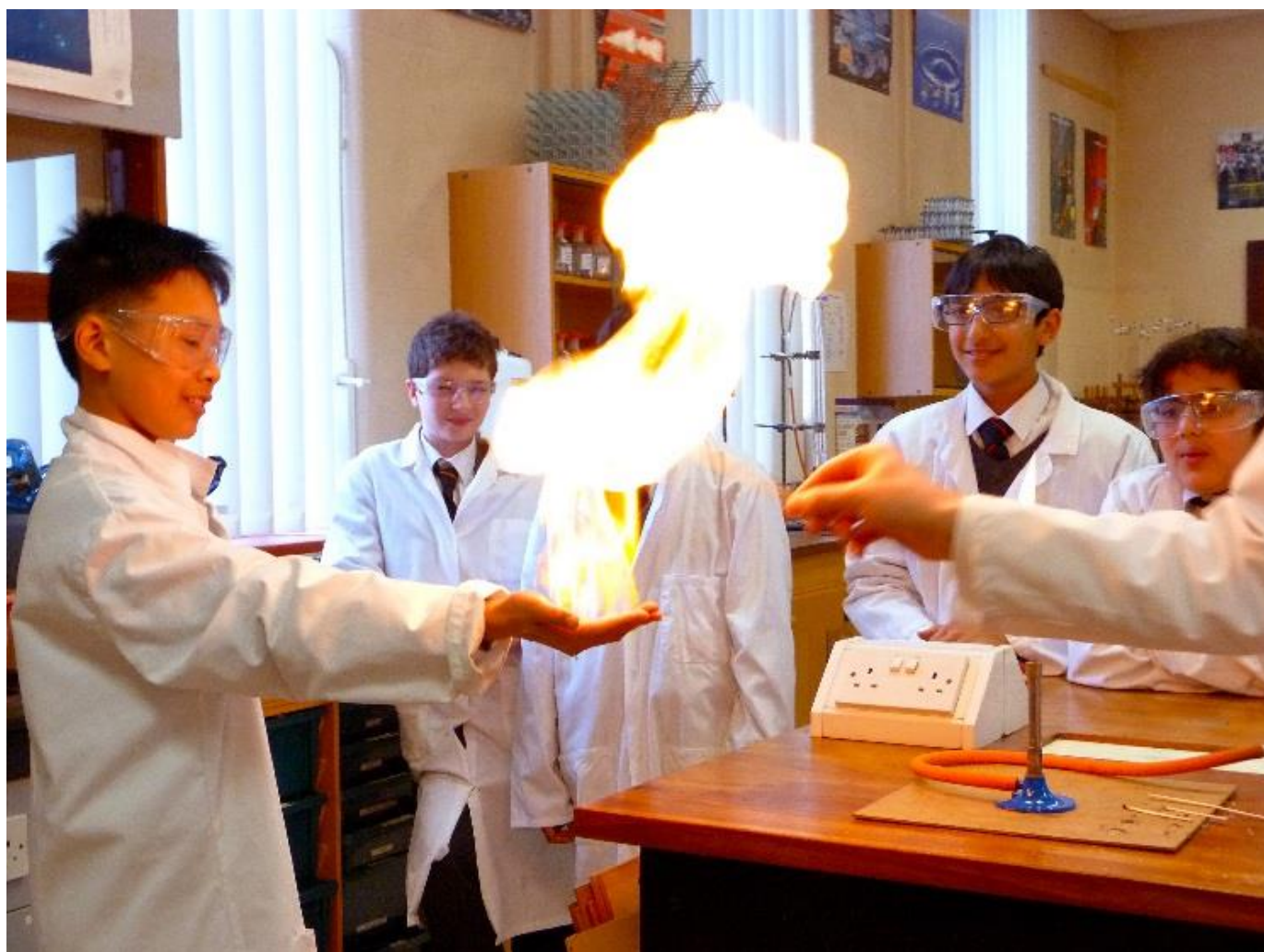
You will join an extremely successful friendly, committed and experienced team of five full-time specialists. You will have excellent subject knowledge and be passionate about teaching Chemistry over the entire age range, from the Third Form (Year 7) to Oxbridge entry.

We are looking for the ability to inspire the boys, so that learning Chemistry is a truly exciting experience for them. You need to be approachable, compassionate, and caring: an able communicator, with a positive, encouraging, and collaborative style that can enrich the work of an already very successful department.

We will expect your commitment and ideas to make a significant contribution to enabling the school to maintain its status as one of the top academic boys' schools in the country. We are constantly looking to discover and develop innovative and interesting new teaching methods, resources, practical work, and demonstrations; a willingness to commit to this is essential. The school embraces the most diverse range of teaching styles and

personalities, deeply believing that boys benefit from exposure to such diversity and there is a strong commitment to active learning and further engendering independent learning.

The school is proud of its reputation as a caring and friendly community with a high achieving culture across a broad range of curricular and co-curricular activities. You will be ready to engage fully in the life of the school. Our expectations of our pupils and teachers, academically and in terms of attitude and commitment, are very high. There is a strong common room culture of going the extra mile to stretch and support, in and beyond the classroom, so that every boy realizes his potential. Enthusiasm and ability are as important for this post as experience.





The Department

Resources & Accommodation

The Chemistry Department consists of six teachers in well-equipped laboratories, two of which were recently refurbished, (together with the preparation room. The remaining two laboratories are scheduled to be refurbished in the near future). In addition, there are two other teaching rooms, a staff office and a technicians' room. The three technicians provide excellent support in the preparation of practical lessons.

Curriculum & Results

In the Chemistry Department, we teach Edexcel at A Level and IGCSE, the latter leading to Separate Chemistry or Combined Science qualifications. There are currently around 90 students taking Chemistry in the Sixth Form. The department is academically very strong and has an excellent record in the Chemistry Olympiads and Cambridge Chemistry Challenge.

Typically, 95%+ of our A level candidates pass A* to B, with around 25% gaining A*. At IGCSE, around two-thirds of the cohort are entered for separate sciences, an average of over 90% of whom achieve an A* in Chemistry. On average, a third of the 20 or so boys going to Oxbridge from the school each year read one of the sciences.



Activities

The department has a lively extra-curricular presence. We run a Junior Chemistry Club and play a full role in the school's Senior Science Society. There is after-school provision of stimulating and demanding activities for those who are the keenest chemists. We also enter teams for the Top of the Bench Competition, the Year 10 Chemistry Challenge and Salters' Festival of Chemistry, and take students to the annual Newlands Lecture at Imperial College London.



The Position

Summary of responsibilities

- To lead the department through effective teaching, professional vision, and knowledge.
- To write the departmental section of the School Development Plan.
- To maintain and develop appropriate schemes of work.
- To arrange the deployment of teaching staff, in consultation with departmental members, with the Assistant Director of Studies, and within the constraints of the timetable.
- To oversee production of the departmental handbook.
- To monitor the quality of teaching and learning within the department through observation, testing, and team management.
- To act as a UCAS advisor.
- To promote extra-curricular activities related to the subject.
- To oversee external examination entries and all internal examinations.
- To attend meetings of the Curriculum Committee.
- To ensure that Health and Safety procedures are followed.

- To liaise with tutors and Heads of School over matters of individual pupil progress and behaviour.
- To develop and monitor a departmental marking policy that fits within the school framework for marking.
- To maintain and monitor appropriate pupil learning/achievement records.
- To produce a bid for and then manage the departmental budget.
- To guide the writing and quality of reports in the subject, the provision of subject information to parents, attendance by departmental members at Parents' Evenings and response to subject-related parental enquiries.
- To ensure that an annual stock check and inventory of equipment is carried out, to maintain the quality of resources, and to ensure that valuable items are security marked.
- To monitor the quality of the teaching environment and to liaise with The Bursar as necessary.
- To keep ahead of changes to both technology and the specifications relating to the subject.
- To set, and organise the marking for, admissions examinations and feed back to Prep/Junior schools.
- To organise a yearly meeting with feeder school Heads of Department to discuss matters of common interest.
- To conduct and minute departmental meetings, and forward the minutes to the Director of Studies.
- To encourage the sharing of good practice in the department and promote professional development opportunities to all departmental members.
- To mentor teachers new to the school and NQTs.
- To play an appropriate part in Teacher Appraisal.





The Benefits

Benefits

- The school has high expectations of staff, and therefore rewards them with a generous salary scale and beneficial conditions of service.
- High-quality single and married teacher accommodation is usually available and nearly half the academic faculty lives on campus.
- Interest-free loans are usually available to those staff wishing to leave school accommodation and take out a mortgage.

Teaching

- The collegiate spirit amongst the academic faculty is a strong and positive one. The atmosphere in Common Room is exceptionally congenial and supportive, whilst the boys are interesting, talented young men, and the academic environment is conspicuously civilised.
- Class sizes are small and the teaching facilities are excellent: most teachers have their own fully-resourced classroom.



Career

- There is an extensive induction programme for all new colleagues, and we encourage ongoing professional development through generous INSET provision.
- Each member of the academic faculty has a voice on professional matters via the General Purposes Committee.

Personal

- The school enjoys a superb campus: central London is 35 minutes away, the M1 and M25 are 10 minutes away, Heathrow is less than half an hour.
- Fee concessions are available for the sons of any member of the academic faculty who meet the school's entry requirements.

- Membership of the Teachers' Superannuation Scheme.
- Longer holidays than the maintained sector.
- Free on-site parking.
- School Nurse on site.
- Typically generous sick and maternity/paternity arrangements.

For Recreation

- Free use of the school's extensive leisure and sporting facilities: 265 acres of parkland, with more than 65 devoted to sport.
- Free lunch and free refreshments are available throughout the working day.



The Process

Please complete an application form and an accompanying letter (maximum 500 words) outlining your suitability for the post; you may wish to include a brief CV.

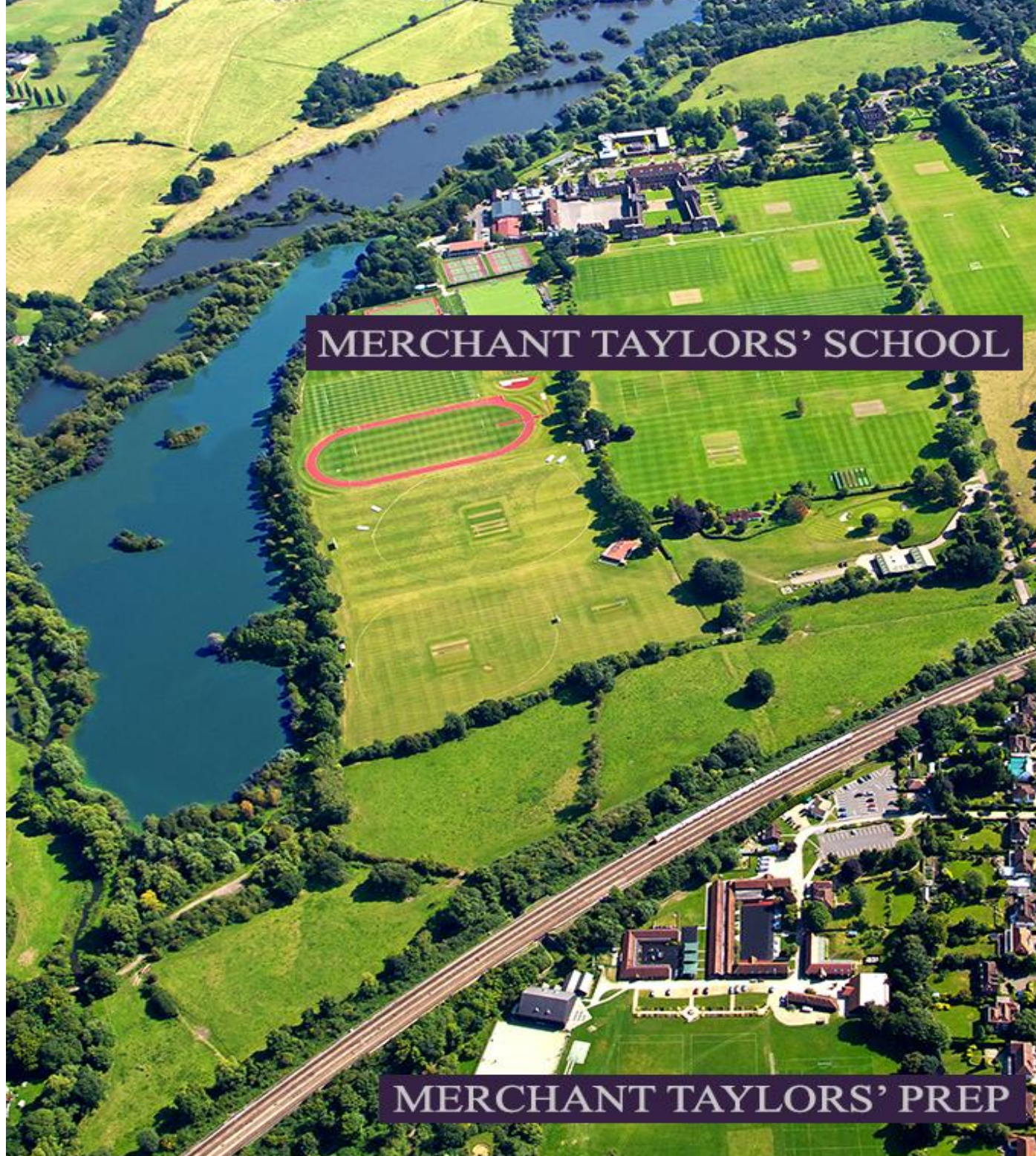
The post will appear in the Times Educational Supplement on Friday 16th December 2016 and Friday 6th January 2017. The closing date is Wednesday 11th January. Interviews will be held the week commencing Monday 16th January.

Applications to (email, fax, or post):
The Head Master
Merchant Taylors' School
Sandy Lodge
Northwood
Middlesex HA6 2HT

Fax: +44(0)1923 835110
Email: recruitment@mtsn.org.uk

The Head of Chemistry, Tim Hingston
will be happy to answer any questions;
please contact him at
thingston@mtsn.org.uk

Equally, the Head Master, Simon Everson,
will gladly speak to any applicants. He can
be contacted on +44 (0)1923 821850



MERCHANT TAYLORS' SCHOOL

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