



MERCHANT TAYLORS'  
School



Teacher of Biology

Information for candidates

Excellence, integrity, and distinction since 1561

For boys 3-18





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## 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](http://www.mtsn.org.uk/scissorum)





## The Person

A well-qualified graduate looking to train as a teacher of Biology, or experienced teacher of Biology, is required for September 2018 to teach in this extremely successful department. The successful applicant will be expected to teach Biology throughout the age range to Oxbridge level.

We are looking, first and foremost, for an enthusiastic teacher of Biology who is an effective classroom practitioner and who will communicate a love of the subject to pupils.

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 Biology 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 Biology 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 contribute 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, 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 realises his potential. Enthusiasm and ability are as important for this post as experience.





## The Department

There are five experienced teachers supported by two dedicated technicians. Biology is one of the most popular A level subjects (approximately 60 boys study Biology in the Sixth Form) and we have a large uptake of biology-related subjects at university, including Medicine (for which there is a bespoke A level set and for which we also offer bespoke BMAT & UKCAT classes) and Dentistry. There is always a strong field of Oxbridge applicants. There is a significant science culture in the school that includes extra-curricular societies, trips and significant academic contributions to the enrichment programme.

### Curriculum & Results

In the Biology Department, we teach OCR at A Level and Edexcel at IGCSE, the latter leading to Separate Biology or Combined Science qualifications. There are currently around 60 students taking Biology in the Sixth Form. The department is academically very strong and has an excellent record in the Biology Olympiads.

In 2017 95% of our A level candidates achieved A\* to B, with 50% gaining an A\*. At IGCSE, the majority of the cohort are entered for Separate Sciences, an average of over 80% of whom achieve an A\* in Biology. On average, a third of the 20 or so boys going to Oxbridge from the school each year read one of the Sciences.





## Resources & Accommodation

The Biology Department consists of five teachers in well-equipped laboratories, all of which will be further refurbished in the near future. In addition, there is one other teaching room, a staff office and a preparation room. The two technicians provide excellent support in the preparation of practical lessons.

## Activities

The department has a lively extra-curricular presence. We celebrated a very successful Biology Week in October running many events including student and external lectures, a photography competition and quizzes. We run a Dissection Club and play a full role in the school's Senior Science Society. Our Biology Society has had a strong inaugural year and delivered an exciting lecture series, conducted some practical microbiological research in school and met regularly to discuss biological and medical related themes.

We also enter teams for the Biology Challenge (Year 10), Intermediate Biology Olympiad (Year 12) and Biology Olympiad (Year 13) Competitions which are run by the Royal Society of Biology.

Furthermore we have also had great success this year in the University of Cambridge Triple Helix Essay writing competition with one of our students being award 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize and another gaining a special mention for his work.

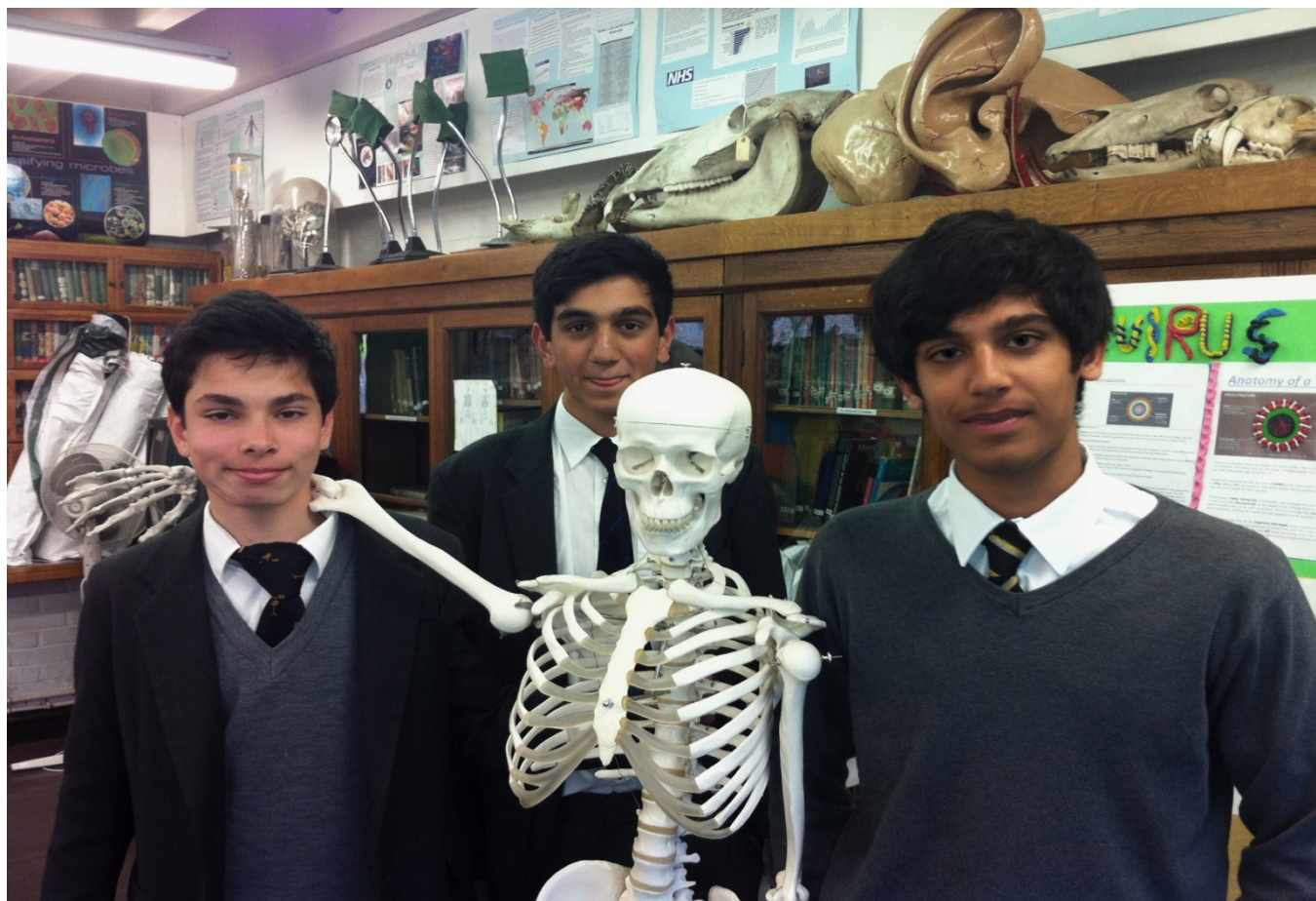
A plethora of trips include:  
Sixth Form Trips

- Royal Institution and Biology Live lectures
- Field trip to Epping Forest in the Sixth Form

Lower and Middle School Trips

- Trip to a farm
- Trip to the National History Museum or Science Museum
- Trip to London Zoo





## The Position

### Summary of responsibilities

The main responsibility of each Assistant Teacher is his/her classroom teaching duties; there are, however, other responsibilities, such as being a Tutor, a Form Teacher and taking part of the school's games and activities programme. All these should be carried out to the highest standard to ensure the all-round quality of education for pupils at Merchant Taylors' School.

- To discharge all professional duties as outlined in the Contract of Employment and associated Employment Manual
- To set personal professional standards (for example, in matters of dress and punctuality) that are of the highest level and that will enable the individual teacher to act as a role model for pupils.

- To support the ethos of the school and to work in accordance with its desired aims and policies
- To share in pastoral responsibility for all pupils (especially those in the individual's teaching or tutor groups) in liaison with the appropriate Heads of School and senior managers
- To play an active role in the life of the school, including in the games and extra-curricular activities programme

### Teaching

- Planning and preparing courses and lessons
- Assessing, marking, recording and reporting on the development, progress and attainment of pupils in line with school and departmental policy





- Promoting the general progress and well-being of individual pupils and groups of pupils
- Exercising proper care of teaching materials, equipment and rooms to maintain a stimulating teaching environment
- Following the agreed policies in the Departmental Handbook with regard to such matters as programmes of study, teaching methods, supporting pupils with learning support needs and homework
- Advising and co-operating in the preparation and development of courses of study, teaching materials, teaching programmes, and methods of teaching and assessment

### Assessment and Reporting

- Providing or contributing to oral and written assessments, reports and

references relating to individual pupils and/or groups of pupils

- Communicating and consulting with the parents of pupils, both formally at Parents' Meetings and informally
- Participating in arrangements for preparing and assessing pupils' work for public examinations

### Professional Development

- Participating in the school's arrangements for teacher review, both as a reviewer, and as one under review
- As a teacher new to the school, to take part in the school's programme of induction and review for new teachers
- Reviewing from time to time teaching methods and programmes of work
- Participating in arrangements for further training and professional development as a teacher





## Behaviour Management

- Maintaining good order and discipline amongst the pupils and safeguarding their health and safety, both when they are on the school premises and when they are engaged in authorised school activities elsewhere
- To require from the pupils the high standards of behaviour, dress, punctuality, effort and attendance that are consistent with the school's expectations

## Meetings

- Participating, as required, in meetings that relate to the curriculum, the organisation of the school or pastoral matters

## Cover

- Supervising (and when appropriate teaching) any pupils whose teacher is not available to teach them as required by the Head of Department or the Second Master

## Tutor and Form Teacher roles

- When required to undertake duties as a Tutor and/or Form Teacher as detailed in a separate job description





## 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.





Biology Trip to South Africa and Mozambique

### Personal

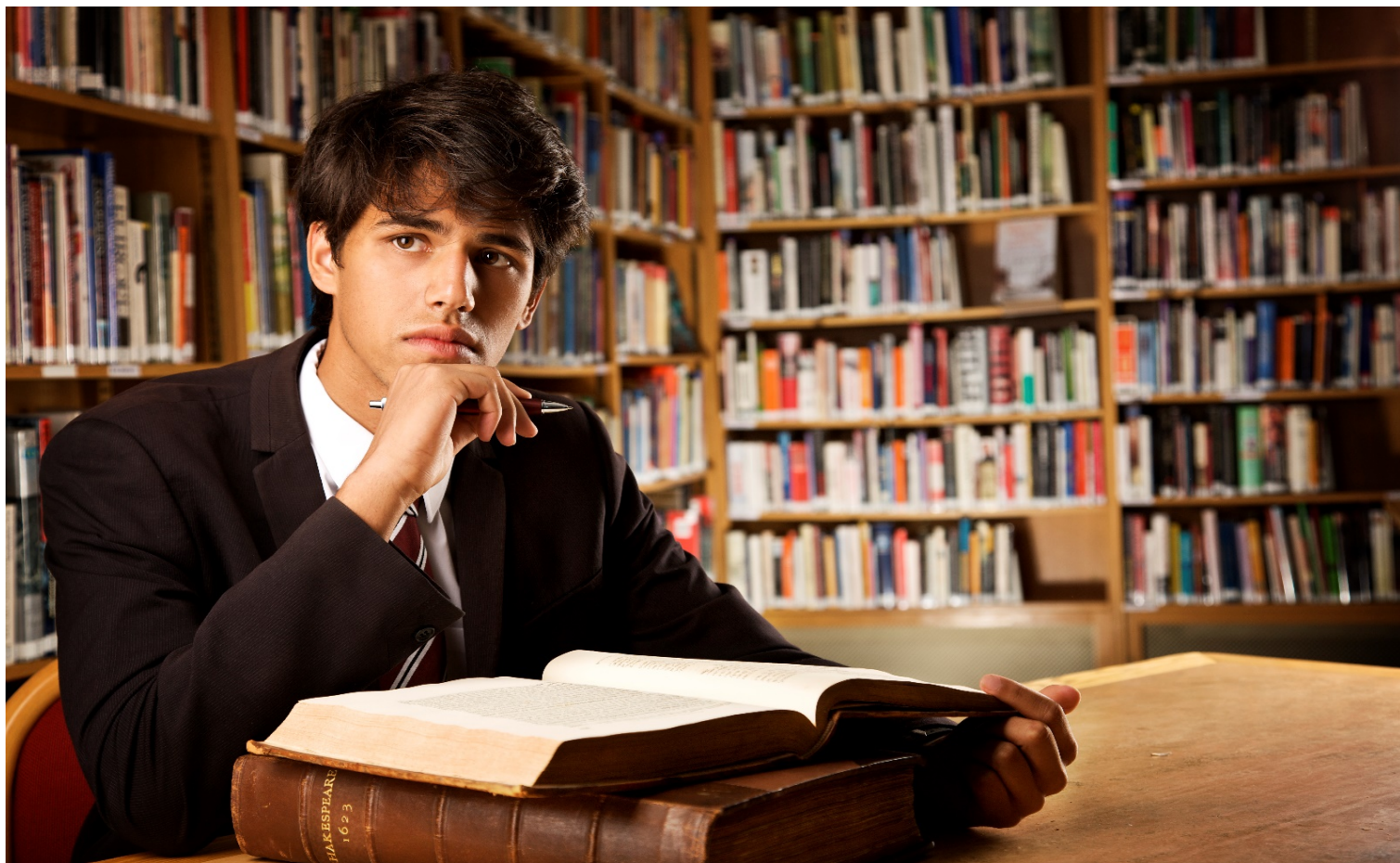
- The school enjoys a superb campus: central London is 35 minutes away, the M1 and M25 are 10 minutes away, Heathrow is less than half an hour.
- Fee concessions are available for the sons of any member of the academic faculty who meet the school's entry requirements.
- Membership of the Teachers' Superannuation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

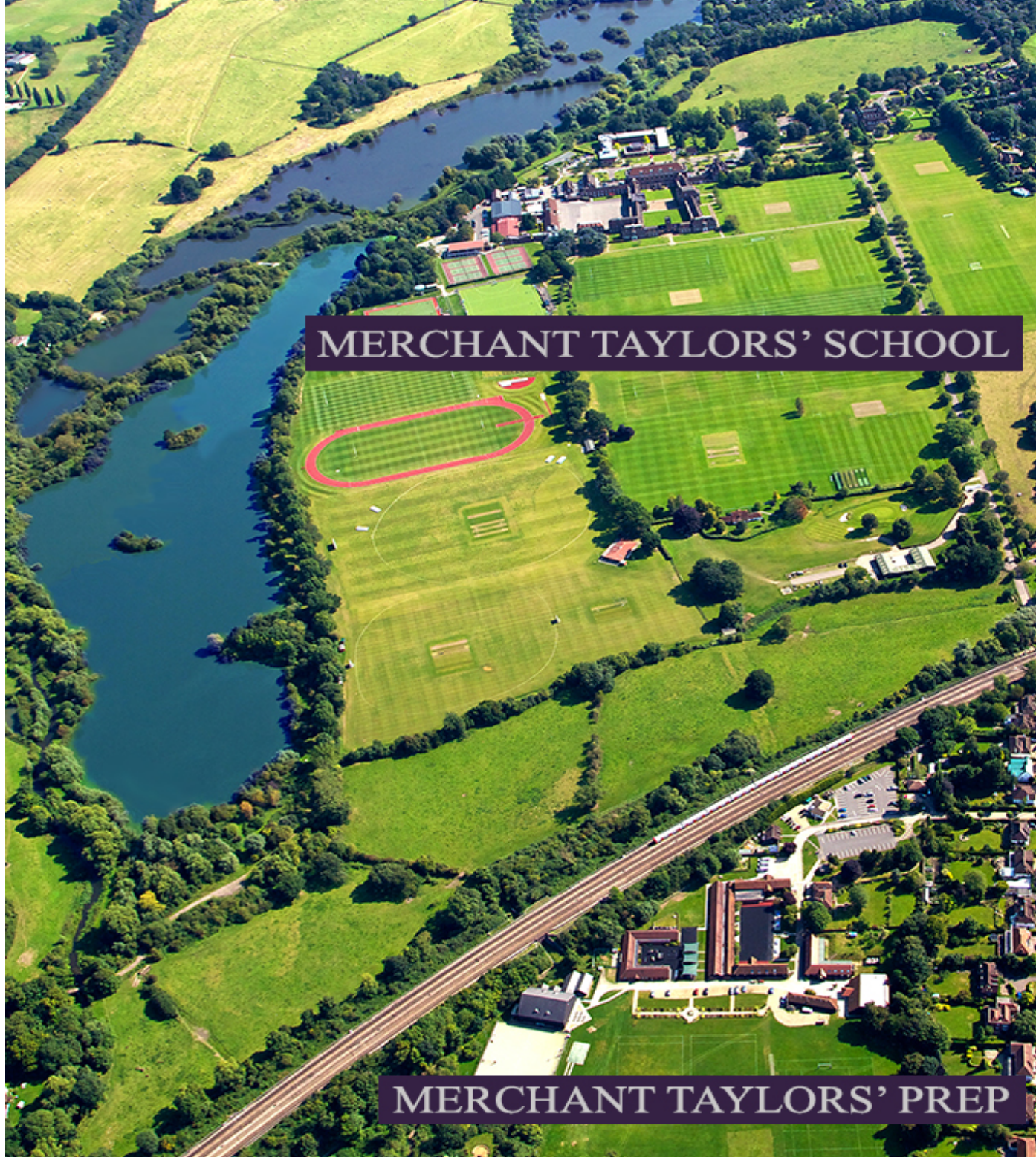
The post will appear in the Times Educational Supplement on 19<sup>th</sup> January. The closing date is Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January at 4pm; interviews will be held w/c Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February.

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

The Head of Biology, Susanna Stuteley  
will be happy to answer any questions;  
please contact her at  
[SStuteley@mtsn.org.uk](mailto:SStuteley@mtsn.org.uk)

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





MERCHANT TAYLORS' SCHOOL  
Sandy Lodge,  
Moor Park,  
Northwood,  
HA6 2HT

WWW.MTSN.ORG.UK  
Tel: +44(0)1923 820644  
Fax: +44(0)1923 845522  
Email: [info@mtsn.org.uk](mailto:info@mtsn.org.uk)



MERCHANT TAYLORS' PREP  
Moor Farm,  
Sandy Lodge Road,  
Rickmansworth,  
Hertfordshire,  
WD3 1LW