

SEVENOAKS SCHOOL

JOB DESCRIPTION



Appointment of Assistant Director of PE & Sport From September 2018





The School

Founded in 1432, Sevenoaks enjoys a global reputation as a centre of academic excellence and a flagship school for the International Baccalaureate. A co-educational day and boarding school, it offers a stimulating, intellectually demanding and balanced education for pupils from the age of 11 to 18.

Inspiring facilities, together with expert, enthusiastic and imaginative teaching, provide rich opportunities for students participating in lessons, and a wide variety of sports and the performing arts.

The school's international make-up and outlook promote the principles of tolerance and open-mindedness. About 350 pupils board in the seven boarding houses, and students originate from some 40 countries worldwide.

In 2013 the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) awarded Sevenoaks School the rare accolade of 'Exceptional' for its students' achievement. Sevenoaks was also the highest performing fully co-educational school, and the one with the largest cohort, in *The Sunday Times* Parent Power's top 50 fee-paying schools for the IB in 2015. In November 2017 we were, for the second time in ten years, awarded *The Sunday Times* Independent School of the Year.

This excellence is achieved by bright, motivated students, inspired by highly qualified and

dedicated teachers in well-resourced classrooms. The school has over 150 teaching staff, well supported by a large number of ancillary staff. A professional pastoral team of specialist tutors, boarding house staff and year heads give care and guidance, promoting student welfare and happiness. The mutual respect shared by students and staff generates a harmonious and purposeful atmosphere.

The Campus

The school is situated in the Kent market town of Sevenoaks, and has a prime position at the top of the High Street. The 100-acre site, which includes a number of listed buildings, is beautifully landscaped and adjoins the medieval deer park of Knole. London is only a 30-minute train journey away. Gatwick International Airport is also only 30 minutes away, and there are good transport links to other London airports and the Channel Tunnel.

The school's first-class resources and facilities include a superb sports centre (The Sennocke Centre) opened in 2005. A state-of-the-art performing arts centre (The Space), which provides four outstanding venues for music and drama, was opened in 2010. The next major projects currently underway are a Science & Technology Centre and a Sixth Form Global Study Centre, which will open in 2018, and new boarding accommodation which should be ready for occupation by 2019.



Teaching at Sevenoaks School

We want all our pupils to enjoy their subjects, to be inspired by their teachers and to become independent, lifelong learners. We have an exceptionally lively, talented and committed staff body. Teachers are enthusiastic and well-qualified graduates. We welcome applications from experienced teachers and newly qualified teachers but can also provide training including PGCE for those new to the profession. All new staff undertake a comprehensive induction programme. Sevenoaks is committed to supporting its staff with training and professional development tailored to staff needs and interests.

Teachers at Sevenoaks are innovative and forward-thinking and over 60 staff are involved in the Institutes of Teaching & Learning, Higher Education & Professional Insight, and Service & Social Entrepreneurship, shaping further development and initiatives for students and staff alike.

Curriculum

All of the 400-plus Sixth Form students pursue the International Baccalaureate Diploma, a programme the school has delivered for nearly 40 years. The Diploma represents, in the school's view, the best preparation for university and for work in a world of global competition. Even more important, it genuinely develops a rich

inner life in our students, opening their minds to connections and possibilities within and across the subject disciplines.

It is no surprise that our students leave Sevenoaks to study a wide range of courses in the UK and around the world. All 210 leaving students each year progress to the world's top universities, including up to 25% to Oxford and Cambridge, and 25 or more students to leading US and international universities. They do so with an enlarged capacity for independent thought and intellectual risk-taking, a strong appetite for learning, and equipped with the skills and personal qualities conducive to a happy and successful life.

In order to support our ethos and aims, we have developed a number of Sevenoaks School Certificate courses, which students take instead of GCSEs, in English Literature, the Expressive Arts and Technology. The SSCs (which are fully recognised by UCAS) give teachers the independence and creative scope to shape a richly satisfying curriculum. In Years 9-11 all students take courses in critical thinking – *Critical Perspectives* and *Ten Ideas That Changed the World* – developed by the school.

The Physical Education and Games Department

The school aspires to foster a lifelong commitment to, and understanding of, fitness, health and



wellbeing, exercise and sport. The department's pedagogical approach is informed and guided by the principles enshrined in the IB Learner Profile. The Physical Education and Games Department is dynamic and ambitious, providing a variety of sports and activities to all students. A diverse PE curriculum is taught covering a range of skills in fitness, athletics and athletic development, net and wall games, invasion games, swimming, striking and fielding. This complements the extensive fixtures programme which runs every afternoon including Saturdays.

The department is very well resourced. The Foundation Trustees and Governors have invested heavily in sports facilities as part of the ongoing school development. The Sennocke Centre was opened in 2005, providing state of the art facilities including a double sports hall, six-lane swimming pool, three indoor squash courts, three indoor tennis courts, dance studio and fitness suite. Outdoor facilities include two all-weather astroturf pitches, five outdoor netball courts, six outdoor tennis courts, seven rugby pitches, eight football pitches, three cricket pitches and an all-weather six-lane tartan athletics track. There are eight full-time PE teachers and a number of part-time coaching staff who, along with many academic staff, support and deliver our games programme.

All pupils joining the school in Year 7 have two PE lessons and one swimming lesson every fortnight. Year 7 and 8 also enjoy two games afternoons which will include their fixtures, as

well as after school training sessions. Students in Years 9 to 11 have two games afternoons, including their main fixture programme which takes place on a Saturday afternoon, with the occasional mid-week fixture.

All Sixth Form students choose their sports options from a wide-ranging programme, which provides two afternoons of training and fixtures or activity. The 200-strong Sixth Form, with its strong international dimension, enriches the experience of the student body and develops awareness of sport in a global context. There are regular sporting competitions to participate in, and several Sevenoaks sports teams have enjoyed progressing through to Regional and National competitions in recent years.

The PE department run a series of tours and trips all over the world which provides opportunities for students to enjoy developing their expertise and competing against international students, and include an element of service through fundraising for local charities.

The Post: Assistant Director of PE and Sport

We are looking for an enthusiastic, able and well qualified teacher to contribute to the leadership of Physical Education and Sport, as we continue to develop our educational programme in our local and international context, and in our capacity as a leading IB school. The precise details



will depend on the strengths of the successful candidate, but is likely to include: developing our strategy for PE and Sport; developing our fitness and wellbeing programme; developing the role of coaches and appraisals; maintaining the current excellence of our sport provision; as well as administrative tasks to ensure the smooth running of the department.

The successful candidate will inspire real passion for sport and fitness in our pupils, and be capable of coaching a number of the major sports. The ability to lead one of our major sports may be an advantage.

A commitment to excellent pastoral care, enriching co-curricular activities and outreach is also expected.

Information for applicants

Sevenoaks School has its own generous salary scale. Accommodation or relocation expenses may be available, and fee discounts for the children of members of staff are available (subject to the usual entry requirements). Further information about the school can be obtained from the school's extensive website: www.sevenoaksschool.org, including more about working at Sevenoaks: www.sevenoaksschool.org/vacancies

Applicants should complete the application form in full. Guidance for completion of the form is downloadable from our website. Note that Part 6 must show a complete history of employment,

and should continue on a separate sheet of the application form if necessary. Please submit the completed application form, covering letter and CV by post to:

The Personnel Department
Sevenoaks School
Sevenoaks
Kent TN13 1HU
Tel: 01732 467740
email: pa@sevenoaksschool.org.

Applications should be submitted by **midday on Wednesday 21 February**.

The school retains the right to interview suitable applicants and appoint before the deadline.

The post holder has a responsibility to promote and safeguard the welfare of children and young persons for whom he or she is responsible, or with whom he or she comes into contact, and will adhere to and ensure compliance with the school's Child Protection Policy Statement at all times. If in the course of carrying out the duties of the post the post-holder becomes aware of any actual or potential risks to the safety or welfare of children in the school, he or she must report any concerns to the school's Designated Child Protection Coordinator or to the Head.