



Thomas's Academy and Thomas's Clapham

## Art Teacher (Maternity Cover)

Required for September 2018

### Art Teacher (Maternity Cover)

The advertisement in the TES is as follows;

*A unique and exciting opportunity for a teacher of Art at Thomas's Academy and Thomas's Clapham. This role would be perfect for a talented, ambitious and hard-working artist teacher; a rising star who has, not only a love for their subject, but aspirations to promote a learning environment where every child is valued as an artist. This post offers shared teaching time between Thomas's Academy, a charming, community school located on the New Kings Road, near Parson's Green, Fulham, and Thomas's Clapham, an outstanding, leading independent prep school. This is a maternity cover position.*

Closing date: **9.00am on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

Thomas's London Day Schools educates over 2000 children at four schools – Thomas's Battersea, Thomas's Clapham, Thomas's Fulham, and Thomas's Kensington, and in one kindergarten in Battersea. Thomas's Academy, formerly New King's Primary School, joined the Thomas's family of schools in September 2015.

### Thomas's London Day Schools

Thomas's London Day Schools educates over 2000 children at four schools – Thomas's Battersea, Thomas's Clapham, Thomas's Fulham, and Thomas's Kensington, and in two kindergartens, in Battersea and Pimlico.

It is our prime concern that children at Thomas's are happy. We provide for their education by giving each child dignity and self-esteem through a sense of achievement, be it academic, artistic, or sporting. The central belief is that all this and more can be achieved if we can be kind to one another

In these preparatory years we offer a broad curriculum covering a wide range of subjects and skills so that by the time they leave us our pupils will have begun to identify individual areas of talent. In a positive and stimulating environment we ensure that each child achieves the best academic results of which each child is capable.

## **Thomas's Academy**

Thomas's Academy is an exciting collaboration between the independent and maintained sectors, established in 2015 to invigorate to an outstanding level all that is already good in this thriving community school. By bringing together the strengths of our successful community school with the capacity and drive of four Outstanding co-educational, independent preparatory schools, we aim to deliver an exciting and contemporary community school in the heart of Parson's Green.

Thomas's Academy is built on Four Cornerstones: Be Kind, Learn to Learn, Think Globally and Create Beauty. Please refer to Thomas's Academy website ([www.academy.thomas-s.co.uk](http://www.academy.thomas-s.co.uk)) to see more about our aims and values.

## **Thomas's Clapham**

### **a. The School and its facilities**

The school occupies a site on Broomwood Road between Wandsworth and Clapham Commons. It is housed in a Grade II listed building which was built between 1904 and 1908 as the site for Clapham County Girls' School. Thomas's Clapham opened as a school for boys and girls in 1993 aged 4–13. There are currently 647 pupils on roll. Philip Ward took up post as Headmaster in September 2012. Before that he was the Headmaster of Feltonfleet, in Cobham, for twelve years.

The facilities at Clapham include a superb Drama studio and fully equipped theatre space, and separate Art, Pottery and Design Technology centre, which was newly built in 2001, and an impressive building housing the Reception classes, which was built six years ago. Exciting new outdoor play and learning areas have been created, as well as Mindfulness Place, an enchanting garden dedicated to the school's commitment to teaching Mindfulness.

The Masterplan for a significant refurbishment of the existing teaching areas and the provision of a new space for STEAM teaching is well developed. The Year 1 and 2 classrooms were completely refurbished during the summer of 2016. The Year 3, 4 and 5 classrooms underwent their own transformation during the summer of 2017, along with the IT room, and some areas of the Music Department. The recent and on-going investment in digital learning is significant and exciting.

Demand for places in the school is considerable, with most children arriving into the school in Reception. Around twenty girls and boys join the school in Year 7 from Thomas's Fulham. One class of children leave at 11+ for London day and boarding schools, the majority stay

until Year 8, sitting 13+ exams for the London day schools, Common Entrance (92% A\*-B in 2017) or Academic Scholarship. 54 academic and Co-curricular Scholarships were won in 2017. Approximately 80% leave for boarding schools at the end of Year 8.

#### **b. The Clapham Way**

The approach to teaching and learning (the Clapham Way) is exciting, progressive, and challenging. Change is eagerly embraced by colleagues and pupils who share a passion for learning and finding new and better ways of doing things. Creativity, thinking skills and instilling a thirst for independent learning are at the heart of our approach. Traditional and didactic teaching methods would feel alien at Thomas's Clapham, and standards and expectations are high. Continuous professional development is a strongly established culture within the school.

Academic standards are very high, but there is a strong and vibrant co-curricular programme with a strong emphasis on breadth. The school was recognised by Ofsted in January 2018 as Outstanding in each category.

#### **c. Inspiring every child, and the future**

**Inspiring every child**, the five year strategic development plan, was launched in September 2013. As well as its focus on development in a number of key areas, Inspiring every child promotes a values education based approach to inspiring learning, living and leading in every area of the school community.

One consequence of the strategic plan is that the PHSCE programme was replaced in September 2014 by a new whole school Inspiring Living course, focusing on well-being and healthy living. Another is that we are currently carrying out a complete review of our broad curriculum. Research and evidence based enquiry will help us to reshape and balance the curriculum to ensure a relevant C21 teaching and learning experience for every child in the future. We rolled out a revised curriculum in September 2016, characterised by enquiry based learning throughout the school, and the teaching of a character skills woven into every aspect of the curriculum which we call the 8C's. A commitment to teaching Growth Mindset has been very well received.

#### **Art at Thomas's Academy and Thomas's Clapham**

Thomas's Academy offers a newly refurbished, double aspect, large, dedicated Art studio with ample storage in a beautiful, well-lit Victorian building.

The Art and Design Department at Thomas's Clapham has a purpose built DT workshop, clay studio and spacious Art Studio. Within Thomas's Clapham there is a class suite of iPads along with Mac technology throughout the department to support and enhance the learning experience for all.

Progress in both settings will be regularly tracked and decisions taken to differentiate teaching and learning based on informed discussion with the Subject Leader.

After school clubs are weekly, varied and encouraged. They are designed to be fun while providing an opportunity for children to engage in existing interests or experience new ones in a somewhat more relaxed environment. Cross curricular links are enjoyed and all colleagues across the schools are supported fully with any art-based endeavours.

There is an established Scheme of Work in place and children are familiar with routines. There are appropriate tools and materials for teaching art at primary level.

### **Job specification – Art Teacher (maternity cover)**

The successful applicant for this post will believe strongly in promoting creativity and use of imagination. They will be devoted to encouraging children, in a primary setting, to solve real and relevant problems through art-making and other creative outlets.

High standards are essential, as is the ethos of inspiring children to learn through a broad range of enjoyable and motivational activities across varied disciplines including drawing and painting, printing, 3D work, crafts and design. These disciplines will be underpinned by an interest in using digital technology in the creative field.

The successful candidate would be responsible to the Art and Design Subject Leader and work with her towards ensuring all children, across the Primary Setting, experience exciting, inspiring and rewarding educational lessons. They would be committed to nurturing confidence and enhancing self-esteem through their teaching and a carefully structured Scheme of Work whilst investigating a broad range of artists, designers and crafts people.

#### **a. Accountable**

- To the Art and Design Subject Leader

#### **b. Responsible**

- For teaching Art, Craft and Design

#### **c. Key areas of responsibility**

- To play a pivotal role in teaching Art, Craft and Design to children between the ages of 4–13, and to be an outstanding and inspirational role model.
- To teach Art, Craft and Design according to the school's policies and schemes of work for the whole school, working closely with and co-ordinating with the Art and Design Subject Leader at every level.

- To develop the resources and equipment for teaching Art, Craft and Design in liaison with the Art and Design Subject Leader.
  - To be committed to the busy and enriching ethos of the Art and Design Department.
  - To ensure that the outcomes of Art, Craft and Design are regularly displayed around the school, and also in the grounds, seizing every opportunity to celebrate the children's work creatively and imaginatively, and to exhibit work at every opportunity.
  - To use Digital Technologies where appropriate to assist lesson preparation, teaching and reporting, and administration.
  - To plan for and teach a broad range of enjoyable and motivational activities across varied disciplines including drawing and painting, printing, 3D work, craft and design. These disciplines will be underpinned by an interest in using digital technology in the creative field.
  - To share a commitment to cross-curricular learning where Art, Craft and Design is involved.
  - To use Assessment for Learning strategies within the teaching of Art, Craft and Design.
  - To be aware of the new developments and advances in the teaching and direction of Art, Craft and Design, and take an active interest in professional development.
  - To write reports and advise at Parent/Teacher consultations as required, and communicate effectively to parents about the progress of their child within Art and Design.
  - To remain up to date in current art curriculum development and professional practice by regular attendance at courses in consultation with the Deputy Head (Community and Welfare), and the Assistant Head (Curriculum and Innovation).
  - To ensure the best possible practice in all areas of music learning and performance.
  - To play a full part in the life of the school
- d. Person specification**
- An outstanding qualified teacher of Art.

- A proven and superb teacher and self-starter who has experience working with children, and who will build on the existing provision for Art and Design to establish a whole school commitment.
- A committed, flexible and optimistic team player able and determined to inspire passion for Art in every area of the school.
- Committed to the busy and enriching ethos of the school.
- An inspiring personality in and out of the classroom, and someone whose approach to teaching and learning is innovative and progressive, who makes learning fun, but who sets the highest standards, and would enjoy working at the Thomas's group of schools.
- A sense of humour, adaptability, the capacity to inspire confidence in pupils, parents and colleagues, and a real love of teaching the young is paramount. A can do, will do attitude will identify the successful candidate, and the rewards for a dynamic and enterprising teacher will be significant.
- An ambitious colleague keen to make a name in the prep school world.

#### **General responsibilities for a teacher at Thomas's**

- To promote high quality teaching and learning, providing clear structures for lessons which maintain pace, motivation and challenge.
- To ensure the classroom is an invigorating environment for effective learning, embracing pupils work on paper, display and in the general atmosphere created in the classroom.
- To set high expectations for pupil behaviour, establishing and maintaining a good standard of discipline through well-focused teaching and positive, productive relationships.
- To plan effectively to ensure that pupils have the opportunity to meet their potential, taking account of the needs of every child.
- To write termly reports, and monitor and evaluate pupils' learning.
- To develop open, easy and professional relationships with colleagues.
- To be ready and enthusiastically available to parents, displaying approachability and professionalism at all times.

- To support and contribute strongly to the corporate life of the school (eg contributing to newsletters, the TLP, web site, school magazine, and attending school events).
- To undertake supervisory duties, attend assemblies, and school lunch, and to cover for absent colleagues.
- To attend staff meetings, School INSET, and attend professional courses to enhance teaching effectiveness and qualifications.
- To take part in the school's CPD programme, and fully participate in monitoring and Performance Management, accepting that it will act as a vehicle for self-development
- To establish a safe environment that supports learning and where pupils feel secure and confident.
- To comply with Health and Safety requirements.
- To contribute to the rich and varied extra-curricular programme.
- To play a full part in the life of the School, including attendance at INSET, Celebration and Farewell events, parent teacher meetings, and any other school occasions and events as required by the Headmaster.
- To carry out other duties that may reasonably be required by the Headmaster.

### **Other areas of school life**

All teachers appointed to Thomas's are expected to contribute fully to the extra-curricular and pastoral life of the School.

*Pastoral care* is a strong feature of life at the school, and all teachers are expected to share in this responsibility, possibly as a Form Teacher, or as a Tutor.

*The wider life of the school* – The School expects its teachers to contribute whole-heartedly to other aspects of school life by drawing upon their own interests and enthusiasms. The richness of the school depends upon teachers who, for example, coach games, support and organise clubs and society meetings, or take children on trips and residential expeditions.

### **Salary and support**

A competitive salary and conditions are offered. This post offers a very exciting opportunity to work in one of the outstanding group of schools in the country.

## Safeguarding and Child Protection

We are committed to safeguarding the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff to share this commitment and work in accordance with our child protection policies and procedures. All posts are subject to an enhanced DBS check.

The successful candidate will be expected to commit to the following;

Thomas's London Day Schools is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring check.

## Applications

A brief letter of application, curriculum vitae and a completed and signed application form, should be addressed to the Headmaster, Philip Ward, as soon as possible.

### Thomas's Clapham

The Headmaster, Phil Ward, would be delighted to talk on the phone to any candidate who would like to know more about the post. He can be contacted either at the School by phone (020 7326 9301) or by email – [pward@thomas-s.co.uk](mailto:pward@thomas-s.co.uk).

### Thomas's Academy

The Headmaster, Miles Chester, would be delighted to talk on the phone to any candidate who would like to know more about the post. He can be contacted either at the School by phone (020 7736 2318) or by email – [mchester@academy.thomas-s.co.uk](mailto:mchester@academy.thomas-s.co.uk).

Details of the post and application forms are available on the Thomas's London Day School web site [www.thomas-s.co.uk/Working-at-Clapham](http://www.thomas-s.co.uk/Working-at-Clapham) or you can email the Operations Manager, Mrs Viki Stanton – [vstanton@thomas-s.co.uk](mailto:vstanton@thomas-s.co.uk).

Interviews will take place on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018**.

## March 2018

*This role falls within the category of regulated activity, therefore you will be required to have an enhanced DBS check and a barred list check. Should you receive any cautions or convictions whilst in our employment these must be reported immediately to your line manager.*

*The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment and work in accordance with our child protection policies and procedures.*

*The post holder's responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young persons for whom he/she is responsible, or with whom he/she comes into contact will be to adhere to and ensure compliance with the school's policies 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/she must report any concerns to the school's Safeguarding Officer or Deputy.*