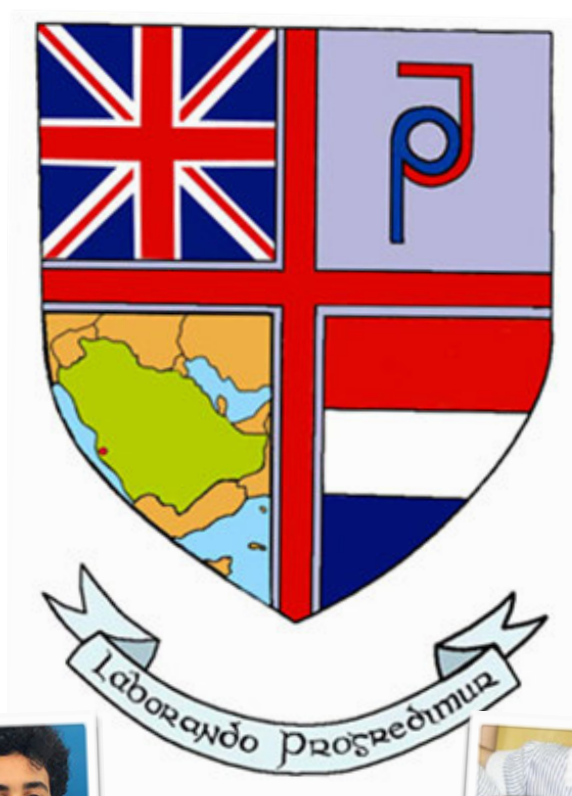




2017-18

Jeddah Prep and Grammar School

APPLICATION PACK AND
INFORMATION





VISION AND MISSION

Our **vision** for the School is a short but aspirational statement of what we aim to achieve at JPGS. This is stated below;

A diverse community dedicated to educating brave, innovative and confident children to their highest academic and creative potential.

The core business of any School is learning. The School has agreed on the following definition of learning, which should be at the heart of all that we do and aspire to be.

The acquisition, retention and application of knowledge and skills through explanation, experimentation or experience which leads to a transformation of thinking, increased capability and behavioural change in the future.

Our **Mission statement** provides more detail of what we must aspire to in the short to medium term in order to bring about the achievement of our vision. This is stated below.

Education is not the process of filling an empty vessel, but lighting a fire in the hearts and minds of the young with whom we are privileged to work. As a community, we are dedicated to providing children with the very best that British international education has to offer. We wish to stand proud as a beacon of academic excellence; but also a community where pupils also learn the lessons of lasting impact and true worth: self-discipline, integrity of character, care for others, and a sense of values. We encourage the fullest development of each individual's personality and talents.

A child's time at school must be a period of growth for each individual to explore their mind's full potential. This cannot be done by taking the conventional path at all times, but requires us to foster a culture of embracing rather than avoiding risk. We not only foster intellectual development, but focus equally on establishing a strong sense of community, moral character and self-confidence. We place a strong emphasis on cultural, creative and sporting activity alongside a first-class academic curriculum.

JPGS brings children together from many nations to learn and grow together, and as such, tolerance and respect are required to be shown towards both our host culture and society, and all members of our community. Each individual must accept responsibility for his own or her own actions and must relate to others with sensitivity. All members of our community must be able to expect to live and work in a safe and secure environment.

The School must act in open and honest partnership with families. Effective communication, tolerance and mutual respect are at the heart of this. These elements combine to provide our pupils with the knowledge and skills to thrive in a globally mobile, competitive world. We aim to see all our students confident to take their rightful place amongst the best and the brightest, able to work at any level in any part of the world.



Organisation of the school

The school is a non-profit making establishment founded - in accordance with the laws of Saudi Arabia.

The Foundation is controlled by a Board of Governors, which has the legal responsibility for all aspects of the operation. The Board approves financial plans, the policies under which the school is administered, and programmes for future development.



The Board works with the Headmaster and the SLT to ensure the smooth running of the school.

The Headmaster, assisted by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), is responsible for the efficient running of the school and the delivery of the educational programme. The Headmaster is responsible for the achievement of the school objectives.

The Leadership Team

The SLT consists of the Headmaster, the Assistant Head of School, the Head of Grammar and the Head of Prep. Each school also has their own leadership team.





WHO SHOULD CONSIDER WORKING AT JPGS

As the longest established British school in Jeddah, JPGS is proud of its history, and values its close links to the British Curriculum. Consequently, we like to appoint a person who has UK and/or international experience. All our appointed teachers must hold a recognised teaching certificate in addition to their first degree.



Due to visa restraints, overseas hire should preferably be British passport holders, as the process for obtaining a work visa for the kingdom can be quite complex.

Above all though, we wish to appoint, enthusiastic and committed professionals, who see the value of British schools in the international context. All applicants who can show how they may benefit the development of

our school and our students will be considered.

The ability to be flexible is essential. Living in a country like Saudi Arabia is exciting but it does require a person who can cope in a different culture. Moving geographically also requires a mindset that is open to embrace





and accept the differences that this will invariably bring. International teachers are guests of the host country and it is not our job to criticise how the host nation operates. Please do bear this in mind before making the decision to apply.

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL

Jeddah Prep and Grammar School was established in 1967 to serve the educational needs of members of the British and Dutch communities that were working in Jeddah at that time. The school was granted community status by King Faisal and has since continued to practise, nurture and cherish its community spirit throughout its subsequent 50year history. This year JPGS celebrates its 50th anniversary. The school has now extended its intake and takes students both from the host nation and around the world. Our school has a diverse community and is truly international in its make up.

The size of the school has meant that JPGS has maintained its friendly atmosphere. All students are known as individuals and the school works very hard to promote and develop the holistic growth of all of the individuals who make up this very special school.





THE CURRICULUM AT JPGS

The academic curriculum followed at JPGS is modelled on the best aspects of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), and Key stage 1, 2 and 3 of the National Curriculum of England. At KS4 students follow the Cambridge CIE IGCSE syllabi for all subjects and then the

Cambridge CIE A Level programme.



Whilst our curriculum is essentially British, we encourage staff to be innovative and up to date with the practice of other well regarded curricula such as the IB Programme, to glean good practice in all areas of teaching and learning. We wish to

appoint people who are always open to the development of their own practise. Consequently, reflective, up-to-date and proactive practitioners are encouraged to apply.

JPGS has students who aim for the top universities around the world, including the UK, USA, Canada and Australia. Thus, JPGS caters for both the academic and social needs of an internationally mobile student body, ensuring that our students are equipped with the skills of intellectual curiosity, creativity, problem solving and are





also respectful and tolerant young adults. We are looking for teachers who can contribute towards this and will act as role models for our young people. Contributing to the community, simply because community matters, is a very important value to us.

Parents are encouraged to work in partnership with the school and support its drive towards excellence. JPGS is very proud to state that we do have a very supportive parent body.





OVERVIEW OF THE MAIN POINTS OF OUR SCHOOL

- There are just over 800 students and just over 80 teachers
- The school is a member of the British Schools of the Middle East (BSME) and COBIS
- There is a strong culture of sport in school and the school takes part in the Saudi Schools League SAIKAC and BSME games
- The school has a very good reputation in the community
- Our students go onto many top universities around the world.
- Class sizes do not exceed 24 in Prep, 22 in KS3 and are often very small in IG and A Level classes. Student/teacher ratio is very good.
- Our students are delightful and very polite. At JPGS you can just get on with teaching!
- We do expect our staff to work hard and 'go the extra mile' for the benefit of our students.
- Salary is tax free, and the ability to save is excellent.
- Accommodation on site is provided and all utilities are covered
- Jeddah is a liberal city within Saudi Arabia
- Getting out into the desert is a great experience
- We are close to Mecca



Living In Jeddah

Working and living abroad can be both challenging and daunting but Jeddah, contrary to the general perception as provided by the media, is a fairly relaxed environment that is very cosmopolitan: there are many



shopping malls and they have branches of shops from all over the world, for every culture there is a restaurant and the private beach resorts are on a par with those anywhere in the world!

The composition of the staff is mostly British but is complemented by other nationalities some of whom are locally hired. Every effort will be made to help you settle into life at school and life in Jeddah. All colleagues are more than willing to offer help and advice. We are all here to help and support each other!

Compound living

The vast majority of colleagues live on the School Compound (families) or the Continental Village Compound (couples and singles) which is adjacent to the school compound.

Living on a compound is a refreshing experience, particularly for women, because you can dress informally and use the pools, gym, as well as shop in the compound shop, all day, without them closing for prayer. Also, you will find that buses off the compound are regularly organised by compound management. Any colleague, or the compound office, will be able to tell you more about this.

Living on a compound is also very safe as all compounds in Jeddah have a stringent security system in place.



For families, compound life offers a security and freedom seldom managed in other parts of the world. Children wander around freely and make friends very easily.



Things to do within Jeddah!

Saudi Arabia is open to be discovered. It does have a certain mystic about it, but the population, though guarded, are friendly. The city of Jeddah itself is littered with modern shopping malls which contain all the designer brands that you find in any modern city. Mall of Arabia, one of the most

modern malls, is located within in view of the school.

There are also many souqs which offer an alternative to malls. Balad (the old area of Jeddah) is worth exploring along with its gold souq.

Jeddah also houses some Art galleries which promote local artists and international exhibitions. Athar Gallery is regularly visited by our Art students. There is also a wonderful museum to visit.



There is a large expatriate population and many compounds will organise clubs which are open to other expatriates to join. Amateur dramatics and the Natural History Society are just two of these, to give you an idea of the variety.

Eating out is plentiful with a wide range of cuisine to choose from. The cost of eating out is also very reasonable compared with UK prices. Of course the cost depends on whether you are in a five star hotel or a local restaurant.



There are also some lovely private beaches which lots of staff go to at weekends such as Silversands and La Plage. There is a fee for using these beaches but they are largely for the ex-pat community and

normal beachwear is of course acceptable. A day at the beach is a great day out for everyone!

If you are considering applying to JPGS it is important that you do your research in advance. You may want to discover more about the diverse range of things to do in Jeddah by joining discussion groups or group activities – Facebook can be very useful in this case. Here are a few Facebook group suggestions:

Jeddah Culinary Group, Jeddah for Kids, JH3 (Jeddah Hash House Harriers), Explorer and Expat Tours of KSA and Nomad.

<http://destinationjeddah.com/> is the website of a local monthly magazine that advertises events and articles of interest to us here.





Venturing Off Compound - Things to be aware of.

Off the compound, it is worth knowing that the lifestyle and culture are different from countries that you will have experienced so far:

1. In public, women should wear an abaya(headscarf is optional) and men should wear trousers no shorter than the knee.
2. Shops close for prayer five times a day, for between 20 and 30 minutes
3. Driving is on the right side of the road and drivers are much less careful than those in many European countries. At the moment women are not permitted to drive although this is set to change June 2018.
4. Restaurants and many bank branches are segregated: single men eat in the 'singles' section; single women and families eat in the 'family' section.





What is our Teacher Selection Criteria:

Qualifications

- Qualified Teacher Status
- PGCE (or equivalent) First Degree
- Training or qualification relevant to the post

Understanding

- The demands of a teacher in the International context
- That enrichment activities and extra contributions are essential to school life
- That cultural sensitivity is essential and that a tolerance and understanding towards all cultures is required. One does not dominate another.

Experience

- Experience of teaching the British curriculum to the relevant level and within the subject area or Key Stage.
- Experience of working in a team with shared goals and the ability to adapt to the ideas of others
- Experience of practical differentiation strategies so as to enable an all-inclusive educational experience.
- Experience of working in a second language environment
- Experience of curriculum development, target setting monitoring and assessment.

Skills and Abilities

- Knowledge of working with in the British National Curriculum.
- Ability to create a stimulating learning environment with creative teaching.
- Ability to design and make your own resources so you are not reliant on downloads or pre-made material, in order to really target your own learning objectives.
- Good communication skills with parents, students and staff members
- Good record keeping and tracking of student progress measured against objective predictors such as CAT / ALIS data
- Ability to use assessment to inform planning





Personal Qualities

- Flexible, to work in a multi-cultural society
- Enthusiastic contributor
- High expectations of yourself and the students
- Empathy / Emotional intelligence, with students, the ability to understand that all things can never be just black and white
- Able to mix and maintain a positive outlook
- A sense of humour and the ability to deal rationally with frustrations.
- A team player
- A true educationalist

HOW TO APPLY FOR A TEACHING POSITION AT JPGS

Please email your application form, up -to date CV, (including a photograph) plus a letter in support of your application to: hr@jpgs.org

Try to make your letter no more than 2 sides of A4 and prepare your letter around the following areas:

1. What is it that has attracted you to the particular post you are applying for?
2. Why are you interested in a a move to Jeddah?
3. Explain how your experience to date, makes you a strong candidate for this role, and how it can set you apart from the other applicants.
4. An example of a lesson you have delivered which highlights the requirements we are looking for and reflects your philosophy towards education.
5. Show how your past experience shows your ability to live and work in a

country like Saudi Arabia.



We hope that this information pack has given you useful information about living and working in Jeddah along with an idea about the school. We look forward to receiving your application



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