

# **JOB INFORMATION**

## **HEAD OF ART**

The Royal Hospital School (RHS) is seeking to appoint an outstanding practitioner to lead our Art Department with effect from September 2018.

It is expected that the appointee will give the department dynamic and creative leadership, providing a clear vision for the development of art at RHS in order to establish the department as a centre of excellence. Alongside excellent organisational, interpersonal and communication skills, the successful candidate will introduce fresh thinking to the department, will have the ability to motivate and support colleagues and the creativity to use a superbly resourced department to showcase pupils' creativity. They will demonstrate their passion for developing pupils into creatively independent and confident learners. The successful candidate will demonstrate the ability to form positive and effective relationships with pupils, parents and colleagues as well as the wider art community in the region. The successful candidate will be an inspirational teacher, able to teach pupils across the age range with a demonstrable record of high outcomes for the pupils they have taught.

The vacancy arises due to the retirement of the present Head of Department after long and distinguished service.

Responsibilities are detailed in the generic job descriptions of Teachers at The Royal Hospital School and should be read in conjunction with the Subject Teacher Specification, both of which are attached. The Head of Art reports to the Deputy Head (Academic).

## **THE SCHOOL**

The Royal Hospital School (RHS) is an HMC co-educational boarding and day school for approximately 750 pupils aged 11-18. The School occupies a magnificent 200 acre site in the Suffolk countryside just south of Ipswich.

The School selects pupils from a reasonably broad ability range and for this reason we focus on achieving a positive value added for all our pupils. Applications for places at RHS are extremely healthy and this year our pupil numbers are the highest on record.

The Royal Hospital School aims to provide academic excellence with an outstanding range of cultural and sporting opportunities. This is strongly backed up by first-class pastoral care and a commitment to leadership, service and spiritual awareness. We have an outstanding campus which provides a safe and secure environment. We have a talented and dedicated staff who believe in maximising each child's potential, fuelling their aspirations, firing their imagination and encouraging independence of thought. We seek to provide pupils with the skills and confidence to navigate their own lives and to think about where they will be at 25.

This summer the School undertook the development of the internal sporting facilities including a new strength and conditioning room, a fitness suite, dance and martial arts studio and the addition of a climbing wall in a refurbished sports hall. Further development of the School estate and the provision of top quality facilities for the education of our pupils remains a priority. The School has embarked upon a rolling programme of classroom refurbishment and, thanks to the generosity of our trustees, Greenwich Hospital, a £400,000 Wi-Fi programme has facilitated wireless internet access across the whole school campus since 2013. All members of the teaching staff and all pupils have iPads as part of the School's mobile learning initiative.

## MISSION AND AIMS

Our Mission is to understand each young person's strengths, to help them to make the right choices at the right time, navigating through their critical, formative years and ensuring their education becomes the foundation for their happiness and success.

### Aims

The aims of the Royal Hospital School are:

- to develop intellectual curiosity and academic confidence;
- to enable pupils to grow into the person they wish to become, fulfilling their potential and prepared for life after school;
- to inspire leadership, adventure and self-discovery;
- to foster creativity and imagination;
- to provide a secure and nurturing community which promotes wellbeing, fitness and healthy competition;
- to instill the values of service, loyalty and commitment and uphold the School's unique and rich heritage;
- to cultivate a global outlook and environmental responsibility.

## LAST INSPECTION

The School was inspected in January 2015 and received excellent ratings in all nine areas by the Independent Schools Inspectorate. The inspector commented:

*"The School has clear aspirations for its pupils. It seeks to promote the attributes of inspiration, challenge and leadership in its pupils. Pupils are encouraged to strive for academic excellence and to endorse the values of service, loyalty and commitments whilst upholding the School's unique and rich heritage. The School encourages leadership and a sense of adventure and self-discovery. A high priority is the promotion of service both within the School and to the wider community. The School aims to foster creativity and imagination within a civilised, caring, Christian community, based on high standards of behaviour, mutual respect, trust and courtesy between staff and pupils. The School cultivates a global outlook and sense of environmental responsibility. It aims to encourage pupils to develop fitness, wellbeing and enter into healthy competition."*

Candidates can read the full Report on the School's website at <http://www.royalhospitalschool.org/school-life/overview/#inspection-report>.

## THE ART DEPARTMENT

The Art Department is a large, successful and popular department consisting of 6 teaching staff and a full-time technician. The department nurtures a significantly student-centred approach to learning where pupils are encouraged to find their own strengths and to develop them in their own way, at their own pace, with the support and guidance of the dedicated team of art teachers. The department offers students the opportunity to develop their skills and ideas in painting and drawing, print-making, ceramics/sculpture, textiles and photography (in both digital and traditional darkroom forms). A high proportion of pupils choose to study art at GCSE and beyond with considerable examination success.

The Art Studios are located within the school's custom-built Jellicoe Design Centre and are well resourced, including dedicated rooms for photography, textiles, 2D art, printmaking and ceramics. The sculpture/ceramics provision of the department includes a fully equipped teaching studio furnished with several kilns, two throwing wheels and an

interactive whiteboard and projector. The photographic provision of the department includes a digital photography teaching studio, equipped with a dedicated suite of desktop computers with Adobe Photoshop, a separate traditional darkroom with enlargers for black and white work and a separate photographic studio with tripods, lighting arrangements and coloured backdrops. The textiles studio allows students to create in fabrics with a rich array of techniques and processes both mechanised and hand controlled whilst the painting and printmaking studios are similarly well-appointed allowing students a rich and diverse diet of art and design

The Jellicoe Design Centre has a central focus in the atrium, a fantastic dedicated space for showcasing pupils' work in Art and Design. Pupils are engaged in significant collaborative projects, including producing a replica Sopwith Camel for display at Duxford Air Museum. A recent project, 'Ocean of Tears', produced by year 8 pupils to commemorate the centenary of the First World War, was displayed at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich.

There are opportunities for pupils to engage in extra-curricular art, through clubs and taster activities. Pupils enjoy study visits to galleries and there are exhibitions of pupil and staff work held each year. The appointee would be expected to develop this offering, bringing new ideas to enrich the learning of students.

### **The Curriculum**

The department currently run the Key Stage 3 art course as a multi-media experience. The course is structured as a carousel in which groups of pupils rotate between a number of studio areas (e.g. 2D art, ceramics, textiles). Each child has the opportunity to experiment with a variety of different media each year (e.g. paint, charcoal, pastel, pen and ink, collage, textiles, ceramics). Pupils in Years 7–8 are taught art for two lessons per fortnight with three teachers. In Year 9 students are allowed to choose two creative disciplines including art, continuing their broad diet of creative disciplines for four periods a fortnight.

At the end of Year 9, pupils are able to choose a specialism for their GCSE studies in painting and drawing, print-making, photography, ceramics/sculpture or textiles. In the Sixth Form, pupils can again choose to pursue their chosen specialism for a further two years. Emphasis is placed upon students discovering their own unique creative journey through whatever media or processes suit them, supported by their teachers. The school has recently changed the structure of the sixth form curriculum to three subject choices rather than four, and this has inevitably had an impact on student numbers. The successful candidate would be expected to work with the Deputy Head (Academic) and the Director of Finance and Operations to develop a coherent strategy for the future delivery of the art curriculum

This is an exciting time to take on the role of Head of Art. The department is in a strong place with excellent facilities and experienced and talented teachers who are willing to go the extra mile for pupils. The department is well resourced and there is an appetite for engaging in exciting projects that push the boundaries of our provision. The School is therefore seeking someone who shares the desire to inspire and motivate students in all spheres of the visual arts, who is committed to promoting high standards of attainment whilst encouraging a breadth of study, and is keen to progress our art provision to establish ourselves as leaders in art education.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS/APPOINTMENT PROCEDURE**

Applications should be made on the *RHS Application Form* enclosed, be accompanied by a letter (no longer than one side of A4) giving reasons for applying for the post, and be sent to Mr. Simon Lockyer, Headmaster, Royal Hospital School, Holbrook, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP9 2RX (Email: [recruitment@royalhospitalschool.org](mailto:recruitment@royalhospitalschool.org)). **(\*Note that a C.V. will not be accepted in lieu of a fully completed Application Form).**

Further details of the Royal Hospital School can be found on our website: [www.royalhospitalschool.org](http://www.royalhospitalschool.org)

**The closing date for applications: 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2017**

## **Interviews: Week commencing 29<sup>th</sup> January**

*RHS is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Employment is subject to satisfactory references and an Enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) check.*