



Cranbrook
School

Waterloo Road
Cranbrook
Kent TN17 3JD

Tel: 01580 711801
Fax 01580 713972

E-mail: office@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk

www.cranbrookschool.co.uk

TEACHER OF PE & GAMES

Information

Cranbrook School is a mixed state grammar school with 747 pupils aged 13-18 years, including 300 plus Sixth Formers and 240 boarders. For its first 400 years the school was known as Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School with strong roots in the small town of Cranbrook. Day pupils come from within 10 kilometres (6.2 miles) of the school, following a test to judge their suitability for an academic education. Boy and girl boarders are admitted from a wide area, having sat the same test. Although it is a selective school, Cranbrook admits a wider ability range than many other grammar schools. It provides a challenging curriculum for the academic high flyers whilst at the same time catering to the requirements of those of more relatively modest abilities. The value added scores that are achieved each year bear testimony to the success of the provision.

Pupils join at the age of thirteen and take ten or eleven subjects for GCSE. Most students then qualify for the Sixth Form, this being supplemented by a healthy intake into Year 12 from other schools. All Year 12 students follow a course of AS Levels, leading to A2 levels in Year 13. Each year the GCSE pass rate is in the mid 90% with the A/A* pass rate last year at 67%. At A Level the pass rate last year was 100%, with the A*-B grades at a pleasing 74%.

For a state school the facilities are very impressive. Within the seventy acres of school grounds are found the six boarding houses, the Queen's Hall Theatre (used for assemblies, school productions, visiting theatre companies and concerts), a magnificent library, Lecture Theatre, Sports Hall, recently-extended Dance Studio, Gymnasium, heated outdoor swimming pool, squash courts and extensive playing fields and facilities for the boys' and girls' games - hockey, rugby, cricket, lacrosse, netball, tennis and athletics - with an astro-turf pitch. The school also possesses purpose-built Performing Arts Centre and Sixth Form Centre. The school boasts an Observatory and Science Centre, named after Dr Piers Sellers OBE, a former student who is a NASA astronaut.

As a school, Cranbrook is very keen to educate the whole person and to this end it runs a wide programme of extra-curricular activities, including community service and the voluntary CCF (combined cadet force), as well as a broad range of sports, music and drama, both during the week and at the weekend. We have a long tradition of overseas trips and in recent years groups have travelled to Poland, Morocco, Italy, Crete, Honduras, Tanzania, The Battlefields of Flanders, Southern India, Grenada (West Indies) and the USA. These have been for sports tours, choir tours, cultural exchanges, adventurous activities, scientific research and to work on projects. We have International Schools Status and are now looking to widen links with schools in other countries. Cranbrook is an active school which will appeal to those prepared to give generously of their time and to take academic work very seriously. The school seeks to appoint staff who will involve themselves fully in the life of the school and applicants are invited to indicate areas where they would be able to make a contribution.

Some of our staff arrive with us through the GTP programme or after a PGCE here. Most of the links are through Canterbury Christ Church University although not exclusively so. The presence of so many trainees has done much to enhance the pedagogy of all staff and an increasing number of them are becoming accredited mentors to allow them to provide better guidance.

An interesting blend of the maintained and independent traditions, Cranbrook is a place with deep roots in the past but with its eyes clearly focused on the future. Each year our School Improvement Plan focuses on ways to improve staff and student performance and the specific focus for the current year is addressing some underachievement in the Sixth Form. A series of groups, led by different members of staff, investigate and report back on specific areas of interest, such as how to move lessons from good to outstanding. Our most recent Ofsted inspection (2015), rated us as 'Outstanding'.

Much of Cranbrook's success results from the involvement of its committed Governing Body. The Governors take a genuine interest in the School, attend many of its functions, are involved in the regular reviews of departments and houses and work closely with the Leadership Group on new initiatives.

Boarding is central to the experience of life at Cranbrook and a programme of activities is provided for the boarders remaining on site at weekends. Each of the six houses has its own ethos and identity and a marked sense of house pride. The Heads of Boarding meet every week under the chairmanship of the Head of Boarding to discuss both day to day administration as well as longer term issues. The group reviews the national boarding standards on a regular basis to ensure that we are meeting them all. As a School we are members of the SBSA and the BSA. The facilities and general comfort of the houses are excellent and the School's own catering service provides high quality food. We have a long tradition of providing enjoyable outings on Sundays for which a number of staff give up their time. The boarding life of the School enriches everyone's experience and makes this a most interesting and congenial place to work.

The town lies in the Weald of Kent, about fifteen miles from Maidstone, Ashford, Hastings and Tunbridge Wells, and London is just an hour away by train from nearby Staplehurst. General information about the school can also be found on its website at www.cranbrookschool.co.uk.

PE & GAMES AT CRANBROOK SCHOOL

The aim of Physical Education and games lessons are to provide stimulating, varied and enriching practical experience. The intent is to embed an understanding of the importance and significance of exercise and sport for a healthy lifestyle and to instil a passion for an activity that can be life enhancing in many ways.

A varied programme is offered with the hope that all students can find a physical activity that they can enjoy and pursue beyond school. Classes hugely benefit from the wide range of facilities at Cranbrook which include a sports hall; a state of the art CV and Weights gyms; dance studio; outdoor swimming pool; squash courts; astro-turf hockey pitch and extensive playing fields.

Every student at KS3 and KS4 is timetabled for one PE lesson per week, as well as a double games afternoon. KS5 have games only. During PE lessons students cover a range of activities, including Health & Fitness activities, Fitness Testing, Dance, Athletics and Swimming. Games activities include Basketball, Badminton, Volleyball, Short tennis, Football and striking/fielding games with a focus on skill development. In games sessions the traditional team games are offered: Rugby, Hockey (girls and boys), Netball, Tennis, Rounders and Cricket. Additional options for the students in games can include basketball, football, squash, dance, aerobics, weight training, cardiovascular training, yoga, running and for sixth-form rowing at Bewl Water.

There is an emphasis on Health Related Fitness and the aim here is to develop the understanding of the importance of exercise for long-term physical and mental wellbeing. From Year 9 onwards, students have the opportunity to be inducted in the CV gym and from Year 11 in the weights gym. They are able to use the gym independently during supervised sessions after school and in games.

Dance is taught predominantly in lessons at KS3 and developed through extra-curricular clubs throughout the Autumn and Spring terms. Class work, club pieces and original compositions are performed in our annual show 'DanSing' held in November.

The PE department also run an extensive extra-curricular programme which aims to provide opportunities for as many students as possible to be able to participate in physical activities, develop skills, let off steam, try new activities or pursue excellence. Details of the extra-curricular offer can be found at: <http://www.cranbrookschool.co.uk/about-us/co-curricular/sport/>.

The lessons learnt in PE and games include many life skills, which ensure that positive social, moral, spiritual and cultural development is instilled. Responsibility, team work, leadership, independence, work ethic, positive attitude, commitment, developing resilience, learning from mistakes, working within the constraints of rules and behaving appropriately to name a few!

The Department has two full time PE teachers and various other academic staff and outside coaches run teams in games, after school practices and matches. Our recently appointed Head of Rugby is Mr Tom Hillier and we are assisted in girls' games by Mrs Maxine Ward. Mr Kevin Coleman runs the Basketball, Mr Hulbert is our specialist cricket coach and Mr Alun Brown offers Rowing in the sixth form. We are able to run a large and successful sports programme and extensive fixture list. This would be impossible to run without the support from many academic teachers, graduate students, gap students, coaches, volunteer parents, as well as paid coaches, umpires, volunteer referees from CRFC and local specialist dance and yoga teachers. We are hugely grateful to everyone who gets involved and gives their time and energy to enable our students to have such a range of clubs, experiences and opportunities.

Role Profile: Teacher (Main Scale)

Job Purpose	To facilitate and encourage learning which enables students to achieve high standards; to share and support corporate responsibility for the well-being, education and discipline of all students.	
Accountability	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare and teach lessons of a very high standard to the students assigned to him/her: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following designated programmes of study • Carrying out the necessary assessments • Providing information/comments for records • Monitoring students in accordance with agreed departmental strategies 2. Maintain discipline in accordance with school policies and demonstrate good practice in the classes taught with regard to attendance, appearance, uniform/kit, punctuality, behaviour, etc. Assist other staff in this area 3. Contribute to the corporate tasks of development, record keeping, monitoring, evaluation of lessons and maintenance of materials 4. Work closely with and advise those teachers who are responsible for similar curriculum areas, ensuring continuity and progression for students with an emphasis on improving performance 5. Engage in professional development in relevant areas 	
Personal Qualities	Self-Awareness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An awareness of one's own feelings, strengths and weaknesses. Confident in the job, and with self-belief but open to feedback 	Social-Awareness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to empathise with the feelings of others and willingness to adapt to the needs of colleagues and students
	Self-Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to adapt to situations whilst remaining calm and positive, sets challenging goals with positive expectations and a sense of optimism 	Relationship Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to lead by example, providing support and stimulation, is not afraid of change and remains objective
Knowledge and Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principles and practices of effective teaching and learning • Preparation of schemes of work and lessons for self and others • Knowledge and understanding of subject area(s) • Principles and practices of monitoring/assessment/evaluation • The application of information and communications technology (ICT) to learning and teaching in subject area(s) as relevant • Excellent organisational skills 	
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To contribute to the wider life of the school beyond the classroom • Act as tutor • To undertake reasonable tasks as directed by the Headteacher • Fulfil the teacher standards 	
Specific for PE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To take responsibility for the full development of teams, including games, training and matches to ensure continuity throughout the year groups in all 3 terms encouraging all students 2. To ensure an inclusive approach encouraging all students to develop, learn and enjoy participating in lessons and extra-curricular clubs 3. To offer stimulating and regular (weekly) club practice after school to support the challenging fixture list and competitive ethos of the school 4. To lead by example and engage support staff in a positive and pro-active learning experience within the extra-curricular context. 5. To attend department meetings and contribute to the smooth running, and organisation of both curriculum and extra-curricular professional standards. 	

The Application and Appointment Arrangements

We look forward to receiving your application completed as fully as possible and returned to Dr John Weeds, Headmaster, by e-mail or to the address shown below. There is no need to send an additional CV.

Your statement, on a separate sheet/page, should include your relevant experience for this post and what you can bring to the PE & Games Department at Cranbrook School.

**The closing date for receipt of completed applications is
Friday 2 March.**

Interviews will be held in the week commencing Monday 12 March.

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