Beaconsfield High School

Beaconsfield High School is a remarkable Grammar School for Girls.
Discovering and developing individual potential.

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Headteacher: Rachel Smith BA (Hons), MA

21 July 2017

Dear Applicant

Thank you so much for showing interest in our school and the post of Teacher of English. We are extremely proud of our school, our students and our staff. We are excited about our intention to appoint a new, dynamic and inspirational member of the English team and look forward to hearing how your skills, attributes and experience can match our needs at this time.

Beaconsfield High School is a happy, high achieving and remarkable grammar school in the delightful town of Beaconsfield. The school is oversubscribed, our students achieve incredibly well at both GCSE and A level and make good progress each year that they are with us. The vast majority of our students go on to higher education but some take a gap year and then progress to university or higher level apprenticeships.

In September 2014, we became an academy and we are celebrating our 50th Anniversary with many events but the largest project was our creation of three brand new science laboratories over the summer.

I joined this school in April 2015 and I can genuinely say that there is so much positive energy, achievement and 'buzz' at Beaconsfield High School that it is difficult to give you a full picture of what goes on here. Our staff give so generously of their own time to enable the girls to have wonderful and enriching experiences, often in their holiday time, such as language trips, history trips, ski trips, sports tours (including to Australia!), music tours, Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, to mention but a few. Sporting achievements are outstanding, with national medals being won this year by several of our teams, and dance is superb with the annual dance show being a real highlight. Hundreds of our students take part in the Duke of Edinburgh scheme and many students take part in debating competitions, mock trials, young enterprise competitions, drama productions, music concerts … the list is endless.

We believe that students should feel cared for and we work very hard to support their well-being through a strong pastoral care framework and a recently developed scheme called 'SMILE and STRIVE'. We recognise that happy and confident young ladies are far more successful in all that they do. There is something for everyone at our school and the ethos and atmosphere is one of acceptance and mutual respect.

We have recently invested over £3,000,000 in refurbishing some of the older parts of the school. Our staffroom is completely refurbished and we have built three new Science laboratories. We have also invested £100,000 in new servers and IT infrastructure ready for the next stages in the development of an IT vision over the coming five years to support and promote the remarkable learning that already takes place.

All of our academic faculties achieve very well, the English Faculty in particular. Now we wish to enhance the high standards already in place.

Department Information

English is an outstanding department and the staff will certainly help to make you feel part of the team. As a school, we feel we are particularly skilled in providing individual support and guidance to NQTs: we currently offer placements to 'School Direct' and PGCE students from local teaching schools and therefore our staff are skilled in mentoring new colleagues. However, if you are an experienced English teacher, your application would be equally welcome. In short, whether you are new to the profession or an experienced teacher seeking a fresh challenge, you will find that we have an active commitment to your development.

The English Department consists of six full-time and three part-time members of staff; a lively and approachable team with a range of other responsibilities beyond the basic English Curriculum. We also have teachers within the Department who are members of the Senior Leadership Team and the pastoral team.

The Department is committed to increasing the profile of English and Media Studies within the school. We work closely with the librarian to encourage wider reading and initiate a wealth of other events during the school year. We have our own school newspaper and take part in the BBC school reporting day. We organise theatre trips across all the year groups and contribute fully to other enrichment activities.

We currently offer AQA GCSE language and Literature and Literature. We have excellent results highlighted this year by: GSCE Language: A*/A 69%, A*B 99%. GCSE Literature A*/A 87%, A*/B 99 %.

Our thriving A Level department consists of OCR Literature and Edexcel Language and Literature:
Literature A*/B 82%
Language and Literature A*/B 50%.

As part of your application, please write a letter (no more than to two sides, font 11) explaining how your skills, creativity and passion for effective teaching would best meet the requirements of the job description and personal specification.

The closing date for this position is 16 August 2017.

This is a remarkable school and we will provide you with a vibrant, exciting opportunity to develop your leadership skills in a school dedicated to excellence.

Kind regards.



Rachel Smith
Headteacher