

TEACHER OF ENGLISH



'Tatler Public School of the Year'

Information for Candidates



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Introduction from Jenny Dwyer, Headmistress

Working at Sherborne Girls is an exciting opportunity. As a full boarding school we are able to offer a varied and creative academic curriculum supported by a full co-curricular programme. We place a great deal of importance on appointing the right staff, and we look for those who are able to make a genuine difference to the lives of our students. We are fortunate to be able to attract a high calibre of staff to our wonderful school. We really value the contribution made by all our teachers and support staff and in turn we offer a full programme of continuous professional development tailored to individual needs.

We are privileged to work in the attractive market town of Sherborne, which includes a beautiful Abbey, is steeped in heritage and has good connections by road and rail. We work closely with the other schools in Sherborne, particularly Sherborne (boys) School, to make this a unique educational experience.



Most of all we are proud of our girls, who leave us as at the end of their time at Sherborne as adaptable, courageous, compassionate and curious young women.

If you would like to be part of this thriving community then we would love to hear from you.

Jenny Dwyer, Headmistress

Sherborne Girls

The School

Sherborne Girls is an independent full boarding and day school founded in 1899. It is situated on a beautiful campus on the western edge of the historic Abbey town of Sherborne and has an excellent academic record combined with first-rate facilities. It aims to give its pupils a broad and balanced academic, physical, social and moral education. The school has an Anglican foundation. Academic results are excellent at GCSE, A Level and in the International Baccalaureate, with most girls moving on to Oxbridge or other Russell Group universities.

Neighbouring Schools

There are very good relations with neighbouring schools: drama, music, social and academic life are all greatly enhanced by shared activities and resources. At Sixth Form level, Sherborne Girls and Sherborne School operate a combined timetable, so that girls and boys have the opportunity to study subjects not available at their own schools. Both Advanced Level and International Baccalaureate courses are available for our Sixth Form of over 170 girls.

Boarding

The boarders live in seven purpose-built houses: one for Years 7 and 8, five mixed-aged houses for Years 9 to 12, and an Upper Sixth House. Each house has a pastoral team comprised of a teaching Housemistress or Housemaster, resident and non-resident tutors and matrons. Girls eat in their houses and the Personal Tutor system is house-based.

Academic Achievement

We are proud of our academic achievements and strive to give all our students the best opportunities for them to develop their unique potential. The curriculum is enriched by appropriate use of technology, an extensive co-curricular programme, a range of study days



and external trips. However, our aims are broader than just to achieve excellent examination results, and although our pupils make progress significantly above expectation, we also want them to develop independence and other life-skills, talents and interests, along with respect for one another.

Development

In the last five years, we have implemented our strategic vision, resulting in the building of a new Science Centre, a new Boarding House for Years 7 and 8 and the refurbishment of most academic spaces within the school. Boarding accommodation is being upgraded and there has been a reorganisation of pastoral staff in the boarding houses. A major development in our curriculum has been the introduction of our Sherborne Girls Diploma for pupils in Key Stage 3.

School Aims

- We aim to provide an excellent broad and academic, full-boarding education for girls enhanced by links with other communities
- We aim to develop the unique gifts of each girl by providing an environment and curriculum through which all members of the school will flourish
- We aim to create a community founded on Christian values and in which every girl is encouraged to develop their whole selves including a spiritual dimension
- We aim to send out into the world young women who are adaptable, intellectually enquiring, courageous and compassionate, with the confidence to be effective leaders



The Department

The English Department of Sherborne Girls aims to develop the abilities of our pupils to:

- communicate accurately and confidently in speech and writing;
- listen with understanding and sensitivity;
- be enthusiastic, responsive and knowledgeable readers of literary and non-literary English across the genres and including works from other cultures.

We would also seek with many of our pupils to go considerably beyond these basic competencies by affording opportunities for them to speak, write and read English at levels which are imaginatively and intellectually demanding. We continue to believe in the central importance of the great literature of the past, while recognising the value of range and diversity in the pupils' experience of both reading and writing.

Every girl is encouraged to fulfil her academic potential, aiming that pupils should pass CIE First Language English (0500) and (0486) Literature (English) IGCSEs at A* - B grade, and candidates at CIE (9695) Literature in English A-Level achieve A* to C grades.

The department is committed to the wider cultural life of the School, and is involved in a range of co-curricular activities such as public speaking, debating, creative writing, poetry competitions and theatre outings; all of which play a part in maintaining the profile of the Department within the School and in promoting literature and culture.

Features

The Department comprises seven specialist teachers. Most of the teaching takes place in the Main School buildings in a dedicated area which includes a new English Seminar Room.

The promotion of accurate and inventive writing is an important aspect of the Department's work and we are proud of the creative writing skills we foster and the accuracy we embed.

Sherborne Girls are confident speakers too, thanks to our promotion of co-curricular debating and public speaking via the Debating Society we run and by participation in the annual Rotary Public Speaking competition in Years 7 and 8, as well as routine oral activities in class, including group and individual performances of poetry and drama.

Theatre-oriented activities are an important part of the Department's efforts to promote the cultural side of the School. Yearly visits are arranged to see the various Shakespeare plays being studied and to participate in related workshops. There is an annual Literary Festival for Sherborne and the surrounding area, organised by the Sherborne Literary Society which was formed in 2012. The Department actively promotes the opportunities presented by these local events.

Other subject-related activities often include outings to plays being studied at IGCSE or A-level, visits to the local primary school for story writing assistance with younger age-groups, and literary walks in the footsteps of authors with local connections, such as Hardy, Coleridge and Jane Austen.

The Role

We are seeking to appoint a teacher who will teach English across all age ranges. The appointed teacher will be an outstanding practitioner, meeting all the requirements of teachers employed by the school including to ability to:

Leadership

- Plan, prepare and teach a timetable across all age-ranges as directed by the Head of Department;
- Be aware of the diverse needs within any given class and to differentiate lessons and resources accordingly;
- Understand and implement the aims and objectives of the department, and to contribute to its vibrant and creative atmosphere;
- Maintain and develop, with any other teachers of the subject, schemes of work within the requirements of the examination boards; monitor developments in curriculum requirements on a national scale and respond accordingly
- Maintain sound discipline inside and outside the classroom, within the School's agreed procedure;
- Ensure that the students' work is regularly assessed, that marks are recorded and that reports are written at appropriate times;
- Attend parents' meetings and reply to parents' enquiries;
- Ensure that pupils are suitably prepared for entry to the appropriate public examinations, and to implement and review the curriculum to ensure that it meets the changing needs of the students;
- Develop and manage up-to-date teaching and learning resources, including library and digital resources and advise the Head of Department on course materials;
- Monitor and maintain high standards in the classroom environment through displays, including pupils' work; ensure that the department classrooms present a stimulating environment;
- Assist with the setting, marking and, where necessary, co-ordination of internal examinations in the department;
- Be aware of, support, and implement all school policies, including assessment and reporting, rewards and conduct, and those in place to maintain safe working practice.

As a Teacher

- Lead by example as an outstanding classroom teacher, meeting all the requirements of teachers employed by the school including teaching across all age-ranges, providing for diverse needs within any given class, differentiating and maintaining high standards of discipline, and maintaining a stimulating classroom environment
- Be aware of, support, and implement all School policies, including assessment and reporting, rewards and conduct, and those in place to maintain safe working practice

All members of the teaching staff are expected to make a full commitment to the school's full boarding ethos, including being available for occasional weekend duties (normally two or three times a term). It is expected that teachers will make a significant contribution to the pastoral side of the school, including tutorial duties and liaison with a boarding house. All members of staff are expected to contribute towards the co-curricular provision of the school.

No list of duties can hope to be exhaustive; all members of staff are expected to undertake duties reasonably requested by the Headmistress..



Person Specification

Qualifications

- Be academically strong; hold a degree with high honours and have Qualified Teacher Status

Experience/Knowledge

- Teaching of English Literature and Language at an appropriate level

Personal Attributes/Skills

Sherborne Girls is seeking to appoint a person who in interview, and by virtue of their qualifications and experience, will demonstrate a range of qualities and skills as outlined broadly below:

- To be able to inspire a love of learning in your subject area
- To have high standards of written and oral communication
- Be IT literate
- Be willing to participate in Sherborne Girls co-curricular provision
- Be committed to the values and culture of the School
- Be committed to their own continued professional development
- Be organised, proactive and calm under pressure
- Be open-minded, imaginative and persuasive
- Have a good sense of humour
- Be resourceful and resilient
- Be ambitious to secure the highest standards

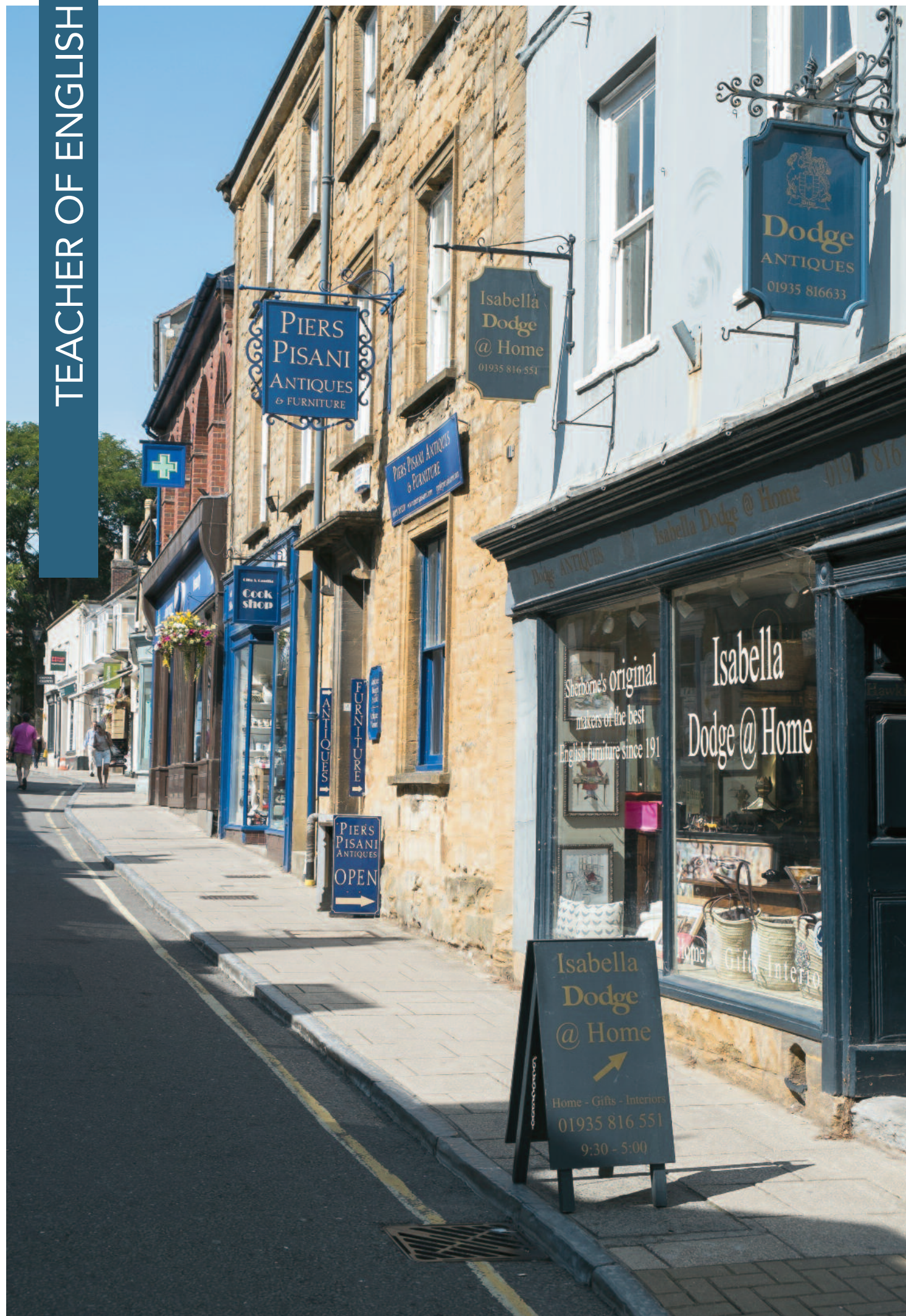
Benefits

- Salary will be dependent on knowledge and ability; the school operates a scale which is in excess of the National Scale in the maintained sector
- Teaching staff are offered free lunch and refreshments during term time
- All teaching staff are offered subsidised membership of Oxley Sports Centre
- All teaching staff are entitled to fee remission (At Sherborne Girls, Sherborne School and Sherborne Prep)



Safeguarding

Sherborne Girls School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Applicants must undergo child protection screening, including checks with past employers and DBS and barred lists checks. The school expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Sherborne Girls School is an equal opportunities employer.



Working in Sherborne

Sherborne is, without doubt, one of the most beautiful towns in England. With its abundance of medieval buildings, superb Abbey, world famous schools, picturesque Almshouse and two castles, Sherborne has much to offer. Ideally located on the Dorset and Somerset border it has excellent transport links enabling the town to flourish.

Sherborne is a popular centre of activity for locals and visitors alike. It is known for its cultural events and festivals as well as its attractive high street. Sherborne is surrounded by the beautiful Dorset countryside of Thomas Hardy's Wessex and is close to the spectacular Jurassic coastline.





Application Process

An application form may be downloaded from our website: www.sherborne.com/vacancies

Letters of application, along with a completed application form, should be addressed to the Headmistress, Mrs Jenny Dwyer, and sent to:
Mrs Heather Cousins
Personnel Manager
Sherborne Girls, Bradford Road
Sherborne, Dorset DT9 3QN

Or by email to: personnel@sherborne.com

Closing date for applications:
12 midnight, Wednesday 24 January 2018

Short-listed candidates will be invited to the school for interview. A tour of the school will be offered as part of the interview process.

For an informal discussion about the post, the Personnel Manager, Mrs Heather Cousins, will be pleased to answer any questions:
e-mail: personnel@sherborne.com

Sherborne Girls reserves the right not to appoint to this post should a suitable candidate not be identified. Candidates are welcome to apply at any time and may be called to interview immediately; we reserve the right to appoint at any stage during the process.

www.sherborne.com