

BRAMPTON COLLEGE

Head of English



INDEPENDENT SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

Information for Candidates

March 2018

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The College

Brampton College is a leading independent sixth form college, located in North West London. It was founded 26 years ago by the Principal, Bernard Canetti. The College has an outstanding record of academic success and has consistently been the most successful sixth form college in London, coming top of the Department for Education league tables for the past 17 years. The College provides the highest academic standards and individual care in a friendly, encouraging and supportive environment. Currently there are 245 students on roll and 75 members of staff.

To view the College website and find out more, visit www.bramptoncollege.com

Location & Facilities

We are situated in an attractive period building close to the amenities of Hendon. The buildings have been designed to meet our requirements and include four laboratories (all of which have been refurbished in the past few years), a purpose-built art studio, excellent computer facilities, a library, main hall, staff room and student common room.

We have recently invested in a four-storey extension of the College to provide additional class rooms, tutorial rooms and other facilities, which opened in January 2016.



Our Results

In 2017, 49% of A level results were A*/A grades and 81% were A*-B grades. Brampton College came 3rd nationally in the DfE performance table of independent sixth form colleges in 2017 and has come top of all sixth form colleges in London for the last 17 years, ranked on average point score per A level.

This year, 64% of our students gained entry to their first choice university with 63% progressing to Russell Group Universities. Current students applying for university places for 2018 are already holding offers from top universities including Oxford, UCL, LSE, Imperial, King's and Bristol for a variety of competitive courses such as Medicine, Dentistry, Architecture, Economics, Law and English.

ISI / Ofsted Inspection

The College was inspected by Ofsted in February 2009. Both quality of education overall and the quality of teaching and assessment were judged to be "outstanding". (Please see downloadable attachment). This judgement of the College was confirmed in our latest inspection by ISI in January 2012, where the academic and other achievements of the students, as well as their personal development and the governance of the College were all judged to be excellent. The report commented:

'The College is highly successful in achieving its aims of fostering high academic outcomes and at the same time boosting students' capacity for vigorous independent academic effort and personal organisation'. The report also said 'Teaching is excellent... The contribution of the teaching drives the students' excellent achievement and exceptional academic progress'.



"Brampton has given me more than a second chance. They've set me up for my future. The teachers here turned things around for me. They are so passionate and make the topics so interesting. I never experienced this elsewhere and I didn't want to let them down." Georgie Done obtained A*AA and a place to study History at UCL.

Our Teaching Ethos

Our aim is to help each individual student succeed in their aspirations and achieve the best possible exam results. To this end, the College places an emphasis on individual support. Class sizes are small, with an average of seven, and weekly tutorials are available in all subjects to review coursework and tests, discuss areas of difficulty and to prepare for exams.

Weekly or fortnightly tests are an integral feature of all courses and a critical factor in the success of our students. They identify areas of weakness and help students gain the confidence and techniques for succeeding in exams. Heads of Department supervise progress using these weekly test and homework marks, and these records are then passed on to each student's Personal Tutor to discuss with them in their weekly meeting. Communication and collaboration with parents is highly valued and so all of this is summarised in the students' reports which are available to parents on a regular basis.

The UCAS programme is a critical and central part of the College's operation. We offer a superb service, which provides careful guidance and expertise in choosing the right university course to help with writing personal statements or interview preparation. There is also a special programme for applicants to medical science degrees, including a weekly medical forum. This programme consists of seminars, lectures, mock interviews and preparation for the UKCAT and BMAT examinations.

But, more than this, we are concerned with broader educational objectives, such as developing students' confidence, self-motivation and capacity to think for themselves, as well as teaching them how to study effectively in preparation for university education.



"Moving to Brampton opened my eyes to a whole other world of learning. The teachers at Brampton strive to make the lessons more engaging for all, and are more than happy to continue the discussion after class. Most importantly, both the staff and the students motivate you to achieve your very best."
Max Bull achieved A*A*A*A*A A and a place at LSE.

The English Department

The English Department at Brampton has enjoyed a very proud record of achievement at A level and GCSE. In 2017, 73% of A level entries achieved A*/A grades and in the last four years over 92% of A level entries have gained A* - B grades. Students from the department have gone on to study English at top universities, including Oxford. Staff turnover is very low, and the subject is a very popular choice at A level, with 50 students taking the subject. There are also 23 students taking IGCSE courses in the Department. The Head of Department will be assisted by four highly experienced and dedicated colleagues, who work very well together as a team. All classes in the Department are shared between two teachers.

In keeping with the College's aims to meet the needs of individual students as far as possible, the English Department offers intensive one-year courses at A level as well as the traditional two-year course, and one year courses in IGCSE English Language and IGCSE English Literature. Tutorial help for individual students is also a key part of the Department's success. We also take into the upper sixth several students each year who have completed their first year sixth elsewhere. The Department uses the Cambridge International A level, which has retained a division between AS and A2 levels (unlike AQA, OCR and Edexcel), comprising AS exams at the end of the first year, marks from which count towards a student's overall grade, and A2 exams at the end of the second year; there is also an opportunity to re-sit AS in the second year. There are currently four groups of AS students, three at A2, three groups studying IGCSE English Language and three taking IGCSE English Literature. In its two base rooms the Department has an excellent collection of resources, including overhead projectors and televisions/DVD players as well as a range of primary and secondary texts, and an extensive section of resources on the College VLE. The Department organises visits to the theatre, IGCSE drama workshops, A level conferences and visits by outside speakers. English students enjoy the regular WoW (Work of the Week) and PIE (Performance in English) awards designed to celebrate their achievement.



Job Description

The Head of Department is responsible for promoting high standards of teaching and learning in the Department, ensuring that both teachers and students receive proper support in their work. In particular the duties include:

- (a) planning, implementing and reviewing the subject curriculum, including devising schemes of work for members of the department;
- (b) ensuring effective teaching within the department by being an exemplar of excellent teaching, observing and advising on the teaching of departmental staff, and holding annual professional reviews of departmental staff ;
- (c) monitoring student performance throughout the Department, liaising with Personal Tutors, reporting regularly to Senior Management and attending Heads of Department meetings as required;
- (d) monitoring fortnightly testing within the department as well as the weekly setting of homework, reviewing marks awarded with other members of the department, organising mock exams;
- (e) managing and, where appropriate, moderating coursework, including making provision for an appeals process;
- (f) organising individual programmes for students when necessary either through academic tutorials or otherwise;
- (g) managing and developing the departmental resources (including textbooks and the VLE) and display materials;
- (h) meeting with the Vice-Principal on a regular basis to review departmental progress;
- (i) liaising with the Vice Principal over timetable matters;
- (j) co-ordinating and submitting to the Exams Officer all examination entries in the Department;
- (k) contributing to the selection for appointment and professional development of other teachers, including the induction and assessment of new teachers.
- (l) to prepare the departmental development plan as well as the annual departmental review;
- (m) to be a referee for some of the students applying for department-related courses for their UCAS applications;

Person Specification for Head of English

The experiences, skills and qualities set out below capture the ideal requirements for successful fulfilment of the role described. In practice, if a candidate does not meet all these requirements but demonstrates the potential, adaptability and ambition to grow into the role, this may still enable them to be successful.

Essential characteristics

- A high-calibre English graduate with a strong record of exam results at A level
- Excellent teaching ability: be able to communicate effectively to students their passion for the subject, deliver inspiring lessons, have the aptitude and desire to support all our students, the most as well as the least able, to achieve their highest potential
- Excellent leadership qualities: the ability to provide clear, effective guidance to colleagues, based on careful planning and sensitivity to the strengths and needs of the individual members of the department
- Resilience, flexibility and a sense of humour
- Commitment to the protection and safeguarding of young people

Desirable

- Experience in leading a department
- A higher degree
- Confidence in the use of ICT and the ability to develop ICT resources for students and teachers



Further Details

Start Date: 17th August 2018 or later by agreement.

Remuneration Package

A highly competitive salary depending on qualification and experience is offered, together with an attractive annual profit related bonus.

Application Process

Letters of application, along with a completed application form (available to download from TES), a Curriculum Vitae and the names and addresses of two referees should be received no later than 9am on **Monday 19th March 2018**.

Applications should be made to the Principal's PA, Lisa Guppy via: pa@bramptoncollege.com

The College may choose to interview prior to the closing deadline, so early applications are strongly encouraged.

It is anticipated that short-listed candidates will be invited to interview in the week commencing 26th March.

Brampton College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All staff and volunteers, as appropriate, are required to undergo an enhanced DBS check.