EXETER SCHOOL



Teacher of Drama and English

From September 2018

The Appointment

For September 2018, Exeter School seeks a qualified, talented and enthusiastic teacher of Drama and English to join these thriving departments. The split between departments will be approximately 75% Drama, 25% English although flexibility is required on an annual basis.

In Drama the timetable will include sharing in the teaching of the two GCSE sets, in Year 10 and in Year 11, and in the teaching of the A Level sets. In addition, there is a requirement to make a significant contribution to the extra-curricular Drama within the school. This teacher will be responsible for directing the annual Year 10 production which is staged in January and will act as production manager for the Senior School Play and Lower School Play which are directed by the Head of Drama. Technical knowledge and understanding of lighting and sound would be advantageous.

In English, an ability and willingness to teach at Key Stage 3 level is essential and GCSE and A Level experience is desirable. Given the size and flexibility of the English department, the English timetable can be adapted to the particular skills and experience of the successful candidate.

The Drama Department

The department is led by Mr James Brough, the Head of Drama. He has previously been supported by a part-time teacher of Drama but due to the growth in numbers of pupils at GCSE and at A Level we are now seeking a full-time teacher.

Drama is located in its own building. This consists of a newly refurbished black box theatre which seats 155 and is well-appointed with lighting, projection and sound facilities. Upstairs is the Drama office, housing a reference library, and a seminar / teaching room with a PC, projector, and a range of performance texts. The department has also developed an outstanding costume department with all productions dressed in-house.

The Drama department has three annual productions. In the Autumn Term, the Senior School Play (Years 11-13), in Spring the Middle Fifth Play (Year 10), and, in the Summer Term, the Lower School Play (Years 7-9). There is considerable support for both productions from the wider school staff. The Middle Fifth Play, A Level and GCSE performances are run in the studio while the Senior and Lower School plays are held in the Main Hall, ambitiously transformed for the occasion with the assistance of the Art and Maintenance departments.

In Year 10 pupils are given the opportunity to opt to take GCSE Drama (Eduqas) and there will be two sets in both Years 10 and 11 next year. The GCSE results over the past five years are excellent with over 70% of pupils gaining A\*/A grades. A Level Drama (Eduqas) is also thriving with 100% A\*-B last year.

Exeter Junior School (Year 3-Year 6) has a thriving Drama programme led by Mrs Rita Pettet, the English Coordinator. They make regular use of the Drama Department and there are strong links between Senior and Junior Schools.

There are various Drama clubs and the Drama department has strong connections to local theatres, and the industry beyond. There are regular theatre trips and visiting professionals.

**The English Department**

The department is led by the Head of English, Mr Andrew Dobson. The department is currently staffed by seven full-time teachers, who bring an enthusiastic and multi-faceted approach to their teaching. The English Department is housed in the main school building and each teacher has their own well-equipped classroom. The school also has a very well- resourced school library, staffed by a full-time librarian, Mrs Belinda Jackson, and there are strong links between the English Department and the school library.

The Senior School starts at Year 7 and pupils are taught in form groups until the end of Year 9, when they are put into streamed bands based on English ability for the two years of IGCSE. From September 2018 all pupils will be prepared for a CIE IGCSE in English Language and an AQA GCSE in English Literature. Current examination results are very strong (over 80% A\*/A in 2017).

English is a popular option in the Sixth Form (Edexcel specification) and the department has a trend of strong results at A Level. English Literature is a popular university option and each year the department expects to see a number of pupils moving on to top-rated universities for further study of the subject. In recent years, pupils have gone to study English at Oxford, Cambridge, St Andrews, York, Birmingham and Durham. In 2017 the department also started teaching English Language at A Level.

At an extra-curricular level, the department organises a programme of theatre trips, whilst within school we regularly receive visiting authors. We also conduct a number of writing competitions, run creative writing clubs for both Key Stage Three and Fifth Form pupils as well as a weekly literary society for Sixth Formers.

Exeter Junior School starts at Year 3 and the majority of its pupils will progress to the Senior School. There is a strong link between the Junior and Senior departments – the Junior School English Subject Leader, Mrs Rita Pettet, currently teaches a Year 8 class.