

# Job Description

## Teacher of Art & Design

George Watson's College wishes to appoint one full time permanent Teacher of Art & Design from August 2018.

### THE SCHOOL

George Watson's College is renowned as a large, inclusive and vibrant co-educational school offering all-through education for children from 3-18. Despite its size, everyone remarks that it has a small-school 'feel': the close-knit and friendly relationships amongst all its constituents are a hallmark of the School. Its motto – *Ex Corde Caritas* (Love from the Heart) – is central to its values as it seeks to sustain what is described as 'The Watson's Family'.

This tangible sense of togetherness is significantly enhanced by everyone being on one purpose-built site, which is located in the attractive residential district of Morningside, to the South West of the centre of Edinburgh. Edinburgh itself is the second strongest city economy in the UK, outside of London, with the highest percentage of graduates and professionally qualified adults in the UK and over 25% of school age children attending fee-paying schools. Watson's is proud of its independent status and, whilst remaining true to its Scottish roots, seeks to sustain and develop an international perspective. The curriculum is adapting to the innovations inherent in Scotland's new Curriculum for Excellence and the new Scottish National Qualifications. In addition, the School offers its older pupils the opportunity to take the International Baccalaureate Diploma programme. Watson's is the only school to offer this alternative alongside Scottish qualifications.

The School welcomes a wide range of academic ability, and has very high academic standards, with 90% of pupils going on to Higher Education and a large proportion of pupils achieving outstanding success. Watson's also has excellent facilities, and offers a huge range of courses as well as extra-curricular activities. In addition, it has particular strengths in Sport, Music, Drama, Outdoor Education, Technology and in Support for Learning. The School is very well resourced with a campus-wide IT network.

The current Principal, Mr Melvyn Roffe took up his post in August 2014. He is a member of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference (HMC).

### The Senior School

Approximately two-thirds of pupils in the Senior School have progressed there from the Junior School. On arrival, they have a carefully worked out induction programme which includes a residential experience together in the first term.

In First and Second Year, a diverse and stimulating timetable balances challenging academic progression with a variety of learning experiences. Pupils study many of their subjects in their form classes but are set in English and Mathematics. This enables them to progress at a pace that provides the appropriate level of challenge and provides them with an opportunity to mix with the rest of their year group.

From Second Year, pupils discuss their personal targets and study options with teachers, through to their key certificate examinations, and we ensure that they choose subjects and levels that match their abilities and aspirations.

At Watson's we are proud of the exceptionally broad range of certificate courses we offer. Available at various levels of certification within the national qualifications framework, our extensive provision includes subjects across the spectrum of arts, sciences and social sciences, with a notably wide selection of languages, including Mandarin Chinese.

It is important that we prepare pupils for the increased independence they will require after school. A programme of study skills encourages independent thought and enquiry. Throughout their time at Watson's, pupils make confident use of our outstanding IT facilities and our Library.

### **Department Details**

The Art School is a multidisciplinary teaching environment with printmaking, ceramics and ICT facilities (an apple mac suite of 20 computers using Adobe suite). The department has its own library, lecture theatre and art specialist classrooms. The Department has 5 full time members of staff, two part-time teachers and full time technician.

From P4, when the Art School begins working with Junior School pupils, ability is developed through an emphasis on strong observational drawing leading on to exploration of a variety of disciplines including sculpture, drawing and painting, printmaking, ceramics, photography, fashion and textiles.

In the Senior School the department teaches a broad range of ability and achieve excellent results, with 100% of pupils getting an A- B at Nat 5 in 2016. We encourage those who are ready to move beyond the level to do so, and offer support to those who find Art and Design more challenging by occasionally offering National 4.

National 5 is taught over two years in S3 and S4. National 5 work takes the form of units leading to a portfolio. These start with research drawings in a variety of media and from a variety of sources, which are then developed towards a final piece. In parallel with the practical work, pupils look at relevant artists and art movements, visit galleries and exhibitions. In S5 we offer Higher Level Art and Design and a small number of pupils study the International Baccalaureate Visual Arts Diploma. Advanced Higher and year two International Baccalaureate pupils benefit from having their own studio spaces where they are able to show increasing personal autonomy and creative decision making in an environment comparable with many University Art and Design courses. The department has recently introduced Higher Photography in the Senior 6 year.

Our highly committed team of teaching and support staff is joined each year by an artist-in-residence, who passes on specialist skills, normally gained from recent study at Art and Design College.

Each year we celebrate the pupils' achievements with an annual exhibition in the department.

### **PERSON SPECIFICATION**

The person appointed will:

- be a trained and qualified graduate Teacher of Art & Design and Design, eligible for registration with the General Teaching Council for Scotland
- have experience teaching Primary, National 5 and Higher Art and Design (ability to teach AH will be an advantage)
- have an excellent command of relevant ICT skills ( Photoshop, Illustrator, Indesign)
- have excellent interpersonal and communication skills and be able to work with colleagues from different disciplines and across both Junior and Senior Schools;
- be flexible and imaginative in developing new ideas and resources, as well as adapting to curriculum changes
- be prepared to contribute to the extracurricular programme of the department and/or to the wider school
- have significant personal commitment to the making of Art and Design as demonstrated in a personal portfolio.

### **JOB SPECIFICATION**

## **Line Management**

The Teacher of Art & Design and Design will be accountable to the Head of Art.

## **General Responsibilities**

The Teacher of Art & Design and Design will be expected to teach 45 out of 56 periods of teaching, over a 10 day timetable cycle.

The person appointed will be responsible for teaching classes in the School using his/her skill, experience and best endeavors. S/he will abide by the Code of Conduct for Staff at George Watson's College. A contribution to the wider life of the School is an expectation of all staff.

## **Additional Responsibilities:**

The Teacher should also be willing to undertake such other responsibilities as the Head of Department may from time to time reasonably require.

## **REMUNERATION**

Teaching staff at George Watson's College are paid at a level which is currently 8% higher than the Scottish Teachers' Pay Scales. The salary is pensionable under the Scottish Teachers' Superannuation Scheme.

## **DISCLOSURE SCOTLAND - PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE GROUPS SCHEME**

All staff must be prepared to undergo screening to confirm their suitability to work with children and young people.

## **CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT / PROFESSIONAL REVIEW**

All staff are required to participate in appropriate programmes of continuing professional development and undergo professional review as set out in the School's policy.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

To apply, please send a letter of application of not more than 800 words giving us more information about you, which role you are applying for and why you would like that role, addressed to Mr Gordon Boyd, Head of Senior School. The letter, completed application form and diversity monitoring form must reach Jane Robinson, Interim HR Manager by email ([vacancies@gwc.org.uk](mailto:vacancies@gwc.org.uk)) no later than noon on Monday 19 February 2018.

Any specific questions relating to the advertised posts can be put directly to the Head of Department, Mr Nick Adair by email ([n.adair@gwc.org.uk](mailto:n.adair@gwc.org.uk)).

Candidates called for interview will be asked to teach a lesson as part of the selection process.

If you require more information about the School, please visit our school website.

Closing date Monday 19 February 2018.

Interviews are scheduled to take place on Tuesday 27 February 2018.