



HEAD OF ART

THORNGROVE SCHOOL

Background to the School

Thorngrove School was founded in 1988 and is an IAPS co-educational day preparatory school for children aged 2½ to 13 years (with currently 240 on roll). The purpose-built facilities are set in former farmland in the village of Highclere, 5 miles south of Newbury and 12 miles north of Andover. Children are prepared for Common Entrance at 13+, from where their paths lead to a wide range of senior day and boarding schools.

The school is set in 25 acres of beautiful, Hampshire countryside. The extensive games fields provide numerous rugby, football and hockey pitches. In addition to this there is an astro and two further hard courts which are used for tennis and netball. A multi-purpose hall was opened by Robert Hardy in 2007. This provides a wonderful space for music concerts and drama productions as well as indoor PE and games. Either side of the hall are four classrooms and changing facilities. We have a large ICT suite and all classrooms have interactive whiteboards or TVs. There are also 50 iPads that are used by staff and pupils in lessons, around the campus and trips. There is a dedicated music room in the Senior Block with several practice rooms. The Science laboratory is fully equipped. The Art room is well resourced and, in addition to our Head of Art, we currently have an 'Artist in Residence'. Our well stocked library is located centrally in the main building and we have a full-time librarian. All classrooms are modern, light and airy and some have direct access to the outside. In 2010 a D&T centre was created in the old nursery. In April 2012 a new Nursery was opened to extend our EYFS provision. The school is committed to developing its provision for the Performing Arts and is in the process of building a dedicated Performing Arts Centre (PAC) for Music, Drama and Dance. This will incorporate a 250 seater theatre.

Thorngrove offers a unique environment where children can grow and learn independently. We value our intimate and friendly community, and the benefits that it brings; we are proud of our small class sizes and the individual attention we are able to offer to each of our pupils.

The school has a relaxed yet purposeful atmosphere, where working relationships between staff and pupils flourish. We are forward thinking in our approach - ready to adapt to change and technological advancement, whilst at the same time remaining true to traditional values.

Pupils are assessed continuously, and parents are always welcome to discuss their children's progress with staff on a regular basis or at parents' evenings. Above all, our aim is that all our pupils should reach their potential in terms of confidence, creativity and achievement.

The most recent ISI inspection report (May 2013) judged the school to be excellent in all eight key areas.

Head of Art Information Pack March 2018

Background to the Post

The current Head of Art, Tim Hay, is moving on to another school. The Art department is thriving at Thorngrove and this year we have been awarded two top Art scholarships to senior schools. The school is now looking for an enthusiastic, dedicated and inspiring teacher of Art to head up this important and popular subject at Thorngrove. The right candidate might be currently in an independent senior school, prep school or maintained sector setting and would like the opportunity to lead and run their own department. Alternatively, we would welcome applications from talented graduates who would like to do their NQT year at Thorngrove or an iPGCE.

Job Description

The successful applicant would be expected to:

- Lead the subject of Art across the whole of the school being proactive in their approach
- Work closely with the Deputy Head (Academic) with regards to the overall academic policy
- Contribute actively to Head of Department meetings
- Ensure a current awareness of educational trends and initiatives affecting Art
- Monitor and support the work of staff teaching the subject and set an example of good practice
- Raise the profile and awareness of the subject in the school and local area
- Draw up annual subject development plans as part of the School Development Plan
- Set realistic targets and meet deadlines
- Plan and review the curriculum regularly
- Monitor, evaluate and review policies and planning within the subject area, including carrying out an annual stock check
- Monitor, evaluate and review the Art Department
- Maintain and update regularly the departmental handbook
- Promote the importance of CPD (Continuous Professional Development)
- Develop the use of ICT capability and use within the subject
- Maintain resources, including reviewing, ordering, storing and organising
- Submit a detailed budget request (bid) annually
- Develop and implement assessment procedures and appropriate record keeping
- Develop links with other departments in the school, particularly D&T
- The Head of Department will be expected to extend the teaching of and the appreciation of their subject beyond the classroom within the broader school day and be prepared to explore opportunities for trips and visiting speakers

- Liaise with the Head of Early Years and Lower School to ensure continuity and progression
- Teach Art as specialist subject to each pupil from Year 2 upwards
- Teach extra-curricular Art clubs
- Work with other departments in the school on various projects i.e. making props for school plays
- Be an active member of the House system
- Follow the whole school Health and Safety Policy and contribute to those meetings and report Health and Safety or maintenance issues when necessary

Personal Qualities

The successful candidate is likely to have the following personal qualities:

- Excellent planning, administration, time management skills
- Be an excellent communicator and ambassador
- The ability to work to deadlines
- First class written, oral and presentational skills
- A confident and outgoing personality that will be able to maintain the support of colleagues, parents and pupils
- Enjoy working with and as part of a team
- Be able to take the initiative and able to take an idea and develop it through to completion
- Be observant, have an eye for detail, spot problems and develop solutions
- Have a good sense of humour and be flexible and adaptable

Remuneration

The salary for the post will be dependent on qualifications and experience. A pension is also provided (TPS). A fee remission for staff is available (50% off the current fees). Unfortunately accommodation is not available.

Application Process

1. The closing date for applications is Monday 30th April 2018.
2. Long list interviews will take place on either Thursday 3rd or Friday 4th May 2018.
3. Applicants are asked to provide the Headmaster with a completed application form, a CV, as well as a covering letter (no more than one side of A4) and a photograph.

4. At the long list interview the applicants will meet the headmaster and tour the school.
5. At the short list interview the applicants will be interviewed by the headmaster as well as other members of the senior leadership team. They will also be expected to teach an Art lesson.