

**Dear Candidate,**

Thank you for expressing an interest in the post of Physics teacher at The Maynard School in Exeter. This is a role that will suit an ambitious team player looking to make a difference to our warm, talented and successful community. In order to make sure that we are the right fit for you, allow me to enlighten you further about our wonderful school although, of course, a fuller picture can be found on our website www.maynard.co.uk.

Founded in 1658, The Maynard is the second oldest girls’ school in the country and we pride ourselves on a unique blend of tradition mixed with innovation and forward thinking. We are an academically selective school and year-on-year we are the leading independent girls’ school in the South West according to both GCSE and A-level league tables. In 2017, we were ranked the 13th best girls’ school in the country (out of over 250) in the Times’ A-level School League Tables.

Our academic standards are historically very high: the proportion of A-levels graded A\*, A or B has been consistently well above 80% in recent years and over a third of our 2017 cohort achieved straight A\*s/As. Our GCSE results are equally impressive and last year 69% were awarded A\*-A grades and 18% achieved a 9 under the new system for Maths and English, far exceeding the national average of 3%.

Class sizes tend to be smaller than average throughout the School and we place a heavy emphasis on the importance of pastoral care. We relish the fact that we know each and every student individually which, in turn, allows us to support and nurture them through the very strong staff/pupil relationships we can form. “It’s the warmth of the relationship that makes all the difference,” noted the Good Schools Guide during their visit in 2017. “And the laughter. Relationships between students and staff are supportive, humorous yet entirely professional.”

However, a Maynard education isn’t just about academic achievement; our sporting calendar throughout the year is packed with fixtures and we are seasoned national campaigners across the School for hockey, netball, basketball and athletics; our Art Department is so good we are often mistaken for a specialist art school by visitors to our exhibitions; Drama and the Performing Arts play a key role in the day-to-day life of the Maynard – over half of our girls play an instrument, we boast 10-12 drama productions each year (including the biennial staff play) and our choirs are regularly booked to perform at outside venues, such is their reputation.

Our co-curricular programme plays a vital role in developing skills and prepares our students for adult life. Each week we host over 60 varied clubs during the extended lunch break or after school; we have an outstanding record in the Duke of Edinburgh’s Scheme; our Ten Tors teams excel every year; we fielded the only all-girls’ robotics team at the Open European Championships in Denmark last year to win a trophy; the MUN love a decent debate on far ranging topics and our Young Enterprise team raised over £800 at Christmas selling their solar chargers and handmade bags to the general public. All this in addition to supporting a huge network of girls achieving some remarkable personal endeavours in their own time!

Looking ahead, myself and our incredibly supportive Governing Body have ambitious plans and we are looking at future heavy investment into our site. Some of this work has already been completed with a brand new Performing Arts Theatre having been unveiled in September 2017 and we are currently investigating further extensive plans for the buildings and facilities with a view to launching a range of further capital projects in the coming months.

Such is our considerable reputation that our pupil numbers are buoyant at over 400 and our 2018 intake is again looking particularly healthy with huge attendances at our recent open events, an enormous amount of registrations and great interest in our scholarship and Maynard Awards offerings. In essence, the future is very bright for this wonderful and unique school.

In terms of location, Exeter is a fantastic place in which to live and work with easy access to the moors and surrounding seaside. Substantial amounts have been invested into the city’s infrastructure which has opened up a realm of retail and cultural opportunities, not to mention how easily accessible we are to the rest of the country and beyond through the local airport and public transport networks.

We are looking for an exceptional candidate to join our Maynard ‘family’ and in return we offer confident and capable students, talented and committed staff, a collaborative working environment and a hugely supportive network in which you will feel valued and can thrive. If you would like any more information on our wonderful community, then please don’t hesitate to contact Lora Jones, my PA, on 01392 273417. If you would like to see for yourself the School in action and meet some of our wonderful community, then please don’t hesitate to contact Lora Jones, my PA, to arrange an appointment (01392 273417). Alternatively, I am more than happy to offer a telephone conversation with any interested candidates which can also be scheduled through Lora.

Thank you once again for showing an interest and, if you do decide to apply, I look forward to receiving your application.

Yours faithfully,



Sarah Dunn

**Headmistress**