

WIRRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

A Business and Enterprise School for Boys

Application information for the post of:
Teacher of Mathematics (Two Posts available)
Full-time appointment from September 2018

"Wirral Grammar School for Boys is a forward looking school that provides an outstanding education for its students." Ofsted 2009



Dear Applicant

TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS (Two posts available)

**Full time appointments (both)
Required for 1st September 2018
Salary: Main Scale**

Thank you for your interest in the above post at Wirral grammar School for boys.

Wirral Grammar School is a great place to work in. Our pupils are keen and there is a strong sense of collegiality and support among the staff. We place an equal emphasis on academic achievement and extra-curricular activity, all of which can be justifiably described as 'outstanding'.

Please note that Wirral Grammar School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

The closing date for applications is **Friday 16th March 2018 at 12 noon**. Completed applications should be emailed with **all accompanying documentation** to Mrs Tanya Fry, Headteacher's PA at tfry@wirralgrammarboys.com (please refer to the application process below).

I wish you well in your application.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D R Hazeldine', with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

D R Hazeldine
Headteacher

Required for 1st September 2018

Two Teachers of Mathematics **Salary Scale: Main Scale**

Context

This is an excellent opportunity for two enthusiastic teachers of Mathematics to become part of the team. The successful candidates will be expected to have the ability to teach Mathematics up to A Level. (An ability to teach Further Mathematics would be advantageous but not essential). A track record of excellent academic qualifications is a pre-requisite for this post.

School Background

Wirral Grammar School is a selective state, 11 to 18 Business and Enterprise School for Boys. The school is situated on the Wirral peninsula in the village of Bebington, one mile from junction 4 on the M53. Our school is very popular and oversubscribed.

Over the last few years, significant capital investment has taken place resulting in a combination of new buildings and refurbishment. We place a great emphasis on providing specialist teaching to pupils in all year groups and departments are suited around the school. We have retained our specialist focus on Business and Enterprise and this is reflected in the culture across the school. Examination results are typically very high with the percentage gaining five A* - C, including English and Maths being in the order of between 95% and 100% each year. Well over half of all GCSE grades are at A*/A. The majority of pupils stay on into the Sixth Form and the vast majority are successful in securing their preferred choice of University and course. The school converted to Academy status from 1st September 2011 and we believe that the added flexibility will be to the benefit of our students. In recent years we have invested in our ICT infrastructure and this provides networked access to every classroom, together with digital projection in all areas of the school.

We place an emphasis on professional development and we have established a strong commitment to collaboration and in-house support. Wirral Grammar School is well respected in its community and parent surveys reflect a high degree of satisfaction and confidence in the school. Parent surveys for the last academic year can be accessed through the school website.

Our school was inspected in April 2009. The full report is available at the Ofsted web site (www.ofsted.gov.uk). It is well worth reading. The report reflects the exceptionally high standards and high expectations that prevail here. Standards at our school are reflected in the following Ofsted 2009 comment: "Wirral Grammar School for Boys is a forward looking school that provides an outstanding education for its students. Wirral Grammar is an excellent school', one parent wrote, 'The boys are not only given an excellent academic grounding, but they gain independence and responsibility'.

Further details about our school can be found at our website: www.wirralgrammarboys.com

The Mathematics Department

Mathematics at Wirral Grammar School for Boys is a department of seven staff. Each member of the Department is a specialist teacher in Mathematics. There are seven Mathematics classrooms and all have ceiling-mounted projectors with an interactive whiteboard and full internet access.

Boys are currently taught a two-year KS3 programme of study. In Year 7, they are taught in mixed-ability classes. In Year 8, the boys are taught across two bands. The majority of the groups study the A scheme. The lowest group in each band is taught the bespoke B scheme, which has been specifically written to maximise the achievement of the boys in these groups. At present, both Year 7 and Year 8 have six periods a fortnight of Mathematics.

From September 2018 the boys will be placed in six mixed-ability sets similar size and ability spread. It is likely that this arrangement will be extended to all year groups from 2019.

The current arrangement is for setting to be in place in Year 10 to 11, however, this is under review at present. Our focus is on maximising pupils' attainment in relation to their KS2 starting point. The vast majority of pupils are entered for the higher tier paper.

In the Mathematics Department hard work, and the teaching of Mathematics by specialist staff, has allowed us to gain a 98.6% average GCSE Mathematics pass rate over the last three years. In the last academic year, 41 % of our candidates achieved Grades 7 to 9 (with 17% gaining 8 or 9). We are committed to improving standards in the Department and the successful candidate will be expected to take a role in ensuring that we continue to provide the best possible education.

There is significant extra-curricular activity in Mathematics. Competitions and events provide excellent extension opportunities for our pupils. We regularly have students qualifying for the latter stages of external competitions. The department takes its responsibility of providing first-class teaching seriously and we take every opportunity to ensure that our candidates achieve the highest possible grades.

This year we have over 40 students studying Mathematics in Year 12, with a further 5 students studying Mathematics and Further Mathematics. In Year 13, we have 44 students studying A Level Mathematics and a further 13 studying A Level Mathematics and Further Mathematics. It would be beneficial if the successful candidate could contribute to the accomplishments of the Department and either be able to immediately teach the subject to this level or be committed to preparing themselves to be able to teach to this level in the near future.

Core purposes of this role

The core purposes are:

- Having responsibility for standards of achievement and academic welfare of students.
- Providing a lead on the development of resource materials appropriate for the needs of the students who you teach.
- Applying and managing the assessment, target-setting and monitoring arrangements that are required by all members of staff.
- Contributing to opportunities for the extra-curricular enrichment of Mathematics teaching through lunch-time activities, visits and partnerships etc.
- Being accountable to the Head of Mathematics for the attainment and achievement of pupils.

Skills and competencies required

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- A well-qualified teacher of Mathematics.
- An individual who is passionate about Mathematics and promotes enthusiasm and interest for the subject.
- An ability to teach Mathematics through to GCSE, AS and A Level (including Further Mathematics)
- Experience of having taught across the full 11 to 18 age range.
- Able to use data to track, monitor and assess pupil progress.
- An expectation to share and develop professional practice through collaborative working.
- Experience of all ability teaching with a particular awareness of the needs of able students.
- A high level of ICT competency; an ability to use ICT effectively in planning and teaching.
- Ability to work within a team of well-qualified and highly professional individuals.
- Experience of having taught Further Mathematics is preferred.

What we are able to offer

- A high level of professional support with access to training where required and induction at both Department and School levels.
- A well-resourced Department
- Students who are highly motivated and want to achieve.
- An in-house CPD programme that encourages professional development.
- An ICT rich environment

Safeguarding Children

Please note that Wirral Grammar School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. As part of the selection process, the interview will explore your perspectives on safeguarding young people in terms of a school context. All applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening, including reference checks with previous employers and an enhanced criminal record check with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

Application Process

The closing date is **Friday 16th March 2018 12 noon**

In your application you should include the following:

- The completed Wirral Grammar School application form
- The completed WGSB Self Disclosure Form
- A letter of application in which you address the following using each as a separate section:
 - My experience and its relevance to this post.
 - Why I would like to work in a selective boys school.
 - How I would ensure the attainment of pupils is maximised.
 - What my priorities would be if successful.

Successful shortlisted candidates will be notified of interview within one week of the closing date. If you have not heard from us within one week of the closing date, please assume that this particular application has been unsuccessful.

The interview day itself will include a tour of the school, a lesson observation and formal interview. For those candidates who are called for interview, it is not our policy to keep you behind until final notification. All candidates will be telephoned and informed of the decision. Feedback is always offered to candidates who attend for interview but who are not appointed.

We regret that we are unable to give feedback where applicants are not shortlisted to attend for interview; this is due to the large number of applications that we receive.

Applications **together with all supporting documentation (as indicated in the application process above)** can be emailed to tfry@wirralgrammarboys.com

Application Check-list

- ☐ Wirral Grammar School application completed
- ☐ Letter of Application (including sections specified above)
- ☐ WGSB Self Disclosure Form