

TEACHER OF ENGLISH

Maternity Cover

January 2019

Whitgift is one of Britain's leading independent day and boarding schools for boys aged between 10 and 18 years with approximately 1460 pupils and 106 boarding or flexi-boarding pupils. The School, which was founded in 1596 by Elizabeth I's last Archbishop of Canterbury, John Whitgift, is one of the oldest in Croydon and enjoys facilities of outstanding quality, amongst the best available nationally. It is set in an attractive 48 acre parkland site in South Croydon with excellent links to London, Surrey and the south coast.

The Department

English is taught by a well-qualified, experienced team of seventeen teachers. The Department is well-resourced, with a strong budget which allows us to have an extremely large book stock, to invite in speakers and visiting performances of high quality and to organise numerous trips to London theatres. We also aim to stimulate a love of literature and writing through various competitions, clubs and societies as well as annual trips to the Hay-on-Wye Literary Festival with junior boys, Stratford-Upon-Avon for the Middle School, and to the Lake District with senior boys to study the Romantics.

The English Department at Whitgift is particularly innovative and energetic. Public examination results have been extremely good in recent years. At A Level, the 2018 A*-B pass rate was 80% and at GCSE English Language, 95.9% of pupils achieved 9 - 5 grades. The IB results were 96.4% at level 7 or 6.

The Department prides itself on the freedom offered across the age range to individual teachers to select their own teaching texts and develop their own Schemes of Work, within the set syllabus. Ideas are regularly shared and it is a creative environment in which to teach. The Department also has a thriving co-curricular life with several literature-related societies, a journalism club and a drama society, and a number of English Department staff direct or help produce plays. We are keen to employ a team player with a lively approach, who is able to contribute fully to this strong, cohesive and stimulating department.

The Department is very busy and expectations within the School are very high. The successful candidate must be someone who is confident, proactive and reflective about their teaching, has excellent communication skills, is capable of contributing positively within a team and is committed to raising attainment through excellent teaching and learning.

Curriculum

Boys are prepared for the GCSE 1-9 (AQA) examinations in English and English Literature. The A Level course is the OCR specification. Since 2004 the International Baccalaureate has also been offered as an alternative to A Level study and is a stimulating option for pupils and teachers. About 100 boys study English in the Sixth Form. We run a Literary Society to augment the curriculum for Sixth Formers and offer additional sessions in preparation for university entrance in English. In the Lower School, the department has its own syllabus, which aims to introduce pupils to a wide range of both classic and modern works, to teach them how to speak and write fluently, accurately and engagingly, and to instil a lasting enthusiasm for literature.

Current Vacancy

We are seeking to recruit a well-qualified Teacher of English to start in January 2019. The successful applicant should be able to teach across the age range up to GCSE, and A Level teaching could be available for the right candidate. The post is suitable for experienced teachers, as well as those new to the profession who may be able to participate in our highly-regarded Schools Direct programme. The contract will be a fixed term contract of up to one year.

As a Boarding School, stimulating opportunities may be available for the right candidate to contribute to the pastoral care of students as a Boarding Tutor, both resident and non-resident.

Contact

Please feel free to contact Mr Ben Prestney on 020 8688 9222 or e-mail bnp@whitgift.co.uk if you have any questions or would like to know more.

Conditions of Service

The salary will be on the Whitgift Foundation scale (substantially above national scale) according to qualifications and experience. Accommodation may be available. Assistance is offered towards removal expenses etc., up to £1,000 in total.

Staff are required to make a significant contribution to the co-curricular life of the School and this is reflected in the salary offered. A strong commitment to the pastoral and house system is also anticipated.

We offer a generous salary and benefits package including membership of the Teachers' Pension Scheme(including Life Assurance cover), Employee Discount Club , discount on school fees for the Foundation Schools (permanent posts only), staff discount on off-peak membership at our on-site gym (Nuffield Health), membership of a healthcare plan, a range of family-friendly benefits and season ticket loan.

We welcome applications from all parts of our community as we aspire to attract staff that matches the social and cultural diversity of our student intake.

For further information and an online application form, please visit www.whitgift.co.uk/vacancies. For any general queries, please telephone the School Human Resources Department on 020 8688 9222 or e-mail SchoolHR@whitgift.co.uk.

Applications will be reviewed on a daily basis and interviews may occur at any stage after applications are received so we invite interested candidates to apply as soon as possible.

As a result of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996, employers now have to verify that new recruits who are not British Nationals are eligible to work in this country. Therefore any applicant who is offered an interview will be asked to provide official documentation to verify their ID, address and right to work in the UK. It is also normal practice for the School to ask for original qualifications and professional membership documents as detailed on their application.

Whitgift School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people, and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening including checks with past employers and the Disclosure & Barring Service.