

Appointment of Head of Junior School PE - Full Time or Part Time 0.8 for September 2018



INSPIRATION, CURIOSITY, DISTINCTION

INTRODUCTION TO BLACKHEATH HIGH SCHOOL



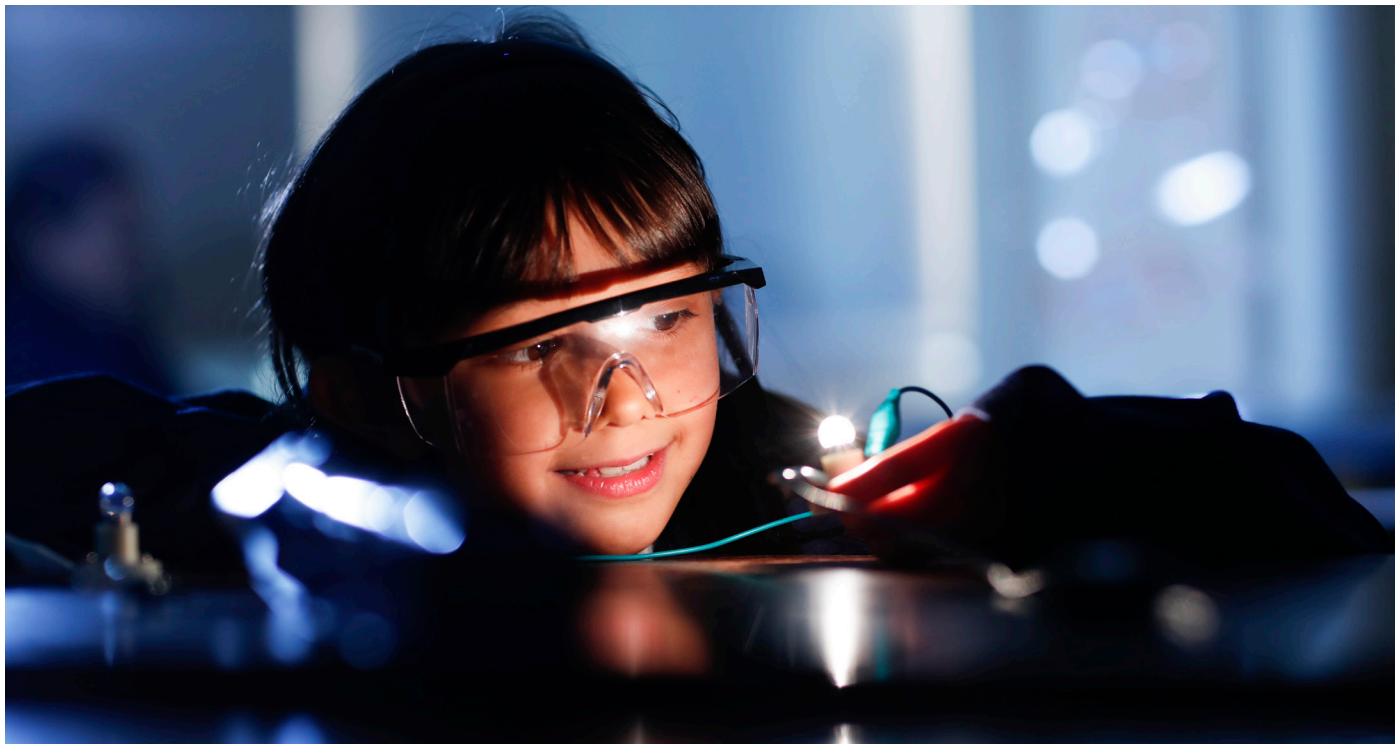
Blackheath High School is an exceptional day school for girls aged 3 to 18. Our location helps to make it so, sitting on the edge of the stunning Heath and within easy reach of historic Greenwich and the buzz of Canary Wharf. We have galleries, museums, libraries and theatres on our doorstep, along with all the beauty of Greenwich Park and Blackheath. Our students benefit from the very best London has to offer.

Founded in 1880 as the first purpose-built school established by the Girls' Day School Trust (GDST), Blackheath High is a school with a long history of educating a rich social and cultural blend of students, thus reflecting the cosmopolitan character of London itself. We welcome bright and engaging students, eager to benefit from the broad education we provide and offer a number of academic bursaries and scholarships to maintain the mix of socio-economic backgrounds within our student population.

Our students make exceptional academic progress and we place particular importance upon our value-added scores. In 2017 41% of A Level grades were at A/A* and 18% at A*. In GCSE 67% were A/A* and 36% were A*. The excellent achievement of every girl is made possible by an individual, personal approach to the academic development of each student which is characteristic of our inclusive and warm community. This aspirational and supportive environment is also one within which girls are encouraged to take risks and challenge themselves both academically and through co-curricular activities.

Blackheath girls have poise, principles and character. There is no such thing as a 'typical Blackheath girl' and that is for good reason. This is a school where individuality is cherished and there is a culture of high expectations and open-mindedness. It is for this reason that our girls go on to such a diverse range of exciting and interesting careers all over the world.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT



A Blackheath High School education inspires and equips girls to strive for personal excellence in all her endeavours: intellectual; physical; creative; cultural; social and moral. We prepare and empower girls for the future by providing an atmosphere in which academic curiosity is cultivated, confidence is built and a balanced, open-minded outlook is nurtured.

To achieve our aims we:

- Offer a specialised education for girls, ignoring gender stereotypes
- Create an environment where inspirational teaching encourages intellectual curiosity and depth of knowledge
- Foster an atmosphere in which doors are open, not closed, and girls are guided to identify and achieve their aspirations
- Provide a broad and enriching curriculum that supports a balanced approach to school and the world beyond, enabling the girls to develop a healthy outlook and tackle life's challenges head on
- Enable girls to develop the skills that lead to life-long relationships within school and across the GDST, benefitting from the wealth of experience of our alumnae; parents and the local community
- Encourage imaginative learners who use initiative, adaptability and the conceptual agility to explore problems creatively, and seek solutions, whilst respecting the diversity of other perspectives
- Build girls' tenacity and courage to make a mistake and then learn from the experience
- Create an outward-looking community within which all individuals are valued and their talents and personality are celebrated

OUR SCHOOL ETHOS AND CULTURE



- The culture of the school is inspirational and aspirational. Whatever the level of achievement is of girls when they arrive they will be supported, challenged and inspired to achieve their best. This is achieved through excellent individual knowledge of every girl and by an unrelenting focus upon high expectations and expert teaching.
- Whatever a girl's ambitions and passions are, we help them get there. We are equally skilled at supporting an application to Oxbridge, as we are in supporting a girl who might prefer an apprenticeship or Art Foundation course.
- Our students make exceptional academic and personal progress. This is made possible by an individual, personal approach to the academic development of each student which is characteristic of our inclusive and warm community. This is a school with a 'family' atmosphere where students mix readily between age groups and great emphasis is placed upon service to others within and outside our community.
- Our emphasis on learning outside the classroom, to support learning inside the classroom is very important to us - we genuinely believe in a creative and balanced education, hence the value we place upon a rich and diverse co-curricular and enrichment programme.
- We cherish the diversity of our school community. We are a school where girls from a rich variety of backgrounds (ethnic, national, geographical, linguistic) mix readily and easily. We are open-minded and have an international outlook, in light of the global opportunities that we are preparing girls for.
- We provide an innovative education, bringing technology into the classroom to equip students with the skills they need for a life and career in a tech driven future.

LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE



Blackheath High School is comprised of two schools:

- The Junior School (Nursery to Year 6)
- The Senior School (Year 7 to Year 13)

The overall Head of both schools is Mrs Carol Chandler-Thompson, who was appointed in 2014.

The Head of the Junior school is Mrs Sarah Skevington.

The Senior Leadership Team consists of:

- Head
- Academic Deputy Head
- Pastoral Deputy Head
- Head of Juniors
- Junior Deputy Head
- 2 Assistant Heads
- Director of Finance and Operations
- Head of Sixth Form

The Junior Leadership Team consists of:

- Head (or a Deputy in her absence)
- Head of Junior School
- Junior Deputy Head
- Assistant Head
- Head of Key Stage 1
- Head of Key Stage 2
- Head of EYFS

The School Governing Board is headed by the Chairman David Attenbury-Thomas and consists of ten governors. Their direct responsibilities differ greatly from those of governors of most other independent schools, also to specialist or other maintained schools. The SGB have no legal responsibility for the running of the school, but they have a presence in the school and act as a valuable sounding board for the Head and Senior Leadership Team. Blackheath High is one of 25, including 2 Academies, Girls' Day School Trust (GDST) schools (<http://www.gdst.net/>). Under the GDST system, the GDST Council (as Trustees) hold the ultimate legal and financial responsibility for the running of all the schools. As a forward looking and innovative organisation, the network of the GDST offers the schools a plethora of support and opportunities, not least the opportunity to draw on a wealth of professional expertise across the Trust schools.

LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE



Not only is there a wealth of advice on legal and commercial matters, but there is also a strong collegiate feel across the network. Staff and students benefit from excellent professional development and shared opportunities for students that are unparalleled. Sport, Music, Art, university preparation courses are all areas in which girls benefit from the additional resources that a larger network brings. For staff, networking events, collaborative resources, sharing hubs and leadership coaching are provided centrally by the GDST.

FACILITIES AND LOCAL AREA



Blackheath High is fortunate to be situated in between Blackheath and Greenwich, just 5 miles/8 km from Canary Wharf and 8 miles/13 km from the centre of London. Our Junior School is located in the original 1880 school building, in the heart of Blackheath Village. The building in Wemyss Road has been updated extensively and features a newly-refurbished Library, Dining Room, a Science Laboratory, an Art, Design & Technology workshop, two Computing suites, a Music room, a Digital Radio Station and a Modern Languages room.

At the centre of Blackheath, the Village offers a range of independent shops, restaurants and the long-established weekly Farmer's market. The Conservatoire is Blackheath's local independent arts centre, providing a varied mix of music, art, drama and cultural classes. Nearby Blackheath Halls, a local concert venue, is owned and managed by the Greenwich-based Trinity College of Music.

Our Senior School is located on Vanbrugh Park, adjacent to Greenwich Park, one of the capital's eight Royal Parks. It is home to the Prime Meridian Line, the Royal Observatory and is part of the Greenwich Maritime Royal Heritage Site.

Our 5-acre specialist sports facilities can be found 5 minutes between the two sites, in Kidbrooke Grove. Everyday, year groups of excited girls are transported to the Pavilion, courts and pitches for their games afternoons or mornings.

Transport links are strong, with direct connections to central London, Kent and South East England by road, rail and bus networks, and via the River Thames from nearby Greenwich. The school is also well connected to the Docklands Light Railway and, from 2018, to Crossrail services serving Canary Wharf and London. The major A2 road passes less than 5 minutes away, connecting Blackheath with Docklands and the east side of London via Blackwall Tunnel to the north, and South East London and Kent to the south.

SENIOR SCHOOL



The Senior School consists of years 7 -13. There are 370 students in the Senior School, with a Sixth Form of 80.

“The contribution of curricular and extra-curricular provision is excellent. The curriculum is broad and balanced, and goes beyond National Curriculum requirements. Throughout the school, curricular provision inspires excellent learning and provides opportunities to develop thinking skills and to enrich personal development, giving pupils the chance to value their education in wider terms than examination outcomes alone.” ISI 2014

Our Curriculum aims to:

- Engage students and inspire a passion for scholarship and learning.
- Inculcate a questioning and creative problem solving mind-set in the students.
- To be challenging and rigorous whilst retaining accessibility and engagement for all students.
- Open minds and broaden horizons.
- Celebrate diversity of opinion and encourage respect for the views of others.

Our graduating Blackheath students choose a range of courses, recent examples include: History at Nottingham; Chemistry at Imperial; Art Foundation at Kingston; Dentistry at King's College, London; Architecture at Bath and Medical Genetics at Queen Mary; Maths and English at Oxford and Modern and Medieval Languages at Cambridge. It is typical for 70% of the cohort to achieve places at Russell Group universities.

The curriculum offers breadth with an element of choice to inspire the girls and deepen their understanding of specialist subjects. The core subjects are taught together with the creative, physical,

SENIOR SCHOOL



technological, linguistic and philosophical subjects. The Wollstonecraft enrichment programme and choice of French or Mandarin, Spanish or German, makes for an exciting and rigorous curriculum. For GCSE, girls have the opportunity to study Astronomy and Ancient Greek as enrichment options alongside their GCSE core and option subjects. Most girls take nine or ten GCSEs. Our extensive co-curricular opportunities support and augment the opportunities available to the girls in their academic lessons, extending their learning through performance, debate, discussion and creative activities.

“The contribution of arrangements for pastoral care is excellent. Organised pastoral structures and staff commitment to pupils’ welfare ensure that excellent support and guidance are given to pupils of all ages, in accordance with the school’s aims. Relationships between class teachers and pupils are excellent, ensuring a supportive environment.” ISI 2014

Each girl enjoys membership of one of four houses and participates in an extensive co-curricular programme, both of which encourage social interaction between girls in different tutor and year groups whilst furthering their breadth of interests. We also run a Peer Mentor Scheme, co-run by our School Nurse, and we employ a School Counsellor who is a key member of our Pastoral Team.

Pastoral care is overseen by a pastoral leadership team comprised of the Deputy Head Pastoral, four Heads of Section, our in-house counsellor and school nurse.

We base our practice upon excellent knowledge of, and relationships with every single girl and her family. We aim to be proactive, as opposed to reactive in building the girls physical and mental resilience and have recently invested heavily in a scheme run by the Positive Group to develop students’ emotional literacy and awareness.

JUNIOR SCHOOL



The school nurtures girls in their most formative years, introducing children of three to the social aspects of mixing with other children and the beginnings of reading, writing and mathematics. By the time they leave the Juniors to transfer to the Senior School, the foundations have been laid for independent study, an understanding of the world of today and their role within it and the ability to problem solve. The Junior school girl has an enquiring mind and a motivation to succeed within the context of caring for and respecting others.

Although the school is always full of activity, the atmosphere is calm, caring and conducive to learning, with a respectful rapport between pupils and staff. Teaching combines traditional methods with the use of new communication technology and facilities and is conducted at a pace that maintains the interest and motivation of each girl. From the outset each one is stimulated and encouraged to explore a range of activities, which help to develop confidence and skill.

Clubs and societies flourish and staff enthusiastically involve their pupils in many supervised activities at lunchtime and after school. Pastoral care is given high priority and pupils are looked after and supported by teachers in all aspects of school life. There is always time to listen, time to talk, and time to help. Parents are encouraged to take an active part in their daughter's learning.

The Junior School has its own premises and its own identity, however, it is still very much part of the whole school and shares its traditions and ethos. Integration with the Senior School begins in Year 4 when the girls enjoy cookery lessons in the Cookery Room and in Year 6 girls have weekly Latin and Science lessons at the Senior School. The majority of our Junior girls proceed to Seniors, well prepared having had the benefit of an excellent transition programme.

PE DEPARTMENT

The Physical Education and Sport at Blackheath High School is an important and flourishing department at an exciting junction of development. The department has made huge progress over the last few years and is looking to further enhance its inclusive approach and emphasis on enjoyment and excellence. Physical Education is taught by a team of 5 full and part-time teachers who are committed to providing a high quality learning experience for all students across both the Junior and Senior schools.

Facilities at Blackheath are excellent, at both the Junior and Senior schools there is a netball court and indoor space; a gymnasium at the Juniors and a sports hall at the Seniors, who also have a Dance Studio and a Fitness Suite. At our sports fields we have a floodlit AstroTurf, 3 Netball courts (which double as Tennis courts), a pavilion and a field which homes our Rounders pitches and Athletics track. Physical Education at Blackheath is an integral subject for all students, for all age groups and abilities. Whether students see the subject as an area of strength for themselves that they want to develop further or an appropriate time to enjoy participating in physical activity; our lessons provide that opportunity. We offer a wide range of activities for the students such as Gymnastics, Basketball, Volleyball, Badminton, Indoor Athletics and Dance with the aim of enabling the girls to excel where possible and develop skills in new activities.

Fixtures provision tends to focus on the main sports of Hockey, Netball, Cross-Country, Athletics and Cricket but as part of the GDST we are lucky to also have access to Swimming, Gymnastics and many other Rallies and residentials throughout the year. There are over 25 teams representing the school through internal and external fixtures, competitive spirit and commitment to their teams is a key factor for students. Fixtures occur after school during the week and on some Saturdays; including opportunities to participate at weekend residential events. It is an expectation that all members of the Department contribute fully to enhance this provision.

We have had some fantastic team and individual successes with individuals competing at English schools Athletics and Cross-Country, Hockey players reaching JDC and JAC and both Hockey and Netball players being selected to represent Greenwich at the London Youth Games. Some team successes include the Greenwich Schools Borough League for Netball and Cross-Country as well as GDST rallies. With over 30 clubs available to choose from, across the two-week timetable, our students have an abundance of choice. Our staff consistently evaluate what is on offer and lead vibrant, innovative sessions. As well as fixtures and residential trips against other schools, in and out of the GDST, we also have inter-house matches including but not limited to; Netball, Hockey, Mini-Marathon, Sports Day. The House Sports Captains also organise many sporting charity events, we support and enable through participation and supervision.

In Key Stage Three, all girls have specialist taught PE lessons and there is also further support from a Key Stage One PE subject leader and senior staff in delivering the Junior curriculum. The department has led some exciting trips and opportunities for the girls in recent years including watching international Hockey at Lee Valley, Superleague Netball at the Copper Box, and going to Wimbledon. During the summer holidays, we hosted our first BHS Sports Camp, students from both the Junior and Senior schools participated in Netball, Hockey, Rounders and Cricket in an excellent week of fun, sun and sport. This June we will be introducing our first annual Sports Awards Dinner, one of many new initiatives the department have introduced in recent years.

This post would suit a PE specialist with a particular passion for inspiring a love of sport and activity amongst our delightful and enthusiastic girls. The current post-holder has established an excellent inclusive ethos and we would expect applicants to build upon the current levels of enthusiasm and involvement through offering exciting opportunities, open to all.

ROLE DESCRIPTION

Head of Junior School PE

Responsible to: Director of Sport

The PE Department is a highly successful and valued department within the school. It has benefitted from significant recent investment by the school and prides itself on an excellent inclusive, as well as competitive, sports provision.

Pupils throughout the school are offered a broad and varied curriculum, including:

Winter: Netball, Hockey, Gymnastics, Dance, Swimming, Orienteering, Fitness, Trampolining and Cross Country.
Summer: Athletics, Cricket and Rounders with Tennis clubs available.

At Key Stage 4 this also includes Volleyball, Badminton, Boxercise, Tag Rugby, and Basketball and lessons in the Fitness Suite.

6th form: Select from Netball, Hockey, Rowing and Dance.

Co-curricular activities feature highly within the school and teams from all year groups participate regularly in Local, Borough, Regional and National Competitions. As well as attending the Girls' Day School Trust Rallies held across the network of our schools, we have run residential Netball weekends and International Tours and are looking to develop this in the future.

This role involves responsibility for the co-ordination of Junior fixtures, tournaments and transition activities at KS2 into KS3.

Specific Responsibilities:

- To be responsible for allocated teams within the school, this is to include practices, fixtures, notice boards and Inter-House
- The co-ordination for the sporting co-curricular activities at KS2
- To develop the transition events to assist in the smooth transition between KS2 and KS3
- To assist with the co-curricular provision for Netball and Hockey in the Autumn and Spring term and Rounders, Cricket and Athletics in the Summer term
- Coaching and training sessions which may include, morning, lunch and after school sessions as well as some Saturdays
- Assisting in day to day running of department
- Carrying out tasks delegated by the DOS
- To work with DOS on the development of appropriate schemes of work, teaching and learning materials and assessment strategies for physical education
- To participate in regular departmental and staff meetings and discussions on particular issues: administration, curriculum development, self evaluation, professional development and other items of business to do with teaching Physical Education

ROLE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

- Keeping records of lessons taught, pupil attainment and pupil participation
- Recording of pupils assessment both written and digitally
- Writing of Grade Cards and End of Year Reports
- To be responsible for ensuring the highest quality and standards of teaching and learning in all lessons, thus encouraging all pupils to participate enthusiastically, always maintaining a high level of discipline
- Informing DOS of any planned absence and setting appropriate work.
- Attend after school meetings/evening events e.g. parents evening, prize giving
- Willingness to work over different sites
- Mini bus driver

All teaching staff are expected to:

- a. Work towards and support the school vision and the current school objectives outlined in the School Development Plan.
- b. Maintain high professional standards of attendance, punctuality, appearance, and conduct. Demonstrate positive and courteous relations with students, colleagues, parents and any external personnel.
- c. Adhere to school and GDST policies, as amended from time to time, and as set out in GDST Council Regulations, ORACLE and GDST circulars.
- d. Contribute towards organising, participating in or delivering on the school's programme of extra-curricular activities.
- e. In accordance with GDST policy, provide cover for absent colleagues by supervising and so far as is practicable, teaching pupils.
- f. Participate in meetings at the school which relate to the curriculum or the administration or organisation of the school, including pastoral arrangements, or for any purpose as reasonably decided by the Head.
- g. Carry out lunchtime duties – supervising pupils at lunch, as reasonable.
- h. Attend all relevant parents' meetings, which may take place in the evening.
- i. Support pupils and colleagues by attending some school productions, functions, trips and events as appropriate, and contributing, where possible, to the wider life of the school.
- j. Carry out such other associated duties as are reasonably assigned by the Head.

This job description should be seen as enabling rather than restrictive and will be subject to regular review, in consultation with the recognised trade union.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Education/Qualifications

A current driving licence.	Essential
A well qualified graduate in your subject.	Essential
Teaching qualification.	Essential
First Aid certificate.	Desirable
Mini Bus Driving Licence.	Desirable
Coaching qualifications in Cricket and Athletics.	Desirable
Level 1 (or equivalent) coaching qualifications in Hockey and/or Netball.	Essential

Experience & Knowledge

Experience of working with pupils within a school environment from KS2 to 6th form.	Essential
Experience and understanding of ICT and willingness to further develop such skills.	Essential
A good team worker, willing to teach across all key stages.	Desirable
Have experience of teaching at KS1.	Desirable

Skills, Knowledge and Aptitude

Have a passion for PE & Sport.	Essential
Be willing to teach up to GCSE level and possibly A level.	Desirable
Enjoy working with and support the learning of pupils.	Essential
Show initiative and prioritise tasks.	Essential
Be creative and look for innovative new ideas.	Essential
Have a good attendance and punctuality record.	Essential
Have excellent organisational skills.	Essential
Be able to work effectively as a team.	Essential
Familiarity with using and organising PE and Sport equipment.	Desirable
Knowledge of the latest developments within teaching.	Desirable
Confident user of ICT for the use of administration and learning.	Essential
Ability to use a range of teaching strategies in order to meet all the needs of the pupils.	Essential
Effective behaviour management skills.	Essential

General and Personal Characteristics

Willing to work flexible hours to support the schools extra-curricular and out of hours activities.	Essential
Dedication to promoting your subject within the school and marketing departments.	Desirable
Able to motivate, inspire and encourage pupils.	Essential
Excellent interpersonal skills.	Essential
Willing to learn new skills.	Essential
Able to work under pressure and under own initiative, with attention to detail.	Essential
An effective decision maker.	Essential
A willingness to travel between two sites.	Desirable
Ability to proactively work to deadlines.	Essential
Commitment to maintaining the caring and supportive environment of the School.	Essential
Enthusiastic, positive, resilient and hard working.	Essential



Completed application forms should be emailed to: s.read@bla.gdst.net.

Closing date for applications: 19 February 2018, 12 noon.

Date of interviews: 23 February 2018.

We are committed to the safeguarding of children and child protection screening will apply to this post.

Junior School:
info@bla.gdst.net
020 8852 1537

Senior School:
info@bla.gdst.net
020 8853 2929

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