

# Maternity cover for a full time or part time (0.8) teacher of French

# Required for September 2018 to December 2018

An enthusiastic, innovative and well qualified teacher of French is required to teach at all levels throughout the school. The ability to offer another language will be a distinct advantage. Applications are welcomed from both experienced and newly qualified teachers to join our thriving MFL department. The position can be full time or part time by arrangement with the successful applicant. The position may continue in a lesser part-time capacity after the maternity cover has finished.

A willingness to contribute to the co-curricular and pastoral programme in this busy boarding school is expected.

A letter of application, a completed application form and brief c.v., including names, addresses, telephone numbers of two referees, should be sent to Recruitment, Blundell’s School, Tiverton, Devon EX16 4DT.

**Closing date: Apply immediately**

For an application form and further information please see our website [www.blundells.org](http://www.blundells.org) or email: recruitment@blundells.org

*Blundell’s is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.*

**Blundell’s School**

Blundell’s is dedicated to academic excellence and enabling pupils to realise their full potential. It has been consistently praised for adding considerable value to its broad intake of pupils. In recent years, academic results have seen steady improvement and there is a strong commitment to continuing and indeed accelerating this pleasing development. For more information about the school, visit the website: www.blundells.org

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service. The post-holder’s responsibility for safeguarding the welfare of the pupils for whom they are responsible and with whom they come into contact will be to adhere to and ensure compliance with Blundell’s Child Protection Policy at all times. If, in the course of carrying out the duties of the post, the post-holder becomes aware of any actual or potential risks to the safety or welfare of children in Blundell’s, they must report any concerns to the Second Master, the child protection officer.

**History**

Blundell’s has a distinguished history. It was founded in 1604 through the bequest of a Peter Blundell, one of the wealthiest of Elizabethan merchants. He left money and lands for a boys’ school in his home town to ‘maintain sound learning and true religion’. Generous lands were provided in Tiverton and South Devon for its maintenance and Blundell’s executors established links between the School and Balliol College, Oxford and Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, which survive to this day.

**The 21st Century School**

Blundell’s is an independent co-educational day and boarding school for ages 11 to 18. There are just under 600 pupils on the roll (353 boys, 246 girls); the majority are from the West Country but some come from farther afield in the UK and around 10% are international students. The School is situated on the outskirts of the market town of Tiverton and, with the adjacent Prep School, is set in 90 acres of rolling Devon countryside. It is easily accessible via the M5 and the train journey to London is 2 hours. The M5 junction 27 and Tiverton Parkway station are both six minutes away.

The outstanding characteristic of Blundellians is their positive ‘can-do’ attitude. The main finding of our last Independent Schools Inspectorate report was that the School is highly successful in achieving its aims – that of providing a rounded education in which pupils learn to be flexible, articulate and able to present themselves and their ideas well and capable of motivating themselves and. It also noted the ‘excellent and unforced rapport’ between staff and pupils.

**The School’s Aims and Values**

Blundell’s aims to provide a rounded education for the whole person, in mind, body and spirit, promoting the essential values of Character, Social Responsibility and Independence to enable pupils to pursue Excellence in every area with a sense of Adventure about their future.

These values are in accordance with the wishes of the School’s founder Peter Blundell and expressed in the School’s long-held belief: ‘There are two gifts we can give our children, the first is roots and the second is wings’

Roots

* To develop depth and breadth of character, which will encourage resilience, optimism, self-control and generosity within the rich Christian values of the School
* To develop a sense of social responsibility and for each individual to be mindful of their role in the Blundell’s community, in society at large and in the global environment, thus encouraging consideration, mindfulness and respect
* To develop independence, with each pupil taking responsibility for their own growth and development and so demonstrate initiative, take ownership and feel satisfaction in what is achieved

Wings

* To pursue excellence, aspiring to do everything as well as it can be done, which will develop a sense of justifiable pride and ambition
* To develop confidence and a sense of adventure which will foster courage, curiosity and enterprise and originality

**The Modern Foreign Languages Department**

We want all our pupils to gain a sense of achievement and enjoyment of their languages and to be able to understand and communicate to the best of their ability in the different skill areas. We hope also to give them an insight into the language learning process itself and to make them feel confident to apply these skills to other languages and subjects. We want them to learn about the culture of the country whose language they are studying as well as gain an enthusiasm for the language. We are an innovative department who work closely as a team, sharing ideas, materials and skills in a mutually supportive way.

Almost every pupil at Blundell’s takes at least one modern foreign language to iGCSE level and we have a strong uptake at A-Level. French is taught from Year 7 and currently, pupils begin to study a second language (Spanish or German) in Year 9, which they may opt to continue to GCSE level. We take a communicative approach, underpinned by a strong grammatical foundation. Modern Languages teachers inevitably have their own style and approach but we also recognise the need to work within a common framework. Consequently we have drawn up well developed schemes of work, which ensure cohesion and continuity across the age-range and the different languages. Schemes of work are frequently reviewed in departmental meetings. They identify core structures and vocabulary, lay down a coherent timeframe for teaching and testing without limiting extension activities or the imaginative approach of an individual teacher. The pupils should be aware of clear structure and their own progression.

Each member of the Department enjoys the use of a modern, well equipped classroom housed in a purpose built modern block with excellent IT provision. There are currently five full time members of the department and three with a substantial part time allocation. In addition, the department employs a French assistante and a part time Mandarin tutor. All members of staff are provided with a laptop computer and have a digital projector. All MFL colleagues are involved in offering extra-curricular informal languages opportunities such as study visits, foreign films, outings to the cinema and theatre, organising visiting lecturers and visits to universities. We always welcome new ideas and initiatives.

We offer a positive working environment with supportive colleagues, space to continue to develop personal skills and enough room to explore the wider opportunities of the School and the local environment.

**Job Description: Teacher of French with either Spanish or German**

The successful candidate will be able to teach French to Key Stage 4 and will have the opportunity to teach all age groups and abilities. The ability to offer either German or Spanish would be an advantage. They will be prepared to be involved in all aspects of the Department and will be prepared to contribute to its continuing development. Every new member of staff is assigned a mentor and the full statutory NQT induction programme is available for teachers new to the profession. Blundell’s School is a regional training centre for NQTs in the independent sector.

All teachers are expected to adhere to the school Teaching Policy.

**TEACHING POLICY**

**Aims:**

* To foster in pupils an enthusiasm for study, application of intellectual, physical or creative effort and the ability to think and learn for themselves;
* To enable pupils to acquire new knowledge understanding and skills in the subjects taught;
* To support and encourage pupil reflection about their academic progress and enable them to demonstrate achievement.

**Effective teaching should be:**

* Responsive to the different needs of the pupils
* Challenging
* Well planned
* Varied

**Teachers should:**

1. Show a clear command of the subject areas which they teach;
2. Organise teaching programmes which meet curricular demands and pupils’ needs;
3. Plan lessons carefully, making their aims and objectives clear to pupils;
4. Have high expectations of all pupils, challenging their knowledge and understandings and encouraging and enabling them to meet their full potential;
5. Stimulate and maintain pupils’ interest by a range of methods and their own enthusiasm;
6. To use data on pupils’ baseline to inform their teaching;
7. Use personalised teaching strategies where appropriate to meet the needs of pupils of different abilities, including the most able, pupils for whom English is not their first language or those who have learning difficulties. Central lists of pupils and their particular learning requirements should be referred to;
8. Set appropriate homework and assess pupils’ work regularly and effectively, according to agreed standards and policies;
9. Manage pupils well, to maintain good order and discipline within the classroom;
10. Develop good relationships with pupils through a balance of firmness and friendliness;
11. Insist on punctuality in attending lessons and set a good example themselves;
12. Provide a teaching environment which is bright, orderly and interesting. Classroom decoration should be updated frequently and there should be regular displays of pupils’ work as well as displays to help pupils progress;

For further information, contact the Head of Modern Foreign Languages,

Nick Lecharpentier 01884-232300 or email nml@blundells.org