

**Teacher of Mathematics
Information Pack
Alcester Grammar School**

Welcome from the Principal - Mr Clive Sentance

I am very proud to be the principal of this wonderful school. We are one of the country's highest performing state schools, and we pride ourselves on being an uplifting place to work and study and a community where everybody is happy and valued.

Teachers who work here have been heard to say it is the best job they have ever had and many choose to remain with us for a long time. If you do join us you will be part of a like minded community who enjoy their teaching, make a huge contribution to extracurricular activities, and obtain a great deal of job satisfaction.

I can safely say that teaching here is a huge amount of fun. There is virtually no poor behaviour or disruption in lessons and the children exhibit a voracious appetite for learning. One of the many joys of working here is that you can focus on your teaching and on bringing your subject to life. You do not need to have had any experience of the selective sector, either as a student yourself or as a teacher. Indeed some of our teachers have joined us having developed their skills in the non-selective sector, and what they find to be different here is simply the overwhelmingly positive attitudes to learning and appetite for hard work amongst the students. This truly is a place where you can do the job you trained to do, with every opportunity to try out new teaching techniques and ideas in lessons.

The senior leadership team are supportive, broad minded and keen to see all staff and students succeed. Our vision is that the school should always be a place for professionals who would like to refine their teaching skills and implement innovative and creative ideas. Central to our philosophy are the key concepts of professionalism, autonomy and consultation, all within a sensible and reasonable framework of accountability. We operate light-touch monitoring, with few graded lesson observations, and you will enjoy the freedom to focus on education rather jumping through hoops to meet the supposed demands of OFSTED.

We are located in a highly convenient location in South Warwickshire, just over half an hour's drive from Birmingham and easily commutable from Worcester, Stratford, Coventry, Warwick or Cheltenham. It is a beautiful part of the country with superb amenities and eminently affordable housing, including plenty of good quality new build housing nearby. Anybody joining us is likely to see not just a significant increase in the quality of their professional life, but a commensurate increase in the quality of life outside of school.

We always want to appoint the best candidates we can, and so we would welcome applications from both newly qualified teachers and more experienced teachers. Prospective candidates are most welcome to visit the school and I am confident that if you do so you will very much want to come and work for us!

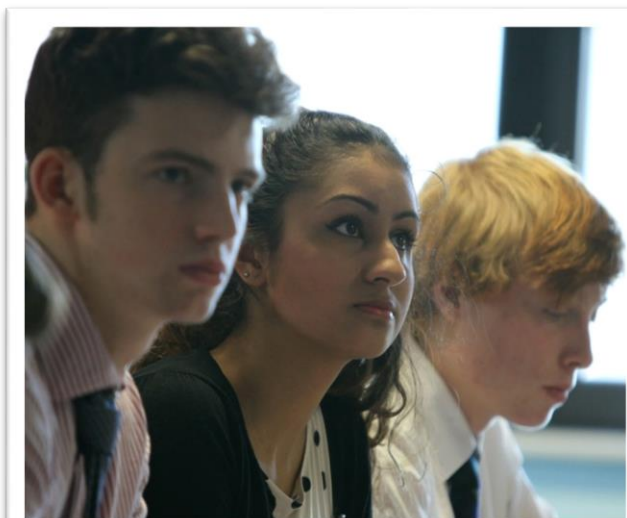
I look forward to receiving your application and meeting you soon.



About Alcester Grammar School

AGS is a forward-looking, selective state school with academy status and an outstanding record of promoting high achievement. Whilst we have achieved outstanding judgements in our last four Ofsted inspections, we regularly analyse our performance and seek new ways to enhance learning opportunities for our students.

It is worth noting that we are selective at 11-16 but we offer wider access to post-16 students. With 1139 students on roll, including nearly 500 in the sixth form, we are in a position to offer a wide curriculum; including a choice of two out of three languages in Years 7-9 and a requirement to study a modern language at KS4. In the 6th form we offer a choice of around 25 different A levels.



A major strength of our school is our pastoral support structure. Our students are supported by form tutors and Heads of Year. We also have access to other external support agencies. Behaviour and attendance are excellent at AGS and our students are highly motivated, keen and enthusiastic. They are warm, welcoming and have a good working relationship with staff, which is built on mutual trust and respect.

AGS is an exciting place to work. Staff have high standards; both of themselves and our students. We have a large number of support staff who work alongside teachers and there are many opportunities to develop their skills and careers through research projects, working with trainee teachers, participation in school development groups and working with staff from other schools, locally, nationally and internationally.



What our current staff say:

"There's a real sense of working as a team, and a great warmth and humour I haven't experienced in any other workplace."

"AGS has a unique vibe. There is such a positive atmosphere around the school; staff and students respect each other, support each other and demonstrate genuine care."

"The students are never afraid to ask 'why?' They are vibrant and challenging"



Please do have a look at our website at www.alcestergs.co.uk and view our prospectus to find out more about our school.

The Mathematics Department

RESPONSIBLE TO: Head of Department

SALARY: MPS

The Mathematics Department Team

Tunde Warren Head of Department

Sarah Leeds Second in department

**Josh Hemming, Kate Johns, Barbara Minards,
Richard Proud, Louise Jaram, Matthew Wade.**

The Mathematics Department

In 2012 the department were visited for an OFSTED subject inspection, which graded us outstanding in all four areas.

The department is based in a modern suite of five classrooms where most of the mathematics teaching takes place. The building also contains two offices. All of the rooms are equipped with an interactive whiteboard. The computers and projectors have been upgraded as part of Warwickshire's PFI project. We have an extended licence for the latest Autograph upgrade and have a number of other software packages available such as Mymaths and MEI. We are keen to use the voting pads and the department also has three half class sets of graphical calculators. We have a large supply of resources and these are shared amongst the members of the department.

Key Stage 3

Years 7-9 are taught in form groups. The New National Framework 7+, 8+ and 9+ books are used for homework. Throughout Key Stage 3 staff are encouraged to design, use and share their own resources.

Key Stage 4

In years 10/11 students work in two different sets: either enrichment or parallel groups. Average class size will be 20 to 25. We use the Pearson (Edexcel) course and all students are entered for the Higher Tier.

In 2016 99% of students achieved A* - B and 84% achieved A* - A grades. RAISE online showed that 99% of students made expected progress and 84% achieved accelerated progress between KS2 to KS4.

Key Stage 5

In the sixth form there are presently courses in Mathematics and Further mathematics. We plan to follow the Pearson (Edexcel) specifications. There are currently over 250 students on these courses in the school. In 2016 72% of our year 13 students passed A level at grade A* to B. In recent years a number of students have gone on to study mathematics and closely related subjects at universities including Warwick and Cambridge. We use resources such as the standards unit, Susan Wall materials and Tarsia cards to enrich students' experience of mathematics.

Extra-curricular opportunities

Each year students throughout the school have the opportunity to participate in one of the UK Mathematical Challenges. Students regularly qualify for all three levels of the follow on Olympiad competitions. We also take part in the Senior and Junior Team Maths Challenges.

Trips are regularly organised including the Alcester Mathematics Trail for year 7 students, a trip to Bletchley Park for year 8 students and a data handling trip to Drayton Manor for year 9 students. Year 10 and 11 students attend the maths inspirational lectures in Birmingham and the Maths and Beyond lectures in Coventry and year 12 and 13 students attend Maths in Action Days in London.



Teacher of Mathematics Person Specification

It is expected that the successful applicant will be able to fulfil the following criteria:

- be well qualified to teach mathematics, with an appropriate degree
- have the following teaching experience:
 1. A level Maths - N.B. with at least six A level sets in each of Years 12 and 13 about half of the timetable here will be sixth form work.
 2. GCSE Mathematics (to Higher Level)
- have a post-graduate certificate in education or its equivalent
- be able to produce evidence of students' successful examination performance if currently employed
- have the ability to inspire and motivate students to enjoy and work hard at the subject
- have a commitment to the development of children and students not only as mathematicians but as individuals and members of the school and wider community
- appreciate that the quality of relationships is fundamental to good teaching/learning and have the ability to achieve good quality relationships
- have a good level of understanding of and facility with the use of ICT in Mathematics and its potential for enhancing learning.
- be able to work well in a team of specialists which is professional, supportive and happy
- want to make a contribution towards the wider life of the school
- have a healthy attitude to personal development and work-life balance
- have a sense of humour and a positive, 'can-do' approach
- A commitment to safeguarding children's well being

As you can see, we seek someone with vigour, ability and commitment. We expect you to like working with young people! Well qualified NQTs or experienced individuals are equally welcome to apply.

Advisory Note to Applicants

REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS ACT 1974 Amendment to Exceptions Order (2013)

The work for which you are applying will have regular contact with children and is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. However, please note that the amendments to the Exceptions Order 1975 (2013) provide that certain spent convictions and cautions are 'protected' and are not subject to disclosure to employers, and cannot be taken into account. Guidance and criteria on the filtering of these cautions and convictions can be found at the Disclosures and Barring Service website. www.gov.uk/dbs

These details should be enclosed in a separate, sealed envelope marked 'confidential' – for the attention of the Chairperson of the appointing body. The envelope should state clearly the name of the school/establishment and the work for which you are applying, and be returned with your application form.

The information you give will be treated in confidence and will only be taken into account in relation to an application where the exemption applies.

The Governing Body is entitled, under arrangements introduced for the protection of children, to check with the Disclosures and Barring Service for the existence and content of any criminal record of the successful applicant prior to the confirmation of appointment.

Therefore, successful applicants will be required to complete a disclosure form to enable a check to be undertaken. Failure to consent to this could prevent the application being considered further. This check involves details being obtained of convictions, including those considered 'spent' under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, cautions held at national level and may also include non-conviction information. You will receive the results of the check from the Disclosures and Barring Service, who will also forward a copy to the Authority. Information received from the Disclosures and Barring Service will be kept in strict confidence and will be destroyed in

accordance with guidelines laid down by the Disclosures and Barring Service.

The disclosure of a criminal record will not debar you from appointment, unless the Authority considers that the conviction renders you unsuitable for appointment. In making this decision, consideration will be given to the nature of the offence, how long ago and what age you were when it was committed, and any factors which may be relevant.

Failure to declare a conviction, caution or bind-over may, however, disqualify you from appointment, or result in dismissal or disciplinary action if the discrepancy comes to light.

Under the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 it is an offence for an individual who has been disqualified from working with children to knowingly apply for offer to do, or accept or do any work in a 'regulated position', such as the post for which you are applying.

Equal Opportunities Policy

Alcester Grammar School is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

The school's Equal Opportunities Policy states that it will give equal treatment to all persons within its organisation regardless of sex, marital status, race, colour, nationality, national origin, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, disability, age and not allow any individual to be disadvantaged by any other condition which cannot be shown as justifiable.

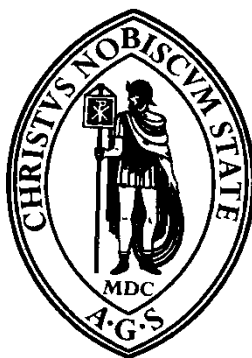


Application Procedure

Please complete the application form and provide a supporting statement (on no more than two sides of A4). The supporting statement should address your particular strengths and how your experience to date has prepared you for this particular role. Applications may be submitted via email to j.dyos@alcestergs.com or by post to Alcester Grammar School, Birmingham Road, Alcester, Warwickshire B49 5ED.

The closing date is 9am on Monday 5th December 2016; the interviews will take place later on in this week.

AGS is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. We expect all staff to share this commitment. Appointments made are subject to an Enhanced Disclosures and Barring Disclosure.



For more information about AGS see our website www.alcestergs.co.uk
or contact the Principal, Clive Sentence on 01789-762494,
or via j.dyos@alcestergs.com

Alcester Grammar School
Birmingham Road
Alcester
Warwickshire
B49 5ED

Tel: 01789-762494
Fax: 01789-400626