

St Mary's School, Calne

**Headmistress: Dr Felicia Kirk, BA (University of Maryland),
MA and PhD (Brown University)**



Artist in Residence

Full-time

August 2018

St Mary's is a leader in the field of girls' independent boarding education. It has over 350 girls aged 11-18, including 100+ girls in the Sixth Form. Almost all of the girls go on to university, several each year to Oxbridge, to read a wide variety of subjects, and results in public examinations are consistently excellent. As well as innovative teaching, learning and scholarship, St Mary's offers outstanding pastoral care and a vibrant, warm community.

We are seeking to appoint a dynamic, highly motivated and skilled person who has excellent communication skills. The successful candidate will continue their own studio practice and assist in the Art Department, with a mixture of extracurricular and technician responsibilities, in addition to undertaking some boarding duties (if choosing to live on site). The position would suit an enthusiastic, committed and forward looking graduate who would be keen to contribute to all aspects of life in a boarding school and who might, in the longer term, be considering a career in teaching.

St Mary's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils. Due to the nature of the work involved, the successful applicant will be required to undertake an Enhanced DBS check.

The School: its Ethos and Aims

St Mary's believes in excellence in all respects. As a school community, we thrive amidst a culture of high expectation and the education, which we seek to provide, nurtures and develops the concept of high performance.

The principal aim is to develop well-rounded pupils who are equipped to excel as adults. Whilst the achievement of top quality examination results is a central tenet, since these will be a key passport for the girls in the path to their future careers in the modern world, we seek to encourage everyone to strive for excellence in a wide range of spheres.

We aim to inculcate habits for life, enabling the girls: to relish the prospect of hard work; to develop and deploy the necessary qualities of perseverance and determination; to learn how to do well; to acquire the belief and self-confidence that they are capable of high performance and success – both in the short term and in the future; to instil a sense of desire and an appreciation that the future, indeed their future, lies within the grasp of their own efforts.

Extra-curricular activities and opportunities beyond the classroom are a vital and integral part of life for girls at St Mary's. They are woven into the timetable during the day, in the evenings and at weekends. We believe that both boarders and day girls benefit from all aspects of the strong boarding ethos of the school.

Expectations of Members of Staff

Most importantly, we are looking for an enthusiastic, energetic and well-qualified person who will inspire his/her pupils and who can engage sympathetically with young people. He/she will: make an active contribution to the department; stretch pupils of all abilities to achieve their potential; encourage pupils to learn by making the subject taught both interesting and accessible; be innovative and dynamic in order to assist with the effective delivery of the curriculum. Our pupils' success in acquiring new abilities, skills and understanding depends crucially upon the quality of teaching which we are able to offer.

St Mary's School has an innovative approach, incorporating Connected Teaching and Learning. This is based around the seven attributes of a St Mary's learner which seeks to encourage the girls to be: Proactive Learners; Inquisitive Learners; Creative Thinkers; Confident Learners; Collaborative Learners; Robust Learners and Reflective Learners. These attributes are interwoven into all areas of school life. Members of the teaching staff are expected to embrace this culture of being at the forefront of girls' education through, amongst other things, attending regular CPD sessions and demonstrating openness to new ideas.

All members of staff are expected to commit to the boarding ethos of the school which includes supporting the extra-curricular life. This provides a key interface between the specific academic work of the classroom and the broader life of the boarding community.

The Art Department

The Art School is renowned for the high quality, individuality and skill of its students work; Art permeates life at St Mary's (as seen in the very prominent display of art work in very many areas of the school) and aims to be sector leading in the field. The *raison d'être* of the department is to inspire, challenge and support; to achieve excellence with impact for every girl; to cultivate girls' enthusiasm and curiosity for visual culture through observational rigour, engaging them in a wide range of imaginative, aesthetic and creative experiences that enable them to develop their own voice in visual language.

In the department all artwork is informed with reference to both historical and contemporary artists and we facilitate learning in a broad range of specialisms. The emphasis is very much on the individual and a student's increasing independence; our girls develop into calm, confident and creative Artists. We have strong cross-curriculum links and are actively looking to embrace opportunities to work collaboratively with Science and other departments.

The Art School is housed in purpose-built studios, with dedicated Printing, Sculpture and Painting Studios. We support specialist facilities for painting, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, textiles, digital and darkroom photography, digital media, various forms of printmaking and Life Drawing in the Sixth Form. The LVI each have dedicated studio space and the UVI girls have a studio of their own. Making art extends far beyond the curriculum, with the Art School being open during evenings and weekends; there is always a wide a range of activities on offer. Girls have created sets for school productions and we enter major art competitions including the Saatchi and SPOKE.

All girls in the Fourth Form (Years 7 – 9) have one Art for one lesson per week. Above this level Fine Art is offered as an optional subject at GCSE and A Level, where the take-up is strong. For these girls there are regular trips to major Art venues in London and other locations and there is also a residential trip in the Sixth Form. They are also encouraged to take part in workshops with visiting practitioners and independently to visit museums and galleries.

Exhibitions take place at the end of each academic year on Founders' Day (late June/early July) and work is annually placed on prominent display around the School. A triennial Exhibition is held in London where in recent years Anthony Gormley and Endellion Lycett-Green have been highly involved key figures. We are active in seeking to develop our external Exhibitions profile and review our engagement in a variety of competitions.

Artist in Residence Role

The Artist in Residence will be responsible to the Director of Art on a day to day basis. The expectation is that the post holder will man the Art School for three evenings per week.

The role is multi-faceted and requires the individual to be a confident, well-rounded personality who enjoys life in a community and is flexible, sensible, energetic and a good communicator. To support the creation of the Artists' own work, they will have full use of the studios, facilities and equipment.

There is a balance between the Artist creating his/her Art work and technician duties (which will be shared with other members of the department). Specific responsibilities will be as follows: running a Junior, GCSE and A Level extracurricular activity in the Art School; supporting Art Scholars carrying out their prefect duties. The Artist in Residence will also be pivotal in

supporting the girls to become involved with Exhibitions and will seek to develop competition entry opportunities for them. He/she will be expected to contribute his/her own work to the Founders' Day Exhibition and to donate a significant piece of artwork to the school before he/she leaves the post.

In order to have some good preparatory time before the start of the new academic year in September, it is envisaged that the post will run from the start of August 2018 (and will conclude at the end of July 2019).

There is the option for accommodation to be included with the post; if this option is taken, a number of boarding duties will be involved.

Person Specification

Essential requirements - the successful candidate will have:

- An Art related degree or Art school training
- A desire to develop or continue their own Art Practice & share it with students
- Excellent team skills and is able to be proactive in using their initiative
- Strong and demonstrable organisational skills
- Strong ICT skills e.g. a working knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel, Photoshop, Final Cut Pro
- A responsible and open attitude to work
- A willingness to commit to the boarding ethos of the school
- Excellent communication skills with pupils, parents and staff
- An ability to prioritise and manage time effectively
- An ability to work in an enthusiastic manner bringing new ideas and suggestions
- The desire for excellence in all areas
- Flexibility
- The ability to share their knowledge with others effectively
- The ability to engage students in creating successful & personal outcomes

Desirable requirements - the successful candidate will ideally have:

- An ability to offer Painting as a specific area of expertise
- Knowledge of a range of practitioners, movements and genres
- Contemporary Critical and Contextual Studies Experience
- An enthusiasm for engaging young people to develop independence, creativity and confidence
- Experience of hanging exhibitions
- A desire and experience to inspire the girls towards competition entries

Further details and how to apply

Accommodation will be available with this post and all meals are provided during term-time. For a nominal fee, staff may have membership of the St Mary's Sports Centre.

Further information about the school may be viewed on the website: www.stmaryscalne.org

An application form may be downloaded from the website or can be sent on request. Please contact the following:

Mrs Karen Turner
St Mary's School
Calne
Wiltshire
SN11 0DF

Email: teacher.recruitment@stmaryscalne.org

Tel: 01249 857 200

A fully completed application form, together with a covering letter, should be sent by email to: teacher.recruitment@stmaryscalne.org

Email is very much our preferred method of receiving applications. If this is problematic, please contact us by telephone on the above number.

Receipt of an application will be acknowledged as soon as possible.

Closing date for applications: **midday on Monday 19th February 2018**

St Mary's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils. Due to the nature of the work involved, the successful applicant will be required to undertake an Enhanced DBS check.

All members of staff are expected to have proper regard for the school's safeguarding policy and procedures, including up-to-date training. Extracts from the school's policy are appended as the final page of this document.

Extract from ST MARY'S CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

St Mary's Calne fully recognises its responsibilities for Child Protection.

We are dedicated to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our boarders and day girls, regardless of age, ability, race, culture, religion, sexuality or class. We follow the child protection procedures set out by the Wiltshire Safeguarding Children Board and have regard to statutory guidance issued by the Department for Education *Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2016*. Our policy takes full regard to *Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 (WT)*, *What to do if you are Worried a Child is Being Abused (2015)* and the *National Minimum Boarding Standards (2015)*.

At St Mary's we have a 'Nominated Governor' to take leadership responsibility for the school's safeguarding arrangements.

What is safeguarding?

Safeguarding can be defined as promoting the health, safety and welfare of all pupils.

Safeguarding is the responsibility of all adults, especially those working or volunteering with children. The school aims to help protect the children in its care by working consistently and appropriately with all relevant agencies to reduce risk and promote the welfare of children.

Staff:

- are advised to maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here' as far as safeguarding is concerned;
- should always act in the best interest of the child.

What is child protection?

Child protection is a part of safeguarding and promoting welfare. This refers to the activity which is undertaken to protect specific children who are suffering, or at risk of suffering, significant harm.