



MERCHANT TAYLORS'  
School



Director of Teaching and Learning

Information for candidates

Excellence, integrity, and distinction since 1561

For boys 3-18



## Contents

- 03 The School
- 05 The Person
- 06 The Role
- 08 The Benefits
- 10 The Process



# The School

Merchant Taylors’ School has been one of the top ten boys’ schools in the UK since its foundation by the Merchant Taylors’ Company, one of the twelve Great Livery Companies of the City of London, in Suffolk Lane in 1561. One of the nine original ‘Clarendon schools’, its alumni have achieved distinction throughout history. However, the school wears its heritage lightly, its strong sense of tradition very much at the service of the future. Through the Merchant Taylors’ Educational Trust, it retains close links with other Merchant Taylors’ schools, and with the Merchant Taylors’ Company itself.

Relocated from the City to Sandy Lodge, Northwood in 1933, the school occupies a superb setting: 286 acres of lakes, playing fields, and woodland, all within easy reach of central London, Middlesex, Buckinghamshire, and Hertfordshire.

There are four distinct boys’ day schools on campus. The Nursery, the Pre-Prep & the Prep cater for 340 boys from 3 to 13

years of age, while the Senior School has some 890 pupils from 11 – 18, with over 300 in the Sixth Form (The Prep School shares some of its facilities with the Senior School, but is a separate school in its own right).

Competition for places is fierce, and entry is by competitive examination at 11+, 13+, and 16+.



Public examination results are outstanding, the majority of students proceeding either to Oxbridge or other leading universities and medical schools in the UK or abroad.

We pride ourselves on our outstanding pastoral care as well as our excellent academic results, and aspiration in all areas goes well beyond the norm, making Taylors' a particularly exciting and rewarding place to teach.

The 2014 Inspection Report accorded the school the highest accolade of "exceptional", finding that pupil achievement and learning are exceptional, and the teaching, curricular and co-curricular provision are all excellent: "Pupils are receptive, alert,

highly articulate and well-motivated... friendly, happy and self-reflective... highly articulate... logical and independent thinkers... and show high levels of creativity".

Merchant Taylors' is an exciting, rewarding environment in which to teach and work. For those with talent, ambition, and commitment, Merchant Taylors' provides the means for the development of a successful career in a place with a real sense of community.

Probably the best way to get a taste of life at Taylors' is to read our weekly magazine Scissorum, which is available on the school's website [www.mtsn.org.uk/scissorum](http://www.mtsn.org.uk/scissorum)



## The Person

The Director of Teaching & Learning should see their role in the context of whole-school achievement and as being crucial in improving the quality of education offered at Merchant Taylors' School.

The ideal candidate will be an outstanding classroom practitioner, but most importantly will be open minded. They will understand that there is no 'one size fits all' approach to great teaching, and will nurture the talents, interests and enthusiasms of a range of different sorts of teachers. They will want to work with and alongside people, helping others develop as reflective teachers. They will be approachable and confident in their abilities to help guide others.



# The Role

## Leadership and Management

- To develop a culture of reflectiveness at the school.
- To challenge our existing culture to ensure that, as a school, we are always forward looking.
- To have oversight of the Teaching and Learning Group and manage its meetings and agenda – with a view to informing discussions at SLT, Curriculum Committee and HoDs Forum.
- To lead the school’s focus on independent learning and independent thinking, working with HoDs throughout our school to ensure that pupils are developing as independent and resilient learners.
- To lead and manage the EPQ and HPQ programmes.
- To have an ongoing familiarity with recent research and educational literature, and to maintain an awareness of national and international developments in the area of teaching and learning.
- To ensure a coherent, vibrant, and stretching programme for our school’s Academic Scholars.

- To have oversight of the whole school Oxbridge programme, to coordinate the work of HoDs in this area and to act as a final check for UCAS applications.
- To coordinate teaching developments and cross-curricular projects – to facilitate risk-taking initiatives and research projects by our teaching staff.
- To coordinate, along with the Senior Deputy Head (Academic), the Teaching and Learning aspects of Whole School INSET and to monitor the effectiveness of such sessions.
- To manage and develop the New Teacher Programme, take part in observations for School's Direct and NQT teachers to support all of those who are new to teaching.
- To take part, along with the Senior Deputy Head (Academic), in Learning Walks throughout the school to observe teaching across departments and to provide feedback on these walks to the relevant HOD.
- To implement and coordinate Teaching and Learning Breakfasts – opportunities for teachers to discuss a specific area of teaching and learning which interests and excites them.
- To liaise with the Registrar to evaluate and develop the General Paper for 11+ entry.
- To mentor colleagues as part of the Professional Development Review process and to evaluate and develop the teaching strand of this process.
- To liaise with the Deputy Head (Information Services) regarding the use of information technology in Teaching and Learning.
- To organise the Revision & Activities Week.
- To liaise with the Second Master and the Pastoral Team to evaluate and develop the Pupil Self Review.
- To oversee, along with the Senior Deputy Head (Academic) our School's Teaching and Learning Policy.



# The Benefits

## Benefits

- The school has high expectations of staff, and therefore rewards them with a generous salary scale and beneficial conditions of service
- High-quality single and married teacher accommodation is usually available and nearly half the academic faculty lives on campus
- Interest-free loans are usually available to those staff wishing to leave school accommodation and take out a mortgage

## Teaching

- The collegiate spirit amongst the academic faculty is a strong and positive one. The atmosphere in Common Room is exceptionally congenial and supportive, whilst the boys are interesting, talented young men, and the academic environment is conspicuously civilised
- Class sizes are small and the teaching facilities are excellent: most teachers have their own fully-resourced classroom



**Career**

- There is an extensive induction programme for all new colleagues, and we encourage ongoing professional development through generous INSET provision
- Each member of the academic faculty has a voice on professional matters via the General Purposes Committee
- Membership of the Teacher's Superannuation Scheme
- Longer holidays than the maintained sector
- Free on-site parking
- School Nurse on site
- Typically generous sick and maternity/paternity arrangements

**Personal**

- The school enjoys a superb campus: central London is 25 minutes away, the M1 and M25 are 10 minutes away, Heathrow is less than half an hour
- Fee concessions are available for the sons of any member of the academic faculty who meet the school's entry requirements

**For Recreation**

- Free use of the school's extensive leisure and sporting facilities: 265 acres of parkland, with more than 65 devoted to sport
- Free lunch and free refreshments are available throughout the working day



## The Process

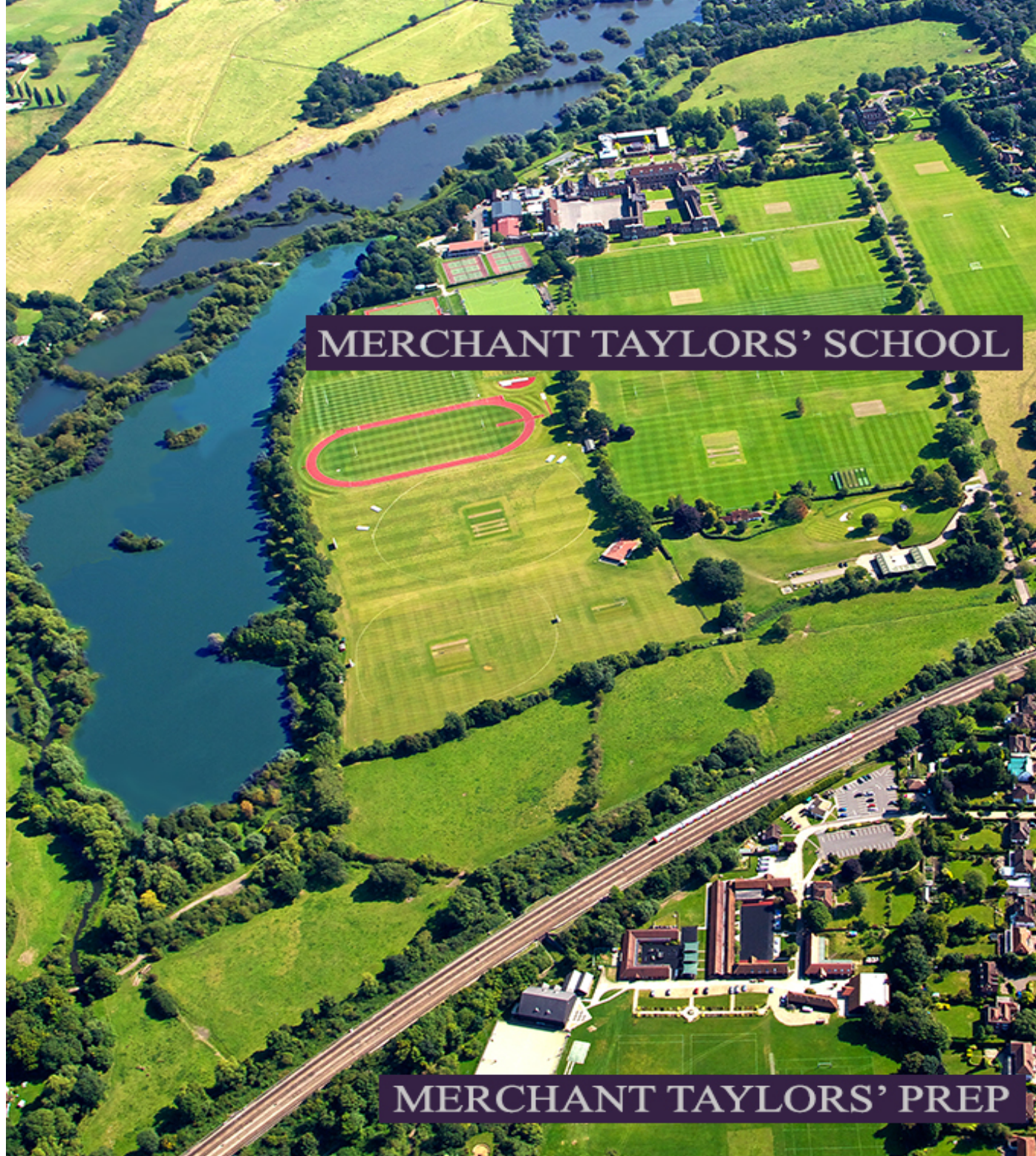
Please complete an application form and an accompanying letter (maximum 500 words) outlining your suitability for the post; you may wish to include a brief CV.

The post will appear in the Times Educational Supplement on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January and Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2018. The closing date is Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 4.00 pm; interviews will be held weeks commencing 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018 .

Applications to (email, fax, or post):  
The Head Master  
Merchant Taylors' School  
Sandy Lodge  
Northwood  
Middlesex HA6 2HT

The Director of Teaching and Learning,  
Hannah Butland will be happy to  
answer any questions; contact her at  
[hbutland@mtsn.org.uk](mailto:hbutland@mtsn.org.uk)

Fax: +44(0)1923 835110  
Email: [recruitment@mtsn.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@mtsn.org.uk)



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