

TEACHER OF DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

January 2019

Whitgift is one of Britain's leading independent day and boarding schools for boys aged between 10 and 18 years with approximately 1460 pupils and 106 boarding or flexi-boarding pupils. The School, which was founded in 1596 by Elizabeth I's last Archbishop of Canterbury, John Whitgift, is one of the oldest in Croydon and enjoys facilities of outstanding quality, amongst the best available nationally. It is set in an attractive 48 acre parkland site in South Croydon with excellent links to London, Surrey and the south coast.

The Vacancy

The Department is very busy and expectations within the School are high. The successful candidate must be someone who is confident, proactive and reflective about their teaching, has excellent communication skills, is capable of contributing positively within a team and is committed to raising attainment through excellent teaching and learning.

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and dedicated graduate who possesses a genuine passion for design technology alongside a capacity to share this effectively with pupils of all ages.

The successful candidate must be able to teach Design and Technology to A2 Level and should expect to play a full part in the running of this vibrant Department. The department runs the new AQA GCSE which has broadened the potential for creativity and teachers with experience of Electronics or Systems and Control are welcomed but these skills are not essential. A commitment to maintaining the high standards of the department would be expected, and there is excellent scope for an inspirational teacher to develop and apply their skills and knowledge at all levels. Involvement in the wider activities of the department would be expected. The ability to challenge and generate enthusiasm amongst the pupils for their creative and technological work, whilst supporting the additional sessions at lunchtime and afterschool, for which there is a large demand is essential. The creative potential of the students in the School is enormous.

The position is suitable for someone who is new to teaching and looking to challenge themselves academically, newly qualified teachers or for a more experienced candidate who has the skills to enrich this already successful department. The ability to work as a team is essential and candidates will also need to have good IT skills.

A proactive culture of supporting and developing talented and inspiring teachers is supported by the Senior Management Team. Training and development includes:

- regular in-house training for all teaching staff
- NQT induction programme for unqualified teachers
- School's Direct programme to support those new to the profession.

As a Boarding School, stimulating opportunities may be available for the right candidate to contribute to the pastoral care of students as a Boarding Tutor, both resident and non-resident along with a wide range of co-curricular activities.

The position reports to the Head of Design, Technology and Engineering.

The Design, Technology and Engineering Department

The Design, Technology & Engineering Department at Whitgift School consists of 5 members of teaching staff, 1 full time technician and 1 graduate design student. All members of staff are expected to teach the complete age range from Years 6 to 13. The Department, housed in outstanding purpose-built facilities, is extremely well-equipped and has a generous annual budget. The facilities comprise of four spacious workshops, three design rooms (each containing 17 networked desktop PCs), a heat treatment room, a CNC room, an engineering area, a STEM room for project work, a staff office and an extensive storage and material preparation area. The design areas are equipped with networked computers running Solidworks and Corel Draw, projectors and an Apple TV. A suite of 17 iPads are available for shared use in the Department. 8 3D Printers, 2 laser cutters and a CNC plasma cutter as well as Arduino and Crumble class sets enhance the capabilities of the department to deliver an outstanding education.

Design Technology is taught to all boys in Years 6 to 8, as an option in Year 9 (approx. 180 students) and as an examination course at GCSE (approx. 70 students), and at A-level (approx. 8 students per year).

Department Philosophy

Our aim is to offer students outstanding opportunities to pursue this subject and we have a high profile nationally. We are an ever evolving and expanding department looking to provide increasing opportunities for students to choose Engineering, Design and Architecture related courses at university. In order to achieve this, we are in the process of creating a network of business and industrial contacts to foster closer working relationships.

The choice of coursework projects is often self-initiated, hence the study of society, the environment and any related technological activity that allows for the application of far-reaching solutions to individual problems. All of our A Level students are encouraged to identify 'real' problems within the local community. Students working in this flexible way are often surprised to find how combinations of technologies can be used in radically new ways.

Students are required to become thoroughly conversant with the working properties of at least two materials and to have a broader understanding of a range of others, dependent upon their specific project requirements. A multi-material approach is taken to our work and every effort is made by tutors to encourage students to produce professionally finished products. Ideas are often developed to the point where an original design becomes marketable.

In addition to manufacturing, it is essential that students involve themselves in the wider aspects of marketing, promotion, corporate identity and general product development. This ensures that the student is able to visualise the consumer and client relationship from initial concept to the marketplace.

The Department itself is structured to encourage a team teaching philosophy. This is achieved both by teaching in multimedia workshops and encouraging the concept of becoming Technologists and Designers rather than single material specialists. Course structures are arranged to encourage this flexibility and involve all members of staff having an input in each course. Students regard the department staff as a resource team and consult with those who have specialist abilities associated with their projects.

Curriculum

The curriculum is designed to meet the aims of the Department and to define clearly the practical and academic nature of the subject. This is achieved through a varied course structure, which is both flexible and rewarding.

Our curriculum illustrates the need for continued awareness within the global field of Design and Technology, whilst offering a realistic perception of technological developments both now and for the future.

Our foundation course (KS3) is both rigorous and challenging, and enables students to experience a range of different materials and techniques. It is constantly evolving to meet the demands of modern society and to include emerging technologies. The course is based around the following three essential components:

- The Design Process
- Graphical and Information Technology skills
- Practical skills and understanding (material manipulation and control)

All students undertake a combination of individual and group projects. Moreover, the Department empathises with the philosophies of the new National Curriculum and is re-structuring itself accordingly.

The Department is still evolving to meet the demands of the new single title A-level and GCSE specifications and we see this as a fantastic opportunity for new areas of the curriculum to be explored.

As of September 2018, the Department will offer the following courses:

Design and Technology (Product Design)
Design and Technology

GCE A Level (AQA)
GCSE (AQA)

Academic Results

In 2018, 71% of the A Level Design and Technology pupils achieved an A*- B rate. At GCSE pupils achieved a 65% A* - A rate in Design and Technology (Product Design).

Co-Curricular Activities

The Department runs a Junior DT Club which is run by our graduate design student from Brunel. This is very popular and allows students in Years 6 - 9 to pursue a wide range of technological interests. We run support sessions for GCSE and A Level students most evenings from 4.00pm – 5.15pm and would expect the successful candidate to assist with these several times a week.

All Year 8 students participate in a STEM initiative for an 8 week cycle where they pursue a variety of projects related to the hosting department. The students have previously presented projects based on 3D printing, air powered cars, aerodynamics, structures and charity coin collection devices.

In addition, we have previously had outstanding success in both national and local competitions but wish to build our reputation further in this field. Previous successes have been experienced in: 'YEDA' (Young Electronic Design Awards), 'Young Engineer for Britain', 'Young Entrepreneurs of Britain', the Audi Design Competition and SATRO.

Furthermore, the Department enters students for the National Arkwright Scholarship Scheme with great success and we have had 64 scholars since 1996.

Contact

Please feel free to contact Mr Andrew Seal, Head of Design, Technology and Engineering, on 020 8688 9222 or e-mail ads@whitgift.co.uk if you have questions regarding the vacancy or would like to know more.

Conditions of Service

The salary will be on the Whitgift Foundation scale (substantially above national scale) according to qualifications and experience. Accommodation may be available. Assistance is offered towards removal expenses etc., up to £1,000 in total.

Staff are required to make a significant contribution to the co-curricular life of the School and this is reflected in the salary offered. A strong commitment to the pastoral and house system is also anticipated.

We offer a generous salary and benefits package including membership of the Teachers' Pension Scheme(including Life Assurance cover), Employee Discount Club , discount on school fees for the Foundation Schools (permanent posts only), staff discounted on off-peak membership at our on-site gym (Nuffield Health), membership of a healthcare plan, a range of family-friendly benefits and season ticket loan.

We welcome applications from all parts of our community as we aspire to attract staff that matches the social and cultural diversity of our student intake.

For further information and an online application form, please visit www.whitgift.co.uk/vacancies. For any general queries, please telephone the School Human Resources Department on 020 8688 9222 or e-mail SchoolHR@whitgift.co.uk.

Applications will be reviewed on a daily basis and interviews may occur at any stage after applications are received so we invite interested candidates to apply as soon as possible.

As a result of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996, employers now have to verify that new recruits who are not British Nationals are eligible to work in this country. Therefore, any applicant who is offered an interview will be asked to provide official documentation to verify their ID, address and right to work in the UK. It is also normal practice for the School to ask for original qualifications and professional membership documents as detailed on their application.

Whitgift School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people, and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening including checks with past employers and the Disclosure & Barring Service.