



MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL
INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOL FOR BOYS 7 - 18 AND SIXTH FORM GIRLS



Information Pack

Part-time Teacher of Geography (0.5-0.8)

Closing date: Midday, Wednesday 4th March

Interview date: Tuesday 10th March

Oxford OX4 1DZ Telephone 01865 242191
Email: master@mcsoxford.org · www.mcsoxford.org

Registered Company 2106661 Registered Charity 295785



MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL
INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOL FOR BOYS 7 - 18 AND SIXTH FORM GIRLS

Introduction from the Master, Helen Pike

Magdalen College School is a remarkable place. We are now well into our sixth century, and our former pupils include scholars, war heroes, musicians, Olympians, two Nobel Prize laureates, a Hollywood film director, and a saint. Our success in public examinations, in securing places at top universities, and in an astonishing array of extra-curricular pursuits ensures that we continue this proud tradition. We do so by nurturing the individual potential of each of our pupils, and above all we believe that learning is as fun as it is fulfilling.



Magdalen College School was founded in 1480 by William of Waynflete: schoolmaster, bishop of Winchester and Lord Chancellor of England. Being of humble origins, Waynflete was determined that others of ability should be given the opportunity to learn, to serve and to prosper as he did. And so MCS offers a transformative education in our global university city, the community to which we contribute.

We attract and retain the best staff and MCS is a stimulating, welcoming and thriving environment in which both to learn and to work.

A lot happens at MCS. The various sections of our website (www.mcsoxford.org) including the recent [News](#) will give you an impression of our school.

Thank you for your interest.

H. C. Pike

TEACHER OF GEOGRAPHY

The School

Magdalen College School, founded in 1480 by William of Waynflete, is one of the country's leading independent day schools. It is situated in an enviable location at the heart of Oxford beside the River Cherwell. It educates boys from 7 – 18, and girls in the Sixth Form.

The Role

The school is seeking to appoint a well-qualified Geographer from 1st September 2020, part-time (0.5-0.8), to teach bright and enthusiastic pupils from Year 7 to A Level and Oxbridge. Further information on the post is included below.



Application Process

Candidates should submit the Application Form for Teaching Staff, which can be found on the Job Vacancy link of the website (www.mcsoxford.org). To access [click here](#). This should be emailed together with a cv and covering letter of application to the Recruitment Officer, Mrs Sarah Hunter (applications@mcsoxford.org). All documentation should be sent no later than **midday, Wednesday 4th March**. The school's preferred method of communication is by email and it will not be necessary to send a hard copy of the documents by post. **References may be taken up in advance. If you do not wish references to be called for at this stage, please make that clear on the reference section of the application form.**

We anticipate holding interviews on Tuesday 10th March and will be in contact with shortlisted candidates by telephone.



Safeguarding Policy

Magdalen College School is committed to the safeguarding of pupils, and any offer of employment will be subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure, the receipt of satisfactory references and the school's pre-employment medical questionnaire, plus sight of relevant original ID documentation and degree certificate(s).

The Department

Geography is a popular subject in the school, and the department currently consists of four teaching staff. The successful candidate will be required to teach across year groups from Year 7 to A Level and Oxbridge.

Geography is a well-established and very successful subject at Magdalen College School. The pupils share an enthusiasm for the subject due, in no small part, to the dedication and ability of the staff in the department. The department occupies a suite of three modern classrooms in the New Building. All classrooms are equipped with dual projectors, an interactive whiteboard wall and visualisers. In



addition, the department has a set of Microsoft Surface Pros for classroom use. The departmental office is well-stocked with resources, both written and electronic, alongside an extensive media collection. We are also fortunate to possess a large collection of fieldwork equipment. Reprographics are centrally administered and secretaries to the Common Room are available to help in these areas.

The subject is compulsory up to the end of Lower Fourth (Year 9) when pupils can opt to take the subject for GCSE. It is a popular choice for GCSE with 119 pupils across Upper Fourth and Fifth Forms (Years 10 and 11). There are currently 40 pupils studying Geography in the Sixth Form.

The department achieves outstanding results in public examinations. In 2019, for the Edexcel A GCSE syllabus, 49% of entries were graded 9 and 71% at 9-8. At A level 47% of grades were at A* and 77% of grades were A*-A.

Geography in the curriculum

Second, Third and Lower Fourth form (Years 7 - 9)

Geography is taught as a discrete subject from the Second Form onwards. The department follows its own curriculum taking a thematic approach to issues such as development, superpowers, Antarctica, hazards and the Geography of health. There is also a focus on key Geographical skills including map skills and the use of ICT.

Upper Fourth and Fifth Form (Years 10 and 11)

At GCSE we follow Edexcel A (9-1). Pupils attend a residential fieldtrip in April for three days to North Wales where we teach the material but we use a Field Studies Centre as a base. On the trip the pupils undertake rivers and urban fieldwork. There is a one-day ecosystems trip during the Michaelmas term of the 5th form.

Sixth Form (Years 12-13)

We follow the OCR specification; pupils do not sit the AS Level. In the L6th pupils cover topics on coasts, water and carbon cycles, migration and changing spaces. In the U6th we study power and borders, disease dilemmas and tectonics. Pupils start the NEA in the summer term of the L6th with a final deadline of October in the U6th.





Fieldwork

The department firmly believes in the value of fieldwork and offers an extensive itinerary every year. Pupils in the Second Form undertake a local study on the Cowley Road as well as a one-day Coastal investigation at Lulworth Cove. Third Form pupils travel to Coombe Hill to undertake a micro-climates study in the summer term. The Lower Fourth have a day in London to investigate urban regeneration and sustainability. The GCSE cohort undertakes a three-day fieldwork trip to Wales with the occasional additional, optional, weekend in the Lake District. In the L6th pupils spend four days based in South Devon and in the U6th there is a Changing Spaces day in London.

In addition, the department offers a number of more adventurous trips. The 2nd and 3rd forms travel biannually to Northumberland in May half term – next in 2020. The L4th & U4th usually annually during the Easter holiday: In Easter 2019 we returned to India for the biannual trip. Other recent destinations have included SW USA, Morocco and Jordan. The Sixth Form also travel and have been



to Cuba and Belfast in recent years. In February half term 2020 we are joining forces with Theology for a trip to Israel to look at Conflict, Identity and Migration. A willingness to assist with this programme will be advantageous.

As well as teaching far beyond the confines of the syllabus, the Department regularly hosts talks as part of the

Geography Society and we attend a number of lectures presented by the Oxford Geographical Association and at Royal Holloway University. Alongside this, we run a reading and discussion group for the Sixth Form and a Junior Geography club who have produced everything from Geographical games to glacial landscape models and globes! Many Sixth Formers choose Geography for their Waynflete Studies, the school's unique extended project, taught in conjunction with members of the university, and around 8-10 pupils go on to study Geography and related subjects at leading universities.

The Candidate

This will be a part-time (0.5-0.8) appointment and the successful candidate will be a well-qualified Geographer who will be prepared to take a share of the teaching of the subject at all levels. Above all, he or she will be enthusiastic about the subject as a whole and have a desire to sustain or raise the high profile currently enjoyed by Geography at MCS. Members of the Geography Department report to the Head of Department, and ultimately to the Master via the Deputy Head (Education Development).

Candidates short-listed for interview will be asked to teach an observed lesson when they come to the school. They will also be required to bring with them the necessary ID documentation and degree certificate(s), all of which must be originals. Further information on the observed lesson and documentation required will be provided with the invitation to interview.

In a lively day school, a willingness to contribute to other areas of school life, whether in the pastoral system, in games, music, drama, CCF or other activities, is always advantageous.

Benefits

MCS currently has its own salary scale, and salaries are substantially more generous than those in the maintained sector; there is also a relocation allowance on a sliding scale, by agreement with the Master and Bursar, and dependent on current location. The school also operates a cycle to work scheme, and travel loans are available. The school subscribes to the Teachers' Pension Scheme, in which all teaching staff are auto enrolled – there is, of course, an opt out, should this be preferred.

The school has a fully equipped gym which is available for staff use, and staff may also enjoy access to the University of Oxford's Rosenblatt Swimming Pool. Tennis courts are available, and there is a comprehensive programme of staff sports clubs, including football, climbing, yoga, Pilates, and badminton. Staff also have the opportunity to join choirs and music groups, and to get involved in drama productions.





MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOL FOR BOYS 7 - 18 AND SIXTH FORM GIRLS

Staff are encouraged to make use of the Senior Common Room within and after the school day, as an area for relaxation and shared discussion outside departments. There is also a quiet room located close to the SCR where staff can work and study. Tea and Coffee are served in the SCR at morning break, Lunch is provided in the Dining Hall, and cakes and cut fruit are available in the SCR at the end of the school day. Staff socials, guest nights and Master's Drinks are regular features of each term.



Professional Development

The school places a significant emphasis on the professional development of all staff. A half termly CPD & Teaching Newsletter is distributed by email, which aims to highlight educational research and practical ideas, to share ideas from courses and conferences attended, to offer guidance on opportunities for CPD, and to highlight the work of colleagues in the area of teaching and learning. All colleagues are encouraged to attend at least one external CPD course each year, and also to visit another school, place of work or university, where appropriate.



MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOL FOR BOYS 7 - 18 AND SIXTH FORM GIRLS

The Teaching & Learning group meets before school twice per half term. Its purpose is to consider developments in educational research, to facilitate discussion of teaching and learning, to offer a forum for the sharing of good teaching practice, and to support colleagues in experimenting with new teaching techniques. There is also a programme of Learning Lunches each term for colleagues to share good practice. Colleagues who have been teaching for more than seven years (including a minimum of three years' service at MCS) may make an application for study leave for the second half of the Trinity term.

Waynflete Teaching Certificate

The School aims to offer teaching staff joining the school without a teaching qualification (UQTs) the opportunity to develop their teaching craft and reflect on their professional practice through a structured programme of training and support. For such colleagues, the school offers the Waynflete Teaching Certificate, which may ultimately lead to Qualified Teacher Status through the Assessment Only route offered by the University of Reading.

Additional Information

Please note that MCS is an inner-city school, with limited parking. Candidates who have been offered a post will be invited to make representations in the term preceding their arrival to the Usher (Senior Deputy Head) for a parking space. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Recruitment Officer: 01865 253401.