

TEACHER OF ECONOMICS APRIL/SEPTEMBER 2022

Whitgift is one of Britain's leading independent day and boarding schools for boys aged between 10 and 18 years with approximately 1550 pupils and over one hundred 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 Economics alongside a capacity to share this effectively with pupils of all ages to complement a highly successful Economics and Business Department.



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. The successful applicant will be expected to teach Economics to A Level, IB and IGCSE students. Experience of teaching Economics to A Level/IB or GCSE would be an advantage. Involvement in the wider activities of the Department would also be expected.

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 ICT skills.

The Department prides itself on Continuous Professional Development and empowering teachers to develop their own Schemes of Work while, at the same time, offering an environment where ideas and methods are shared cooperatively and collaboratively.

This happens on both a formal and informal basis and communication within the Department is strong on both fronts.

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

- regular in-house training for all teaching staff
- NQT induction programme for unqualified teachers
- Teacher Apprenticeship programme to support those new to the profession.

The position reports to the Head of Economics and Business.

The Economics and Business Department

The Economics and Business Department at Whitgift is taught by a well-qualified and experienced team of eight teachers. The enthusiasm the team have for their subject is infectious, and as many have worked successfully in the world of commerce, Economics and Business at Whitgift is both challenging and contemporary. The ethos of the Department is to engage the boys in the subject through passionate and high-quality teaching, supporting each other in updating resources and sharing innovative ideas.



The Department is very well-resourced; a strong budget allows us to have an extremely up-to-date and expanding department library, a subscription to Economics Today, Business Review and The Economist, as well as a regularly updated bank of online resources. Classes are generally taught in specialist rooms, all of which are equipped with video systems and data projectors. The Department also has access to a variety of computer rooms and a class set of iPads and teachers are allocated personal laptops which offer wireless access to the internet.

Curriculum

Economics and Business continue to grow in popularity with the number of students studying Business or Economics at A Level, IB and IGCSE more than doubling over the last five years to over 390 in total.

Economics

A Level: A Level Economics follows the Edexcel specification. It is taught to over 110 boys in total across the Upper and Lower Sixth, with multiple sets in each year.

Each set has two teachers, with each teacher responsible for teaching one theme through the course of the year.

IB: The Diploma Programme of the International Baccalaureate is offered to students as an alternative to A Level study, and Economics proves to be popular group 3 subject choice being taught to 25 students in total across the Upper and Lower Sixth. Higher Level and Standard Level students tend to be taught in the same class, with the Scheme of Work structured in a way that the majority of the HL specific topics are taught in the Autumn Term of the Upper Sixth, therefore minimising disruption.

IGCSE: IGCSE Economics (Edexcel) is an increasingly popular option in Fourth and Fifth Form, with approximately 200 students in total, taught across five classes in each year group.

Business

A Level: A Level Business follows the Edexcel specification and is taught to over 50 students in total across the Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth. Each set has two teachers who co-teach the four different themes through the course of the two years.

Academic Results

The Department is thriving, with expanding numbers and extremely strong results:

Economics and Business Results

		2021*	2020*	2019
IGCSE Economics	A* - A (9-7)	91%	89%	84%
A Level Economics	A* - B	88%	100%	100%
A Level Business	A* - B	92%	85%	83%
IB (Higher Level)	7 - 6	100%	71%	86%

***CAGs or TAGs used**

Co-Curricular Activities

The Department run a number of very successful societies and enrichment activities. Economics and Business related university courses are some of the most popular with our Upper Sixth students. Our Economics Enrichment Society aims to prepare Oxbridge applicants and provides all participants with an opportunity to discover and immerse themselves in topics that go beyond the syllabus.

September 2013 saw the launch of **Whitonomics**, an Economics magazine written, designed and edited by the boys themselves. The magazine has won multiple awards at the Shine School Media Awards. With one to two issues published each year, writing articles for the magazine provides an excellent platform for students to explore the subject in more depth.

The **Investment Society** is open to all Upper School students, who have the chance to invest a virtual £100,000 into the stock market as part of a national competition run by the IFS Institute of Finance. For the last three years, the Department had a team qualify for the Regional Finals.

The **Junior Economics Society** is open to Third Form students. The boys participate in interactive activities, which illustrate the core principles of Economics whilst generating interest and helping the boys make a more informed decision over their GCSE options.

Whitgift Apprentice following years of success in the Coca Cola Real Business challenge including reaching the National Finals, since this programme stopped running, we entered Tycoon for Schools for the first time in 2019/20.

Excursions

In conjunction with the Chinese Department, Lower Sixth students have the fantastic opportunity to experience the real China by exploring the buzzing cities of Shanghai and Hong Kong and the rural region of Yangzhou. Closer to home, students are offered many opportunities to go to public lectures at the LSE and RSA after school, as well as a group outings to the RES Annual Public Lecture and the RGS Guildford Speakers Day.



Boarding

Our superbly equipped boarding facilities are ideally placed within the spacious grounds of Haling Park. A large proportion of boarders come from various parts of the United Kingdom, and some from 20 other countries across the world. 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 residential and non-residential along with a wide range of co-curricular activities which include outstanding sport and music programmes. Shortlisted applicants will be able to express their interest at interview.

Teaching and Learning through Digital Strategy



We believe that technology is becoming ever more widely used in society. As part of a wide-reaching Digital Strategy, we have identified several areas where we think technology can be of benefit to Learning and Teaching at Whitgift School. The aim is to allow users to access a broader range of resources and information that can be significantly more efficient than research through traditional methods.

With this in mind, we have begun a rollout of laptop devices initially to all of our first form students. The laptops may be used to access eBooks or more up-to-date resources as well as enabling collaborative work with different pupils contributing to one finished piece. As part of our Junior Years Curriculum (from Lower First to Second Form), we aim to challenge pupils with serious academic rigour, preparing them for success at GCSE and beyond, while enthusing them with a love of learning, intellectual curiosity about the wider world and the skills to be independent thinkers and learners. We have now introduced Global Citizenship as a taught subject. Last term the Lower First were introduced to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and they have been learning about climate change, poverty and food security, and plastics in the ocean.

Community Engagement

The John Whitgift Foundation has a strong ethos of giving back to the local community. As part of this, we are proud to promote these values and this filters through all aspects of the School.

Whitgift pupils and staff are already active in in this area, particularly through our links with primary schools, and we are committed to increasing this involvement in the coming years. There will be exciting opportunities for staff to be involved in activities which both enhance the development of Whitgift pupils and support the needs of others in the local area. Opportunities will become available in the Whitgift Community Summer School, Primary Academic Masterclasses, Primary Project and/or other activities of this type as the programme develops.

Second Formers also have timetabled lessons on 'Ignite', through which they are being taught about Global Citizenship and independent project skills.

Contact

Please contact Mr Joe Lines, Head of Economics and Business, via e-mail at jwl@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), 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 daily, 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.

November 2021