



## Director of Drama with English

January 18

Dear Applicant,

Thank you very much for your interest in the above post, which provides a wonderful opportunity to join our school at a very exciting time in our history.

Holme Grange is a flourishing school – an educational trust, we are a day, co-educational School of around 470 children aged from 3 - 16 years old. From September 2015 we admitted our first Year 9 pupils to the school - our pioneers who will forge the way for future cohorts as they progress towards their GCSEs at Holme Grange.

The School is set in 21 acres of beautiful Royal Berkshire countryside with some excellent teaching and sporting facilities. We have recently extended our already impressive facilities with the addition of two new purpose built teaching blocks, a 300 seat theatre - an outstanding resource which incorporates our music and drama teaching facilities, dining room, a further science laboratory, and food technology room with plans in place to provide staff and students with first class teaching and learning areas. We have three Forest School sites and our TLC Hub (teamwork, Leadership and Communication) provides a valuable resource for outdoor learning and teambuilding opportunities across the School. There **are 80+ Teaching Staff** and peripatetic subject teachers. A prospectus is available and you can also view the School on [www.holmegrange.org](http://www.holmegrange.org)

The School's aim is to provide a well-balanced education in order to make learning fun and enjoyable. Holme Grange prides itself on developing pupils' potential. By the time a child leaves we hope to have given each one an all-round education encompassing academic, sporting, musical, artistic and technological skills. Holme Grange is small enough for all children to feel fulfilled and encouraged so as to develop self-confidence and self-esteem. We provide our pupils with a toolkit to live their lives and when they eventually enter the adult world, we can be confident they will do so well prepared with a real life foundation for every challenge they will face.

In order to learn, children must be happy and feel secure in their environment. Holme Grange School is full of happy children and the environment is caring but still allows children the freedom to develop as individuals. The ethos throughout the school is one of warmth and friendliness. Pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning, develop good work habits and gain a sense that learning can thrill and invigorate.

Life in our school is a journey of exploration, and discovery. Academic standards are excellent. We are proud of our academic reputation as well as the opportunities we provide for each child to achieve across the whole curriculum. We provide opportunities for children to achieve success in all areas of the curriculum and we always celebrate their achievements.



In November 2013 Holme Grange School was successful in achieving the prestigious NACE Challenge Award for Able, Gifted and Talented Pupils, accreditation that was again achieved this academic year (2017). Only a few schools nationally reach this high standard. This Award is given for high quality work by the whole school, teachers and governors, in challenging all pupils, including those with high abilities, to achieve their best. We recognise that all children have talents, and every child is encouraged to realise their true potential, whatever that may be, in whatever area of school life. We demand and set high standards, and our children respond by always giving of their best. We have a wide spread of ability within the school but never underestimate what any child can achieve. In January 2015 we were inspected by ISI and achieved an 'Excellent' grading for all areas of the School's operations.

### **The Drama and English Departments**

The **Drama** curriculum in Eaton Grange (Years 7-11) is delivered by the Head of Department, with support from other staff for subject delivery in the younger years (Years 3-6). Drama is a popular subject in all years and is taught discreetly from Year 3 until Year 9.

The Head of Drama is responsible for the provision and direction of all major School productions. The Head of Department will also draw upon the support of other colleagues and the Director of Music in managing School performances, ensuring opportunity for all within a framework of ambition and excellence. Theatre trips and workshops are regularly undertaken throughout the school as demanded by the curriculum and for the acquisition of a 'theatre habit'. Students work towards LAMDA qualifications with a specialised teacher.

The Caudwell Hall, a purpose built building with theatre (complete with state of the art sound and lighting), dance studio and music teaching rooms, currently houses the Performing Arts Department.

Students benefit hugely from the opportunity, encouragement and facilities currently provided by the School and staff and the successful applicant will enjoy the opportunity of building upon these firm foundations.

The **English department** (Years 3-11) is led by a Head of Department who is responsible for the delivery of English across the School, supported by a subject coordinator, responsible for the delivery of English in Years 3-6. Currently we follow Edexcel's International specification for GCSE language and literature.

Children are taught in mixed ability groups up to and including Year 8, with discreet lessons delivering literacy skills. Children from Year 5 receive subject specific teaching with ample opportunity for extra-curricular enrichment by way of clubs, theatre visits, visiting authors and performers and competitions, for example the annual performance poetry competition hosted by Holme Grange for local schools.

### **Applications**

We are seeking to employ a inspirational, dynamic and enthusiastic individual who is willing to lead drama across Key stages 2-4 with the ability to also teach English to Key Stages 3 and 4.



The successful applicant will be an exemplary practitioner with excellent interpersonal and team-working skills and a strong interest in pastoral care. Our teachers set high standards of themselves and their pupils. If you are dedicated and energetic we offer a delightful working environment. Professional development opportunities are available and encouraged. The position would appeal to a teacher looking for the next step in his or her career, with the experience, skill and enthusiasm to make a significant contribution to the growth of drama in the school.

A willingness to play a full part in the extra-curricular and pastoral life of our happy and vibrant school is essential. Holme Grange has its own salary scale. The salary depends on age and experience.

### **Application**

**Holme Grange School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be required to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and Prohibition Check.**

Pre-application visits welcomed. Full details and application forms are available and can be obtained from the school website at [www.holmegrange.org](http://www.holmegrange.org) or by telephoning 0118 978 1566. Applications will only be accepted by application form which should be submitted with a hand written letter of application to the Headteacher – Mrs C Robinson.

### **Newly Qualified Teachers**

The School is fully accredited to participate in the Independent Schools NQT Induction Programme in order to provide qualified teacher status.

### **Interviews**

Candidates will be invited to attend an interview at the School and to meet the Head, Deputy Head and other key members of staff. Candidates will be asked to teach a lesson as part of the selection process and further details will be available from the Head of English.

The closing date for applications is **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018** and interviews will be on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018**.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Robinson  
Headteacher