



King's College

TAUNTON

Appointment of a Houseparent for Carpenter House

Starting September 2017

ABOUT KING'S

King's College is a thriving boarding and day school of approximately 460 pupils. It combines strong academic achievement, traditional values and excellent pastoral care with a progressive, modern outlook, providing girls and boys aged 13–18 with the opportunities, confidence and ability to exploit their potential to the full within a happy and caring environment.

King's Hall Prep School (located some three miles away) combines with King's to provide continuous education from 2-18 and the two schools are run by one Governing Body, with many functions (marketing, strategy and finance for example) undertaken jointly.

King's College has a sound family and community ethos. Just over 60% of the pupils board. A broad range of extra-curricular activities is offered. Good discipline is encouraged in a firm and positive way within a supportive pastoral framework. King's College is strong on manners and social skills. Pupils go on to good universities and professional careers.

For a relatively small school, King's College has an enviable record of success. The school has regularly topped GCSE league tables for Somerset in recent years and two departments, DT being one of them, were rated top in the country for their A level results by the Good Schools Guide. The Chapel Choir won the BBC "Choir of the Year" competition, the girls football team are ISFA national champions at U18 level, and the rugby team won the Rosslyn Park Sevens Festival trophy a few years ago.

In short, King's is a purposeful, outward-looking, down-to-earth, successful school.

ABOUT TAUNTON

Taunton, the county town of Somerset, is a busy market town with excellent road and rail links. It is located between junction 25 and 26 on the M5, 25 minutes north of Exeter and 35 minutes south of Bristol. The fast West Country train service reaches Paddington in under two hours. Taunton is a growing commercial and residential centre, has a splendid small theatre, the County Cricket Ground, a successful rugby club, a delightful museum and the usual shopping outlets.

THE POST

Carpenter House is one of seven boarding houses at King's College, and one of the three girls' houses. The house consists of approximately 70 pupils, comprising a 65/35% mix of boarders and day pupils. At King's all houses have a combination of boarding and day pupils: a particular feature of the school and one which we believe enables all pupils to integrate fully into the life of this busy school.

The boarding houses are at the heart of life at King's College, providing a home for each pupil, and therefore the importance of the advertised role cannot be underestimated. The houseparent has direct responsibility for overseeing the pastoral care of the pupils within their house and for ensuring that the house is a nurturing, respectful and friendly community, within which all pupils are valued as individuals. Whilst there are, of course, school rules and expectations that cover all pupils in the school, each house is encouraged to develop its own character and camaraderie, something which is largely based on the leadership and outlook of the houseparent.

The Carpenter housemistress/master lives in a large attached family home and is supported by a full-time residential assistant. In addition a team of tutors is attached to the house, each responsible for a small group of girls in years 9, 10 or 11. Most of these tutors undertake an evening duty one night a week, while the housemistress/master and their assistant look after the weekends. There is also a House Matron.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

On the retirement of Karen Cole, after many years of excellent service to the House, we require an enthusiastic teacher and leader to run Carpenter House from September 2017. He or she will have a clear vision for the leadership and management of pastoral care in the house. The successful applicant will also be a teacher able to inspire pupils of all ages, raising expectations and achievement. The post could suit either a teacher, with suitable experience, who is now looking to step up to lead a house, or someone who is already a housemistress/master.

King's College has a lively and friendly Common Room of over 50 full time teachers, all of whom contribute to the school's outstanding co-curricular programme of sport, music, drama and outdoor activities. The ability to contribute meaningfully to this programme would be a distinct advantage. All full-time teachers also tutor a small number of pupils.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree level qualification • PGCE or equivalent teaching experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSA training or qualifications, or equivalent pastoral leadership qualifications
Knowledge and experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working in a boarding school • Understanding of the pastoral (emotional, social and educational) issues affecting adolescent girls • Understanding of academic and career options for the girls • Understanding of the safeguarding issues experienced as a boarding houseparent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of health and safety issues and requirements, in an educational setting • Experience of social media and its use by young people • Experience of working within a fixed budget • Experience of managing and developing a staff team • Experience of working in the independent sector
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proven leadership skills • Proven ability to communicate effectively with parents, pupils and staff members • Able to form and maintain appropriate relationships with the pupils in your care • Ability to promote the qualities of boarding to prospective pupils and their parents • Efficient and effective administration and organisational skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good IT skills • Educational marketing skills
Personal qualities and abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personable, with a sense of humour • Patience, kindness, resilience and the ability to be firm but fair • Highly organised, calm under pressure and resourceful when faced with a problem • Diplomatic and discreet 	
<p>The qualities and experience outlined in the person specification will be assessed by the following methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sight of original qualifications • King's College application form • Interview, including teaching a lesson • References from current employer and other, chosen, professionals 		

APPOINTMENT POLICY

Candidates are expected to have read the enclosed appointment policy and agreed to the terms within.

HOW TO APPLY

Please write a brief letter of application, addressed to the Headmaster, and complete the application form enclosed and send by email or letter to:

Sarah Baverstock, HR & Admin Assistant, King's College, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 3LA.

Tel: 01823 328105

Email: SLBaverstock@kings-taunton.co.uk

Website: www.kings-taunton.co.uk

The closing date for applications is 12.00pm, Monday 21 November
Interviews will be held in the week beginning Monday 28 November

Enclosed

- Application form
- Appointment policy
- Housemaster/mistress job description