



The Manchester
Grammar School



Teacher of English

Information Pack

Completed applications should be emailed to recruitment@mgs.org

Closing date: 09:00 on Tuesday 20 February 2018

Teacher of English

We are seeking to appoint, from 1 September 2018, an outstanding and creative individual to join our large and successful English department.

The English Department

The Department consists of twelve English graduates. While being provided with all the advice and guidance that may be required, the person appointed will have considerable freedom to teach to his or her strengths within the framework of the curriculum. Colleagues find this degree of professional autonomy, combined with the chance to work with bright, energetic and highly motivated students, both liberating and inspirational.

The Department occupies a modern, purpose-built English Building which provides us with a spacious suite of nine bright, airy classrooms, two resource rooms and a seminar room. The Department possesses an extensive stock of books and audio-visual resources, together with a developing bank of ICT resources. The provision of ICT hardware available to the Department has rapidly expanded over recent years.

Years 5-6

A number of the Department contribute to the provision of specialized English teaching in the Junior School within the framework of the Enrichment Programme.

In Years 7-9 the Department's teaching is based on introducing pupils to a wide range of books (we are fortunate in being exceptionally well-resourced in terms of our stock of books) and it stresses a stimulating, creative approach to oral work and writing.

In Years 10 and 11 we prepare students for the Cambridge IGCSE in English Language and English Literature. We have adopted the non-coursework route, with assessment based on five terminal examinations at the end of the course.

Academic success is high. Over recent years, the typical pattern has been for over 90% of pupils to achieve an A* or A grade in both IGCSE English and English Literature.

In the Sixth Form, we offer two courses: Pre-U Literature in English and Cambridge International A Level in English Language. On average, about 30 pupils each year study English in the Sixth Form. Results are outstanding.

Usually around four or five students apply for English at Oxford or Cambridge every year. All pupils who are thinking of studying English at university are given the opportunity for additional tuition from the Lent Term of Year 12 onwards through our University Challenge Programme. Members of the English Department also contribute to the Sixth-Form option programme by offering a wide range of courses based on language, literature, media and culture.

There is the opportunity for pupils to have reading and study/research periods in the integrated Garner and Paton Libraries, which are extremely well-resourced and staffed by a team of fully qualified librarians.

The Department regularly publishes magazines, such as *Owlwords* and *Markings*, which showcase pupils' imaginative work and organises drama, poetry and short story competitions which also generate contributions for the literary section of the school magazine, *Ulula*. Debating societies are run both in the Middle School and the Sixth Form, and pupils are entered for a wide variety of debating and public speaking competitions. There is a Sixth Form Reading Group which holds regular meetings with students from Manchester HSG, Withington GS and Altrincham GHS. A member of the Department helps run the Linguistics Society which acts as a bridge between English and the study of other languages. Further down the school, the Middle and Lower School Reading Groups act as forums for discussion and debate about books. The Department has for many years held bi-annual or annual reading weekends at its sites in Grasmere and recently in South Stainmore for senior pupils with opportunities for similar experiences for younger boys also being made available. Author visits and workshops play an important part in inspiring students. In recent years we have held a highly successful Poetry Week which includes a range of creative writing workshops and readings from visiting poets during the day and the evening. A huge number of theatre trips take place every year, not only to the major Manchester theatres and other local venues but also further afield, including Stratford and London.

The members of the Department are responsible for the setting and marking of the English papers in the Entrance Examinations.

Our co-curriculum

The co-curriculum is central to the ethos of MGS. Life outside the classroom is extraordinarily vibrant, both in terms of its diversity and quantity, and is a source of great enjoyment and challenge for our pupils and staff alike. It includes a vast amount and range of sport, music, drama, adventure, service and intellectual activities.

The School values the passion and commitment of its teachers in sharing their interests and enthusiasms with pupils outside of the classroom and seeks to enable staff to play to their passions whenever possible. Staff are given great autonomy over the activities they organise, and our pupils are given equal freedom to develop passions of their own.

We have lunchtime clubs and societies (many run by pupils) covering every possible area of intellectual interest. We have 24 musical groups with 280 participants, and typically stage a dozen drama productions each year, in our superbly equipped theatre and drama studios. We have 95 sports teams and 40 different sports. In outdoor pursuits every year we have numerous treks in the UK and overseas, as well as four camps involving 250 pupils. We offer a wide range of outdoor pursuits and are one of the largest centres for D

of E in the North West. Alongside this there is a vast range of educational trips and visits, both in the UK and abroad. On average, each pupil spends twelve days a year on trips.

Visit our website to find out more.

Our facilities

Recent developments have included the purchase of a new Steinway Model D grand piano for the Memorial Hall. There is also a new sports hall, major upgrades to our multi-gym, swimming pool and sports pitches, and a new, exceptionally equipped theatre and drama studios.

Manchester and the North-West

Manchester is a vibrant and exciting place, as you would fully expect of Britain's second city. One of the fastest growing cities in Europe, it has a cosmopolitan outlook, a flourishing, varied cultural life and excellent restaurants and nightlife. It is a wonderful, stimulating place to live, with outstanding sport and leisure facilities, catering for every possible interest.

Theatre is vibrant and diverse, with venues including the innovative Royal Exchange, Home, The Lowry (in Salford Quays), Palace Theatre and Opera House. The Bridgewater Hall is an international centre of musical excellence and home to three major orchestras, whilst the Manchester Evening News Arena, the Apollo and many smaller venues contribute to the diverse range of music on offer in the city.

Befitting a city with such rich history and traditions, Manchester has excellent galleries and museums, and is, of course, a major centre for soccer, cricket, cycling and many other sports. Media City in Salford (adjacent to Manchester) is one of the country's most important centres for television and radio production, and is growing all the time.

Whilst offering all that you would expect from a major city, Manchester has the advantage of being very accessible and enjoys excellent transport links. London is only two hours away by train and Manchester's international airport is only five miles from the School. Areas of outstanding natural beauty are close by. The Peak District National Park, the Pennine Way and the Cheshire Plain are within an hour's drive, whilst the Lake District and Snowdonia are within two hours.

There is a wide choice of places to live, with ample rented accommodation. Property prices compare very favourably with those elsewhere in the country. Many staff live in the South Manchester suburbs, but others live surrounded by the Pennine moors or the Derbyshire hills. There is an excellent choice of schools, both private and maintained, at all levels.

For more information about the city, visit www.visitmanchester.com.

How to apply

Candidates of any age and any level of experience are invited to apply. Appropriate induction and support will be given.

Further information about the School is available on our website.

Applicants should complete an application form: this can be downloaded from the vacancies section of the School's website, and emailed to recruitment@mgs.org. The closing date is 9.00am on Tuesday 20 February, and we expect to hold interviews shortly afterwards.

The Manchester Grammar School is an equal opportunities employer and we welcome applications from all sections of the community. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and successful applicants will be required to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

Our Safer Recruitment policy may be viewed on our website (click on 'our policies' at the bottom of the homepage).

We would like to thank all applicants for their interest in the School and for taking the time to apply. However, please note that, because of the high volume of applications we receive, we regret that we are unable to reply individually to each application. Applicants who have not heard from us by 27 February should assume that they have not been shortlisted for interview.

February 2018