



Blenheim

Teaching Assistant

Salary: Grade 3 Point 1 (£17,663) FTE

Actual Salary: £12,547 (30 hours per week, 39 weeks per year)

Start Date: As soon as possible

Full Time



www.blenheim.surrey.scn.uk

Tel: 01372 745333 Email: headteacher@blenheim.surrey.sch.uk

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Blenheim has been under new leadership since April 2017. The school became Surrey's most improved secondary school in the 2017-18 academic year, was categorised as 'good' in all areas in May 2019 and attained its best GCSE results in the summer of 2019. In the summer of 2020, 5% of departing sixth form students secured places at Oxbridge and in January 2021 Blenheim was confirmed as Surrey's most improved school for the number of first preference Year 7 applications; an increase of 26%. A number of comprehensive measures are in place that have improved the consistency of teaching, the quality of assessments and the impact of feedback, so that all students now make good or better progress. At the heart of the school's recent successes has been the comprehensive and consistent implementation of formative assessment across the curriculum.

Blenheim is a dynamic, exciting and supportive environment in which to work. The school opened in September 1997 with one year group and has grown to its current size of 1293 students on roll including 215 in the Sixth Form. Blenheim is a mixed comprehensive and our reputation in the community is excellent. The intake comprises of students from all surrounding areas with ability levels being favourable; over 50% of all students have high prior attainment at the end of Key Stage 2. In recent years the school's popularity has grown significantly, as detailed below:

Year	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Number of Year 7 Students Recruited	248*	248	234	209	188
Number of 1 st Preference Applications	263	209	154	185	165

* As at 8th November 2021, 41 students are on the waiting list.

Blenheim revolves around a growth mindset where all members of the school community are expected to value and develop the characteristics of hard work, resilience, innovation and improvement. Since April 2017, there has been significant change to the school's structures and systems, including:

- Newly appointed Headteacher.
- Newly appointed Leadership Team comprising two Deputy Headteachers and nine Assistant Headteachers.
- A three-year Key Stage 4 and a six-period school day comprising of an increased number of double periods.
- Formative assessment becoming embedded across the curriculum ensuring students have a clear understanding of their 'next steps'.
- An alternative pathway for vocational Key Stage 4 learners providing high quality vocational provision.
- An extended day for Year 11 and Year 13 students to 5pm Monday - Thursday.
- A relaunched 'high performers' programme to boost the aspirations, independence and career prospects of our high performing students.
- A Chelsea FC Girls' Sixth Form Football Academy which now competes in the National Football Youth League and the English Colleges South Premier.
- A comprehensive Easter revision programme for students in Years 11 and 13.
- Significant investment in the school's site and infrastructure.
- An extra fortnight's holiday with a two week October half term and a seven week summer holiday.

In 2019, Blenheim was characterised as a 'good' school following a Section 5 Ofsted inspection. Please [click here](#) to read the Ofsted Report. Ofsted commented that the vast majority of the school's previous weaknesses had been rectified and that the school now had excellent capacity to continue improving. The Headteacher, Mr A A Bodell, has made a long term commitment to Blenheim.

Blenheim converted to Academy Status in March 2012 and has developed many community and primary school links. Blenheim is a well-resourced school and is fortunate to have outstanding facilities including modern buildings, large grounds, an AstroTurf pitch, bespoke sixth form facilities and grass football and rugby pitches. The school has a significant capital reserve with complete autonomy to invest. Together with a very supportive and well qualified governing body the school has invested significantly in several areas, not least in the appointment of high-quality practitioners and site infrastructure. Since 2017 our buildings have received a £500,000 face lift. Visitors now comment on the calm, purposeful learning environment that pervades. Blenheim has an iPad for learning scheme through which 98% of students own an iPad. Naturally, teaching staff need to be willing to engage with new technologies and to want to develop their pedagogy.

BLenheim GCSE RESULTS

Blenheim's 2021 GCSE results involved all students receiving centre awarded grades, whilst 2018 and 2019 saw a significant increase in Blenheim's GCSE results. A combination of well-researched teaching and learning practices, rhythmical assessment and feedback, frequent reporting, well - timed interventions and consistent monitoring of student performance has led to increases in almost all areas of GCSE performance. This improved performance compares favourably with both Blenheim's 2016 & 2017 GCSE results and 2018 & 19 National GCSE results.

In 2017, apart from Maths and English, grades were attributed A* - G grades with A* - C being considered 'higher' grades or passes. By 2019, all subjects (bar a minority) were attributed 9 – 1 grades with 9 – 4 being considered 'higher' grades or passes.

Headline GCSE Results 2018 - 2021

	Blenheim 2021	Blenheim 2020	Blenheim 18 & 19	Nat. Av. 18 & 19
5 or more 9 – 4 or A* - C incl. Maths & English	78%	74%	65%	58%
Maths 9 - 4	84%	80%	76%	60%
English Language 9 - 4	87%	85%	75%	62%
English Literature 9 - 4	71%	81%	76%	73%

	Blenheim 2021	Blenheim 2020	Blenheim 18 & 19	Nat. Av. 18 & 19
9 – 7 grades	29%	30%	22%	20%
9 – 4 grades	82%	85%	74%	67%
Progress 8 Score	+0.65	+0.4	+0.2	0.0

Headline GCSE Results 2016 – 2021. 9 – 4 grades (A*-C)

	Blenheim 2020 & 2021	Blenheim 2018 & 2019	Blenheim 2016 & 2017
Maths 9 – 5	59%	58%	39%
English 9 - 5	64%	63%	65%
English	86%	79%	69%
Maths	84%	76%	70%
English Baccalaureate pass	30%	23%	20%
Combined Science (Double Science)	78%	64%	49%
Biology	100%	92%	86%
Chemistry	100%	91%	83%
Physics	100%	91%	81%
Geography	82%	70%	64%
History	84%	60%	65%
French	93%	84%	72%
Spanish	87%	78%	73%
Computing	83%	70%	48%

Headline GCSE Results 2016 – 2021. 9 – 7 grades (A*-A)

	Blenheim 2020 & 2021	Blenheim 2018 & 2019	Blenheim 2016 & 2017
English	28%	23%	18%
Maths	21%	20%	17%
Combined Science (Double Science)	32%	17%	12%
Biology	90%	32%	33%
Chemistry	90%	39%	36%
Physics	100%	35%	31%
Geography	35%	24%	23%
History	35%	27%	36%
French	52%	36%	25%
Spanish	31%	35%	33%
Computing	29%	28%	27%

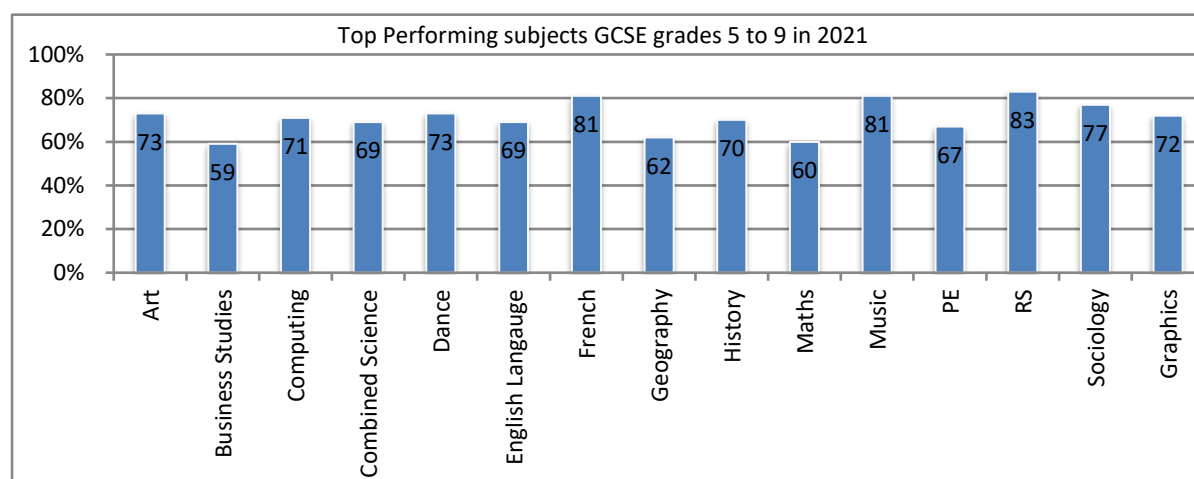
BLENHEIM GCSE RESULTS 2021

Achievement across a range of subjects

Blenheim's 9 – 4 pass rate was 82%. In all subjects studied as GCSE or BTEC course over half of all grades awarded were 9 – 5. In Technical awards, Blenheim achieved a 100% pass rate (Pass to Distinction*) in Level 2 Cambridge Technical iMedia, BTEC Health and Fitness and BTEC Travel and Tourism.

English and Mathematics

Results in these core subjects remained well above the national average for Blenheim students in 2021 with 84% gaining the 9 - 4 GCSE grade in Mathematics, 87% in either English Language or English Literature, with 29% of grades being the highest GCSE grade of 9 - 7 in English and 20% in Mathematics.



GCSE grades 7 to 9

29% of all our entries were awarded 9-7 grades, 37 students achieved average grades of 7 or higher, and 16 students achieved an average of grade 8 or higher. Our top performing student secured all grade 9s and one grade 8 across the ten subjects studied at GCSE.

JOB PROFILE

Hours: 8:15 am- 4:15 pm

Days: Monday to Friday



The aim

The Role

To support the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator and the Subject Teacher in ensuring access to the curriculum for a group of students with special educational needs.

Accountable to:

SEN Co-ordinator, Class Teacher

Safeguarding:

To be familiar with school policies, in particular safeguarding procedures, and promote the welfare of children.

Key Responsibilities:

- Under the direction of the Special Needs Co-ordinator and the Class Teacher:
- To participate in the planning of a range of activities for a group of students.
- To assist in preparation and adaptation of teaching materials, equipment etc. which facilitates the students' access to the curriculum.
- To assist in the preparation of the classroom, the reception of students, the organisation of materials and the checking and clearing of equipment.
- To assist in meeting the students' needs for encouragement and reassurance.
- To attend to the students' personal requirements and physical care on a daily basis and encourage independence at all times.
- To implement procedures for the monitoring, assessment and recording of the students' progress.
- To contribute where appropriate to any multi-disciplinary discussion for the students' needs/progress; to contribute to informal reviews and annual reviews.
- To participate in relevant staff development activities.
- To participate in the supervision of students during break and lunchtime, as appropriate
- To ensure that the planned programme of activities is implemented; to undertake specific tasks with individuals of small groups of students.
- You are expected to be familiar with all school policies, in particular Safeguarding procedures and to promote the welfare of children.

Person Specification

Essential	Desirable
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepared to work as part of a team.• Good organisational and communication skills.• Able to work under pressure.• Enjoy working with people (students and staff).• Patience and understanding• A flexible approach.• A positive attitude.• Good literacy and numeracy skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Experience of a school environment.• ICT skills.• Previous experience within a nursing/caring or welfare role

REVIEW OF THE JOB DESCRIPTION

This job description is intended to provide guidance on the range of duties associated with the post. It is not intended to provide a full and exclusive definition of the post. It may be subject to modification and amendment from time to time and the post-holder may be required to undertake additional reasonable duties, as required by the Headteacher. The Director of Finance and Operations role is expected to evolve as the school continues to develop and grow, and the post-holder will be expected to operate flexibly to accommodate ad hoc projects and analysis and to take a lead on these where appropriate. This job description will be reviewed and updated as required, in consultation with the postholder and the Headteacher

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Holidays

Holidays will be in accordance with NJC guidelines and negotiated in advance with the Headteacher. Certain points in the year, including, but not confined to, preparing for financial year end and key evening events, will not be authorised for annual holiday requests. All full-time staff are also directed to take some leave during the Christmas and New Year period in line with the closure days of the school during that period



THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Please download and complete the Application Form and include a Statement of Application outlining your achievements to date and what you bring to the role, please ensure this is no more than two sides of A4. Completed applications may be emailed to De'Jon Baldwin, Human Resources Manager, baldwin@blenheim.surrey.sch.uk

All application should be marked for the attention of **De'Jon Baldwin, Human Resources Manager**, Blenheim High School, Longmead Road, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 9BH. **Closing date is 15th November 2021 at 9:00 am.** We reserve the right to interview and appoint before the closing date if a suitable candidate is found; we would therefore welcome early applications.

To find out more about the school or to arrange a tour of the school please contact Mr De'Jon Baldwin, Human Resources Manager, baldwin@blenheim.surrey.sch.uk

Our school is committed to equal opportunities and to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Appointment to this post will be subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure. I enclose our policies for your information.

I should remind you that you are liable to prosecution if you are included in the Disclosure and Barring Service's/Disclosure Scotland's Children's Barred List and engage, or seek or offer to engage, in work which either involves contact with children or provides opportunities for contact with children.