



THE SCHOOLS AT  
SOMERHILL

## Head of Girls Games Recruitment Information

YARDLEY COURT

DERWENT LODGE

SOMERHILL PRE-PREP

Employment Status	Full time
Required From	September, 2019
School Division	Derwent Lodge
Application Closing Date	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March, 2019
Interview Date	Week Commencing Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March, 2019



# ABOUT US

## A Message from the Principal – Duncan Sinclair

Ours is a very special school with a unique structure in this part of the world. We have a coeducational pre-prep of 200 boys and girls aged 3-7. At the end of Year Two, in the same way as for 'diamond model' schools, our girls join Derwent Lodge, (136 girls Year 3 to 6) and the boys join Yardley Court (250 boys Year 3 to 8). Our pupils are therefore taught in single sex classes from the age of seven but very much in a coeducational setting. More details can be found on our website: [www.somerhill.org](http://www.somerhill.org)

The School is based in a stunning Jacobean mansion set in 150 acres of beautiful parkland. You will be hard-pressed to find a more glorious setting for a school! Somerhill is an estate just to the South of Tonbridge and is readily accessed by a slip road off the A21. We have excellent facilities including a multi-purpose sports hall, Astroturf, new dining hall and indoor swimming pool complex and a Music School built in 2014.

Ours is a mixed ability school. We have very bright and capable pupils, some of whom will go on to win both academic and other scholarships. We also have boys and girls who find aspects of their learning more challenging and currently approximately 60+ pupils receive some measure of additional support.

Whilst the Schools at Somerhill have some 600 pupils, the division into three separate schools means that each school is able to tailor its teaching to best suit the children within it. Parents feel that they have the best of both worlds with small school care and linked pupil/teacher ratios but with larger school facilities and social opportunities. They are very supportive of the idea behind a co-educational pre-prep leading to single sex prep schools, but within a mixed gender environment.

# THE AIMS OF THE SCHOOL

The Schools at Somerhill seek to help each of our pupils to achieve the greatest all-round development and success of which they are capable. This includes promoting their academic, personal, spiritual, social, and moral growth.

We aim to give each child self-esteem, resilience and a determination to make their lives as fulfilling as possible both here at Somerhill and as members of a global community.

We encourage our pupils to work hard and take a pride in achievement, to think honestly and independently, to face up to challenges, to accept responsibility, to show concern for others and the environment and to develop a broad range of skills and interests.

In a caring and happy community, we want our children to make the most of their talents and promote the well-being of themselves and others.

## **Somerhill Pre-Prep is our school for 3 to 7 year old girls and boys.**

*“High quality education in a happy environment. Teaching enables pupils of all abilities to make progress. It promotes exploration and independent learning and gives pupils confidence in their abilities.” Independent Schools Inspectorate*

## **Derwent Lodge is our Preparatory School for 7 to 11 year old girls.**

*“Excellent standards in lessons, in the scholarships and places gained at senior schools. Girls work together exceptionally well and show considerable imagination, independence of thought and flair.” Independent Schools Inspectorate*

## **Yardley Court is our Preparatory School for 7 to 13 year old boys.**

*“Pupils thrive in the atmosphere of hard work, enjoyment and effort. Their attitude to their work is excellent and they take pride in their achievements and the success of others.” Independent Schools Inspectorate*

# DERWENT LODGE

Derwent Lodge is a charming and highly successful girls prep school.

Girls leave the school at the end of Year 6 and our destination schools include Sevenoaks, Caterham, Tonbridge Girls Grammar, Tunbridge Wells Girls Grammar, Weald of Kent Grammar, Kent College Pembury, Walthamstow Hall and Mayfield, for example.

Girls are encouraged to fulfil their potential and, if appropriate, are actively supported in the pursuit of sports scholarships for senior school entry. We have an enviable record in this and seek to continue our strength in this field.

## PERSON SPECIFICATION

We are looking for an individual who can foster a true passion for learning through the Growth Mindset principles.

Inspiring children is essential, leading by example and desiring to find the time to help coach groups of girls to be the best they can be.

This post would suit a dynamic individual, with strength in pastoral care.

The individual should be confident in supporting a small staff team.

The candidate will be proficient in their use of ICT; experience of using a SoCs calendar or similar is desirable.

The candidate will have a good degree in a relevant subject and experience of delivering this in either the state or independent sector.

The ability to offer another subject would be desirable.



# JOB DESCRIPTION

Post: Head of Girls Games

Accountable to: The Headteacher, Derwent Lodge

Accountable for: All Derwent Lodge staff who teach PE, games or coach at matches

- To lead the planning and teaching of girls PE and games in the prep school, with a thorough and broad subject knowledge, ensuring there is pupil progression
- To advise and assist with the teaching of sport in other areas of The Schools at Somerhill: Somerhill Pre-Prep and Yardley Court
- To be responsible for the organising of fixtures throughout the year, in liaison with Yardley Court and Deputy Heads, so every pupil has the opportunity to represent the school in line with the school ethos of 'sport for all'
- To ensure best possible practice within the department and evaluate its effectiveness through a continuous professional development programme
- To be responsible for the behaviour and discipline of children in lessons, in accordance with the school's policy
- To take responsibility for Health and Safety of pupils and staff involved in lessons, games and matches
- To be aware of and implement relevant national curriculum developments and develop a strategic vision that will ensure that Derwent Lodge is leading the way in preparatory school sport
- To ensure the school is represented well in local tournaments, including those both within and outside the IAPS, aspiring to national success; this may include occasional weekend activities
- To organise house competitions
- To monitor the awarding of all sports prizes
- To ensure that the sport remains at the highest standard, driving for excellence in the 'very able' children and ensuring that the programme of activities is inclusive for all abilities
- To manage a budget prudently and effectively; to be responsible for ensuring that PE equipment is maintained and in good order and be responsible for ordering new equipment
- To ensure excellent communications with parents and other schools, updating the calendar portal regularly
- To liaise with the estates team regarding preparation and upkeep of sports areas
- To liaise with other departments and maximise any opportunities for cross-curricular and cross-school links
- To attend Open Mornings, Parent Consultation Evenings and other public events
- To write reports on a termly basis and delegate report writing effectively where appropriate
- To take an active role in delivering after school clubs and activities throughout the year including the organisation and delivery of pre-season training and sports tours
- To represent Derwent Lodge at external meetings as required

# THE PACKAGE

**Salary:** Competitive salary based on experience and qualifications

**Holiday:** To be taken during the school holidays

**Pension:** Membership of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

**Benefits:**

- School Fee Remissions
- Free school lunch provided each day in the School Dining Hall
- Free onsite parking
- CPD training will be supported in the role

**All interested candidates are invited to visit the school at any time prior to the final date for submission of applications, 14th March.**

Please e-mail or telephone the school if you would like to avail yourself of this opportunity.

## Format of Applications

Formal applications will only be accepted via the official Schools at Somerhill Application Form which will be published alongside this pack on our website: [www.somerhill.org](http://www.somerhill.org)

## Further Information

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Helen Hoffmann, Headteacher for a confidential conversation or for general queries Celia Box [recruitment@somerhill.org](mailto:recruitment@somerhill.org)

The Schools at Somerhill are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. The post is subject to an enhanced DBS check, sight of original qualification documents and satisfactory references. The post is also subject to a negative response to an enquiry as to whether a prohibition order has been made by the Secretary of State.

