

# TEACHER OF DRAMA



Information for Candidates





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## Introduction from Ruth Sullivan, Head

Working at Sherborne Girls is an exciting opportunity. As a full boarding school we are able to offer a varied and creative academic curriculum supported by a full co-curricular programme. We place a great deal of importance on appointing the right staff, and we look for those who are able to make a genuine difference to the lives of our pupils. We are fortunate to be able to attract a high calibre of staff to our wonderful school. We really value the contribution made by all our teachers and support staff and in turn we offer a full programme of continuous professional development tailored to individual needs.

We are privileged to work in the attractive market town of Sherborne, which includes a beautiful Abbey, is steeped in heritage and has good connections by road and rail. We work closely with the other schools in Sherborne, particularly Sherborne Boys, to make this a unique educational experience.



Most of all we are proud of our girls, who leave us as at the end of their time at Sherborne as adaptable, courageous, compassionate and curious young women.

If you would like to be part of this thriving community then we would love to hear from you.

**Ruth Sullivan, Head**





# Sherborne Girls

## The School

Sherborne Girls is an independent, full-boarding and day school founded in 1899. It is situated on a beautiful campus on the western edge of the historic Abbey town of Sherborne and has an excellent academic record combined with first-rate facilities. It aims to give its pupils (aged 11 - 18) a broad and balanced academic, physical, social and moral education. The school has an Anglican foundation. Academic results are excellent at GCSE and A Level.

## Neighbouring Schools

In July 2024, Sherborne Girls formed part of the Sherborne Schools Group alongside Sherborne Boys, Sherborne Prep and Hanford Prep. Drama, music, social and academic life are greatly enhanced by shared activities and resources. The range of subjects offered in the Sixth Form are increased by working in partnership with Sherborne Boys. A Level courses are available for our Sixth Form of over 180 girls.

## Boarding

The boarders live in seven purpose-built houses: one for Years 7 and 8, five mixed-aged houses for Years 9 to 12, and an Upper Sixth House. Each house has a pastoral team comprised of a teaching Housemistress or Housemaster, resident and non-resident tutors and matrons. Girls eat all meals in their houses and the Personal Tutor system is house-based.

## Academic Achievement

We are proud of our academic achievements and strive to give all our students the best opportunities for them to develop their unique potential. The curriculum is enriched by appropriate use of technology. We are a Microsoft Showcase Incubator school and all staff are provided with a pen-enabled Microsoft device for teaching. We offer an extensive co-curricular programme, a range of study days and external trips. However, our aims are broader than just to achieve excellent examination results, and although our pupils make progress significantly above expectation, we also want them to develop independence and other life-skills, talents and interests, along with respect for one another.

# School Aims

- Full boarding School - To deliver the highest standard of boarding provision through exceptional facilities, resources, care and experiences.
- Aspiration and Ambition - To engender a culture of excellence in all aspects of school life and with all members of the community.
- Technology - To ensure our pupils are equipped for the future, developing their digital literacy and familiarity with latest technologies, as well as fostering essential and emerging skills for the future workplace.
- Sustainability - We aspire to enhance our position as a leader in the sector for environmental sustainability, setting clear targets for the School to achieve Net Zero, as well as driving an innovative and pioneering educational programme that develops the pupils' awareness and commitment to sustainability and the world around them.
- Community - Community is the bedrock of our School and the town of Sherborne. The history of the town, Abbey and the honey-stoned buildings add to this very special ethos and deep sense of tradition. We are privileged to live and work in Sherborne which is a centre of educational excellence.
- Staff - In order to nurture inspiring and effective role models for our pupils, we will continue to strengthen our people-first culture. We recognise the expertise of our staff and are committed to supporting and empowering them to contribute to the future development of the School.

## The Department

The Drama Department consists of two teachers and a Speech and Drama tutor. It is housed in the newly refurbished Stuart Centre which includes a flexible studio performance space furnished to a very high standard, a workshop studio, a classroom and several smaller rehearsal rooms. The main productions are performed in the Gransden Hall (SG) or the BSR (Sherborne Boys (SB)) each year with smaller and examination performances in the Stuart Centre. Drama is taught for one period a week at KS3 and then an option at both GCSE and A Level, following the Eduqas specification for both. Co-curricular Drama is an important part of the department's work, including a joint senior school production and joint junior production (both with SB), a joint L6 play each summer and a West production each year along with other ongoing activities such as House Drama, House Dance, Tech Club and the Scholars' programme. Due to the full boarding nature of the school, rehearsals are always in the evenings and at weekends.

## The Role

The appointed Teacher of Drama will be an outstanding and experienced practitioner, meeting all the requirements of teachers employed by the School including an ability to:

- Direct a school production each year
- Teach across year groups including the Eduqas spec up to A Level
- Assist with organisation of theatre trips and risk assessments
- Organise workshops for exam classes where required
- Assist with the Scholar's programme
- Assist with internal Drama events

## Main Duties

- Plan, prepare and teach the course/s as directed by the Director of Drama and Dance
- Contribute to the co-curricular programme and assist with developing this further to best support the pupils
- Be aware of the diverse needs within any given class and to differentiate lessons and resources accordingly
- Understand and implement the aims and objectives of the Science department, and to contribute to its vibrant and creative atmosphere
- Maintain and develop, schemes of work within the requirements of the examination board
- Maintain sound discipline inside and outside the classroom, within the School's agreed procedure
- Ensure that the pupils' work is regularly assessed, that marks are recorded and that reports are written at appropriate times
- Write reports, attend parents' meetings and reply to parents' enquiries
- Ensure that pupils are suitably prepared for entry to the appropriate public examinations, and to implement and review the curriculum, to ensure that it meets the needs of the pupils
- Develop and manage up-to-date teaching and learning resources, including library and digital resources and advise the Director of Drama and Dance on course materials
- Assist with the setting, marking and, where necessary, co-ordination of internal examinations in the department
- Ensure the appropriate provision prior to and during internally and externally assessed NEA work
- Be aware of, support, and implement all school policies, including assessment and reporting, rewards and conduct, and those in place to maintain safe working practice.
- Observe and be observed on a regular basis as part of the on-going process of subject quality assurance, development of Teaching and Learning and as part of the Staff Development Review process.
- Develop ICT skills in the use of the Microsoft 365 suite of software for enhanced teaching and learning, for personal administration and to ensure pupils are effective in their use of ICT and show commitment to the School's digital strategic aims.
- Be a personal tutor to a group of girls and take part in lunch visits to an all-age boarding house.
- Weekend duties (approximately ten per year pro-rated for part time staff)
- One evening duty per week in a boarding house (6pm- 9.15pm)

*Duties listed are not exhaustive; all members of staff are expected to undertake duties reasonably requested by the Head*



# Person Specification

This exciting position will be suited to a professional experienced in working within education. A sound understanding of the academic demands of a full boarding school would be an advantage, as would experience managing people. The post holder will need to be visible around the school and must continually review and improve our academic provision through maintaining excellent standards and supporting all staff.

Knowledge, Experience and Qualifications	<b>Essential</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Drama honours degree</li><li>• Experience of KS3, GCSE and A Level teaching</li><li>• Experience of directing school productions</li></ul>	<b>Desirable</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A teaching qualification e.g PGCE</li><li>• Experience of organising trips and workshops, including risk assessments</li><li>• Links with theatre companies/other industry professionals</li><li>• Experience of the Eduqas specifications</li></ul>
	<b>Skills and Abilities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exceptional teacher with ability to inspire a love of learning</li><li>• High standards of written and oral communication</li><li>• IT literate and willingness to use Microsoft and/or Apple Technologies to enhance teaching and learning (training provided)</li><li>• Well organised, proactive and calm under pressure</li><li>• Resourceful and resilient</li><li>• Ability to create an inspirational and challenging learning environment</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Specific area of specialism such as puppetry, lighting, physical theatre, video editing, QLab etc</li><li>• Passion for and knowledge of contemporary theatre and plays with strong female roles</li><li>• Engagement with Drama based research and developing pedagogy of creative learning</li></ul>
	<b>Personal Attributes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Committed to Sherborne Girls and its values and ethos as a girls' full boarding school</li><li>• Committed to continued professional development</li><li>• Proactive, enthusiastic and a role model for the pupils</li><li>• Committed to high expectations, outstanding educational standards and interest in educational innovation</li><li>• Open-minded, imaginative and persuasive</li><li>• Willing to be involved in co-curricular activities and enrichment activities associated with the subject</li></ul>	



# Terms and Conditions

## Salary Expectation

A highly competitive remuneration package is available for the right candidate and dependent on experience.

## Contract

This is a full time position. Work may be required on some of the bank holidays if they fall within term time.

## Pre-employment checks and probationary period

The successful applicants' appointment will be subject to successful completion of a probationary period and full pre-employment checks.

Sherborne Girls will conduct online searches for shortlisted candidates. This check will be undertaken based on the requirements set out in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024. The check will help the us to ensure safe and robust checks on the suitability of individuals to work within our School. To minimise unconscious bias or potential discrimination issues, a person who will not be on the appointment panel will conduct the search and will only share information if and when findings are of concern. A panel may explore any concerns passed to them as part of our due diligence process.

## Benefits

- A possibility of staff fee remission at Sherborne Girls, Sherborne Boys and Sherborne Prep
- Membership of a suitable Pension Scheme
- Free lunches are provided during term-time
- Free parking is available on the school campus
- Discounted membership of the Oxley Sports Centre
- Use of a Microsoft pen-enabled device for teaching and school administration
- Membership of the School's employee support programme

## Application Process

To apply please follow the instructions on the school website or TES. The closing date for applications is 9am on 22 August 2025 and interviews will be held on Thursday 04 or Friday 05 September 2025. We reserve the right to interview and appoint before this deadline so early applications advised. The successful candidate will commence in post from November 2025 or January 2026.

# Safeguarding

Sherborne Girls School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Applicants must undergo child protection screening, including checks with past employers and DBS and barred lists checks. The school expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Sherborne Girls School is an equal opportunities employer.

# Our Vision, Mission and Values

## Vision

To be the leading full boarding girls' school for all-round personal development and academic fulfillment, and to create a community of empowered learners who will be an influence for good in a challenging world.

## Mission

To provide a broad and enriching, full boarding education that develops the unique talents of every girl within a supportive community to send out into the world girls of character, commitment and compassion who are able to think clearly and creatively, choose wisely and have the courage to make a difference.

## Values

**Curious** Sherborne girls will be intellectually enquiring and imaginative; they will seek challenge and inspiration in the pursuit of excellence.

**Courageous** Sherborne girls will be bold and adventurous; they will have the courage to take risks, the resilience to overcome adversity and the inner confidence to lead others.

**Compassionate** Sherborne girls will be principled, considerate and kind; they will have a sense of responsibility to make a positive contribution to the communities in which they live and work.

**Adaptable** Sherborne girls will be resilient and flexible; they will be able to adapt to the demands of the modern day and to respect and celebrate the differences of others.

**Spiritual** Sherrborne Girls understand Christian values, they value reflection and well-being in themselves and others.







## Working in Sherborne

Sherborne is, without doubt, one of the most beautiful towns in England. With its abundance of medieval buildings, superb Abbey, world famous schools, picturesque Almshouse and two castles, Sherborne has much to offer. Ideally located on the Dorset and Somerset border it has excellent transport links enabling the town to flourish.

Sherborne is a popular centre of activity for locals and visitors alike. It is known for its cultural events and festivals as well as its attractive high street. Sherborne is surrounded by the beautiful Dorset countryside of Thomas Hardy's Wessex and is close to the spectacular Jurassic coastline.





