



The Manchester
Grammar School

Founded 1515



TEACHER OF FRENCH

Information Pack

Completed applications should be emailed to recruitment@mgs.org
Closing date: 9am on Wednesday 22 February 2023

WELCOME TO MGS

Welcome to The Manchester Grammar School, and thank you for your interest in joining us.

Our history dates back to the time of Henry VIII, when The Manchester Grammar School was founded in 1515 by Hugh Oldham, Bishop of Exeter, to provide 'good learning' for boys from all economic backgrounds across Manchester.

The School proceeded to build a reputation as one of the country's leading educational establishments, a position it still holds today as an independent day school. Much has changed in the intervening five hundred years, but our core mission to educate the brightest young men in the North of England regardless of their social, cultural, religious and financial background, has not.

The Manchester Grammar School is in the heart of Manchester, close to Rusholme and Moss Side. We are very proud of the diversity of our pupil body and are actively looking to diversify the staff body further.

We aim to teach boys to think for themselves and to develop a life-long love of learning. Lessons are taught by academic specialists with a passion for their subject, and teaching goes well beyond the narrow confines of examination syllabuses, offering our students the best preparation for the very top universities, both in this country and abroad.

There is, however, much more to an MGS education than what happens in the classroom. What makes this School truly special is the outstanding achievement of our pupils in areas such as sport, music and drama, and in keeping with Hugh Oldham's aims we produce well-rounded young men who have a true sense of service to their communities.

I do hope that you will enjoy finding out more about us.

Martin Boulton
High Master

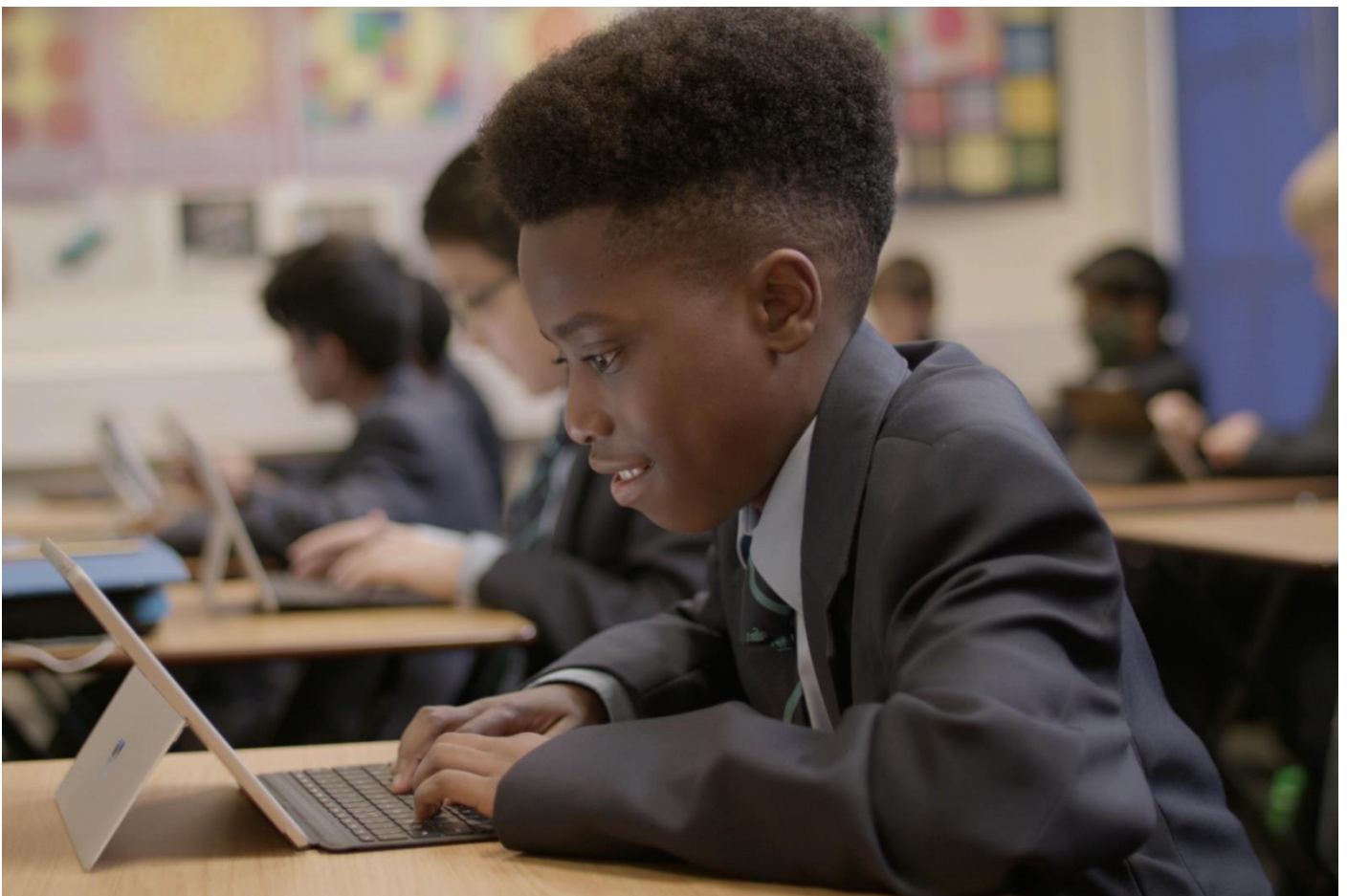


THE ROLE

We are seeking to appoint, from 1 September 2023, an outstanding individual to teach French to A-Level in our large, vibrant and highly successful Modern Languages department. The ability to also offer a second language would be an advantage but is not essential. This is permanent contract and full-time position.

We are looking for a talented, committed and enthusiastic teacher, whether experienced or newly qualified, who is able to provide challenging and enriching language teaching for our lively, bright pupils in the Senior School. We are looking for someone with a strong degree who can share their passion for the subject.

Alongside their teaching duties, all teaching staff usually have a pastoral role as form tutors and play an active part in the vibrant co-curricular programme of the School. The successful candidate will be able to get involved in both these aspects of life at MGS should they wish to do so.



THE DEPARTMENT

We are passionate in our belief in the importance of language learning for our pupils and our innovative curriculum offers them breadth and choice. In the Senior School the Modern Languages department offers *ab initio* courses in French, German, Mandarin and Spanish in Year 7, and all pupils choose one language at this level. In Year 9 pupils may choose a second, third and even fourth modern language from French, German, Italian, Mandarin, Russian and Spanish. In Years 10 and 11 all pupils must take at least one modern foreign language GCSE. French is offered at GCSE (AQA) and in the Sixth Form at A-level (AQA). We are proud of the large numbers of pupils who choose languages and who continue to A-level and on to university. We have a particularly strong record of Oxbridge success, which we are keen to maintain and strengthen still further. Details of the school's examination results may be found on the school's website.

We would welcome applications from people with interests which would add to the enrichment of pupils' modern languages learning, but, most importantly, from people who share our enthusiasm for, and commitment to, the teaching of languages at all levels.

The department currently consists of eighteen full-time and part-time language teachers, of whom five are French specialists. Many of our teachers offer more than one language. There are also seven native-speaker language assistants, including in French. We offer a wide range of trips and exchange visits, including to France, Germany, Russia, Italy, Spain and China and next year will be running a new trip to a language school in Monaco. In addition, there is a diverse programme of co-curricular language clubs and activities. The department is housed in its own accommodation, the Mason Building. Classrooms are equipped with computers and TV screens. All teachers and pupils are provided with their own Microsoft Surface laptops which are used for a range of classroom activities and for independent learning. We are a forward thinking department, committed to professional development, and keeping abreast with the latest developments in modern languages teaching and to the sharing of good practice across our languages.



WHY WORK AT MGS?

The School

The Manchester Grammar School is an exciting, stimulating and rewarding community in which to work.

It has a long and distinguished history. It was founded in 1515, by Hugh Oldham, Bishop of Exeter, to prepare able boys from the Manchester area, regardless of their background, to go to Oxford or Cambridge. The School has gained an international reputation for academic excellence and enjoys a strong record of success with top universities, both in the UK and overseas.

We take our motto, Sapere Aude ('Dare to be Wise'), as meaning that we must challenge our pupils and expect to be challenged by them, and this is one of the things which makes teaching at MGS so rewarding.

Bursaries and social mobility

MGS's Foundation Bursary Appeal has been the most successful appeal of its kind held by any school and is a cornerstone of our ethos. Its aim is to ensure that a place at MGS is available to any boy who passes our entrance assessments, regardless of his family's financial background. More than 200 boys currently receive full or partial means-tested bursaries. (The average bursary is 90% of the school fee). Our long-term ambition is to be needs-blind, so that every boy who passes our entrance assessments can take up a place, regardless of his parents' ability to pay.

Our pupils

The School comprises 1650 boys in Years 3 to 13. All boys are assessed for entry on the basis of their potential by observing their individual talents over the course of an assessment day. A formal entrance exam only plays a part in entry to Year 7. Entry standards are high and rising. Our admissions policy aims to be needs-blind to enable the School to be a diverse community of talented individuals from all backgrounds.



Boys come from across the North-West and from every type of background, and the boys who join the School each year come in equal numbers from maintained and independent primary schools.

Our teachers

Staff at MGS come from every walk of life. Every year we welcome to our staff NQTs as well as experienced teachers. We expect all applicants to have an excellent degree. However, a teaching qualification is not essential and we provide support for those who wish to become qualified after appointment. Often teachers who have taught for a number of years join us to gain extra experience before moving on to become a head of department elsewhere. We are deeply committed to the professional development of our staff. Many colleagues have gone on to deputy headships and headships elsewhere; likewise, many staff choose to stay with us.

People who teach here will have a love of their subject and will have the ability to inspire and challenge able pupils. Our teachers enjoy making an active contribution to co-curricular activities, both for the reward of the activity itself and because of the different dimension it gives to their relationship with their pupils.

The Manchester Grammar School has its own generous salary scale, and pays significantly above main scale rates.

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. It is a source of great enjoyment and challenge for our pupils and staff alike. It includes a great range of sport, music, drama, adventure, volunteering 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 significant 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



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

Facilities are excellent. Recent developments have included a new sports hall, international standard hockey astro-turf and tennis courts, and the purchase of a new Steinway Model D grand piano for the Memorial Hall. We have an exceptionally equipped theatre and drama studios and award-winning Junior School buildings.

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 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. MGS provides full support to enable NQTs to obtain QTS. 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 Wednesday 22 February, and we expect to hold interviews shortly after.

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 Monday 27 February should assume that they have not been shortlisted for interview.

February 2023