



GORDON'S SCHOOL

HEAD OF NETBALL

Introduction

Sport is an integral part of the School's vision to be the best non-selective school in England and amongst the finest schools in the world. Academic success will gain young people their first job, or place at university; but it is the character acquired on the games' field and in other co-curricular activities which will sustain them through life.

With more than 90 teams, we play annually over 600 fixtures, across more twenty sports. Many of teams compete at national level. This year the 1st XI football team reached the semi-finals of the English Schools' FA Cup losing on penalties to Millfield; Gordon's Karting team has reached the National Finals for the last years in succession, finishing 3rd and 4th in 2016 and 2017; our equestrian team won the Royal Windsor Horse Show in 2016; and our hockey 1st team is reigning national state boarding schools champions.

At Gordon's we believe our attitude is as important as our achievements. Character matters. Talent without ambition, self-discipline and humility is rarely fulfilled and does not inspire others. Win or lose, we want our teams and players to be good role models and mirror the qualities we seek from all our young people: courtesy, integrity, diligence, enthusiasm and resilience.





Head of Netball

Gordon's is seeking to appoint a highly motivated and inspirational Head of Netball with a clear philosophy for the development of Netball in an ambitious state boarding school.

We have a competitive fixture list and an extensive Games and after-school training programme. Netball is played over two terms with the majority of fixtures played on a weekend in the Spring Term. Participation rates in the Autumn Term are high with A, B and C teams in the lower years. At 1st team level the school competes in the County and National competitions. There is also a variety of Netball tours each year.

Currently the school has four on-site Netball Courts, a fitness suite and a full-size floodlit all-weather pitch, with plans in place for a sports hall and second all-weather in 2020.

In 2018, we launched our elite performance programme across our major sports, with four programmes: nutrition, strength & conditioning, psychology and pre-hab/re-hab.

Netball is well developed at Gordon's but has yet to enjoy the success of other major sports in the school. The successful candidate will be expected to establish an inclusive and forward thinking Netball Development Plan to take Netball at Gordon's to the next level.



Role overview

Responsible to - Director of Sport

Key commitments:

- a. Deliver four P6 Games periods per week.
- b. Deliver four midweek Period 7 sessions per week.
- c. Lead one additional Period 8 and one additional evening training session per week.
- d. Manage and coach a team on Saturdays, including Saturday morning and/or afternoon fixtures and occasional weekends attending local and regional tournaments.
- e. Manage and coach teams at day and half day tournaments.
- f. Lead termly pre-season training as required.



Job description

Responsibilities

To oversee the organising and promotion of Netball at all levels and ages at Gordon's School. The list below is sport specific.

- a. Arrange fixtures and ensure all associated resourcing, including hospitality.
- b. Ensure all Period 7 training sessions are attended by A&B team players and the sessions are conducive to excellent performances.
- c. Utilise video analysis effectively including the use of period 7 sessions, and natural opportunities to deliver feedback to players following training and fixtures.
- d. Find natural opportunities to work with individuals, groups of players or teams.
- e. Ensure all netball coaches are following the playbook principles and support the School's playing and coaching philosophies.
- f. Support and challenge the netball coaches to ensure optimal student performance.
- g. Ensure individuals and teams are performing at optimal levels and to ensure that identified teams are prioritised in this regard.
- h. Develop staff and students as coaches and referees.
- i. Recruit and retain talented sports coaches.
- j. Maintain and developing relationships with Prep Schools, Universities, netball clubs, super league franchises and governing bodies.

- k. Lead on the annual Gordon's School Invitational Netball Tournament
- l. Setting up and running tours appropriate for various player groups, providing opportunities for the players to expand their experiences.

Development of Netball:

- m. Establish a clear 3 year strategy for netball and regularly review progress towards identified targets with the Director of Sport.
- n. Explore opportunities to establish a county or regional academy for netball.
- o. Monitor and evaluate all year groups to identify future identified teams and monitor progress towards annual goals.
- p. Ensure identified teams are aware of their goals and receive a tournament calendar.
- q. Assess, record and report home on progress against these goals on a termly basis to the Director of Sport.
- r. In conjunction with the Deputy Head Pastoral and Director of Sport, develop the recruitment of committed and talented players to Gordon's School Sixth Form.
- s. Increase participation across the school and expand fixture list to include C and D Team fixtures.





Person specification

The Head of Netball will have:

- a. Successful experience of coaching netball within schools, clubs, the England Netball pathway or a super league franchise.
- b. Experience of playing to a high level.
- c. A Level 2 Coaching award and a C award umpire is desirable.
- d. Excellent knowledge of long-term development practices for young netball players.
- e. Good technical and tactical knowledge of the game with a passion to develop further.
- f. Excellent communication skills, with the ability to motivate others.
- g. Experience of developing others, including the development of other netball coaches is beneficial.



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