



# Saint Christina's

Pre-Prep and Prep School  
for boys & girls aged 3-11

## Appointment of Teaching Assistant

### Information for Candidates

This is a really exciting opportunity for the successful candidate to join our energetic and forward-thinking team. Our objective is to develop a unique and deeply ambitious primary educational experience that will set Saint Christina's out from every other school.

We are looking for a highly motivated and innovative individual who would like to work within our warm and friendly community. The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate that they will be able to offer high levels of support to pupils within the classroom and will be able to lead groups of children independently.

### School information

Saint Christina's is an exceptional School in many ways and the wonderful atmosphere of fun and learning can be felt when you walk through the doors. The School revolves around a caring, family orientated team of teachers and staff and the help and support of many of the parents.

The quality of teaching is reflected by the constant high grades, outstanding outcomes at 11+ and excellent feedback through the recent ISI report, a copy of which can be found on the School's website. The School's reputation and family loyalty, with siblings and children of past pupils all attending, is reflected in the waiting list.

Saint Christina's has pupils of all nationalities and, although it is a Catholic school, maintains a healthy balance of pupils from all faiths and none.

The School is modern, purpose built with large, bright classrooms and is in a wonderful location close by to Primrose Hill, Regent's Park and Lord's.

We are accredited members of The Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS), the Catholic Independent Schools' Conference (CISC), and the Independent Schools Council (ISC) and affiliated with the Society of Heads.

## History of the School

Saint Christina's School was founded in 1949 by the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus as an Independent Catholic School in the Archdiocese of Westminster. Since then the School has grown considerably and continues to flourish, always seeking to meet the needs of all of its pupils in an ever-changing world. Saint Christina's remains a charitable trust and forms part of a world-wide family founded by Saint Raphaela Maria in the late nineteenth century.

## Development of the School

The school has been and remains ambitious with regard to the development of its facilities. Our accommodation is unassuming from the outside, but large, light and spacious, inside. The classroom accommodation is supplemented with two playgrounds, a number of outdoor learning areas and easy access to Primrose Hill and Regent's Park.

Ten years ago a completely new third floor was added to the School. This contains several state-of-the-art classrooms and a bespoke music area which includes two 'sound-proofed' practice / teaching rooms. The School also boasts an Arts Hall and a Dance Hall which is used for the teaching of Art, sport, dance and drama.

Most recently, the school made the decision to transition to full co-education having previously only had boys within its community to the age of 7. In parallel to this, our ultimate desire is to see the school grow from one to two form entry. To this end the School has just completed a very large expansion through the construction of four new classrooms and a brand new EYFS unit, to accommodate the vision for growth to two form entry.

The successful candidate will therefore join a school at an exciting time and will want to seize the opportunity to help form this new chapter in the School's journey.

Further information about the School can be found on our website

[www.saintchristinas.org.uk](http://www.saintchristinas.org.uk)

## The Job

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic classroom practitioner who is interested in accompanying our mission of 'growing' children as individuals who are curious about the world that they live in and who get excited about their learning. Our vision is driven by a deep-seated belief in ambitious teaching and learning that cultivates an authentic curiosity, rigour and sense of fun.

The key elements of the job (please see attached job specifications) include:

- Strongly support teaching and learning within the classroom
- Be able to lead small groups and support specific children in 1:1 situations as required
- Be a leading light, enthusiast and role model for learning amongst staff, parents and pupils
- Contribute to the wrap-around care that the School offers e.g. offering a club; overseeing breakfast club etc

## The Candidate

Applications are welcomed from well-qualified individuals. Although it will be important to have demonstrable experience and qualifications, the intention is to appoint an individual with the energy and vision to bring real direction, strength and innovation to their work as Saint Christina's transitions to full co-education and, eventually, two-form entry. The successful candidate will be someone who is really keen to join our mission to make Saint Christina's the most vibrant, most innovative and most exciting place to learn within. Applicants need not be Catholic, however, they must be strongly in sympathy with our ethos.

This is a very important role and of crucial importance to the school in setting the correct tone. The successful candidate will:

- demonstrate the ability to understand the school both in terms of its academic purpose and its ethos
- have excellent communication and people management skills
- be passionate about growing and challenging children to become the very best version of themselves both in terms of learning and character
- be happy to collaborate and work effectively within a team
- have and encourage a growth mind-set
- want to be involved in developing our intellectual curiosity programme; be prepared to think out of the box and to challenge the children to do so too
- be a regular visitor to the Head's office with new and great ideas
- be able to deliver both in the classroom and beyond and be fully involved in the clubs and activities programme
- have good Mathematical, English and IT skills
- command respect in balancing approachability with natural authority and pastoral sensitivity

This is a singular opportunity for a capable and energetic individual to accompany us as we collectively forge the next chapter of Saint Christina's journey, at a time where the governing body have taken the decision for the school to be fully co-educational. The successful candidate will be a good communicator and will be compassionate and caring with a positive, encouraging and collaborative style.

The salary will be competitive and reflect the importance of the post.

## **Arrangements for the Appointment**

### **Applications**

Candidates who wish to have a confidential conversation with the Headteacher may contact him via his PA, Michelle Hamilton.

Candidates should complete **ALL** sections of the application form which, together with a detailed covering letter explaining why they think that they are suited to the role, should be sent in email form to the Headteacher's PA at [headteacherspa@saintchristinas.org.uk](mailto:headteacherspa@saintchristinas.org.uk)

All candidates will have references taken up in advance of interview unless they specifically indicate otherwise. References provided should include a current employer.

**The closing date for applications is 10.00 am Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

### **Interviews and appointment**

Interviews will commence thereafter and before Half Term.

Candidates will be given the opportunity to see the school in action and speak with pupils and staff. They will be asked to teach and will be interviewed by the SLT and the Headteacher.

The appointment will be subject to satisfactory references, verification of identity and proof of qualifications, a satisfactory medical screening and a satisfactory DBS Enhanced Disclosure, together with all other relevant safeguarding checks.

*The appointment will be made without regard to age, ethnicity, disability, marital status or sexual orientation.*

*The School reserves the right to adjust the advertised timings should the need arise.*