



## **Graduate Sports Assistant**

### **11 months, fixed term contract from September 2021**

#### **Introduction**

King's Rochester is a co-educational, independent school with 610 pupils between the ages of 3 and 18, including 50 boarders. King's is formed of a Nursery/Pre-Preparatory School, a Preparatory School and a Senior School. The Senior School provides for pupils between 13 and 18 and consists of 260 boys and girls. The size of the school creates a strongly supportive, friendly atmosphere with an emphasis on excellent academic results within a full and rounded co-curricular programme. Sport is a strength of the school with regular fixtures and several pupils representing at county and national level.

The school is situated in the most historic part of Rochester, adjacent to the Cathedral and Castle. Rochester is 35 minutes from London on the high speed rail link and enjoys excellent road connections to other parts of the country. The school has a long heritage, having been founded in 604 AD and is part of the Cathedral Foundation. While candidates need not be Anglicans, it is important that they should feel sympathy with the Christian tradition of the School and in particular its moral values. The Principal is a member of HMC and the school is also a member of IAPS, CSA and the Woodard Corporation.

#### **The Department**

The PE and Games department at King's encourages a fully inclusive culture of sport across the whole school. The department aims to ensure all pupils understand the physical, mental and social benefits of sport and physical activity as well as inspiring pupils to remain engaged long after they leave the school.

Pupils are afforded the opportunity to participate in regular competitive sport through a well-planned and thorough fixture list in Rugby, Hockey and Cricket (boys) and Hockey, Netball and Cricket (girls). Rowing is also a major sport at King's and takes place across all three terms. Regular fixtures take place during Games afternoons and on Saturdays. In addition to this, an extensive Games programme allows pupils to take part in a wide range of sports and activities during timetabled lessons and, as part of the school's co-curricular program.

The department contributes to a thriving inter-house competition and house sports events are run each term. A large number of our pupils represent local sports clubs and many play at county

or regional level. A sports scholarship programme provides our most talented athletes extra support and includes strength and conditioning coaching, athlete mentoring, nutritional guidance as well as profiling and target setting. Sports Scholarships are offered at the Year 7, Remove (Year 9) and Lower Sixth entry points. A rigorous assessment process is followed, allowing the school to identify pupils with significant athletic potential and talent across our major sports. Currently, there are currently 41 athletes on the programme.

The department consists of 7 full-time PE teachers who are well supported by Graduate Sports Assistants, and a specialist strength and conditioning coach who works closely with our sports scholars. Some of our games staff also teach in the Pre-Preparatory School, this enables us to develop core skills from an early age. From September 2021, a full time Head of Athletic Development will also be in post. A large number of academic teaching staff are actively involved in the Games programme, many of whom coach and lead teams across all sports. Our facilities are extensive and include a Sports Centre with 7 outdoor tennis courts, 6 Netball courts (of which 5 are outdoors), and an indoor sports hall which accommodates 5 badminton courts, and an indoor hockey area. On-site, the school boasts outstanding playing surfaces for both cricket and rugby, as well as an indoor, 4 lane, 25m swimming pool and an additional sports hall with indoor cricket nets.

### **Day to day responsibilities to include (not exhaustive)**

- Leading teams in the major sports (hockey, netball and cricket) during Games lessons and at fixtures, in both the Preparatory and Senior Schools;
- assist PE staff in the delivery of core PE to pupils in the Pre-preparatory and Preparatory schools;
- participate in the school's co-curricular activities programme;
- accompany teams to fixtures and tours outside of normal school hours;
- assist with the marketing of King's including Open Days and Sport specific events;
- assist with the mentoring and coaching of Sports Scholars;
- be responsible for the tidiness and up keep of the sports equipment in both the Preparatory and Senior Schools and informing the Director of Sport of any issues;
- assist with the planning and delivery of tournaments hosted by King's Rochester;
- assist with pre-season training sessions;
- be an integral part of the school community;

### **Role outside of the games department:**

- Assist in boarding duties mid-week in either the girls or boys boarding house;
- engage in the range of activities available at the weekend;
- supervision of pupils in a mid-week fitness and/or sports based activity.

### **The successful applicant should:**

- hold a relevant, sports-based degree;

- ideally hold a coaching qualification in at least one of the major sports; Hockey, Cricket, Netball, Swimming;
- have relevant playing experience in at least one of the major sports listed above;
- be able to plan and deliver coaching sessions that are fun, innovative, creative and adaptable;
- have a knowledge of and willingness to adopt, best teaching practices;
- demonstrate and promote a positive ethos with a focus on the King's Sport core values of Resilience, Passion, Ambition and Work-rate;
- have good organisational, inter-personal and communication skills;
- be able to work alone and in a team as required;
- be a sporting role model to all pupils;
- possess a good sense of humour.

Remuneration will be £11,000 per annum with accommodation and meals provided. Applications by completed application form, supporting letter and curriculum vitae, with the names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the HR Manager, Mrs Aije Barnes at King's Rochester, Satis House, Boley Hill, Rochester, Kent ME1 1TE, or by email to [recruitment@kings-rochester.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@kings-rochester.co.uk) The School's telephone number is 01634 888555.

If you require further information please contact Mike Hebden, Director of Sport (Senior School) [mhebden@kings-rochester.co.uk](mailto:mhebden@kings-rochester.co.uk)

**Applications are invited immediately with a deadline of  
4.30pm on 12th April 2021**

**Interview date: Monday, 26th April 2021**

**Early applications are encouraged and we reserve the right to close the vacancy if a suitable candidate is found.**

King's Rochester is an equal opportunities employer and positively encourages applications from suitably qualified and eligible candidates regardless of sex, race, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief, marital status, or pregnancy and maternity.

King's Rochester is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and fulfils all its responsibilities under current child protection and safeguarding legislation in accordance with good practice in the care of young people, especially those living away from home. We expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Candidates will be expected to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post including disclosure and barring service checks and allow checks on their background and identity including checks with past employers and suitable referees.

The appointment will be conditional upon successful outcomes of these checks and also on a successful enhanced DBS and children's barred list checks.

The School has a legal responsibility to ensure that all its employees have the legal right to live and work in the UK. Therefore, you will need to provide original documents verifying that you are eligible to work in the UK to the interview. Details of these will provided in the invitation to interview.

All candidates invited to interview must bring the original documents confirming any educational and professional qualifications that are necessary or relevant for the post.

**Registered Charity No. 1084266**