



KING'S COLLEGE SCHOOL WIMBLEDON



TEACHER OF THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY
(maternity cover)



WELCOME TO KING'S COLLEGE SCHOOL

Thank you for your interest in joining our school community.

As you learn more about us, I hope you will discover that King's is a truly wonderful environment in which to teach, work and learn, with pupils who are inquisitive, creative and eager to learn, on a campus which is well-resourced and recently renewed, and alongside other dedicated staff whose expertise, care and commitment lie at the foundation of everything we do.

King's is one of the most successful schools in the world, and our vibrant and caring community is a special place to learn and grow for boys aged 7-18 and girls aged 16-18. With over 1,500 pupils and approximately 450 staff, we are located in one of the most attractive and peaceful parts of London, opposite 1,140 acres of countryside of Wimbledon and Putney Commons and just a short walk from the picturesque Wimbledon Village.

Our school was founded in 1829 by Royal Charter as the junior department of the university, King's College London, and as such, intellectual aspiration and a progressive spirit are our heritage. Today, we offer an education of the whole person, in Mind, Spirit and Heart, the enduring ethos of our foundation. Our guiding mission is to look outwards, to the world beyond school, and to life at 25: we look to the lives we are preparing our young people to lead, so that when the time comes, they are ready to forge the pathway they choose, and to make a purposeful impact.

We aim for each of our pupils to enjoy an exhilarating adventure of learning and to pursue academic excellence within a fun, caring, welcoming environment. Academic outcomes at A level, IB and GCSE consistently place King's amongst the very top schools nationally and globally, with over half of A level and IB grades at A* or equivalent last

summer, and we were delighted to be the highest placed independent co-educational day school, and to be named Independent International Baccalaureate School of the Year, in The Sunday Times Parent Power 2025.

Supporting our pupils to grow strong in spirit, in the shared values and qualities of character that will ground them, is equally important at King's. Kindness, respect and support for one another; a broad-minded outlook and a commitment to inclusivity, are central to our community, as is the co-curriculum, which enables pupils to develop broad skills and resilience as well as to discover lifelong passions through clubs and societies, CCF, Duke of Edinburgh, sport, the arts, and community partnerships.

The next few years will be a very exciting time for us as we enter the next chapter of the school's strategic development, and as we seek to strengthen our community in preparation for our 200th anniversary in 2029. We hope you consider joining us for this adventure.



Dr Anne Cotton
Head



THE ROLE/PERSON

We are inviting applications for a full-time teacher of Theology & Philosophy to cover maternity leave. The post is expected to start in November 2025 until the end of the academic year 2025/26. Part-time applications will also be considered.

This is an exciting opportunity to shape learning within our warm and dynamic school community. The successful candidate will teach gifted and dedicated pupils in the senior school.

Recent graduates, recently retired teachers, individuals considering a change in career and those returning from a career break are all strongly encouraged to apply. Training for applicants who are brand new to teaching is available, and the school runs its own teacher training programme culminating in QTS.

Person Specification

The post will suit someone who has:

- Excellent subject knowledge, and a genuine interest in Theology & Philosophy as an academic discipline
- An eagerness to inspire and support all pupils to flourish and reach their academic potential
- A desire to enrich the intellectual experience of pupils beyond the exam specifications by supporting

pupil involvement in challenges, competitions, and societies relating to Theology & Philosophy

- Strong pastoral instincts and a commitment to excellent pastoral care for all pupils
- A desire to contribute to the school's thriving cocurricular programme
- An ability to work well with others
- A personal commitment to ongoing professional development

The following would be advantageous:

- Prior experience of teaching in a secondary school environment



HOW TO APPLY

Closing date: Wednesday 25th June 2025 at 9am

Interviews: Monday 30th June 2025

To apply for this role, please register your details online via our website www.kcs.org.uk (under useful information / career opportunities). Once you have registered your details with us, you can apply for vacancies by logging into the candidate area using your email address and chosen password. You will be asked to fill an online application form, upload a CV and provide a cover letter.

Please include a covering letter with your application addressed to Dr Anne Cotton, Head.

CV: Please use the CV to highlight your skills, knowledge and expertise that match the role details, main duties and responsibilities. Your CV should ideally be a single-sided A4 sheet.

Cover letter: Please use the cover letter to explain how your own skills and experiences match the person specification for this role. The cover letter is an opportunity for you to share with us how you are suited to this role, how your skills are transferable to the key requirements, and your relevant life experiences or interests. Your cover letter should ideally not exceed two sides of A4.

Early applications are encouraged; interviews may be staged and we may choose to appoint at any time during the application process.

The interview process is expected to include some or all of the following activities:

- i. one or more interviews
- ii. teaching an observed lesson (details will be provided prior to interview; preparation work will be required in advance)
- iii. a written task
- iv. a school tour
- v. a opportunity to meet members of the department

Arrangements will be confirmed prior to interview, and further details provided.

We welcome enquiries or questions regarding this position, including about adjustments to be made during the recruitment process: please contact recruitment@kcs.org.uk or telephone the HR department (020 8255 5308) to find out more.

We are happy to reimburse reasonable travel expenses.



WORKING AT KING'S

Our staff community is welcoming, energetic and vibrant. Within a well-established atmosphere of kindness, cooperation and trust, there is a “can-do” attitude, coupled with high levels of emotional intelligence, good humour and mutual support. The school's reputation for academic excellence and strong pastoral care is built on the dedication and skills of every member of staff.

We seek to recruit well-qualified and enthusiastic staff who demonstrate knowledge of, and passion for, their area of expertise and contribute to the rich wider life of the school. All staff contribute to the ongoing development of the school, and give freely of their time outside timetabled lessons, committing to co-curricular activities and helping individual pupils with their academic progress. Many take clubs, societies, trips and sports teams at evenings, weekends and during the school holidays. The strength of our pastoral system is founded upon all teaching staff making a significant pastoral contribution as a tutor to specific group of pupils. Tutor groups are year-group specific in the lower school, and become a vertical system from fourth form upwards.

In return, the school provides staff with a wide variety of benefits and opportunities, including:

- Competitive salaries well above London and national averages
- Automatic enrolment into the Teachers' Pension Scheme or optional inclusion into the King's defined contribution pension scheme for teaching staff
- Opportunities to develop professionally and a supportive approach to staff training and development. In addition to our bespoke programme for unqualified teachers which ultimately leads to QTS and full statutory support for all Early Career Teachers, the *Sapienter Develop* online platform comprises a range of courses based on the latest research and insight in education and leadership, and provide support to colleagues undertaking postgraduate and further study.
- A focus on staff wellbeing, family friendly policies, and bespoke support for new members of staff; all are guided through their first year by a variety of colleagues, including the director of staff welfare, their line manager and a mentor
- Access to BUPA and Aviva employee assistance programmes, and the BUPA healthcare cash plan
- Free use of the King's Club, including access to the swimming pool, gym, tennis/squash courts and group exercise classes
- Free lunch, tea, coffee and other refreshments during term time
- A Surface Book Laptop
- Shuttle buses from Wimbledon station
- Cycle to work scheme
- Fee remission for children of staff (subject to the usual entry requirements and space being available)
- Invitations to school productions, concerts and events during the year

WORKING AT KING'S - STAFF PROFILES



"Since starting at King's, I have thoroughly enjoyed working with extremely able and enthusiastic students and colleagues. The academic challenge central to the school's ethos means that work in and outside the classroom is always stimulating and fast-paced. I have had the opportunity to take on new roles in the school early in my time at King's, and appreciate seeing the variety of routes that my career could take here. Having come from an IB only school, I have felt supported taking on the A Level. The school also has its own internal programme of professional development which I have benefitted from, and the range of short courses on offer mean that I can stretch different areas of my professional practice."

- Dr Cheung

Head of French, Academic Enrichment Coordinator and Equality and Diversity Mentor

"I love working at King's. I have been supported in a variety of roles in over a decade at King's, including head of department, head of section, and acting operational deputy head. There is a real value put on staff and pupils having fun and enjoying school: academic excellence is never put ahead of pastoral support or co-curricular involvement. Alongside this, there is a real sense of teamwork and a desire amongst colleagues to support all members of our community in achieving their aims. Every year I am struck by the kindness of colleagues, the ambition of the pupils and the opportunities available to all. King's is a great place to work, but it never stands still nor rests on its laurels."

- Mr Renwick

Head of Admissions and Teacher of Theology and Philosophy



"King's is a dynamic, positive school committed to the wellbeing of all. Staff-pupil relationships are exceptionally good, and members of staff are unfailingly supportive. Pupils are motivated and keen to learn; it is stimulating to work in an academically fulfilling environment. The pastoral system is strong, and I find my role as a tutor the most rewarding. There are many opportunities for professional development, either through in-house courses or via new roles – indeed, I have enjoyed many different responsibilities. To teach and learn in beautiful surroundings and with outstanding facilities makes working at King's a joy."

- Ms Davis

Director of Staff Welfare, Bursary Engagement Officer and Teacher of History

"Prior to joining King's I had not stayed at any school longer than three years; seventeen years later and I am still here. King's is by far the best school and environment I have ever worked at. Everyone from pupils to teaching staff are kind, welcoming and above all else they all look out for one another. I have learnt how to be a good teacher and leader at King's and been given opportunities to further develop my career others can only dream off. I love being a part of this community"

- Ms Chan Ramgoolam

Director of Public Occasions



"I started King's as a Graduate Sports Assistant and then after completing my teaching training, I spent four years as a junior school PE and Games teacher before progressing into the senior school to become the Head of Football. Throughout my time at King's, I have been supported by outstanding colleagues and the progress I have made is down to their dedication and invaluable advice. The work I have done with the ACS on diversity and inclusion has been hugely rewarding; the society aims to ensure all pupils feel valued in our community leading to better outcomes for everyone".

- Mr Joshua Barrington

Head of Football and Head of the African Caribbean Society



THE DEPARTMENT

Theology and Philosophy ("TP") at King's is an exciting, vibrant and popular subject. There are six members of the department, one of whom is our school Chaplain, with a variety of specialists in Philosophy, Ethics and Theology. We work in a suite of three well-equipped rooms in the centre of the school and have a fully resourced departmental office. The TP department is committed to helping all pupils achieve their full potential in the subject, and provides a vibrant, forward-thinking and supportive environment in which to work. There is considerable opportunity for individual teachers to develop their own ideas and to innovate within what is a strong and supportive team.

Pupils study TP throughout the lower and middle schools. At the end of year 9, a good number of pupils opt to study the full course for four lessons a week, following the Edexcel IGCSE Religious Studies. Those pupils not opting for full course study an unexamined course, which looks at various philosophical and religious issues.

At present, in the sixth form, A Level students study the OCR Religious Studies course, which has component parts of Philosophy of Religion, Ethics and Developments of Christian Thought. Within the International Baccalaureate programme, Philosophy is offered at both higher and standard levels. The IB course involves an exciting range of areas, including a core theme considering what it means to be a human being, Philosophy of Religion and Ethics. From GCSE to the sixth form, the department achieves excellent results

and a number of pupils make successful applications to competitive universities each year.

There are many opportunities for members of the department to contribute to other areas of the school. Some members teach the Theory of Knowledge component of the International Baccalaureate and are involved in marking the essays and exhibitions in this subject. All members of the department take on the supervision and guidance of pupils writing extended essays for either A Level or IB, give extension classes for those wishing to study the subject at university, and put on revision classes in the run up to exams. Some members are also involved in the delivery of the PSHE programme. We also run middle school and sixth form Philosophy societies.

We are a committed and conscientious department, sharing resources and good practice in order to both empower our pupils with respect to their examinations and also to facilitate pupil reflection on important life issues. We are passionate about progressing our teaching and are leaders in advancing the role of digital learning within the school. We have weekly meetings to support this and are also members of the Eton and Trinity groups which gives us the opportunity to share ideas with departments from other schools.



SAFEGUARDING AT KING'S

At King's, we recognise our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils.

We make every effort to provide an environment in which children and adults feel safe, secure, valued and respected, and feel confident to talk if they are worried, believing they will be effectively listened to.

We are alert to the signs of abuse, neglect and exploitation, and follow our procedures to ensure that children receive effective support and protection. Child protection forms part of the school's safeguarding responsibilities.

We follow the Merton Children's Safeguarding Partnership procedures and have several policies and procedures in place which contribute to our safeguarding commitment, including our Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy. A copy of this policy is available on our school website: <https://www.kcs.org.uk/safeguarding-at-kings>. The purpose of this policy is to provide staff, volunteers, and governors with the framework they need in order to keep children safe and secure in our school. The policy also informs parents and carers about how we will safeguard their children whilst they are in our care.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, governors and volunteers to share this commitment. Those applying to work at King's will be required to undergo rigorous child protection screening; pre-employment checks include (as relevant to the role and individual):

- past employers (references will be requested for shortlisted candidates prior to interview in line with **Keeping Children Safe in Education**)
- the Disclosure and Barring Service (including a barred list check)
- a prohibition from teaching check
- a Section 128 check (prohibition from management or governance)
- identity checks
- right to work checks
- overseas checks
- verification of qualifications and/or professional status
- fitness to work checks

This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (ROA) 1974.



INCLUSION AT KING'S

King's aims to be a diverse and equitable environment where all staff and pupils feel they belong. The community aims to foster an ethos of social awareness and respect for difference, creating a welcoming and inclusive culture where every member of our community is valued and respected as their authentic self, regardless of difference. Establishing this sense of belonging and community is central to the ethos of King's and is outlined in the 'Inclusivity at King's' statement.

The school has developed a comprehensive equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) programme that spans all areas of school life, including our wider school community. Our director of EDI oversees our work in this crucial area, working closely with our EDI mentors who support pupils around issues including sexuality, gender and race.

There are a wide range of thriving pupil advocacy and discussion groups who meet regularly, including our African Caribbean society, our East and South-East Asian society, our Pride group, our neurodiversity society, our interfaith discussion group and Her'd, our group for girls. Alongside this, the school holds regular talks and workshops on EDI topics to ensure that inclusivity remains a central part of the daily life at school and is at the heart of all that we do.

Further information about equality, diversity and inclusivity at King's is available on our website at <https://www.kcs.org.uk/equality-diversity-and-inclusivity-at-kings>

King's College School is fully committed to the principles of equality, diversity and inclusivity in its recruitment of teaching and support staff.

If you have any support requirements that require adjustments to be made during the recruitment process, please let us know in advance so that any support, aids or adaptations can be put in place to assist you. Examples can include, but are not limited to, a request for extra time, a wheelchair accessible interview room or alternative format of assessment papers such as audible, Braille or large print versions.



LIVING AND WORKING IN WIMBLEDON

Wimbledon is famous for its annual Grand Slam tennis tournament, but that is not the only thing that makes living and working in Wimbledon an attractive proposition.

The area is one of the safest parts of London and provides a wonderful mix of town and Village life. The streets are bustling and lined with bars, restaurants and shops and the charming children's Polka Theatre is situated in the centre of Wimbledon. King's is located on the edge of Wimbledon Common, at the beginning of one of the largest areas of green, recreational space in the whole of London. The Common, which extends to Richmond Park, is home to a 19th century windmill and an Iron Age fort.

One of the best things about working in Wimbledon is its connectivity. Wimbledon station is located in zone 3, approximately 10 minutes from Clapham Junction and 20 minutes from London Waterloo. There are regular trains to numerous destinations, including Kingston, Epsom and Richmond. Wimbledon can also be reached by tube, via the District line, and by tram, which connects to places such as Croydon and Beckenham. King's is also in a convenient location for road users, with its proximity to the A3 providing an excellent link to the M25. There is a morning shuttle bus for staff which runs from Wimbledon Station to the school.

Although property prices are high in and around Wimbledon Village, there are affordable options a little further away. Many staff choose to live in Central and South Wimbledon or Raynes Park, which is a 15 minute walk from King's. Other nearby options include Motspur Park, Worcester Park, Clapham, Tooting and Earlsfield but plenty of colleagues prefer to commute from Surrey, where Esher, Epsom and Ashstead are popular choices.



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