

**Additional Information: Teacher of English (Maternity Cover)**

**Required for September 2021**

**Fixed term 1 year. Full-time or Part-time.**

We are seeking an enthusiastic and well-qualified graduate who is interested in joining our outstanding English Department. This post would suit an experienced teacher, an NQT or a recent graduate and the successful applicant will be able to gain Qualified Teacher Status through the Teaching Apprenticeship Programme. This Programme is a hands on, practical school based teacher training route with supportive mentors. We are experienced in providing this opportunity and have an outstanding track record of training excellent practitioners.

Every new member of staff is assigned a mentor and the full statutory NQT induction programme is available for teachers new to the profession. Blundell’s School is a regional training centre for NQTs in the independent sector.

A commitment to full participation in the extra-curricular life of this thriving boarding school is expected and accommodation may be available.

**Blundell’s School**

Blundell’s is committed to academic excellence enabling pupils to realise their full potential. It has been consistently praised for adding considerable value to its broad intake of pupils. In recent years, academic results have seen steady improvement and there is a strong commitment to continuing and indeed accelerating this pleasing development. For more information about the school, visit the website: [www.blundells.org](http://www.blundells.org)

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service. The post-holder’s responsibility for safeguarding the welfare of the pupils for whom they are responsible and with whom they come into contact will be to adhere to and ensure compliance with Blundell’s Child Protection Policy at all times. If, in the course of carrying out the duties of the post, the post-holder becomes aware of any actual or potential risks to the safety or welfare of children in Blundell’s, they must report any concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

**History**

Blundell’s has a distinguished history. It was founded in 1604 through the bequest of a Peter Blundell, one of the wealthiest of Elizabethan merchants. He left money and lands for a boys’ school in his home town to ‘maintain sound learning and true religion’. Generous lands were provided in Tiverton and South Devon for its maintenance and Blundell’s executors established links between the School and Balliol College, Oxford and Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, which survive to this day.

**The 21st Century School**

Blundell’s is an independent co-educational day and boarding school for ages 11 to 18. There are over 600 pupils on the roll (346 boys, 257 girls); the majority are from the West Country but some come from farther afield in the UK and around 10% are international pupils. The School is situated on the outskirts of the market town of Tiverton and, with the adjacent Prep School, is set in 90 acres of rolling Devon countryside. It is easily accessible via the M5 and the train journey to London is 2 hours. The M5 junction 27 and Tiverton Parkway station are both six minutes away.

The outstanding characteristic of Blundellians is their positive ‘can-do’ attitude. The main finding of the 2019 Independent Schools Inspectorate report was that the quality of our pupils’ academic and other achievements is “excellent” and the quality of our pupils’ personal development is also “excellent”. It also noted that “Pupils throughout the school demonstrate strong development of self-confidence and self-awareness, at levels appropriate to or, for many, beyond their age. Pupils showed their justifiable pride in their own and in others’ achievements, without appearing in the least arrogant or excessively competitive.”

**The School’s Aims and Values**

Blundell’s aims to provide a rounded education for the whole person, in mind, body and spirit, promoting the essential values of Character, Social Responsibility and Independence to enable pupils to pursue Excellence in every area with a sense of Adventure about their future.

These values are in accordance with the wishes of the School’s founder Peter Blundell and expressed in the School’s long-held belief: ‘There are two gifts we can give our children, the first is roots and the second is wings’

**Roots**

* To develop depth and breadth of character, which will encourage resilience, optimism, self-control and generosity within the rich Christian values of the School
* To develop a sense of social responsibility and for each individual to be mindful of their role in the Blundell’s community, in society at large and in the global environment, thus encouraging consideration, mindfulness and respect
* To develop independence, with each pupil taking responsibility for their own growth and development and so demonstrate initiative, take ownership and feel satisfaction in what is achieved

**Wings**

* To pursue excellence, aspiring to do everything as well as it can be done, which will develop a sense of justifiable pride and ambition
* To develop confidence and a sense of adventure which will foster courage, curiosity and enterprise and originality

**The English Department**

The successful candidate will join a team of staff with a wide variety of academic interests.  The department is housed in the very heart of the school, right next to the well-stocked and recently refurbished Library and an I.T. suite.

The department meets formally on a weekly basis and is committed to in‐service training.  We pursue academic excellence and recognise that our involvement in the subject extends into our own reading, writing and participation in co‐ curricular activities. At A-Level, pupils follow the English Literature Edexcel course and the AQA English Language course. Pupils in Years 10 and 11 have the opportunity to take one of three course pathways; either IGCSE English Language (Edexcel) and IGCSE English Literature (Edexcel) courses, CIE IGCSE English Language or a combination of the two. In Years 7-9, the teaching is divided between a core curriculum devised by the department and individual schemes of personal choice geared to the interests and needs of each class. Classes in Years 7 and 8 are mixed ability; we stream pupils according to ability from Year 9.  At KS3, pupils follow the Accelerated Reader programme to promote and improve reading.

We offer a diverse programme of visiting speakers, outings to the theatre, workshops, and the opportunity to enter local and national writing competitions. We also run a highly successful Debating Society and pupils participate in the English Speaking Union competitions. World Book Day is an important focus in our calendar year and is celebrated across the school.  The successful candidate will be prepared to be involved in all aspects of the department and will contribute to its development.

We offer a working environment with supportive colleagues, the opportunity of excellent continued professional development and enough room to explore the wider opportunities of this busy boarding school.

**TEACHING POLICY**

**Aims:**

To foster in pupils an enthusiasm for study, application of intellectual, physical or creative effort and the ability to think and learn for themselves;

To enable pupils to acquire new knowledge understanding and skills in the subjects taught;

To support and encourage pupil reflection about their academic progress and enable them to demonstrate achievement.

**The successful candidate will:**

* Show a clear command of the subject areas which they teach;
* Organise teaching programmes which meet curricular demands and pupils’ needs;
* Plan lessons carefully, making their aims and objectives clear to pupils;
* Have high expectations of all pupils, challenging their knowledge and understandings and encouraging and enabling them to meet their full potential;
* Stimulate and maintain pupils’ interest by a range of methods and their own enthusiasm;
* Use data on pupils’ baseline to inform their teaching;
* Use personalised teaching strategies where appropriate to meet the needs of pupils of different abilities, including the most-able, pupils for whom English is not their first language or those who have learning difficulties. Central lists of pupils and their particular learning requirements should be referred to;
* Set appropriate homework and assess pupils’ work regularly and effectively, according to agreed standards and policies;
* Manage pupils well, to maintain good order and discipline within the classroom;
* Develop good relationships with pupils through a balance of firmness and friendliness;
* Insist on punctuality in attending lessons and set a good example themselves;
* Provide a teaching environment which is bright, orderly and interesting. Classroom decoration should be updated frequently and there should be regular displays of pupils’ work;
* Provide fair, full and accurate feedback to parents, tutors and Houseparents via the reporting systems, as well as more regular communication where appropriate for individuals;
* Contribute to meetings for sharing feedback on pupils’ progress and agreeing strategies to enhance their performance;
* Be ready to ask for advice and to share difficulties in teaching with other colleagues;
* Take opportunities to observe other colleagues and share good practice in teaching;
* Help to raise the profile of the English department within the school community;
* Promote and run English language and literature related clubs.

Please contact Miss Charlotte Mercer [Head of English] for further information: [cem@blundells.org](mailto:cem@blundells.org)

**Applications**

For an application form, please see our website [www.blundells.org](http://www.blundells.org/admin/jobs.htm) or email [recruitment@blundells.org](mailto:recruitment@blundells.org)