



BEAUDESERT PARK SCHOOL

NURSERY • PRE-PREP • PREP
DAY • WEEKLY & FLEXI-BOARDING

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 3-13 YEARS



RECRUITMENT BROCHURE
2020

Information for Candidates

Living in Gloucestershire: what to expect

The county of Gloucestershire is located in south west England. Its picturesque villages and bustling market towns are home to golden-stone cottages and winding streets. The main cultural hub is Cheltenham, although the county town of Gloucester is also packed with theatres and shops. The area is home to the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the Forest of Dean, as well as the Severn Vale, which lies between the two.

Gloucestershire has a quintessentially English landscape. It is rich in ancient woodland and meadows. Rolling hills are dotted with stone cottages and towns are packed with quirky shops, tea rooms and traditional inns.

Walking, horse riding, cycling and more adventurous sports such as climbing are all popular. The Ramblers, one of the walking groups in the area, has more than 110,000 members.

But there's also plenty to do in the city of Gloucester, and other major towns, such as Cheltenham, Cirencester, Stroud, and Tewkesbury. Boutiques, theatres, pubs and cafés line the winding streets. In summer, festivals such as WOMAD mark the area's history, food and culture and draw large Crowds.

Getting around Gloucestershire

By rail: You can travel to London, the Midlands, the north and the south west by train. There are mainline rail stations at Cam & Dursley, Cheltenham, Gloucester, Kemble, Moreton-in-Marsh, Stonehouse and Stroud.

Direct trains to London Paddington run from both Gloucester and Cheltenham, and there are also direct services to Heathrow, Bristol, Cardiff, Nottingham and Birmingham. A train from Gloucester to London takes an hour and 50 minutes.

By car: Living in Gloucestershire puts you within easy reach of several major routes. The M4 runs to the south of the county, connecting Bristol to Reading, while the M40 links London to Birmingham.

The M5 also puts you in the direction of Birmingham to the north and Devon and Cornwall to the south.

By air: Birmingham and Bristol Airports are an hour's drive away. From here, you can fly to domestic locations such as Aberdeen as well as more exotic destinations including Cape Verde and Monte Carlo.



WORKING AT BEAUDESERT PARK SCHOOL

Beaundesert Park offers a high achieving, academically aspiring education, coupled with a flexible approach to after school care and boarding. The happy family atmosphere, which upholds traditional standards, is clearly evident. Beaundesert is independent of any senior school and parents and children are given unbiased support to help them choose and prepare for their next stage of education. The purposeful, nurturing and supportive environment ensures children leave having gained not only an outstanding all-encompassing education but also confidence, friendships and memories which will last a lifetime.

The School's aim is to prepare boys and girls for a rapidly changing world and the many challenges that lie ahead (please see the School prospectus that can be downloaded from the website www.beaundesert.gloucs.sch.uk). Additionally it is to provide our staff with continual opportunities to develop to the benefit of both the School and themselves.

Beaundesert Park School has a particular pride in our reputation for being a caring school and recognise that this is built very much on the commitment and skills of our staff. The success of the School and the well-being of its staff depend very largely on co-operation, trust and respect between all levels of staff.

THEN AND NOW

Founded in 1908 in Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire, Beaundesert Park School moved to its current site high in the Cotswolds in 1918, and became an educational trust in 1968. Once an 'all boys, all boarding' school, it is now a co-ed day, weekly boarding and flexi-boarding school for boys and girls aged 3-13.

The School buildings range in age from a 19th century folly to a very modern Performing Arts Centre. Facilities are excellent as a result of continued investment. A dedicated, enthusiastic team of staff is committed to making children's years at Beaundesert a happy and rewarding time. When they leave, children move on to a wide range of leading senior schools across the country.

PASTORAL

We take great pride in the pastoral care at Beaundesert. Every effort is made to ensure that the children feel happy and safe. To this end we introduce them through a PSHCE (Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education) programme to the important life-skills they will need both at school and beyond. Form teachers monitor the overall development of each child. Support and advice are available from all members of the school community, and the children are encouraged to talk about any concerns. The staff meet each week to discuss pastoral issues. Our assemblies and services provide a Christian lead for all to follow, and the children are expected to abide by our code of conduct.

OUR PUPILS

Our pupils are boys and girls aged 3-13. We provide co-ed day, weekly boarding and flexi-boarding facilities. Our School's primary purpose is to prepare the children for a rapidly changing world and the many challenges that lie ahead. All staff will need to ensure that they are fully conversant with our safeguarding policy and that they know how to report any concerns.

ACADEMIC

At Beaundesert the broad curriculum stretches well beyond the demands of Common Entrance and scholarships. We keep class sizes small and, as well as the full range of academic subjects, children are taught art, drama, music, design, pottery, PE, IT and PSHCE.

We have high expectations of the boys and girls here, and we aim to challenge and stimulate them to enjoy learning. Pupils displaying particular talents are encouraged to excel further. Children who need extra support are helped by our specialist Learning Support team. We begin to teach some of the main academic subjects in sets from Year 4, with the pupils being taught as a form for all other lessons. This

ensures cohesion within a year group as well as the opportunity for each child to progress at a suitable pace. We believe that by praising effort, all children have the chance to succeed in the classroom. To help keep parents informed of their child's progress we email written reports based on effort on a regular basis. Full reports at the end of each term, and parents' evenings also play their part in maintaining the important link between parents and school. Beaudesert prepares children for a wide range of leading senior schools across the UK. The Headmaster is always available to advise parents when it comes to making this important decision, and to help balance ambition with realism. Many leavers move on with awards and scholarships to their names.

SPORT

Beaudesert is a country school with plenty of space and superb sports facilities, including 12 acres of sports grounds, seven tennis courts (of which four are all-weather courts), two swimming pools and a large multi-purpose sports hall. There is a genuine 'Sport for All' philosophy, and all children are encouraged to enjoy sport. Beaudesert children regularly compete in matches with other schools, and a number of children and teams have achieved national success. The main sports for boys are rugby, football, hockey and cricket, and for girls they are hockey, netball and rounders. Swimming takes place all year round and all children do athletics and play tennis in the summer. Judo, fencing, squash, golf, polo, riding and cross country are also available.

BOARDING

Children may board from Year 4. We have a flexible, family-friendly approach to boarding. Some children weekly board (Monday to Friday), but the majority flexi-board, which sees children staying for one to three nights per week. Boarding is fun at Beaudesert, and helps build self-confidence. In addition to the use of our many superb facilities, boarders enjoy a huge range of evening activities, not to mention the delicious suppers and breakfasts. Homely and well-equipped, the boarding house is at the heart of the school, with the resident houseparents, matrons and qualified nurses keeping a friendly watch over all the children. For boarders we also run the Beaudesert Badge – a programme of life-skills activities and new experiences which culminates in a summer camping trip and the award of a bronze, silver or gold badge at the end of the academic year.

THE ARTS

Beaudesert has a reputation for providing a superb all-round education, and the arts are an important part of that approach. We believe that children benefit enormously from having ample opportunity to perform before an audience and to express themselves through the arts. Right through the school a variety of performances are crafted, honed and staged on a regular basis. The school also has choirs and a number of other musical groups, and our Head of Music, supported by many staff, co-ordinates individual music lessons for instruments ranging from piano to the drums. Our well-equipped art and design block gives children the chance to develop their talents across a broad range of media. We also have our own pottery studio complete with wheels and kiln. Drama, art and music awards and scholarships are regularly awarded to our leavers.

PRE-PREP

The Pre-prep department is in a self-contained building adjoining the main school. As well as having access to the excellent wider facilities at Beaudesert, the Pre-prep has many of its own, including an outdoor classroom and story-telling circle, iPads for integrated ICT sessions, and a technology/cookery room. Classrooms are spacious and class sizes are small. Children in the nursery enjoy a careful balance of free play and more directed activities, allowing them to start to develop literacy and numeracy skills.

Once they reach Reception the children experience a wider curriculum with a little more structure. Regular literacy and numeracy sessions are complemented by interesting topic work and child-initiated play. In Years 1 and 2, children build on their skills and develop further independence in reading, writing, speaking and listening. Our aim with this age group is to challenge and inspire the children to develop their love of learning by broadening their horizons, whilst introducing a more structured curriculum.

Through exciting cross-curricular topic work, the children also develop an understanding of History, Geography and Art/DT, and are able to explore scientific concepts through investigation, discussion

and prediction in their Science work. The children also enjoy games, PE, swimming, French and music, and have the opportunity to explore other talents in additional activities such as judo, art, ballet and drama.

OUR STAFF

We recognise the benefit derived from investing in people through training and development to constantly improve efficiency and quality of service.

We depend upon our staff, each one of whom is valued for the contribution he or she makes to the reputation and success of the School.

We currently have 80 teaching and ancillary classroom staff along with 20 peripatetic staff and 30 support staff. We also employ minibus drivers to transport the children to and from School and lifeguards to supervise outside groups' use of the School swimming pools.

THE GOVERNING BODY

The Board of Governors of the School comprises the Chairman of the Board and up to 14 Governors.



JOB DESCRIPTION – RESIDENT GRADUATE ASSISTANT

We are looking to recruit willing, able and highly adaptable individuals who are interested in a teaching career and would relish the experience this post will offer in a highly successful prep school environment.

The Post

Under the direction and instruction of the Senior Master, the Resident Graduate Assistant (RGA) role provides essential support to pupils and staff particularly with respect to the sporting development of pupils, co-curricular activities (trips, events, activities etc) and boarding.

RGA duties will range from supporting pupils' learning in the classroom to playing an active part in promoting the School's main sports (rugby, hockey, football, netball and cricket) and offering extra-curricular activities. RGAs will undertake boarding duties on agreed mornings and evenings as well as daytime cover duties and morning break and lunch cover.

Opportunities also exist for those wishing to gain wider experience in developing their own talents and interests, for example in music, drama, art and DT.

Main tasks of Graduate Assistants:

Sporting/Outdoor Activities

- To provide coaching (or assisting with coaching) during PE lessons and Games practice and to run teams
- To officiate at school fixtures
- To assist with PE and swimming lessons (and provide lifeguard cover – qualification can be arranged)
- To assist with school excursions and residential trips
- To offer extra-curricular activities

Classroom Assistant

- To support pupils' learning in the classroom
- Morning break and lunch duties
- Assist teaching staff in preparing teaching materials for lessons
- To undertake classroom cover duties
- To assist with and attend school assemblies

Boarding/Pastoral

- To perform boarding house duties both morning and evening on an agreed rota and to provide pastoral support to boarders
- To assist with the supervision of pupil events and activities on designated evenings

Other

- Promote and ensure the health and safety of pupils, staff & visitors (in accordance with appropriate health & safety legislation) at all times.
- Undertake coaching courses, inset days and similar professional development as required
- Carry out any other duties that might be considered to be commensurate with the post

Person Specification:

Essential

- Educated to degree level or undertaking a “placement” year
- Willing to live within the School community and a flexible approach to duties undertaken
- Positive role model with the ability to develop and maintain a warm, respectful rapport with young children
- Demonstrable enthusiasm and interest in sport/games and co-curricular activities
- High personal and professional standards and an awareness of safeguarding legislation with a full commitment to safeguarding practice
- Effective communication skills (verbal and written)

Desirable

- Coaching qualifications
- Experience of coaching children either in clubs or schools
- Awareness of the nature of a boarding school education
- Clean driver's licence

