PALMERS GREEN HIGH SCHOOL

GENERAL INFORMATION

Palmers Green High School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. All successful candidates will be required to undertake a criminal record check via the DBS. The School will also undertake checks with past employers.

Palmers Green High School is an independent day school with approximately 300 girls, aged 3 to 16. In October 2017 ISI carried out a Regulatory Compliance inspection and reported that the School was fully compliant and in November 2011 the ISI Integrated Inspection report graded the School as excellent/outstanding in all aspects for the main School and EYFS. The School is **Number 1** in The Sunday Times national league table for small independent schools.

The School was founded in 1905 by Miss Alice Hum, a Quaker, and the ideas of integrity and care implicit in the founding philosophy have been maintained in the face of changing standards in society. The School is well respected in the area and the Headmistress is an accredited member of the Girls' Schools Association.

The School provides a warm and stimulating environment, in which high academic achievement and broad personal development go hand in hand. One of its main strengths and attractions to parents is its 'one school' ethos, which ensures a smooth transition for pupils as they proceed from the Lower School to the Senior School. However, a number of new pupils do join the Senior School following the 11+ Entrance Examinations. The average teaching group size in the Senior School is 12 pupils. Departments are able to choose to teach pupils in either mixed ability groups or subject-specific sets. The maximum class size in Reception – Year 6 (known as the Lower School) is 24 pupils but for specialist subjects pupils are usually taught in half-class groups unless there are two specialist teachers assigned to a class.

A broad programme of extracurricular activities enriches our diverse and inclusive school community. Pupils are encouraged to raise money for charity and be involved in local community service projects. They have opportunities to go abroad on study visits as well as taking part in field studies, work experience placements and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

LOCATION AND FACILITIES

The School occupies a compact site in a residential area, Winchmore Hill, a leafy and pleasant suburb in the London Borough of Enfield. It is within easy reach of railway, tube and bus routes. The School makes use of the close proximity of various parks and leisure centres, and London's concert halls, theatres, museums and galleries are easily accessible.

We are an ambitious school and in recent years there have been many modifications and extensions to the School buildings, which provide light, modern and flexible accommodation to support the changing needs of the curriculum. In 2012 the Elizabeth Smith Hall was opened by a former pupil, the ballerina Marion Tate. The Hall provides excellent facilities for hosting seminars and lectures, as well as being an excellent, air-conditioned environment in which pupils sit public examinations – and the Prep Department have their weekly assemblies in there. Most classrooms have been enhanced through the installation of "teaching walls" with integrated interactive digital equipment. All pupils have access to excellent facilities, the latest of which being a brand new music suite and school library.

GENERAL ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Entry to the School at all levels is by assessment and interview. In recent years, the School has developed an outstanding record of academic success in public examinations. In the Senior School, pupils take up to 10 GCSEs with the best mathematicians also taking the OCR Free-Standing Mathematics Qualification 'Additional Maths'. The 2018 GCSE results were excellent, the School achieved 53% A*/9/8 and 79% A*/9 to A/7. Over the last three years, 77% of GCSE/IGCSE grades were A*or A for papers still graded A*-G.

THE POST

The successful applicant will have had recent experience of teaching in a school setting, working with some children attaining well-above the national average. The School welcomes applications from those currently teaching in either the maintained or independent sector.

PERSONAL QUALITIES

The successful candidate will be a team player with a positive approach and the ability to establish a good rapport with all pupils. A high level of personal organisation and ICT skills are essential in order to build and maintain excellent relationships with parents and to liaise with colleagues. All staff members are ambassadors for the School and their department, both within the School and in the wider community, and the successful candidate will need to support the ethos of the School epitomised in its motto, "By Love Serve One Another".

HOUSING

Although the School's postal address is 'London', it is situated in the Borough of Enfield, which has a good stock of affordable housing. Some members of staff choose to live in Hertfordshire and the School is within 30 minutes driving distance from such areas as Hatfield, Potters Bar, St Albans and Welwyn Garden City. The M25 is a short 10-minute drive to the north and the A406 is a 10-minute drive to the south. In addition, good local rail links offer speedy access to other areas of Hertfordshire, including Hertford, which is 20 minutes travelling distance by train to Winchmore Hill station with a short walk from the station to the School.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

These will be in accordance with the School's contract. The basic salary will be in accordance with PGHS Pay Scales and will be determined by qualifications and experience.

THE PROCESS

Applicants are asked to complete all sections of the Application Form on line.

May 2019