



# BEACONSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

*Dare to be remarkable*

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Dear Applicant

Thank you so much for showing interest in our school and the post of Head of Economics and Business in the Humanities Faculty. We are extremely proud of our school, our students and our staff. We are excited to appoint a new, dynamic and inspirational leader of this department and look forward to hearing how your skills, attributes and experience can match our needs at this time.

Beaconsfield High School is a happy, high achieving and remarkable grammar school in the delightful town of Beaconsfield. The school is oversubscribed, our students achieve incredibly well at both GCSE and A level and make good progress each year that they are with us. The vast majority of our students go on to higher education but some take a gap year and then progress to university or higher-level apprenticeships.

The Economics and Business Studies department is an outstanding department with an excellent track record of examination success and good option numbers. Lessons are taught in modern accommodation, with a suite of specialist rooms and access to technology to support progressive learning and teaching. The department includes one Head of Department and one part-time member of staff and sits within the Humanities faculty which is a very friendly and collaborative faculty, where colleagues work closely together to support each other in the development of resources and schemes of work. We use innovative teaching and learning methods to keep our students focused and motivated. Lessons are interactive and carefully planned with a commitment to high standards of academic achievement and a genuine passion for the subject. The commitment and ability of students at the school enables us to take risks with our teaching, and this creativity is central to the continued success of the department.

Business Studies is a very popular subject currently with three GCSE classes in Year 10 and two classes in Year 11. This year there are over 120 students studying Business at GCSE following the Edexcel specification. The number of students choosing to study the subject has increased markedly in the last year. The results are excellent with 60% of students achieving A\*/A grades in 2017

At A-Level, we follow the AQA syllabus in both Economics and Business Studies. There is currently one class of each subject in both Year 12 and Year 13. Last year the results were outstanding with 75% of students achieving A\*/A (93% A\* - B, 100% A\* - C) in Economics and 50% of students achieving A\*/A in Business (63% A\* - B, 88% A\* - C).

The department runs a varied programme of additional activities for the students using visiting speakers, a popular Economics Society and participation in national competitions such as the Coca-Cola Challenge, Investor Challenge and Target 2.0. The students have been very successful over the past two years, winning a prize for the best media campaign in the finals of the Coca-Cola Challenge and winning the first round of Target 2.0 in both years.

Young Enterprise is also led and run from the department. This is extremely popular and usually has at least two teams. The students have been extremely successful winning prizes for Best Trade Stand, Best Presentation and Best use of Technology. Our aim is always to encourage our students to love learning and to be excited to explore the subjects that we ourselves are so passionate about.

I joined this school in April 2015 and I can genuinely say that there is so much positive energy, achievement and 'buzz' at Beaconsfield High School that it is difficult to give you a full picture of what goes on here. Our staff give so generously of their own time to enable the girls to have wonderful and enriching experiences, often in their holiday time, such as language trips, history trips, ski trips, sports tours (including to Australia!), music tours, Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, to mention but a few. Sporting achievements are outstanding, with national medals being won by several of our teams, hundreds of our students take part in the Duke of Edinburgh scheme and many students take part in debating competitions, mock trials, young enterprise competitions, drama productions, music concerts ... the list is endless.

We believe that students should feel cared for, we work very hard to support their well-being through a strong pastoral care framework, and a recently developed scheme called 'Getting Life Ready'. We recognise that happy and confident young women are far more successful in all that they do. There is something for everyone at our school and the ethos and atmosphere is one of acceptance and mutual respect.

In September 2014, we became an academy and last year we celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with many events but the largest project was our creation of three brand new science laboratories. We have invested over £3,500,000 in refurbishing some of the older parts of the school to include a new staffroom. We have also invested £100,000 in new servers and IT infrastructure ready for the next stages in the development of an IT vision over the coming five years to support and promote the remarkable learning that already takes place.

All of our academic faculties achieve very well, the Business Studies and Economics Department has many strengths. They have helped us to ensure that our Sixth Form outcomes make us the best Sixth Form in Buckinghamshire. Now we wish to enhance the high standards already in place.

As part of your application, please write a letter (no more than two sides, font 11) explaining how your skills, creativity and passion for effective teaching in Economics and Business Studies would best meet the requirements of the job description and personal specification.

The closing date is on the advert and details of whom to contact are there too.

This is a remarkable school and we will provide you with a vibrant, exciting opportunity to develop your leadership skills in a school dedicated to excellence.

Kind regards.



Rachel Smith

Headteacher