



PUTNEY

HIGH SCHOOL

GDST

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ROWING COACH
Information for Applicants



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

We are delighted that you are considering joining Putney High School. This is an incredible community in which to teach, work and learn and this role offers an opportunity to play a part in one of the UK's most exciting and successful schools.


Based in Putney, SW London, with a reputation for academic excellence and expert pastoral care, we are a down-to-earth, innovative and unashamedly ambitious school where girls achieve exceptional results and go on to an array of impressive destinations in the UK and abroad.

The wealth of passions our pupils pursue is testament to an education that is intellectually thrilling and fun, and to a dedicated staff body who interest, inspire and support our students to thrive.

We are known for our pioneering initiatives in everything from biophilia and design thinking to the science of learning, and for our leading co-curricular programme. Our superb facilities include a purpose-built Sixth Form Centre, a cutting-edge centre for Science, Music, Drama and Debating and the only girls' school boathouse on a famous stretch of the River Thames.

With a focus on continued professional development, membership of leading organisations and a superb package of personal benefits provided by the GDST, this is an opportunity to join a warm and inclusive organisation which has been a powerful voice in education for over 150 years, and to enjoy the camaraderie of a fantastic group of colleagues.

Thank you for your interest in our school. We hope you will make an application and we very much look forward to meeting you.



Jo Sharrock
Headteacher



THE SCHOOL

Academic with a very modern edge, Putney is a dynamic and down-to-earth school that nurtures bright and imaginative students.

Our unique brand of modern scholarship provides an outstanding education that is bold, broad and above all, relevant. We prepare students for the future by building confident, hopeful young people, with agile, entrepreneurial mindsets, equipping them with skills in everything from design thinking to PPE. Our students go on to become leaders in fields from medicine to politics, architecture to the environment. Curiosity abounds with fun and challenging lessons across an exceptionally rich curriculum and with exciting co-curricular activities to match.

The school is set on a leafy campus in Putney, close to the River Thames. As the largest school of the Girls' Day School Trust (GDST) we have been leading the way in girls' education since 1893 and today provide a happy and progressive environment in which over 1000 pupils aged between 4 and 18 years old can flourish.

We are consistently ranked among the top performing schools both in London and the UK and are known for producing young people who are ambitious, rounded and responsible. They pursue their interests with passion and humour while building the skills, self-awareness and confidence to throw open doors and make their mark in the world.

OUR VALUES

At Putney High School we are:

INNOVATIVE - Forward-thinking in our approach to teaching and learning, ours is a culture that is modern, relevant and inspires the idea-makers of the future.

INCLUSIVE - We offer a holistic education that focusses on the individual and is outward looking - encouraging integrity, compassion, respect and social responsibility.

INTREPID - Interested and interesting, we are unafraid to stretch our wings and to blaze trails, curious to explore and to challenge limits.

INTELLECTUAL - Scholarly in our approach to learning, we are creative in our thinking and bold in our ambitions.



THE DEPARTMENT & THE ROLE

THE ROWING TEAM

The rowing programme at Putney High is at the heart of a school wide commitment to excellence in sport. Our crews compete in the winter head races, national school competitions, UK junior sculling events, club regattas, Henley Women's Regatta and Henley Royal Regatta.

With our own boathouse on the Putney Embankment, the boat-club is well positioned to provide a springboard for success for the over 100 girls we currently have rowing and racing successfully. In recent years our rowers have won medals at the National School's Regatta and Women's Henley and competed for GB at the Coupe de la Jeunesse. Our alumnae have secured places at universities in the US and competed in the Women's Boat Race and Lightweight Women's Boat Race. We look to continue to pursue excellence by growing our dedicated coaching team with a number of great coaching opportunities.

ROWING COACH

Accountable to:

Head of Rowing

Salary:

GDST Support Staff Pay Band Grade 4, FTE 1: £35,970 - £48,852 per annum. Scale subject to 26.27 annual pay award and dependent on experience

Hours:

Hours: This is a 36-hour per week full time position, with the structure of hours to be made in agreement with the Head of Rowing. You will also need to be available to work at the following times during the school holidays, the exact dates of which will be confirmed each academic year:

- October half term - 1 week
- Christmas holidays - 1 week
- February half term - 3 days
- Easter holidays - 2 weeks
- May half term - 4 days
- Summer holidays - 3 weeks (July)

Starting:

September 2026



The successful candidate will have the following key skills and attributes:

ESSENTIAL

- British Rowing Level 2 or equivalent coaching qualification.
- RYA Level 2 Powerboat qualification (or willingness to complete this).
- Experience of rowing at a high level.
- Previous coaching experience in a school environment.
- Experience in maintaining and repairing a fleet of boats.
- Be a dynamic and energetic team player.
- Effectively pass on sound rowing experience to others.
- Have an ability to work collaboratively in a team, but also able to use initiative and to work autonomously, as required.
- Have excellent inter-personal skills.
- Be reliable and a good timekeeper.
- Be able to think creatively and show initiative.
- To be flexible in hours of work as required by the demands of the role.
- Ability to work weekends and long hours (including regattas and training camps), as required.
- Enjoy working in an outdoors environment.
- To work within the School's Child Protection guidance for staff and follow relevant organisational procedures.

DESIRABLE

- Full clean driving licence.
- Trailer Towing Licence (B+E) and experience of towing.
- First Aid at Work certificate.
- Tideway experience and knowledge.



JOB DESCRIPTION

RESPONSIBILITIES

Coaching

- To coach all age groups (J13 – J18) and varying abilities at weekends, during school curriculum lessons and after school co-curriculum lessons as required.
- To coach across all rowing squads with excellent planning and execution of Putney High School's own rowing/sculling technique.
- To help coordinate and attend all training sessions and complete associated administrative duties.
- To attend and provide support at Head races, Regattas, our training camps and weekly coaches meetings as directed by the Head of Rowing.
- To coach during holiday and half term rowing courses and support with the administrative planning of these events.
- To keep up to date with developments in rowing, bring innovative ideas to the coaching role and ensure that best practice is adopted.
- To ensure that the Putney High School values of fair play, teamwork, healthy competition and respect for others are upheld and promoted.
- To assist the coaching team to actively promote Rowing within the community and encourage pupils' interest in the sport.
- To act as a role model within the sport by encouraging the pupils of Putney High School Boat Club to achieve high sporting standards.
- To communicate effectively when liaising with parents, keeping the Head of Rowing well informed of all contact.
- To ensure that Putney High School's Health & Safety policy is implemented in rowing and that rowing equipment is well cared for and meets safety requirements.
- Ensure that risk assessments are carried out, adhered to and regularly monitored in consultation with the Head of Rowing.

Administration

- To assist the Boathouse Administrator, and Head of Rowing with race entries, payments and affiliation using the British Rowing/ClubHub online system.
- In liaison with the Head of Rowing, to manage and update weekly the Rowing department internal Intranet communication page (Firefly) for parents and students. Includes weekly timetables, race fixture timings/logistics, as well as each year group's training schedules.
- To manage the school's extra-curricular and fixtures online planning system (Evolve) for all races and external visits, including uploading risk assessments and pupil registers.
- Aid the Head of Rowing with internal/external school communications including race reports and magazine articles to promote the sport.



JOB DESCRIPTION

RESPONSIBILITIES

Boat Club Duties

- To take responsibility for race day equipment and ensure such equipment is in good and safe working order prior to events.
- To assist with rigging and setting up boats before sessions or events.
- To assist with the loading and unloading of boat trailers to and from regattas and other events, as well as transportation of boats if/when required.
- To assist in keeping equipment in good working order at both boathouses. (Putney High School Boathouse and Barn Elms Boathouse)
- To assist with maintaining a rolling programme of replacement/additional equipment and identify new boats/resources and aspirations in consultation with the Head of Rowing.
- To fully understand the implications of the Health & Safety Policy within the Boathouse and be responsible for maintaining standards which meet these requirements.
- Under the direction of the Head of Rowing, maintain safety equipment within the boathouse and launches.
- Contribute to the school's programme of extra-curricular activities.
- Support and contribute to the school's responsibility for safeguarding students.
- Work within the school's health and safety policy to ensure a safe working environment for staff, students and visitors.
- Work within the GDST's Diversity Policy to promote equality of opportunity for all students and staff, both current and prospective.
- Maintain high professional standards of attendance, punctuality, appearance, conduct and positive, courteous relations with students, parents and colleagues.
- Engage actively in the performance review process.
- Adhere to policies as set out in the GDST Council Regulations, Notes of Guidance and GDST circulars.
- Undertake other reasonable duties related to the job purpose required from time to time.

All school staff are expected to

- Work towards and support the school vision and the current school objectives outlined in the School Development Plan.



WORKING FOR THE GDST

The school is part of the Girls Day School Trust, the UK's leading network of 25 girls' schools. As a member of the GDST, the largest network of its kind, Putney is able to share resources to offer students an education like no-other, and to connect staff within a supportive framework of like-minded educationalists.

As part of the GDST we can offer a variety of benefits:

- Competitive salaries and pay progression
- Competitive terms and conditions of employment
- Generous pension scheme
- Free life assurance benefit
- A discount of up to 50% on fees for children at GDST schools
- Access to extensive professional development opportunities
- Training grants for qualifications
- Interest free loans for training, computer purchase loans and season ticket loans
- A Cycle to Work scheme
- Retail and lifestyle discounts
- Financial guidance and support
- 24/7 Employee Assistance Programme



Within your application form, please complete a detailed personal statement (section 5) instead of a covering letter.

Please review the Job Description and ensure you highlight how your skills and experience meet these expectations.

All application forms should be completed electronically.

NB. CVs are not accepted without a fully completed application form.

Closing Date: Monday 27 April 2026 at 9am.

Interviews will take place Friday 01 May 2026.

Any candidate wishing to seek additional information should contact:

Email: recruitment@put.gdst.net

Tel: +44 (0)20 8788 4886

Candidates who are invited to interview will be required to bring original identification documents (e.g. passport) and if applicable proof of eligibility to work/reside in the UK as well as documents confirming educational and professional qualifications. A confirmation of your address within the last three months is also required.

Putney High School and the GDST are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.

At Putney High School, we embrace and celebrate difference. We are proud to be an equal opportunity employer and do not discriminate against any employee or applicant based on their age, disability, gender, marriage or civil partnership status, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation. To ensure this, all positions are subject to blind shortlisting.