



SHREWSBURY
HIGH SCHOOL

GDST
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

An Outstanding Education

HEAD OF COMPUTER SCIENCE, IT & DIGITAL EDUCATION

September 2019



Shrewsbury High School is a forward thinking and dynamic school with a reputation for academic and pastoral excellence.

We are an inclusive, caring and purposeful community, with a healthy sense of fun and adventure and a commitment to innovative teaching and learning alongside a rich and varied co-curricular programme.

We aim to bring out the best in each and every pupil, regardless of their starting point or background and believe that school should be an exciting journey of discovery that opens doors to a world of possibilities.

With a new Head in place since September 2018, Shrewsbury High is poised for the next stage of development and we are confident that we can provide a truly inspirational learning environment and an extremely rewarding place to work.



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Welcome from the Head

At Shrewsbury High School we place our pupils at the heart of everything we do and remain intentionally small so that we can truly say that we know every child. Individuals matter at SHS. Each pupil is supported and challenged to aim high within the safety of our collaborative and close knit community.

At Prep level we offer coeducation on our wonderful 14 acre site with excellent facilities, playing fields and our own woodland.

At Senior level we offer girls' only education because, as part of the Girls' Day School Trust, we believe it offers the best environment for girls to excel. At this crucial stage in their development we understand that girls learn differently from boys and we are experts in understanding their pastoral needs.

We seek to foster intellectual risk taking, build resilience and reward endeavour so that our girls will develop into self-confident, forward thinking young women ready to make a difference to the world in which they live.

I look forward to welcoming you to Shrewsbury High School.

Ms Jo Sharrock



An introduction to Shrewsbury High School

Founded in 1885 by the Girls' Day School Trust, Shrewsbury High School is a vibrant, independent day school, situated in the heart of Shrewsbury, on the banks of the river Severn, educating girls from 3 – 18 and boys from 3 - 13. Shrewsbury High is one of 25 schools in the GDST family, an organisation which for well over a century has promoted the education of girls. Early pupils were among the first women to obtain university degrees and enter the professions. At Shrewsbury High we continue this pioneering tradition, attracting pupils of ability and talent who can make full use of what the school can offer. Approximately 20% of our girls receive assistance with fees through our bursary and scholarship scheme.

We encourage our pupils to be curious, adventurous and kind. We want them to develop self-respect and respect for others. We value strong relationships with our parents, local community and alumnae and we have a dedicated and talented team of staff who provide a remarkable environment in which to learn.

Shrewsbury High School lies in the heart of Shrewsbury, a busy market town with over 660 listed buildings and thriving independent shops. The Senior school has been located on Town Walls for over 100 years and our fully co-ed Prep School is just 5 minutes away on Roman Road. We have our own fleet of school buses that bring pupils in from all over the County.

We are the only GDST school in the region and first rate teaching and learning lies at the heart of our mission. Being part of the GDST family of schools gives our staff the chance to share resources and innovative teaching opportunities, as well as a professional development framework to help you fulfil your ambitions. A culture of collaboration in the pursuit of excellence predominates and not only does this benefit our school, but also our staff who have access to the central expertise of the Trust's Innovation and Learning team, which exists to support our teachers and schools in developing and delivering an outstanding education for all our pupils.

We believe in a truly holistic education which seeks to develop the whole child and so we offer broad enrichment opportunities to help our pupils develop lifelong skills, enabling them to thrive in the modern world and develop a sense of adventure. We have an outstanding reputation for music, drama and sport.



Academic Achievement

The Senior School enjoys a strong academic reputation at GCSE and A-level. We follow the core subjects of the National Curriculum but include a much broader range of subjects including Latin, three modern foreign languages, Economics and Business Studies and Computer Science.

We offer lectures, talks and other academic enrichment opportunities for girls to explore new ideas. Their progress is closely monitored by form teachers, working closely alongside Heads of Year.

To see GCSE results from 2018, please [click here](#). To see A-level results from 2018, please [click here](#).

Our Oxbridge coordinator works closely alongside our Head of Careers and UCAS to ensure that first choice university ambitions are met by the majority of our students.

Our Sixth Form offers academic rigour and intellectual stimulus complemented by a range of enrichment opportunities.

There is a broad choice of A-level subjects at the core with independent learning, teamwork and leadership skills delivered through specialist enrichment seminars and personal tutoring. Our aim is to ensure every student achieves the best results possible and we provide layers of academic guidance and friendly care to fully support all of our pupils.

Co-Curricular

At both our Prep and Senior schools, we are passionate about offering our pupils a wide variety of exciting co-curricular clubs before, during and at the end of every school day. Across Music, Drama, Art, Sport and beyond, pupils gain in confidence, learn to work together and flourish as individuals.

Co-curricular clubs include more than 80 clubs and societies ranging from Broadcasting, Tag Rugby, Creative Writing and Biology to Fencing, Dance, Dodgeball and Greek. Many subjects offer open door sessions and we have a thriving Duke of Edinburgh Scheme. There is an expectation that staff are fully involved in the life of the school and contribute regularly to co-curricular activities.





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Head of Computer Science, IT & Digital Education

The Computing Department at Shrewsbury High School is responsible for delivering a Computer Science and IT curriculum throughout the school. At Key Stage 3, pupils follow a Computer Science curriculum for 1 hour per week which covers topics such as; computational thinking, data and the CPU and programming. At Key Stage 4 pupils have the option of studying Computer Science GCSE and at Key Stage 5 there are currently options for studying IT BTEC Level 3 and Computer Science A Level.

The department has developed significantly in recent years and building on the foundation of consistently significant value added performance in ICT at GCSE and A Level the focus is now very much on Computer Science. With an emphasis on delivering fun and engaging lessons, a variety of strategies are used including role-play, group work, screencasts, mini-whiteboards, paper slide videos and web based quiz apps. Alongside lessons, extra-curricular opportunities include the Digital Leaders programme from Childnet. This training programme equips a small team of pupils to deliver educational training on e-safety to their peers, teachers and parents. This year's cohort has just completed their training are currently planning e-safety sessions to deliver during the remainder of the summer term. At the start of the year, groups of year 8 pupils were encouraged to take part in the CyberFirst girls competition which is a national initiative run by the NCSC.

Shrewsbury High School belongs to the GDST group of schools and benefits from being part of a wider family. The annual Techathon provides an opportunity for a team of pupils to travel to London to hear inspiring speakers and leaders of innovative technology organisations as well as participating in a task based challenge. The GDST network also makes collaboration across schools possible through the use of Microsoft Teams. Groups of teachers are able to share ideas with colleagues across the country and pupils can work together on projects whether they are in the same school or not.

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The department is well resourced in regards to computer hardware and has a dedicated, air-conditioned teaching room which includes desktop computers, printers and an interactive whiteboard. Also, located within the teaching room is a high-spec radio broadcasting system which is used by pupils to produce and deliver short radio shows using the school network. Other IT resources include a further desktop computer room situated in the Library, two banks of class laptops and a class set of iPads.

Sixth Form pupils are encouraged to bring their own devices to school in order to support their studies and are able to connect these to the school network wherever they might be working.

IT support throughout the school is excellent with a dedicated Network Manager and technician ensuring the smooth running of all hardware and software. There is a superfast broadband connection, a robust wireless network and the school also benefits from the collective expertise and support of the GDST organisation.

Each member of teaching staff is provided with a laptop that can be connected to the audio/visual setup in each classroom as well as an iPad to enhance teaching and learning and to facilitate electronic registration without the need for a laptop. The school has a Microsoft Office 365 subscription which enables collaboration across the Microsoft Office suite and provides other tools such as OneNote, Teams, Forms and OneDrive. Employees at the school are permitted to install Microsoft apps on their personal devices as part of the Office 365 license.



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Information about the Girls' Day School Trust

The Girls' Day School Trust is the UK's leading network of independent girls' schools, with 23 schools and two academies throughout England and Wales. It educates 19,000 students and employ 3,500 staff. As a charity, it is committed to our students, not to generating profits for any shareholders. The GDST is determined to improve social mobility and help every pupil, whatever their background, to fulfil their potential and to realise their dreams. It provides 1,100 bursaries and scholarships in its schools and also works with 430 state schools and universities on projects which have helped to raise pupils' aspirations.

Some of the benefits of working for the GDST and Shrewsbury High School:

Our pupils are well behaved, well-motivated and high achieving. Parents are supportive and interested in their children's education.

Working for a network of 25 schools enables staff to have direct contact by email with all the staff of all 25 schools. This means that as a teacher or Head of Department, you can share ideas and resources easily and seek advice on research, new initiatives or policy.

The GDST hub has a central collaboration area for staff to share ideas through its department of innovation and learning.

The GDST organises an annual central training programme which teaching and support staff can access. In addition, training grants or loans can be applied for help towards the cost of additional qualifications.

The GDST salary scale for teaching staff goes beyond the maintained sector pay scale.

All staff are entitled to a free lunch, coffee and tea during term time.

The academic year for teaching staff is 173 days plus 6 staff training days. Holidays are usually as follows: Christmas (3 weeks), Easter (3 weeks), Summer (7 weeks), 1 week for each half term in October, February and May. In addition to the 8 public holiday days, support staff are entitled to 30 days holiday.

Class sizes are generally smaller than those in maintained schools.

Shrewsbury High has an excellent local reputation with a high profile within the local community.

Full programme of outreach work developed with local maintained schools.

Very supportive colleagues and lots of opportunities to get involved in the co-curricular life of the school and the school's wide programme of residential visits.

All GDST teaching staff who have been in post for 12 years are entitled to four weeks of paid "long service leave".

All full time staff are provided with a school laptop but interest free computer loans are also available for personal use.

A childcare voucher scheme is available for teaching and support staff.

All full time GDST staff (teaching and support) are eligible for 50% discount on school fees if their child/children attend the school. This is available pro-rata for part-time staff. Staff can also access the salary sacrifice scheme for payment of school fees.

All staff are members of the Employee Assistance Programme (Health Assured) which provides access to free legal, financial, medical, counselling advice and support.

All staff are entitled to a discount off BUPA Private Medical Insurance.

A cycle to work scheme.



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The Application Process

Salary

GDST Salary Scale. Exact salary will depend on experience and will be discussed at interview.

The GDST has its own pay and grading structure, and system of career and pay progression. Pay bands are reviewed annually, in consultation with the GDST's recognised trade union, the National Education Union (NEU).

Applications:

We invite interested candidates to apply as soon as possible with a letter of application and a completed GDST Application Form. The closing date for all applications is 9am on Monday 13th May. Successful candidates will be invited for interview which will take place on Friday 17th May.

We welcome applications from all parts of our community and we aim to employ staff who are best qualified for the post.

Pre-Employment Checks:

All appointments will be subject to two satisfactory references (which will be taken prior to interview), Disclosure check by the Disclosure and Barring Service and medical fitness for the role. Where applicable overseas police checks and prohibition from teaching and management checks will also be completed. All checks must be completed before employment at the School can commence.

Safeguarding and Child Protection:

Any applicant who is offered an interview will be asked to provide official documentation to verify their ID, address and right to work in the UK. It is also normal practice for the School to ask for original qualifications and professional membership documents to be presented at interview, as detailed on their application. Photocopies or certified copies will not be accepted.

Shrewsbury 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.

GDST sixth formers are
ready for the world,
whether the world is
ready or not.

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WHERE GIRLS LEARN WITHOUT LIMITS

