



Head of History & Politics

Required September 2026

This is an exciting opportunity to take on a critical, stimulating and dynamic leadership role in Maida Vale School's community.

We value creativity, problem-solving, and curiosity in both the classroom and beyond. We strive for innovation and promote warmth and friendliness while encouraging high aspirations: our students aim high and achieve well. Now in its sixth year, Maida Vale School continues to grow and strengthen its reputation as a positive, progressive, kind, and tolerant academically selective school.

As Head of History & Politics, you will have responsibility for the day-to-day running of the department and will lead on a range of operational and strategic matters, including both the History and Politics curriculum and co-curriculum; the Sixth Form History and Politics experiences including Year 11 retention; furthering the promotion of the department in the school and beyond.

We are looking for a Head of Department who is an excellent teacher, whose fantastic communication and organisational skills will enable all members of the department to progress and all students to achieve outstanding results. You will have a desire to lead within and beyond the school community and will be prepared to think differently, both independently and collaboratively, with an overarching ambition for the school.

Essential for Head of History and Politics

- A good degree in History or Politics or an appropriate subject and a recognised teaching qualification with QTS.
- Experience of teaching all Key Stages.
- Excellent subject knowledge and a passion for instilling in students a love of History.
- Excellent classroom practitioner with exceptional classroom management skills.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Excellent organisational skills and the desire to take on new challenges.
- The ability to work collaboratively and independently.
- Commitment to, and experience of, using a range of teaching styles and methods including ICT.
- Experience of marking and moderating A Level History coursework.



Desirable for Head of History & Politics

- Experience of school management
- Experience of Exam Board GCSE and/or A Level marking

The successful candidate will have the opportunity to:

- Work with curious and engaging students
- Lead and innovate in a department with extensive resources
- Teach in an inspiring workspace
- Contribute to the strategic and operational development of the school
- Take part in, lead, organise extra-curricular activities and trips

Role of a Head of Department at Maida Vale School

- To plan and teach effective lessons
- To maintain high expectations which inspire, motivate and challenge students
- To use data to inform teaching and learning
- To use the school's behaviour policy to manage behaviour effectively, to maintain a safe and supportive learning environment
- To fulfil wider professional responsibilities including: being a Personal Tutor; carry out supervision duties, attend staff meetings, and school evening events
- To actively seek to extend professional development
- To line manage members of the department
- To promote the subject and department at GCSE Options Evening, Sixth Form Subject Fairs and Taster Days and whole-school Open Events
- Perform any other reasonable duties and responsibilities which may be requested by the Headmaster

This position is a permanent, full-time role and will suit a practitioner who is organised, dynamic, efficient with time and meeting deadlines. The school operates its own pay scales and will offer a salary commensurate with experience and the nature of this role.

Pastoral & Co-Curricular

The ethos of the school is that of a family – sociable, supportive, nurturing – imparting emotional care and security to students, parents and staff. Our approach emphasises the partnership with parents, hence the unique and popular Parent Café. An extensive extra-



curricular programme is in place, consisting of clubs and societies in sport, creative & performing arts, academic subjects, and areas beyond the curriculum.

Staff Development

The school is committed to staff development and the position will provide a good springboard for further promotion within the school and beyond. Weekly whole-school staff CPD takes places throughout the year; all members of staff are part of a Teaching & Learning Triad which meets several times throughout the year; all staff are encouraged to attend CPD courses. In addition, the school's INSET days focus on Teaching & Learning, both the expertise within the staff body and from external providers.

Person Specification

	Essential (E) Desirable (D)	Assessment – Application form I - interview R - reference
Education and Experience		
Graduate qualification in Science or equivalent	E	A
Have a practical understanding of National Curriculum requirements in terms of content, classroom practice, differentiation, summative and formative assessment and reporting to parents	E	A, I, R
Experience of teaching Science to GCSE level and the ability to teach to A level	E	A, I
Producing high quality experiences and outcomes for students	E	A
Experience as Tutor and/ or pastoral work	D	A
Professional Specification		
Have a clear understanding of what constitutes good or outstanding lessons	E	A, I
Commitment to extra-curricular activities	E	I
Experience of working in a confidential environment	E	I
Collaborative teaching methods and working with colleagues in the preparation, assessment and monitoring of work.	E	A, I
Professional Skills and Attributes		
Ability to organise and prioritise workload and work on own initiative	E	I



.The ability to work constructively as part of a team, understanding School roles and responsibilities and the post holder's position within these	E	I, R
.Ability to communicate well in writing and face to face to all stakeholders	E	I, R
.Administration and organisation skills	E	I
Personal Qualities		
.A flexible and proactive work ethic	E	I
.Attention to detail	E	I
.Honesty and trustworthiness	E	I, R
.A good record of attendance and punctuality	E	I, R
.Ability to work under pressure and remain cheerful and composed.	E	I
.Common sense and the ability to work with staff, students and outside contacts at all levels.	E	I
.Confidence and self-motivation	E	I
.Ability to engender confidence in young people.	E	I
.Ability to form and maintain appropriate relationships and personal boundaries with children and young people	E	I, R
Demonstrates the Commitment to:		
.A passion for the craft of teaching and the value of professional learning	E	I
.Equal opportunities for all in the school community	E	I
.Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people	E	I, R
.A commitment to and awareness of enhancement of quality education through equal opportunities for all	E	I, R

Appointments

All appointments are made in accordance with our equal opportunities policy and applicants should let us know of any special needs they may have. Maida Vale School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Successful candidates must be willing to undergo full screening in accordance with Keeping Children Safe in Education, including an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check. Issues relating to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students will be explored at interview.

Applications

Applications must be made on the school's application form, which may be obtained via the school website: <https://www.maidavaleschool.com/about-us/join-our-team>



Please submit a completed application form together with supporting letter of application and details of two referees. One referee should be able to comment on your teaching skills, and one from your current or most recent employer. References will be taken prior to interview. You must provide original documents as proof of identity at interview.

Completed applications should be emailed to recruitment@maidavaleschool.com.

Closing Date

9am on Wednesday 22nd April. Suitable applicants will be contacted by telephone and invited to attend an interview. Interviews are likely to be held on **Monday 27th April.**