January 2020

Dear Candidate

**SECOND IN ENGLISH**

Thank you for requesting details of the post of Second in English at Colchester County High School for Girls. I hope the information below will help you with your application but please contact me if you require further information.

The School is very popular with a reputation for excellent results within a caring environment, as evidenced by the following comments taken from our last Ofsted Report.

• “Colchester County High School for Girls is an outstanding school.” “It continues to strive for, and achieves excellence in all it does.”

• “Students say they relish the independence teachers give them and appreciate the high levels of encouragement.” “Students talk positively about the environment and facilities that this new building offers, particularly for music.” “Students have excellent opportunities to take on additional responsibility and make a positive contribution to the school and the community beyond.”

• “Students say they feel safe and supported both by the school and by each other.” Parents “stated how the school had ‘balanced study, social development and student happiness’ extremely well.”

• “Leadership and management at all levels of the school are outstanding.” “Governors remain highly supportive and actively involved in the strategic development of the school.”

• “The school’s contribution to community cohesion is outstanding and supports students’ personal development well.”

• “The development of students’ leadership and team working skills is excellent.”

This position offers a rare and exciting opportunity to join a committed and motivated team in a unique learning environment and to experience the immense satisfaction of working with able and enthusiastic students. The school is innovative and creative, having Leading Edge Status; many teaching staff are involved in action-led research and the school leads training and development for the local Teaching School Alliance (NEETSA) and Colchester Teacher Training Centre (CTTC). In addition there are opportunities for collaboration with colleagues across Alpha Trust.

The English Department at Colchester County High School for Girls is both a friendly and a successful one, in which all members of staff share a genuine enthusiasm for the teaching of their subject. Our students are motivated and exciting to teach; expectations of our students are high and they require a challenging and stimulating approach.

Facilities in the English department include a suite of well-equipped classrooms, each with ICT and projectors. There is also an English department office and a storeroom. At A Level, students study AQA English Language 7702 and OCR English Literature H472 as 2 year linear courses. The syllabuses followed at GCSE are AQA English Language (9-1) 8700 and AQA English Literature (9-1) 8702. In 2019 at GCSE English Language 84% of students achieved 9-7 grades and English Literature 88% of students achieved 9-7 grades (A\*-A equivalent). 100% students achieved at least Grade 5. At A Level 100% of students achieved A\*-B for English Language and English Literature, with 75% A\*-A for English language and 83% A\*- A for English Literature.

In Years 7 and 8, the department and school library run an Accelerated Reading Programme and a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities are offered. Examples include: Shakespeare master classes for Years 12 and 13, and Year 8 Shakespeare Festival, ‘Everything you need to know about English Literature in 11 lunchtimes’, creative writing clubs and production of student-led publications such as ‘The Kilt’ and BBC School Report. The department is responsible for the promotion of literacy throughout the school, including developing student Literacy leaders. Staff are also involved in preparing students for spoken word, e.g. Poetry by Heart, national essay writing competitions, and regularly take students to theatre productions. Staff in the English department actively support school productions.

As Second in English, the successful candidate will be expected to support and assist the Head of English in leading the English Department, take responsibility for a Key Stage and teach all key stages in English. They will be required to undertake Form Tutor responsibilities including the teaching of PSHCE, be involved in extra-curricular activities and participate in the 11+ entrance examination day.

Colchester County High School for Girls is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be required to undertake an enhanced criminal record check by the Disclosure and Barring Service.

 If you feel that Colchester County High School for Girls can provide the challenges and opportunities you are looking for then please complete the school application form and send, supported by a covering letter addressed to the Executive Principal by the closing date Midday on Monday 20 January 2020.

We would be delighted to hear from you.

Yours sincerely



Gillian Marshall (Mrs)

Executive Principal