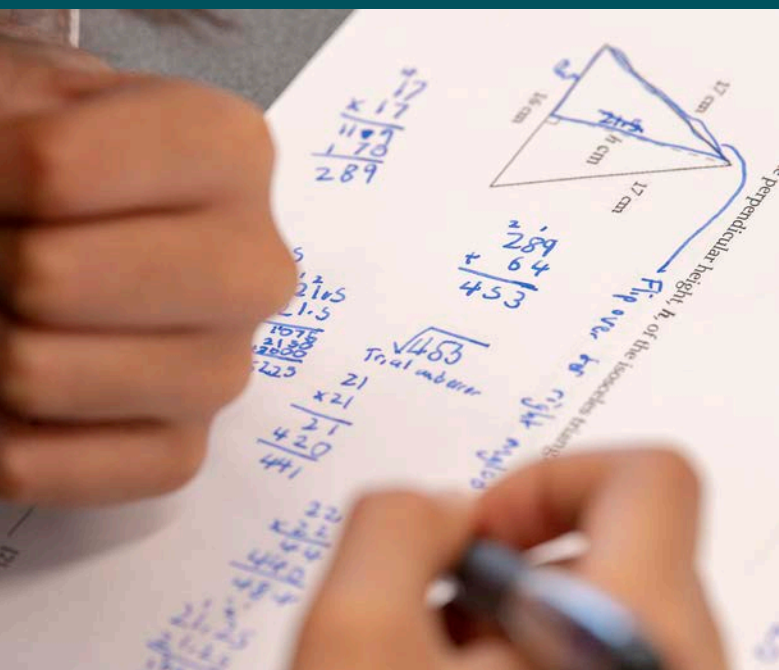


# SEVENOAKS SCHOOL

## JOB DESCRIPTION



### Appointment of a Head of Mathematics from September 2021





## The School

Founded in 1432, Sevenoaks enjoys a global reputation as a centre of academic excellence and a flagship school for the International Baccalaureate. A co-educational day and boarding school, it offers a stimulating, intellectually demanding and balanced education for over 1100 pupils aged 11 to 18.

Inspiring facilities, together with expert, enthusiastic and imaginative teaching, provide rich opportunities for students participating in lessons, and a wide variety of sports and the performing arts.

The school's international make-up and outlook promote the principles of tolerance and open-mindedness. About 390 pupils board in the seven boarding houses, and students originate from some 50 countries worldwide.

In 2018 Sevenoaks School was, for the second time in ten years, awarded The Sunday Times Independent School of the Year. It was the second highest achieving large-cohort IB school in the world in 2018 and 2019, the top independent IB boarding school in the UK in 2018 and also the top fully co-educational IB school in the UK.

In 2018 the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) awarded Sevenoaks School the highest grade – 'Excellent' – in both of the two categories which formed the basis of the inspection: Pupils' Achievement and Pupils' Personal Development. The inspectors were most impressed by the outstanding attitude to learning and the genuine spirit of enquiry and contribution that characterised all aspects of the curricular and co-curricular programmes.

This excellence is achieved by bright, motivated

students, inspired by highly qualified and dedicated teachers in well-resourced classrooms. The school has around 200 teaching staff, well supported by a large number of ancillary staff. A professional pastoral team of specialist tutors, boarding house staff and year heads give care and guidance, promoting student welfare and happiness. The mutual respect shared by students and staff generates a harmonious and purposeful atmosphere.

Further information about the school can be found at: [www.sevenoaksschool.org](http://www.sevenoaksschool.org)

## The Campus

The school is situated in the Kent market town of Sevenoaks and has a prime position at the top of the high street. The 100-acre site, which includes a number of listed buildings and attractive gardens, is beautifully landscaped and adjoins the medieval deer park of Knole. London is only a 30-minute train ride away. Gatwick airport is only 30 minutes by car, and there are good transport links to other London airports and the Channel Tunnel.

The school has first-class resources and facilities, including a superb sports centre, The Sennocke Centre, and a state-of-the-art performing arts centre, The Space, which provides four outstanding venues for music and drama. A world-class Science and Technology Centre and a Global Study Centre for the Sixth Form opened in 2018. An additional boarding house for boys, a contemporary building with light, modern facilities, opened in September 2019.



## Teaching at Sevenoaks School

Teaching here is immensely rewarding: we work in high-performing teams towards a shared endeavour. Everyone appointed to teach at Sevenoaks School is expected to engage actively in all aspects of our broad and well-rounded education.

We want all our pupils to enjoy their subjects, to be inspired by their teachers and to become independent, lifelong learners. Teachers are enthusiastic and well-qualified graduates. We have an exceptionally lively, talented and committed staff body. We welcome applications from experienced teachers and newly qualified teachers, but can also provide training including PGCE for those joining the profession at whatever stage. All new staff undertake a comprehensive induction programme. Sevenoaks is committed to supporting its staff with training and professional development tailored to staff needs and interests.

All teachers are involved in proactive pastoral care. All teachers participate in the co-curriculum and, as our outreach activities expand, contribute to our work with local pupils and schools. Teachers at Sevenoaks are innovative and forward-thinking, and many are involved in the Institutes of Teaching Learning, Higher Education & Professional Insight, and Service & Social Impact, shaping further development and initiatives for students and staff alike.

## Curriculum

At every stage, we offer a broad, deep and integrated curriculum. Every pupil is encouraged to be curious, creative, critically aware, and to develop their passion and talent to the full. Life is fast-paced,

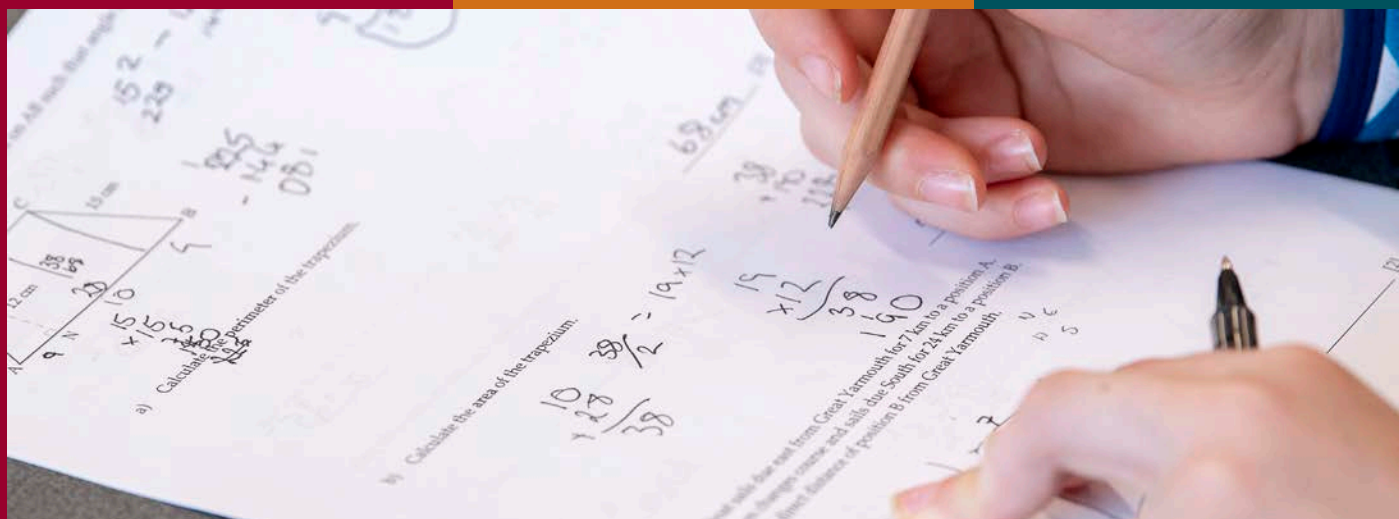
dynamic, and expectations are high. At the same time, the school seeks to cultivate in its pupils the habit of reflecting on their learning, and on how they contribute to society more broadly. Ambitious and principled, confident and compassionate, our pupils are prepared for leadership and teamwork in the wider world.

Regular assemblies, tutor group meetings and a programme of talks help the social and emotional understanding in our pupils, and a long tradition of voluntary service and local and international charity projects advances a core set of values across the student body.

In Years 7-11 all students take courses in critical thinking developed by the school. The Sevenoaks School Diploma, launched in Year 9 in September 2017, recognises the learning that takes place both within and outside the classroom and is built around seven core values: creativity, independent learning, critical thinking, international understanding, collaboration, self-awareness and social responsibility.

All of the 450-plus Sixth Form students pursue the International Baccalaureate Diploma, a programme the school has delivered since 1978. The Diploma is the best preparation for university and for work in a world of global competition. Even more important, it genuinely develops a rich inner life in our students, opening their minds to connections and possibilities within and across the subject disciplines.

It is no surprise that our students leave Sevenoaks to study a wide range of courses in the UK and around the world. Each year our leaving students progress to the world's top universities, including Oxford, Cambridge, UCL, Imperial, Durham, Stanford, Yale,



Harvard, University of California, Berkeley, and ETH Zurich. They do so with an enlarged capacity for independent thought and intellectual risk-taking, a strong appetite for learning, and equipped with the skills and personal qualities conducive to a happy and successful life.

## The Mathematics Department

The department comprises a large, lively and exceptionally well-qualified team of 20 mathematicians. Mathematics is taught in Old School, a beautiful stone building in the heart of the campus, with classrooms enjoying sweeping views of Knole Park. The department is well resourced, and is staffed by a large body of specialist teachers who possess a wide range of experience within both Pure and Applied Mathematics.

The department teaches all students in all years, a mathematics course being included in every pupil's IB Diploma, so every Sevenoaks student studies Mathematics for the full seven years of their secondary education. In addition to encouraging pupils to be confident and achieve well in the subject, our main aim is to develop mathematical thinking.

There is a collaborative spirit within the department, and its members' wide range of specialised interests gives it real strength. Ideas, resources and responsibilities are shared. The Head of Department delegates specific responsibilities to members of the department and welcomes individual creativity and initiative.

Students are grouped by ability in all years, apart from Year 7. Pupils in Year 7 are taught in four class groups of about 20, and class sizes in Years

8, 9, 10 and 11 range from eight to 22. Year 9, 10 and 11 candidates are prepared for the Edexcel IGCSE course. All our students take part in national mathematical competitions, and the top five sets take Additional Mathematics alongside their IGCSE in Year 11. There are two main courses in the Sixth Form IB Mathematics programme: Analysis and Approaches and Applications and Interpretations. Both courses are offered at Higher Level or Standard Level. Analysis places greater emphasis on algebraic manipulation whilst Applications utilises technology to a greater extent.

The department runs several enrichment classes for highly able students, and offers a great deal of support in the form of revision classes and extra lessons. The most able IB Higher Level students pursue extension work. The department regularly prepares students for Oxford or Cambridge entrance and STEP papers. Examination results are excellent at all levels. There is a lively enrichment programme of speakers, Olympiad entry and Mathematics clubs.

## The Post

The successful candidate will be a well-qualified graduate who may have already had experience either running, or helping to run, a department. They will be able to lead through encouragement and enthusiasm as well as exemplary class-room practice. There is a range of teaching experience within the department; key to the role is to coordinate and support all the members of the department. The Head of Mathematics is involved in all the admissions procedures – the points of entry are at 11+, 13+ and 16+. The applicant should have excellent administrative skills and some experience



of the moderation of internally or externally assessed work. The Head of Department must be willing to encourage a wide range of students. While all of our students are academically ambitious and successful some require Learning Support. The Head of Mathematics at Sevenoaks is a key to the life of the school and would be expected to play a significant part in the school's development. We seek applicants with vision and imagination and an ability to foster team spirit. A commitment to excellent pastoral care and enriching co-curricular and outreach activities is expected.

## Information for applicants

Sevenoaks School has its own generous salary scale. Accommodation or relocation expenses may be available, and fee discounts for the children of members of staff are available (subject to the usual entry requirements).

Further information about the school can be obtained from the school website: [www.sevenoaksschool.org](http://www.sevenoaksschool.org) including more about working at Sevenoaks: [www.sevenoaksschool.org/working-at-sevenoaks/](http://www.sevenoaksschool.org/working-at-sevenoaks/)

Applicants should complete the application form in full. Guidance for completion of the form is downloadable from our website. Note that Part 6 must show a complete history of employment, and should continue on a separate sheet of the

application form if necessary. Please submit the completed application form, covering letter and CV by email or post to:

Human Resources  
Sevenoaks School  
Sevenoaks  
Kent TN13 1HU

Email: [pa@sevenoaksschool.org](mailto:pa@sevenoaksschool.org)

Tel: 01732 467740

Applications should be submitted as soon as possible and by midday on **Wednesday 3 March**. It is envisaged that interviews will take place from **Monday 8 March**, but may take place earlier. The school retains the right to interview suitable applicants and appoint before the deadline.

The post-holder has a responsibility to promote and safeguard the welfare of children and young persons for whom he or she is responsible, or with whom he or she comes into contact, and will adhere to and ensure compliance with the school's Safeguarding Policy at all times. If in the course of carrying out the duties of the post the post-holder becomes aware of any actual or potential risks to the safety or welfare of children in the school, he or she must report any concerns to the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead or to the Headmaster.