



Teacher of Computer Science

Information Pack

Completed applications should be emailed to recruitment@mgs.org

Closing date: 09:00 on Monday 28 January 2019

Teacher of Computer Science

We are seeking to appoint, from 1 September 2019, an inspirational, creative and well qualified teacher to join our expanding Computer Science department. The department currently consists of two full-time specialist teachers which includes the Head of Department.

The Computing department

The Computing department at MGS aims to provide every student with an appropriate framework to enhance their digital skills, allowing them to use computer technology proficiently and professionally and prepare them for the real world applications of these skills, no matter what academic path they take. We also look to hone each student's computational and logical thinking and provide them with an academic pathway within the subject of Computer Science.

Computing is taught to Lower School pupils (Year 7 and 8) who follow a varied and challenging scheme of work which encompasses the three main areas of computing: information technology, digital literacy and computer science. This includes topics such as e-safety, computer programming, computational mathematics, physical computing and understanding computers. Computer Science is also part of the Year 7 enrichment programme where pupils look at the history of Computer Science, how businesses utilise technology in the digital age and how the use of technology will develop in the next 50 years.

Since September 2018, as well as being a compulsory subject in Years 7 and 8, Computer Science has been available to Year 9 pupils as an optional subject. The Year 9 course aims to develop substantially the programming skills of pupils, as well as give them opportunities to learn about digital technology, the fundamental principles of computer technology, the history of Computer Science and its future. Pupils examine the social and ethical issues relating to the use of computer technology and the internet and how it affects their everyday lives.

Computer Science is offered as a GCSE and A-Level subject. From September 2019, the study of the subject will be available throughout Years 7-13. At GCSE level, pupils are prepared for the Cambridge IGCSE Computer Science qualification; pupils in the Sixth-Form study the Cambridge International A-Level. In addition, we offer a beginners' programming course and a cyber-security course as part of the Year 12 enrichment option programme. To complement this, there is also a Sixth-Form Cyber Security Club, run by a group of Year 13 pupils.

Whilst our Junior School curriculum (Years 3-6) is managed separately from the Senior School, there is regular collaboration to ensure that the programmes of study complement each other and enable a smooth transition from Year 6 to Year 7. In the Junior School Lego Mindstorm robots are used in lessons and clubs which fuel pupils' enthusiasm for programming and engineering. The department runs a Junior School option where pupils engage in a number of activities, including digital photography, virtual reality and programming challenges.

The Computer Science department offers many co-curricular opportunities for pupils, including two Lower School clubs and one Middle School club dealing with programming, robotics, web development and research into emerging fields such as machine learning, AI and blockchain technology. Pupils enter national competitions, including the PA Raspberry Pi Competition, the Cyber Discovery programme (two pupils were invited to the Elite stage last year), the Oxford University Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge and The British Informatics Olympiad. We have made use of links with Manchester University by having their undergraduates demonstrate their final year projects. The department runs trips to universities, museums, including Bletchley Park, and CAS (Computing at School) During the School's activities week we offer a Discover Computer Science week.

The Computer Science department is housed in three specialist computer laboratories; two rooms are each equipped with 29 PCs and an interactive television; the third has 16 PCs and is primarily dedicated to delivering the A-Level curriculum.

How to apply

Candidates of any age and any level of experience are invited to apply. Appropriate induction and support will be given. MGS provides full support to enable NQTs to obtain QTS; the School also will consider providing funding and support for a suitable unqualified teacher to complete a PGCE.

The Manchester Grammar School has its own generous salary scale, and pays significantly above main scale rates.

Applicants should complete an application form: this can be downloaded from the vacancies section of the School's website, and emailed to recruitment@mgs.org. The closing date is 9.00am on Monday 28 January, and we expect to hold interviews shortly afterwards.

The Manchester Grammar School is an equal opportunities employer and we welcome applications from all sections of the community. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and successful applicants will be required to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

Our Safer Recruitment policy may be viewed on our website (click on 'our policies' at the bottom of the homepage).

We would like to thank all applicants for their interest in the School and for taking the time to apply. However, please note that, because of the high volume of applications we receive, we regret that we are unable to reply individually to each application. Applicants who have not heard from us by 4 February should assume that they have not been shortlisted for interview.

January 2019

Why work at MGS?

The School

The Manchester Grammar School has a long and distinguished history, and is an exciting, stimulating and rewarding community in which to work.

It was founded in 1515, by Hugh Oldham, Bishop of Exeter, to prepare able boys from the Manchester area, regardless of their background, to go to Oxford or Cambridge. The School has gained an international reputation for academic excellence, and enjoys a strong record of success with top universities, both in the UK and overseas.

We take our motto, Sapere Aude ('Dare to be Wise'), as meaning that we must challenge our pupils and expect to be challenged by them, and this is one of the things which makes teaching at MGS so rewarding.

Bursaries and social mobility

MGS's Foundation Bursary Appeal has been the most successful appeal of its kind held by any school and is a cornerstone of our ethos. Its aim is to ensure that a place at MGS is available to any boy who passes our entrance assessments, regardless of his family's financial background. More than 200 boys currently receive full or partial means-tested bursaries. (The average bursary is 90% of the school fee.) Our long-term ambition is to be needs-blind, so that every boy who passes our entrance assessments can take up a place, regardless of his parents' ability to pay.

Our pupils

The School comprises over 1550 boys in Years 3 to 13. All boys are assessed for entry on the basis of their considerable potential by observing their individual talents in imaginative lessons. A formal entrance exam only plays a part in entry to Year 7. Our admissions policy aims to be needs-blind to enable the School to be a diverse community of talented individuals from all backgrounds.

Boys come from across the North-West and from every type of background, and the boys who join the School each year come in equal numbers from maintained and independent primary schools.

Our teachers

Staff at MGS come from every walk of life. Every year we welcome to our staff NQTs as well as experienced teachers. We expect all applicants to have a good degree. However, a teaching qualification, whilst desirable, is not essential; we can and do provide full support for those who wish to become qualified after appointment. Often teachers who have taught for a number of years join us to gain extra experience before moving on to become a head of department elsewhere. We are deeply committed to the professional development of our staff. Many colleagues have gone on to deputy headships and headships elsewhere; likewise, many staff choose to stay with us.

People who teach here will have a love of their subject and will have the ability to inspire and challenge able pupils. Our teachers enjoy making an active contribution to co-curricular activities, both for the reward of the activity itself and because of the different dimension it gives to their relationship with their pupils.

Our co-curriculum

The co-curriculum is central to the ethos of MGS. Life outside the classroom is extraordinarily vibrant, both in terms of its diversity and quantity, and is a source of great enjoyment and challenge for our pupils and staff alike. It includes a vast amount and range of sport, music, drama, adventure, service and intellectual activities.

The School values the passion and commitment of its teachers in sharing their interests and enthusiasms with pupils outside of the classroom and seeks to enable staff to play to their passions whenever possible. Staff are given great autonomy over the activities they organise, and our pupils are given equal freedom to develop passions of their own.

Some numbers may best illustrate what we offer. We have over 150 clubs and societies, 95 representative sports teams and 40 different sports. We have 24 musical groups with 280 participants, and typically more than a dozen drama productions each year.

Every year 250 pupils go on four week-long camps and we have overseas treks; we offer a wide range of outdoor pursuits and are one of the largest centres for D of E in the North-West. Alongside this there is a vast range of educational trips and visits, both in the UK and abroad. On average, each pupil spends twelve days a year on trips.

In 2018 *School Sport* magazine named Manchester Grammar School as the best school for sport in the North of England, and placed the School in the top five schools nationally.

Visit our website to find out more.

Our facilities

Facilities are excellent. Recent developments have included the purchase of a new Steinway Model D grand piano for the Memorial Hall. There is also a new sports hall, astro-turf and major upgrades to our multi-gym, swimming pool and sports pitches. We have an exceptionally equipped theatre and drama studios and award-winning Junior School buildings.

Manchester and the North-West

Manchester is a vibrant and exciting place, as you would fully expect of Britain's second city. One of the fastest growing cities in Europe, it has a cosmopolitan outlook, a flourishing, varied cultural life and excellent restaurants and nightlife. It is a wonderful, stimulating place to live, with outstanding sport and leisure facilities, catering for every possible interest.

Theatre is vibrant and diverse, with venues including the innovative Royal Exchange, Home, The Lowry (in Salford Quays), Palace Theatre and Opera House. The Bridgewater

Hall is an international centre of musical excellence and home to three major orchestras, whilst the Manchester Evening News Arena, the Apollo and many smaller venues contribute to the diverse range of music on offer in the city.

Befitting a city with such rich history and traditions, Manchester has excellent galleries and museums, and is, of course, a major centre for soccer, cricket, cycling and many other sports. Media City in Salford (adjacent to Manchester) is one of the country's most important centres for television and radio production, and is growing all the time.

Whilst offering all that you would expect from a major city, Manchester has the advantage of being very accessible and enjoys excellent transport links. London is only two hours away by train and Manchester's international airport is only five miles from the School. Areas of outstanding natural beauty are close by. The Peak District National Park, the Pennine Way and the Cheshire Plain are within an hour's drive, whilst the Lake District and Snowdonia are within two hours.

There is a wide choice of places to live, with ample rented accommodation. Property prices compare very favourably with those elsewhere in the country. Many staff live in the South Manchester suburbs, but others live surrounded by the Pennine moors or the Derbyshire hills. There is an excellent choice of schools, both private and maintained, at all levels.

For more information about the city, visit www.visitmanchester.com.