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**BLUNDELL’S SCHOOL**

**HEAD OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION JOB DESCRIPTION**

# Required for September 2020

An enthusiastic and experienced Physical Education teacher with a proven track record for success is required to lead an established team of teachers. The appointed candidate must be a highly effective classroom practitioner who is confident in all areas of academic Physical Education. It is likely that the successful candidate will have an expertise in at least one of the major sports played at Blundell’s and will make an energetic contribution to the extra-curricular life of this thriving boarding school. This post would suit an existing Head of Department or an established teacher looking to make the step into middle management.

**Blundell’s School**

Blundell’s is committed to academic excellence and enabling pupils to realise their full potential. It has been consistently praised for adding considerable value to its broad intake of pupils. In recent years, academic results have seen steady improvement and there is a strong commitment to continuing and indeed accelerating this pleasing development. For more information about the school, visit the website: [www.blundells.org](http://www.blundells.org/)

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service. The post-holder’s responsibility for safeguarding the welfare of the pupils for whom they are responsible and with whom they come into contact will be to adhere to and ensure compliance with Blundell’s Child Protection 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 Blundell’s, they must report any concerns to the Second Master, the child protection officer.

**History**

Blundell’s has a distinguished history. It was founded in 1604 through the bequest of Peter Blundell, one of the wealthiest of Elizabethan merchants. He left money and lands for a boys’ school in his home town to ‘maintain sound learning and true religion’. Generous lands were provided in Tiverton and South Devon for its maintenance and Blundell’s executors established links between the School and Balliol College, Oxford and Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, which survive to this day.

**The 21st Century School**

Blundell’s is an independent co-educational day and boarding school for ages 11 to 18. There are over 600 pupils on the roll (346 boys, 257 girls); the majority are from the West Country but some come from farther afield in the UK and around 10% are international students. The School is situated on the outskirts of the market town of Tiverton and, with the adjacent Prep School, is set in 90 acres of rolling Devon countryside. It is easily accessible via the M5 and the train journey to London is 2 hours. The M5 junction 27 and Tiverton Parkway station are both six minutes away.

The outstanding characteristic of Blundellians is their positive ‘can-do’ attitude. The main finding of the 2019 Independent Schools Inspectorate report was that the quality of our pupils’ academic and other achievements is “excellent” and the quality of our pupils’ personal development is also “excellent”. It also noted that “Pupils throughout the school demonstrate strong development of self-confidence and self-awareness, at levels appropriate to or, for many, beyond their age. Pupils showed their justifiable pride in their own and in others’ achievements, without appearing in the least arrogant or excessively competitive.”

**The School’s Aims and Values**

Blundell’s aims to provide a rounded education for the whole person, in mind, body and spirit, promoting the essential values of Character, Social Responsibility and Independence to enable pupils to pursue Excellence in every area with a sense of Adventure about their future.

These values are in accordance with the wishes of the School’s founder Peter Blundell and expressed in the School’s long-held belief: ‘There are two gifts we can give our children, the first is roots and the second is wings’

**Roots**

* To develop depth and breadth of character, which will encourage resilience, optimism, self-control and generosity within the rich Christian values of the School
* To develop a sense of social responsibility and for each individual to be mindful of their role in the Blundell’s community, in society at large and in the global environment, thus encouraging consideration, mindfulness and respect
* To develop independence, with each pupil taking responsibility for their own growth and development and so demonstrate initiative, take ownership and feel satisfaction in what is achieved

**Wings**

* To pursue excellence, aspiring to do everything as well as it can be done, which will develop a sense of justifiable pride and ambition
* To develop confidence and a sense of adventure which will foster courage, curiosity and enterprise and originality

**The Physical Education Department**

Physical Education at Blundell’s both complements the wider games programme and enables pupils to participate in a broad range of both individual and team activities where they develop skils and knowledge related to performance. Pupils learn about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and life-long participation in sport and exercise, with all pupils in Year 10 being given a full induction into the school’s fitness suite. Lessons provide opportunities for pupils to perform, coach and officiate, whilst building on their leadership, communication and teamwork skills in a fun and dynamic environment.

The Physical Education Department has at present three full-time teachers and three part-time members of staff, in addition to a Graduate Assistant. They share the teaching of core Physical Education in Years 7 to 11. GCSE PE, following the AQA specification, is a popular subject. The department have three dedicated classrooms which are used for all academic PE lessons. In the Sixth Form, pupils can opt for either BTEC Sport or A Level PE (AQA), where the percentage of pupils gaining A\* to B has been over 65% for the last two years.

The school has impressive sporting facilities which include a gymnasium, sports hall, two all-weather surfaces, a fitness suite, tennis courts, swimming pool, and extensive playing fields.

**TEACHING POLICY**

**Aims:**

To foster in pupils an enthusiasm for study, application of intellectual, physical or creative effort and the ability to think and learn for themselves;

To enable pupils to acquire new knowledge understanding and skills in the subjects taught;

To support and encourage pupil reflection about their academic progress and enable them to demonstrate achievement.

**Job Description**

**Curriculum**

* To be accountable to the Deputy Head (Academic).
* Attend the regular meetings of the HoDs committee and play a part in its work.
* Determine the aims and the objectives of the department and review them to ensure compatibility with those of the school.
* Produce and update suitable schemes of work.
* Monitor teaching, marking and learning within the department, in accordance with the school policy.
* Monitor and record the assessment and progress of the pupils with the aim of maximising their academic potential.
* Liaise with the EAL and Learning Support Departments as appropriate.
* Teach throughout the school; from Year 7 to A-level and BTEC Level 3.
* To help in the development and delivery of the PE curriculum in Blundell’s Preparatory School as required.

**Supervision of staff**

* Inspire your departmental team, drive forward the intellectual enthusiasm of both staff and pupils, and ensure the department is well represented at events such as the Yr. 11 Academic Fair, Open Days and Parents’ Meetings.
* Be familiar with external academic developments (e.g. changes to the national educational framework) and their implications, and communicate these to the department.
* Promote academic enrichment within your department and in cross-curricular partnership where appropriate.
* Play a part in
	+ The appointment, induction and training of new staff.
	+ Disciplinary support.
	+ INSET and professional development.
	+ The appraisal system.
* Be responsible for the internal reporting by the department.

**Organisation of the department.**

* Hold regular minuted departmental meetings.
* Maintain an up-to-date Departmental Handbook.
* Be responsible for producing an annual departmental development plan.
* Be responsible for finance and resource control.
* Deploy teachers – consistent with their strengths and weaknesses, bearing in mind career developments and needs of the school.
* Play a part in the allocation of pupils to sets/teaching groups.
* Organise teaching resources.
* Be responsible for the setting, assessment and publication of results of internal exams, including public exam result reporting to the Head.
* Be responsible for checking the accuracy of public examination entries.
* To maintain and refresh the department pages of the school website.
* Promote academic enrichment opportunities

**Communication**

* With House Parents and Tutors about individual students.
* With students’ parents where appropriate.
* With the Deputy Head (Academic) for staffing, options, timetabling etc.
* With exam boards.
* With outside contacts (e.g. speakers, universities etc).

**The successful candidate will:**

* Be an experienced teacher who organises teaching programmes which meet curricular demands and pupils’ needs;
* Stimulate and maintain pupils’ interest by the use of a range of methods and their own enthusiasm;
* Have high expectations of all pupils, challenging their knowledge and understandings and encouraging and enabling them to meet their full potential;
* Be an experienced teacher of GCSE and A Level PE;
* Be able to comply with all requirements associated with examinations and specifications;
* Be experienced in the use of data on pupils’ baseline to inform departmental aims and teaching;
* Oversee the department’s fair, full and accurate feedback to parents, tutors and Houseparents via the reporting systems, as well as more regular communication where appropriate for individuals;
* Support the improvement in the quality of teaching and learning in others within the department;
* Undertake reflective practice to ensure a culture of continuous improvement within the department;
* Contribute and lead the development of a shared vision for the department;
* Contribute fully to the extra-curricular life of this thriving boarding school