



**WETHERBY**  
SENIOR SCHOOL

**TEACHER OF ENGLISH  
FROM SEPTEMBER 2019**

Wetherby Senior School was founded in 2015 and is a member of the Alpha Plus Group of Schools. There are currently around 275 boys between the ages of 11 and 17, spanning Year 7 to Year 12. The School's size and reputation is growing rapidly and this year we opened a second building only a short walk from the original building in Marylebone Village and a new Sixth Form Centre.

At Wetherby Senior School we seek to employ highly professional teachers with the ability and commitment to enhance the life of this School and to work effectively and collaboratively with all members of the School community to further establish and develop the School. Our emphasis on educating the whole boy means that all members of staff, in due course, will be expected to contribute to the pastoral care of a group of students as a Form Tutor as well as contributing to the School's co-curricular activities.

The School was founded to offer a progressive education in the heart of London. The School's focus on providing an all-round education means that high standards are expected of the boys in all areas of school life. The School provides the boys with a broad educational experience, which includes Philosophy and Thinking Skills in the curriculum, to ensure that they are able to think critically and to problem solve but also to ensure they can be creative and collaborative in their approach, so that they develop a sense of social responsibility and respect for others. Our skilled staff, who have a wealth of experience, are preparing to send our pupils to leading universities in the UK, the US and elsewhere.

The post represents an exciting and unique opportunity to join the department in its early stages and play a significant role in the development of the subjects in the school. Teaching staff at Wetherby Senior School have experience of teaching in both the maintained and independent sectors and colleagues looking to move into independent education are warmly encouraged to apply. The post would suit an NQT or an experienced teacher.

## **The English Department**

The English Department at Wetherby is made up of seven subject specialists who, between them, have a breadth of experience teaching in and leading similar departments at some of London's top independent day schools. Each teacher contributes different expertise to the department, whether it be their experience as a Times journalist or in-depth knowledge of both Post-colonial and American Literature. Between them, the English Department have examined for a full range of exam boards, at GCSE and A Level, leading teams and holding the responsibility of Chief Examiner; this provides the department with an excellent understanding of what is required for our boys to thrive academically.

Boys in Years 7-9 have six periods of English per two week cycle. Lessons are based around the study of a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts, from Shakespeare to Dystopian Fiction, Contemporary Poetry to persuasive speeches. As well as developing our boys into critical, independent readers and learners through the study of such texts, we also use them as a springboard to develop the boys' writing skills. All boys study CIE English Language and English Literature IGCSE, after which they have the option to continue their studies at A Level.

In the English Department, we understand that some boys make progress more quickly than others so we provide a 'SPAG Support Scheme' to support those in Years 7-9 with their technical writing skills. Furthermore, every Wednesday morning before school we host an 'Intervention Club' for Year 10 and 11 boys who may be struggling with a component of the IGCSE, or are just eager to receive extra support. Conversely, we have created a 'KS4 Challenge Club' which takes a select group of boys on thought-provoking theatre and cinema trips in order to expose them to more challenging material beyond the curriculum.

Boys can get involved with English-related clubs as part of the Activities Programme, and will take part in school, local and national competitions during the course of the year. 'Ink, Wetherby's very own creative writing magazine, showcases a range of original work from all year groups. There is a regular programme of visiting authors and writers and whole school celebrations of literary events, such as National Poetry Day and World Book Day. Our location in the heart of London means that we can host a wide range of visiting authors and workshops including the Globe Players, and a dramatized version of 'Spies' by Michael Frayn, a set text at IGCSE in addition to having the privilege of having Michael Frayn visit personally and deliver an insightful talk about his work. We also regularly take advantage of our excellent location and take the boys to a range of theatre productions across London, a recent example being a trip to a production of 'Macbeth' at The Barbican, a Shakespeare workshop at The Globe Theatre and a trip to the Old Vic to see The American Clock with Year 12 to supplement their study of American Literature.

## **Job Specification**

The expected duties and responsibilities of the successful applicant will be:

- 1. Responsibility for high standards of teaching and learning within the classroom, including:**
  - High expectations of pupils in every aspect of their work.
  - Following departmental schemes of work effectively.
  - Achieving excellent public examination results.
  - Establishing effective methods of assessment of pupils' work and using them to enhance learning.
  - Using rewards and sanctions effectively.
  - Providing high quality written and verbal reports to parents.
  - Keeping up-to-date with developments in their subject.
  - Fostering a spirit of academic enquiry among pupils.
  - Taking due note of pupils with learning, medical, social or other difficulties and providing appropriate support for them in their learning.
- 2. A contribution to the development of the English Department, including:**
  - Teach English up to and including GCSE and A Level, as required by the Head of Department, and support candidates preparing for university entry in the UK (including Oxbridge), USA and Europe.
  - Contribute significantly to the boys' enthusiasm for English at the School. Prepare programmes of study and generate excellent resources for English teaching at all levels.
  - Making a positive contribution to the English Department enrichment programme.
  - Attending department meetings and undertaking administrative tasks that are designated by the Head of Department, thereby contributing to a sense of teamwork and aiding professional development.
  - Attend INSET as required by the Head of Department to help share the latest and best practice in teaching the subject.
  - Helping as appropriate with advising pupils with options choices relevant to the subject and with university applications.
  - Help to organise trips and encourage boys to take part in competitions
- 3. An effective contribution to pastoral care in the School, including:**
  - If required being a Tutor to a group of boys to support their academic and personal development.
  - Undertaking supervisory duties in the school as required.
- 4. An effective contribution to the co-curricular programme:**
  - Depending on the interests and abilities of each teacher, offer one or more activities as part of the co-curricular programme. This might, for example, involve assisting with sport or drama, running an academic or cultural society or helping with Community Service.

5. Attend staff meetings, whole school staff training, parents' evenings and any other functions as required by the Headmaster or Senior Deputy Head.
6. Fulfil personal requirements where appropriate with regard to school policies and procedures, particularly safeguarding, health and safety, equal opportunities, customer care and promotion of the School's core values.

**Candidate Profile:**

Suitable candidates will have:

1. Have outstanding subject knowledge, academic qualifications and to be able to communicate their enthusiasm.
2. Be able to deliver dynamic and effective lessons to the full ability range of pupils at the School.
3. Highly effective communication skills for interacting with all members of the School community.
4. A genuine commitment to pastoral care and the welfare and safeguarding of pupils.
5. Interests and abilities that can enhance the School's co-curricular programme.
6. Excellent inter-personal skills.
7. Excellent administrative, organisational, and IT skills.

**Remuneration:**

The Alpha Plus Group has its own salary scale.

*Wetherby Senior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.*

*Applicants will be required to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post including check with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).*

Please submit applications through the [Alpha Plus Portal](#).

**Applications should reach the school no later than Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 9.00am and interviews will be held from Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May.**