

**Temporary part time teacher of Drama and/or English**

**required for September 2019**

#### **The School**

Kent College is a co-educational school with a Methodist foundation. The school is located in Canterbury, just one hour from the centre of London by train. The Senior School (11 – 18 years) has some 550 boys and girls, approximately one-third boarding and two-thirds day. There is also a thriving Junior School with c200 pupils in total. The school enjoys a high reputation for academic standards and many other activities including Sport, Music, Drama and Art. Academic provision includes A level as well as the IB Diploma for 16 year olds and GCSE and pre IB for 14 and 15 years olds. Results place Kent College among the best UK Schools. Kent College is a happy, caring and successful school in which pupils feel supported and encouraged to aim for high standards of achievement and conduct. The school was inspected by the Independent School Inspectorate in January 2015 and was found to be ‘excellent’ in all aspects of the inspection. In August 2016 Kent College opened a 3-18 school in Dubai. Summer 2019 brings the opening of a state-of-the-art 600 seater auditorium, The Great Hall. The hall will be used by the whole school for worship and as a versatile and practical space for the College’s highly regarded drama and music departments as well as for being available for use by the local community.

**The Departments**

The **Drama** department is about to enter a most exciting time with the opening of the Great Hall in September and the additional opportunities this brings as a further performance and teaching space to the intimate, dedicated Drama Studio, which is well-equipped with stage lighting and sound equipment, and a costume and prop store. The Studio is extensively used for small-scale, examination productions, with the option of adding tiered-seating for around 50 people.

The Drama Department shares a Technical Team with Music and DT departments, and these skilled professionals are on hand to assist with technical and construction work for the department, and for productions.

Drama and Theatre Studies is taught throughout the senior school with all students having Drama lessons during years 7-9, with 2 GCSE Drama groups in each of years 10&11 and A Level Theatre Studies in the sixth form.

The Department uses the Edexcel examinations board for GCSE, and AQA for A Level Theatre Studies. Exam results are excellent both GCSE and A Level and students are passionate about their Drama lessons across all key stages.

The School has an excellent track record in public performances and has gained significant reputation in the local community of the last few years. We have enjoyed outstanding productions of ‘Oh What a Lovely War’, ‘Little Women’ and ‘Oklahoma’ from the musical theatre repertoire - productions which are staged in the Autumn Term. Theatre Productions are also extremely important and are staged are various times throughout the academic year; curriculum pieces and Drama Club performances have recently presented work such as ‘Cagebirds’, ‘Grimm Tales’ and ‘Our Day Out’.

LAMDA is a key feature of the department, and some 48 students have lessons ranging from Grade 3 right up to Grade 8. We have a peripatetic member of staff who delivers the curriculum and also delivers some lunch time drama clubs. LAMDA students demonstrate their skills and talents in termly teatime performances to parents and friends. Students also compete locally in Festivals and we have enjoyed significant success in recent years. Lower school students also enjoy the annual ‘House Drama’ competition which takes place in Arts Week.

Canterbury has two professional theatres, The Gulbenkian Theatre at the University of Kent, and the recently rebuilt Marlowe Theatre, and trips to these theatres, as well as regular trips to London venues, are organised by the Department, not least as an examination requirement.

The **English** department is very stable and is currently comprised of 3 full-time and 4 part-time members of staff, who are supportive, motivated and committed. The department is cohesive and works effectively as a team, and has an excellent record of examination success. 100% of candidates pass at A level, with 80 – 90% at A\* to B grades. It is a popular A level subject, and students benefit from the comparatively small class sizes, particularly at A2. English is also taught at both Standard and Higher Level on the International Baccalaureate programme with students achieving very good results. At GCSE, most pupils study both Language and Literature, and our results are very good: in 2018,, for English Language 89% achieved grades 4 to 9 (26% grades 7 to 9), whilst for English Literature 100% attained grades 4 to 9 (33% grades 7 to 9).

The aims of the department are to promote the enjoyment of English in terms of developing and enhancing pupils’ language skills and their enthusiasm for literature.

The department is situated in a suite of five classrooms, four teaching rooms for whole school teaching and a seminar room for A Level and IB classes. All pupils within the school have MacBooks, and the department currently has two Smart boards and two screens which can be connected to Macbooks. TV and DVD facilities are also available.

At Key Stages 3 and 4, English is taught in sets, with between 3 and 5 teaching groups in each year. Whilst we do not have to adhere to the National Curriculum for English, the department broadly follows its principles. Equal emphasis is placed on developing pupils’ reading, writing and speaking & listening skills at all levels. The department is well-organised and resourced.

In Years 7 to 11 pupils are taught in classes set by ability and are encouraged to engage with and respond to prose, poetry and drama in developing their literacy skills in each of the year groups. At GCSE we follow the AQA GCSE specifications in English Language and English Literature and the majority of pupils study both Language and Literature.

In the Sixth Form both A Level English Literature (EdExcel) and the International Baccalaureate English A courses are taught and it is the department’s practice to offer students a wide-ranging literary experience, with a balance struck between prose, poetry and drama in terms of the texts taught.

The Department organises a wide range of extra curricular activities, as well as theatre trips to local and London theatres and a willingness to contribute to the school’s extra-curricular activities programme is essential.

**Personal Attributes**

A teacher of Drama or English at Kent College will be a well-qualified experienced teacher or graduate who has the potential to develop into an excellent classroom practitioner. He/she will specifically be expected to demonstrate:

* a resonance with the ethos and mission of Kent College;
* enthusiasm for English or Drama and the learning therin;
* an ability to work as part of a team;
* competence in administration;
* the ability to command respect from pupils, parents and colleagues;
* excellent interpersonal skills;
* the capacity to think creatively;
* the ability to inspire;
* adaptability to new ideas;
* a willingness to share ideas and resources with colleagues;
* personal organisation and efficiency;
* stamina and resilience;
* loyalty and discretion.

**The Role**

Due to recent changes of leadership in the Drama department we are seeking a temporary part time teacher of Drama to work in the department alongside existing staff; this may be a new drama teacher or could be an existing member of the English department released by the appointment of a new English teacher, or by the appointment of someone interested in working across both departments. The exact teaching commitment and final timetable would be worked out in discussion with the successful candidate to fit the requirements of the timetable.

A teacher of Drama or English at Kent College is directly responsible to the Head of Department. Specific responsibilities will include:

* teaching Drama or English across all key stages as required;
* being actively involved in curricular and extracurricular activities with the department
* contributing to the department and school development plans;
* Keep up to date records of teaching and student progress;
* keeping up-to-date with developments in the teaching of Drama or English;
* familiarising oneself with various specifications for the examinations their students are preparing for.
* working with colleagues and sharing good progress.

**General Responsibilities**

* carrying out the duties of a school teacher as set out in the Staff contract.
* being a form tutor
* contributing to the well-being and development of the school including the supervision of pupils, consultation with the Head of Department and other senior colleagues as appropriate, and undertaking the appropriate responsibilities as outlined in the school’s Performance Management Policy.
* ensuring that regular assessment of practical and written work takes place, including pupil self assessment, so as to effectively inform teaching and learning.

This job description may be amended at any time by agreement and will be reviewed during the Performance Management Review process.