



# Candidate Information

Mathematics Teacher

September 2021



## Sutton Valence one school, many journeys



### Introduction

Sutton Valence is an independent, HMC co-educational day and boarding school situated in the heart of Kent.

Whilst not fiercely selective on entry, its value added statistics are impressive. For those subjects Sutton Valence offers at A Level, the School aims to be in the top 10% nationally for adding value, managing to bring out the academic potential in every pupil. Equally impressive is the breadth of education on offer, which at GCSE is tailored to each pupil's strengths, recognising that academic achievement is only one measure of success.

All our pupils work on laptops using Microsoft OneNote which acts as repository for class notes, prep and online textbooks. Pupils also make notes on their devices and store them in OneNote so teachers can mark online using digital ink or recording. It is expected that most lessons will use the device at some point although many will use a combination of paper work and device.

Individuality, confidence without arrogance and the strength of character to meet the complexities of modern living with equanimity are the hallmarks of a Sutton Valence pupil.

The School's roll is currently 540 of which 140 are boarders. Class sizes are small and the overall pupil-staff ratio of 9:1 enables Sutton Valence pupils to benefit from the close guidance and individual attention of teachers. The academic staff are all highly-qualified subject specialists with a commitment to continuing professional development.

Contained within the 100-acre site, there are dedicated games pitches, an all-weather playing surface, a sports centre, which contains a fitness suite, an all-weather athletics track and field sports arena and an indoor six-lane swimming pool. Sutton Valence Preparatory School occupies its own site in the neighbouring village of Chart Sutton and currently has 260 pupils between the ages of 2 and 11.

## The School's Vision, Mission and Ethos

### Vision

Through membership of our community and the academic and co-curricular opportunities it provides, we believe that all young people in our School will be enabled to fulfil their true potential. We want our students to be confident civilised, tolerant and open-minded individuals who possess a love of learning and a strong set of values reflecting our principles as a Christian Foundation.

### Our Mission is to provide:

- A caring, supportive and inclusive community for the education of children aged 3-18, day and boarding;
- A challenging, relevant and broad curriculum delivered in ways that allow all to achieve;
- An outstanding range of sporting, artistic, cultural and social activities, and opportunities so that children can develop skills such as self-discipline, commitment, leadership and teamwork;
- A safe, secure and stimulating environment which promotes excellence, independence and high standards whilst providing support to all who need it;
- A grounding in moral and spiritual understanding which will promote respect for others, along with self-respect.

### Ethos

A community where each cares for all and individuality is cherished.







## The Department

The Mathematics Department at Sutton Valence School is one in which we promote not only successful outcomes in results but, as importantly, an enjoyment of the subject. We are always looking for new, creative approaches to teaching that inspire our pupils to want to take the subject further and understand that confident and engaged learners are the key to this. Within the department collaboration is actively encouraged with members of the team looking to support not only our pupils but also each other. It is important to us that staff within the department are given both the opportunity to explore personal professional development areas as well as creating leadership opportunities for those wishing to advance their careers.

Within the Department, we actively promote the School community ethos and offer a variety of both support and extension activities within the school day to enable all pupils to be mathematically catered for. Our GCSE revision sessions are often fully booked within minutes of being advertised. In addition to revision sessions, pupils participate in a range of national competitions including the UKMT challenges, the National Cipher Challenge and we even host our own Junior competition that is fiercely contested by our local schools. Those wishing to apply to university to study Mathematics are offered extension sessions and guidance in order to prepare them for their next steps.

The department use the Edexcel examination board for both A Level and GCSE where, for the latter, we take the International GCSE. In addition to the IGCSE, pupils in the top set are also offered the opportunity to take the AQA Level 2 Certificate in Further Mathematics. The uptake at A Level is strong and pupils are also given the chance to study Further Mathematics to A Level. We have recently introduced the 'Mathematics in Context Level 3' qualification, which is proving extremely successful with our pupils who do not choose to take the full A Level, but still wish to take their studies further.

All members of staff are provided with a laptop and all of the classrooms have interactive whiteboards. We are privileged to be well resourced with staff also being issued with graphical calculators to support teaching. Members of the department have access to a wide range of software packages and are encouraged to make suggestions for any new teaching aids to support their teaching.

Further information is available [here](#).

## The Post

We are looking for a well-qualified and enthusiastic Mathematics teacher who may be a recent graduate (ideally with a PGCE), a more experienced teacher, or someone with a good degree and a passion for the subject who would like to train on the job. The successful candidate would be expected to teach pupils from First Form to Upper Sixth and across our ability range (wider than that of a traditional grammar school, but not as wide as that of a comprehensive school). An ability to teach both the most academic and the less able, with equal confidence, is a primary requirement of the position.

The department's teaching style is very much centred on the pupils and their individual needs, and the successful candidate should be fully committed to this aim.

Outside of the department, all teachers are expected to be heavily involved in the School's enrichment and sports programmes, be that in offering an activity, coaching, assisting with Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, as an officer in CCF, taking a club, or wherever support is required. Candidates will be expected to take an active role in the pastoral care of our pupils, which is based on a house system, with vertical tutor groups.

Full commitment to the co-curricular life of the School is expected and, as we are a six-day-a-week school with academic lessons taught in the morning, staff may be required to work on a Saturday afternoon to assist with, or cover for, sporting fixtures.



## Additional Information

The salary will be at the appropriate point on the Sutton Valence pay scale. Staff can use the excellent fitness facilities in the Sports Hall in the evening. The School operates a contributory pension scheme which is open to all members of staff. Staff with a contract for at least one full term and who have children attending either the Senior School or the Preparatory School will be eligible to receive a discount in respect of School fees (excluding nursery). The current rate of discount is 65% for full-time staff, and for part-time staff the relevant percentage will be calculated on a pro rata basis.

## Application Process

Any offer of appointment will be subject to satisfactory references, the completion of a successful medical examination and criminal record check via the Disclosure and Barring Service.

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. A copy of the School's Child Protection policy may be found on the School's website.

Support statements should state what particular skills and attributes you can bring to Sutton Valence School, brief details of how you fit the position, including specific details of skills, experience and achievements, and details of any interests and hobbies.

Further information about Sutton Valence School can be found on our [website](#).

To apply, please click on the 'Quick Apply' button on our Tes listing and complete an application form. Alternatively, an application form can be found on our School [vacancies](#) page.

**Closing date:** Friday 16th April 2021

Sutton Valence School is an equal opportunities employer.

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**Sutton Valence School**

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