 **Heathside School and Sixth Form Centre – information for applicants**

We are seeking an enthusiastic and well qualified Director of Drama for a maternity cover likely to be until 31st December 2019, to teach across all key stages and abilities in our highly successful 11-18 Academy. Heathside School is an over-subscribed, high-performing school located in Weybridge, Surrey. Heathside is the founding school in the ElmWey Learning Trust.

In July 2016 the Trust was successful in its bid to open a brand-new secondary school in Elmbridge. The school is planned to open in September 2021 and will be a state funded Free School, non-selective and non-faith based. It will grow year-on-year and when fully operational will have 900 students in the age range 11-16. You would therefore be joining Heathside at an exciting time in its development.

#  Curriculum

All students study Drama throughout years 7, 8 and 9 (Key Stage 3). The schemes of work have been developed by the school.

The KS3 curriculum is developed so that students gain the necessary knowledge and skills to support their progress into KS4. Each year group studies: approaches to script, physical and vocal performance skills, devising, theatre genres and styles, live performance evaluation and theatre design skills.

At Key Stage 4 Drama is an option subject and we currently follow the AQA exam board syllabus 8261. All option subjects are delivered in three 50 minute periods per week.

**Examination Results**

Students perform well at GCSE. In 2018, 71% of our cohort gained GCSE grades 9 – 4. Drama is not currently offered at A level.

**Drama across the school**

Each year, in addition to performances linked to examination work, the school delivers a large production involving students from all years. These productions alternate between a straight play and a musical. Recent productions include: Grease, Macbeth, Bugsy Malone and The Grimm Fairy Tales.

In many cases these pieces are reworked by school staff to best use the considerable skills and abilities of our student body. These bespoke performances reflect the engagement and drive of our school community.

The Director of Drama leads the whole school production, working with the Head of Music where appropriate. Next year’s production is planned to be ‘Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat’ and the appointee would assist in the casting and opening rehearsals for this towards the second half of the Autumn term.

The Director also leads other extra-curricular Drama enrichment activities including the House Drama Competition and Drama clubs. The Director also plans and runs a range of local and London based theatre trips to enrich the curriculum.

**Resources**

Drama is delivered in a purpose built studio. The school’s main hall and stage are equipped for lighting and sound. Through our school’s Technology College status we have a skilled and enthusiastic technical crew including staff and students who assist with productions.

March 2019