



CELEBRATING
OUR SCHOOL'S
VALUES AND
UNIQUE ETHOS

2023-2024

RECRUITMENT BOOKLET

Dum Spiro Spero - Whilst I breathe, I hope

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

Thank you for declaring your interest in Cothill House. Cothill is a wonderful place to work but before you consider submitting an application, I thought it might be helpful if I gave you a brief introduction to the school. By doing this, I hope you might begin to understand why the school is so fondly remembered by its past pupils and so highly regarded in the prep school world.



Established in 1870, Cothill is recognised globally as one of the country's leading boys' boarding and day prep schools with an exceptional record of preparing pupils for the top public schools. Set in the heart of the Oxfordshire countryside, but only fifteen minutes from the dreaming spires of Oxford, Cothill House has been providing an inspirational all-round boarding (and more recently day) education and unrivalled opportunities for boys aged 8-13 for more than 150 years. From September 2025 Cothill will transition to a co-educational school.

Our aim is to foster a pupil's happiness, confidence and individual passions, helping him to achieve his potential, cultivate a love of learning and stimulate his love of life. Cothill pupils are proud of their school and flourish in an environment where hard work, integrity and originality are both valued and rewarded. The staff play a vital role in inspiring the pupils to be the best versions of themselves and the friendly atmosphere ensures that everyone feels appreciated.

A unique element of the school's offer is the time pupils spend at the [Château de Sauveterre](#), where they are immersed in the culture and language of the Gers in the south of France. This is a memorable experience and delighted pupils and parents usually deem it to have been transformative.

There is a tremendous breadth to a Cothill education and pupils will be involved in sport, music and the arts most days. Taught by an outstanding, enthusiastic and committed staff, pupils are encouraged to 'get stuck in' and challenge themselves. As a result, Cothill pupils learn the benefits of teamwork, become self-assured and thrive within our vibrant community.

Cothill is a fantastic place to work, and there are so many ways in which one can contribute to the life of the school. It goes without saying that our parental body is extremely supportive of everything we do to put their sons' well being and progress at the heart of all our activities. In short, Cothill is an outstanding school with a terrifically positive, sociable and supportive staff. The best way to get a true sense of all that is on offer is to visit, and I would encourage you to pick up the phone and give me a call. You would be very welcome to join us for lunch one day and see the school for yourself.

I look forward to receiving your application; if you have any questions, please do drop me a line via my PA sday@cothillpst.org.



ROLE DESCRIPTION

Head of Science - starting January 2025

Context

This is an exciting opportunity to lead a thriving Science department in one of the country's leading Prep Schools. The successful applicant will have an outstanding subject knowledge and a proven record of, or ambition for, teaching children Science and preparing them for life at many leading senior schools including Eton, Harrow, Radley and Winchester.

The department is well resourced with three purpose built labs and two well stocked prep rooms. The department is currently a team of four experienced teachers with a wide age range.

Job Specification

- Oversee the school's Science teaching and department
- Teach Science to Cothill pupils in Years 5-8 preparing them for Common Entrance and beyond.
- Carry out duties in line with other teaching staff.
- Be involved in the wider life of the school, possibly including Sport, Music and/or Drama.
- Fulfill wider responsibilities as determined by the schools' leadership team in line with other staff commitments.

Personal Qualities

The successful candidate is likely to have the following qualifications, qualities and experience:

- Experience of leading a team
- A minimum of a good graduate level qualification
- A love of Science and the ability to communicate this enthusiasm to pupils.
- Experience of working with children in a school environment
- High expectations to motivate, inspire and challenge pupils
- Evidence of commitment to their professional development
- Motivation to work with children and a high regard for their happiness, safety and wellbeing
- The ability to work as part of a team and support the school. Excellent planning, administration and time management skills
- An understanding of the Health and Safety Considerations when managing chemicals and gas taps
- The vision to enrich the pupils' learning by organising opportunities outside of the classroom
- The ability to work to deadlines
- Plenty of energy, stamina and motivation to get stuck in to all areas of school life
- Be an effective communicator with boys, parents and colleagues alike
- Have a 'can do' attitude and a sense of fun



Benefits of working at Cothill House

- Great colleagues and engaging pupils
- Freedom to make the most of one's strengths
- Ongoing professional development
- Competitive salary dependent on experience
- Spacious classrooms, well supported by IT
- A wide range of trips which some staff accompany pupils on
- Large and well-stocked school library and cafe
- Vibrant music and arts
- Excellent in-house catering
- Staff accommodation may be available
- Superb sports fields and golf course, indoor swimming pool, climbing wall and recently opened state-of-the-art £6 million Bailey Sports Centre with a gym
- Extensive grounds and rural setting close to Oxford

Salary and Conditions of Employment

The school has its own generous salary scale, and your salary will be commensurate with your experience. It is possible that accommodation will be available for the successful candidate. Cothill House is committed to the safeguarding and welfare of the pupils in its care. All staff must adhere to the school's safeguarding policy. Offers are subject to references and 'Disclosure and Barring Services' enhanced checks. The school is fully committed to the principles of equal opportunity, diversity, and inclusion. Cothill House does not discriminate on the grounds of race or colour, nationality or national or ethnic origins, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, pregnancy or maternity, marital or civil partnership status, gender reassignment, age, and disability. Applications are welcome from a diverse range of backgrounds.

How to apply

Applicants are asked to complete a full application form and may also submit a letter of application to offer a personal insight into the skills and aspirations of the candidate should they wish. Letters should be sent to recruitment@cothillpst.org.

