



**DULWICH PREP LONDON**

Values & Academic Excellence since 1885



**LIBRARY ASSISTANT**

**CANDIDATE INFORMATION**



# HEAD MASTER'S WELCOME

Dear Candidate

I am honoured to be Head Master of Dulwich Prep London and introduce you to this incredible school. For more than 130 years, the school has inspired generations of boys aged 3 to 13 (and Nursery aged girls) to fulfil their dreams and aspirations.



We are privileged to have developed a specific pedagogy that enables critical thinking, encourages exploration, and facilitates engaging communication skills while recognising that each child is on their journey of discovery.

We passionately believe in the whole child. Therefore, the broad and enriched education that we provide will enable our pupils to go beyond the expected and toward the exceptional.

We seek to work in partnership with parents and carers to embed the Dulwich Prep London Values, first and foremost, as this underpins the character skills required in our fast-paced modern world.

This expectation enables each child to put empathy and compassion at the forefront of their decision making. It is the catalyst for each child to be successful and resilient in whatever they turn their hand to while on their educational journey and beyond.

We look forward to receiving your application.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Louise Davidson'.

Louise Davidson  
Head Master



## OUR ETHOS AND AIMS

Our school's priority is the wellbeing and happiness of our pupils. Each child's sense of belonging is paramount to their success and the school's continuing success.

Our pupils are challenged in their pursuit of excellence, and we support each child to find what they are good at. Each child's sense of belonging is integral to their continued success in our school and future success in life.

We want our pupils to leave us having experienced the very best in pastoral care, teaching and learning, having enjoyed the most dynamic and demanding academic and co-curricular programmes, and having made friends for life.

In preparing our pupils for today and the future, we want to instil a sense of environmental awareness and empower each child to become a responsible world citizen.

These are the key building blocks for the school, but our Values act as the cement that bonds everyone and everything together.

Our Values create Dulwich Prep London's special atmosphere.



LOVE



COURAGE



GRATITUDE



HUMILITY

## OUR VALUES

Dulwich Prep London inspires excellence, and our pupils' character measures our greatest success.

Our Values sow the seeds of possibility in each child's mind, heart, and spirit and create the right culture and conditions to allow these possibilities to flourish and become real.

Everything we do sits upon our Values system. The eight recognised and explicitly taught Values weave across every year and deliver a deepened sense of empathy and the drive to be change-makers.

These values teach our pupils how to be kind and offer help where it is needed; to play fair and tell the truth no matter who is listening; to join in and play their part whilst letting others be heard; to appreciate the world around them and how valuable their contribution is and to always have a go.

Our expectations are high: those attending Dulwich Prep London go on to be citizens of the world, have a strong moral compass, and adapt to the rapidly changing environment of modern society.

Our children thrive, and we ensure that every opportunity is created for them to do so. Yet, no day is taken for granted.



JUSTICE



SERVICE



SELF-DISCIPLINE



HONESTY

# ABOUT US

Since 1885 Dulwich Prep London has been at the forefront of preparatory schooling in England. Generations of boys and Nursery-aged girls have benefited from a school with a rich history, is forward-thinking, has embraced change, kept pace with pedagogy and technology, and is, above all, passionate about the individual learning journey of every one of our pupils and staff members.

We are the largest boys' independent preparatory school in the UK with an enrolment of 840 pupils between the ages of 3 and 13. We are a selective school in two important ways. Firstly, our pupils generally sit in the top 10% nationally based on their scores on standardised tests. Secondly, and arguably, more importantly, we look for children who will thrive at the Prep and make the best of everything we offer.



50+  
Senior School  
Destinations



200+  
Scholarships  
Awarded  
2020-2022

150+  
Co-curricular  
Clubs, Activities  
and Trips



20+  
Musical Ensembles  
15+  
Stage Productions



25+  
Acres of Open  
Space and a  
Swimming Pool



10+  
Sports  
Played at Every  
Level

7.00am - 7.30pm  
Wrap Around  
Care



12+  
School  
Community  
Events





We are situated in Dulwich, a leafy village and area known for its exceptional schools, a plethora of open spaces and thriving, diverse local culture. It is within easy striking distance of the bright lights of one of the most cosmopolitan cities in the world. Everyone at Dulwich Prep London takes pride in inspiring excellence. Our school Values underpin the rich diversity of curricular and co-curricular opportunities available to our pupils.

Our Governors strive to maintain Dulwich Prep London's position in a competitive market by sharing their broad range of expertise to provide the highest quality education for our pupils. Through this investment, we can attract excellent staff, provide up-to-date technology, and continue to create modern facilities within our stunning South London home.

At Dulwich Prep London, we aim to cultivate a sense of social and moral responsibility within each child. We want each child to leave our school with maturity, the strength of character and empathy fostered within them throughout their Dulwich Prep Journey. We have strong links to our community, alumni and local schools, modelling our values in everything we do. We nurture independent thinkers with a sense of justice who go on to be thoughtful citizens of the world, equipped with a strong moral compass and the ability to adapt to our rapidly changing environment.

# JOB DESCRIPTION

The Library Assistant will be expected to take an active role in promoting the school library in addition to day-to-day administration. They will work closely with the School Librarian and teachers from all sections to ensure the library contributes effectively to the delivery of the curriculum and supports pupils in developing the skills necessary to use resources effectively.

The Library Assistant will be required to keep abreast of new material and advise on suitable literature. They will also be required to have a high degree of organisational skills and excellent communication skills. This role reports to the Head of English.

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### SCHOOL LIBRARY & RESOURCES

- Be available during School hours to help students select, borrow and return books.
- Ensure that the library is tidy with all fiction, non-fiction and reference sequences in order and that all returned books are shelved.
- Maintain the physical appearance of the library stock, e.g. spine labels, date labels and dust jackets.
- Read as many of the new arrivals as possible.
- Provide guidance, assistance, and advice to pupils and staff on information retrieval and reading materials
- Supervise the loan and return of materials to staff and pupils.

- Monitor educational materials for use in school in order to identify examples of inappropriate material.

### PUPIL, & STAFF INTERACTION

- Supervise and manage pupils' behaviour and take responsibility for student health and safety in the library.
- Organise and deliver library induction sessions for pupils on using library resources.
- Provide guidance and assistance to pupils and staff on information retrieval and reading materials.
- Respond to requests from children/parents/teachers for specific book recommendations.
- Teach library lessons once a week across year groups.

## OTHER

- Supervise children who may be using the library because they cannot attend a lesson due to injury, etc.
- Invigilate any children undertaking exams in the library.

## KEY SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE

### Essential

- Commitment to safeguarding and the welfare of pupils, including looking out for boys who use the library as a sanctuary.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Excellent English, grammar and punctuation skills and proficient at proofreading.
- Excellent proactive customer service skills.
- Keen interest in the library environment.
- Good attention to detail.
- Knowledge of young people's fiction and ability to match books to readers.
- Skills and confidence to be able to instruct groups of pupils in library use.

- Can inspire pupils to read and encourage a love of books.
- Be able to ensure appropriate behaviour in pupils while maintaining a pleasant and welcoming environment.

### Desirable

- Previous experience of working in a library.
- Experience of utilising IT skills to access, retrieve, and organise information.
- Librarianship qualification, either first degree or postgraduate.
- Strong IT skills.
- Excellent organisational skills with knowledge of library systems.
- Experience of working with young people and meeting their particular needs and requirements.

## PERSONAL COMPETENCIES & QUALITIES

- Enthusiastic, friendly and uses initiative.
- Self-motivated and able to work without continual direction.
- Consistently strives to maintain a high standard of work.

## TERMS & CONDITIONS

- 8.00am to 4.30pm, two days per week, with a 30-minute unpaid lunch. This role is term time, covering 36 weeks of the year.
- Attendance at all School INSET days, Open Days and any other relevant events in the school calendar.
- Depending on the school's requirements at any time, these hours are subject to the terms and conditions of a Contract of Employment and to amendment by the Head Master from time to time.
- Staff may be called to perform other duties that the Head Master considers reasonable and commensurate with the post's grading and designation.





# WORKING WITH US

Dulwich Prep London is an inspiring and vibrant place to work. We have a large yet incredibly warm community of passionate teachers, inquisitive pupils, a hard-working and friendly support team and ambitious parents. Together we create a supportive environment that is committed to achieving excellence.

Working at Dulwich Prep means being part of a team that cares about your continued professional development and journey as a teacher. Whether you join us at the beginning, middle or end of your career, you will be guided, supported and encouraged every step of the way to achieving your goals. For example, our CPD might involve training for whole school initiatives, going on 'Learning Walks' around the school, taking part in a Lesson Study, or seeking further formal academic qualifications.

We are proud to be members of the Teacher Development Trust, which supports schools focused on innovation and evidence-based learning. In addition, we work with initial Teacher Training institutions such as St Mary's University, Twickenham and The Cambridge Partnership to develop new teachers and keep up to date with the latest research and pedagogy.

Staff are encouraged to participate in as many of the vast array of sporting and drama activities as possible at the Prep. From all-nighter charity swims to Saturday park runs to our fabulous drama productions, there's always something going on at the Prep where hidden talents are celebrated.

## REMUNERATION

- Competitive salary £7,884 to £8,650 pa for part-time working hours (based on a full-time salary range of £24,855 to 27,270).
- Generous defined contribution pension scheme.
- Life assurance.
- Free school lunches.
- Enhanced sickness, maternity, paternity and adoption pay entitlements.
- Free access to our School Counsellor.
- Cycle to work scheme.
- Wide range of professional development opportunities.
- School fee remission.
- Easter and Summer holiday camp discounts.
- Healthcare Cash Plan scheme.
- Employee assistance programme.

## APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW PROCESS

A completed Application Form and a covering letter explaining your suitability for this role should be emailed to Tamsin Hutson, HR Manager. Please also read the accompanying Application & Recruitment Process Explanatory Note. We reserve the right to appoint at any time during the recruitment process.

- Closing Date: Friday 1 December 2023, 12pm
- Interviews Date: Week Commencing Monday 4 December 2023
- Start Date: January 2024 or as soon as possible thereafter

## APPOINTMENT

Any offer to a successful candidate will be conditional upon:

- Receipt of at least two references that are satisfactory to the School.
- Verification of identity and qualifications, including evidence of the right to work in the UK.
- A satisfactory enhanced criminal records check through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and clearance of the Children's Barred List, and confirmation that you are not disqualified from providing childcare.
- A check which confirms that you are not the subject of a sanction, restriction or prohibition issued by the Teaching Regulation Agency which renders you unable or unsuitable to work at the School.
- Verification of your medical fitness for the role.
- Satisfactory completion of the probationary period.
- Any further checks that the School deems necessary if you have lived or worked outside of the UK which will include an overseas criminal records check or certificate of good conduct and may include professional references.

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Dulwich Prep London is committed to the equal treatment of all current and prospective employees and does not condone discrimination based on age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, gender identity, or marriage and civil partnership.

Candidates will be assessed against relevant criteria only (i.e. skills, qualifications, abilities, experience) in selection and recruitment. In accordance with the Disability Discrimination Act, Dulwich Prep London seeks to treat those with disabilities as favourably as those without disabilities. Accordingly, we will make reasonable arrangements, wherever practicable, to avoid putting those with disabilities at a disadvantage.

## SAFEGUARDING

Dulwich Prep London is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening and training appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.



**Schools'  
Inclusion  
Alliance**



We aspire to have a diverse and inclusive workplace.

We strongly encourage all suitably qualified applicants regardless of background to apply and join us at Dulwich Prep London.

We are proud members of the Schools Inclusion Alliance and the Government's Disability Confident Scheme.

