ISLEWORTH & SYON SCHOOL
FINIS CORONAT OPUS

JOB INFORMATION PACK

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT

Required for September 2019



WELCOME

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD



Dear Applicant,

I am delighted that you are taking an interest in working at Isleworth & Syon School, an 11-18 Boys' School (with a mixed Sixth Form) in Isleworth, West London. The school is a high-performing school, where boys consistently out-perform their peers nationally and locally.

My colleagues and I are all proud of working in an excellent school. In a recent school review the visiting team commented that:

"There is a culture of high aspiration. Leaders and teachers are very ambitious for the school and for the students, and work together to ensure that students have the best possible opportunities."
- Challenge Partners 2018

I want the people that join the staff team to share in maintaining this emphasis and our excellent standards as we continue to provide the very best education for local boys.

The school's history can be traced back to around 1630 and we are very proud of our long well-established traditions. We are, however, a very forward-looking school always focused on continual school improvement as we endeavour to prepare our boys to be considerate, mature and ambitious young men. We have many mantras in school, the most visible one being for all members of the community to be "outstanding in every respect".

Of course we are always focused on academic performance and our current progress measures place us as one of the top performing schools in the country. We have recently joined the Leading Edge group of schools, the only national partnership for high-performing schools.

Alongside the academic side of the school, we maintain an exceptional extra-curricular offer. We consider that this is a key factor in the success of the school and in ensuring that our students achieve their academic potential.

I do hope that you will review this application pack and I will look forward to receiving your application.

Euan Ferguson
Headteacher

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT

This role is critical in ensuring that our students are highly successful.

The person appointed will support the efficient and effective running of the Learning Support Department to ensure that the provision and outcomes are outstanding at all levels.

This will involve ensuring that, under the direction of the SENDCo, our students with Special Educational Needs and diverse learning needs are supported and included to ensure that they can access the curriculum in the most effective way. The post holder will assist with the delivery and provision of needs as outlined in student Education Health & Care Plans (EHCPs) and will support the needs of other identified students.

It should be noted that it is expected that the job description will evolve as both the role and the post holder develops.



"Building on the long-standing traditions of the school, staff support the development of 'courteous, respectful and calm' young men, reflecting the school's well-established values."

- Ofsted 2017

THE ROLE



THE POST

This post offers the successful candidate a fantastic opportunity to join our excellent, over-subscribed school, and to work within an inspirational and supportive team of staff.

The post is full-time and permanent. We are looking to appoint a person, preferably with experience of working in an educational setting and with a specialism in mathematics. For all applicants, we will be seeking to identify the potential to fulfil this role. Remuneration will be on Scale 5.



THE SUPPORT STAFF

The key aim for all of our staff is to provide an excellent education across all subjects and across the age and ability profile. We are committed to developing the abilities, skills and attributes of all our students, allowing them to work towards and achieve their maximum potential. The team of support staff play a critical role in the school and contribute greatly to creating an environment where expectations are high and our students can be successful.



> *"The strong commitment of staff to meet the needs of pupils is evident."*
>
> - Ofsted 2017

THE PERSON

Having the highest quality staff (teaching and support) is the key to being a successful school. It is our intention to only appoint staff who will enhance the school, thereby ensuring that our students have the best possible chance of achieving their potential. For this post, this means that the appointed person will:

- Have experience of working in a medium or large organization
- Have excellent IT skills
- Have superb organisational skills
- Have strong communication skills, including written and spoken fluency and accuracy in English.
- Be able to develop highly effective working relationships with students, parents and carers, and other colleagues.
- Have a high degree of professionalism, which is modelled on a daily basis in the workplace and when representing the school.



STAFF BENEFITS

All staff at Isleworth & Syon School benefit from:

- Dynamic, innovative and supportive colleagues with “outstanding” student behaviour.
- A school ethos which encourages and insists on students being polite and courteous.
- A supportive parent body, and a high quality body of governors, several of whom work in education.
- A full and bespoke induction programme.
- An ongoing professional development programme with an individual CPD allowance.
- Involvement in national staff development programmes.
- The opportunity to work with a range of leading external partnerships.
- Being part of a Leading Edge School.
- Membership of the International Boys’ Schools Coalition.
- A founding and partner school in the Challenge Partnership.
- A supportive consortium of local secondary schools which facilitates co-educational teaching and learning.

“Relationships in the classroom between students and adults are excellent.”

- Challenge Partners 2018

- Working within a highly effective Hounslow Education Partnership.
- A technology-rich environment.
- Free annual flu-jab.
- A subsidised ‘Cycle to Work’ scheme.
- A chef-led canteen service.
- Staff sports sessions and a staff badminton club.
- The Isleworthians Association (the former students’ network).
- Excellent transport links to the West End and Heathrow.
- Working in a conservation area in Osterley, West London with both Osterley Park and Syon Park within walking distance.







“TOGETHER WE LEARN, ACHIEVE AND SUCCEED”

/IsleworthSyon
isleworthsyon.org

APPLYING





HOW TO APPLY

You must submit our 'Support Staff' application form, ensuring that all sections are fully completed.

The application will include a supporting statement, which should demonstrate how your qualifications and experience make you a good candidate for the post.

> *"[Pupils] say that school staff encourage them to be friendly and to show respect towards each other."*
>
> - Ofsted 2017

SENDING YOUR APPLICATION

Please address your application to the Headteacher, Mr Euan Ferguson. You may submit applications by email to school@isleworthsyon.org (with a subject line of **'Job Application: Learning Support Assistant**') or by post to: Isleworth & Syon School, Ridgeway Road, Isleworth, Middlesex, TW7 5LJ. Applications must be received by **9.00am on** Monday 15 July. Early application is encouraged, as we will undertake selection processes on receipt of completed forms. A selection process will be held shortly after the vacancy has closed.

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions)
Isleworth & Syon School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This Act requires applicants for employment concerned with the provision to persons under the age of 18 of schooling, supervision, training or recreational facilities which allows access to children and young people, to disclose all their previous criminal convictions whether "spent" or "unspent", bind-over orders and cautions, as defined within the Act. The successful applicant will be subject to an Enhanced DBS check, references and other pre- and post-employment checks.

Equal Opportunities
The School is totally committed to avoiding all forms of discrimination as set out in the UK Equality Act (2010), and values diversity amongst its staff and for applicants for posts.

The School, therefore, aims to ensure that all individuals are treated fairly and equally. Unless the job is covered by a statutory exception, we will not discriminate directly or indirectly on the grounds of: cultural background; ethnic or national origin; nationality; age; gender; sexual orientation; disability; religion; marital status; or membership of a trade union.

THE SCHOOL

LOCATION AND POPULATION



The school is situated in Isleworth, just off the Great West Road. Excellent transport links and the proximity to Osterley, Brentford, Chiswick and Hounslow result in a truly comprehensive and richly diverse intake of students. The school buildings date from the 1930s and are built in an Art Deco style. Isleworth Grammar School and Syon Secondary Modern School amalgamated to form the current school in 1979.

We are over-subscribed with first-choice applications for the 180 Year 7 places. This has been the case for many years. However, in the past few years this level of oversubscription has increased, much of which arises from neighbouring authorities. Our reputation for providing high-quality education for boys is becoming known well beyond our usual boundaries.

We are proud of the achievements of our students. Whilst league tables do not allow our boys to be fairly compared with boys in mixed settings, we know that our students continually out-perform their counterparts in mixed schools. Our most able students achieve as well as or better than students in any educational setting, and sixth formers regularly gain places at Oxbridge, and other top educational institutions around the world.

Our GCSE results this summer improved to record levels, with a 100% pass rate and a Progress 8 score of +0.30, 0.53 above boys' national results. At Advanced level, our results had 35% of all grades at A*/A or equivalent. Whatever one's views about single-sex education, we know that our school allows our boys to flourish and develop in an environment that supports them. Girls are welcome in our sixth form, and they too perform extremely well, and enjoy their time with us.

HISTORY AND TRADITION



The school's history can be traced back to 1630 and it has experienced many stages of development in that time. We take pride in our history and continue with many of the established traditions. School uniform is a strong feature, with hairstyles conventional, school rules well-known and implemented, and poor behaviour not tolerated. Staff are also expected to dress in a manner that befits their professional status. Courtesy and respect are attributes that are encouraged and valued.

The awards that students can access include 'colours flashes' and 'colours ties', which are awarded for academic, artistic and sporting achievement, as well as for progress and contributions to the school or community. It is our view that the insistence on traditional values and the blending with innovative practice are the key reasons for our popularity. Our drive is to be 'outstanding in every respect', and this mantra is used on a daily basis in school. Currently we are planning to expand the school to take an additional two forms of entry from September 2019 due to the fact that, since 1979, the school has never been stronger than it is today.

> *"The school's strong ethos and values permeates all aspects of school life."*
>
> - Challenge Partners 2018

THE SCHOOL



ACADEMY

In March 2012, we successfully converted to being an Academy, and we have ensured that we maintain our foundation of governors and our philosophy of working in partnership with others.

Ofsted and the Youth Sport Trust know of no other state school in the south of England that maintains a full Saturday morning programme of sport. We continue to run the School Sport Co-ordinator Programme, under the 'Sport Impact' banner, the most successful partnership in the country. Double Olympic Champion Mo Farah (pictured right) attended our Sixth Form prior to taking up a place at St. Mary's University College, and he maintains a close link with the school as patron of 'Sport Impact' In December 2005, we were the inaugural winners of the 'Sports College of the Year' Award.

We match our sporting success with outstanding provision throughout many other areas of the school. The arts are extremely important to us, and we maintain exceptional provision in art, drama and music. Many of our students have gone on to have successful careers in the arts.



THE STAFF

The teaching staff and support staff at Isleworth & Syon are thoroughly professional, with their hard work and expertise ensuring the success of our students. An enormous amount of work has gone into developing a comprehensive induction process for new staff, as well as professional development opportunities for all staff. We are committed to an extensive CPD programme through our involvement in national programmes, our own inset programme, and through our links with Initial Teacher Training establishments (the University of Roehampton, St Mary's University and Lampton LWA SCITT). We also work with trainee teachers who join us from Teach First, School Direct and the new Researchers in Schools programme. We have a partnership with St Mary's University College to offer a very heavily subsidised MA in Education. Leadership is strong throughout the school, and staff are positively encouraged to develop further their own expertise.

Our expectation is that teaching across the school is outstanding. This results from all staff working hard at their own teaching and striving for excellent outcomes for every student. It is also important that our teaching staff commit to being self-reflective, to the sharing of good practice, and to working well in a subject or faculty team.





THE SCHOOL







CURRICULUM

Since September 2015, we have offered a traditional, accelerated Key Stage 3 curriculum that places an emphasis on ensuring that students make rapid progress, especially if extra literacy and numeracy is required. It is designed to ensure that all students make the best possible progress at Key Stage 4. As students progress to GCSE level, we operate a breadth of choice, while limiting choices to provide maximum curriculum time for developing the knowledge, application and skills to gain the best grades. We offer academic and vocational choices to meet the personalised learning requirements of our students. We are constantly reviewing the curriculum offer at Key Stage 4.

Our Sixth Form has grown over the last few years and is strengthened by the close links with local schools, with whom we work in a very productive and supportive partnership. We are able to offer a very broad range of subjects in the Sixth Form and have also developed outstanding vocational options to meet the demands of our students. Girls join us in the Sixth Form, either from consortium schools or as new students to the school. The Sixth Form is an excellent area of the school and many students continue their education at university, college, apprenticeships or for some straight to employment.

"Pupils, parents and staff are supportive of the school's mission in the community. The school is a popular choice for families."

- Ofsted 2017

THE SCHOOL

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Opportunities for students, both within the curriculum and as extra-curricular activities, are a major feature of life at school and intrinsic to our values.

Ofsted have consistently noted how the extensive range of additional opportunities afforded to the students has a significant impact on the school's ethos, the learning of our students, and relationships throughout the school. Staff take the initiative with such activities, to the benefit of many students.

We enjoy a strong and growing tradition of music and drama in the school. The annual school production has included performances as diverse as 'Romeo and Juliet', 'The Government Inspector', 'Great Expectations', 'It's a Wonderful Life!', 'Macbeth', 'Private Peaceful' (pictured left below) and 'The Tempest'.

The quality of artwork around the school is outstanding, and some of our students' work has appeared on permanent display in Kew Gardens.

The school is a Centre of Excellence for Badminton and we run the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme at all three levels, including being the only local school running our own Gold expeditions.

The House System is a source of great strength and provides a range of competitive and charitable activities.







PASTORAL CARE

The pastoral system is a strength of the school and is led by the Senior Deputy Headteacher and supported by two Assistant Headteachers. Systems are designed to ensure that students are fully aware of the expectations on them, of the support available to them, and of the range of sanctions and rewards used, as we endeavour to ensure that all our students become mature, considerate and confident young men (and young women in the Sixth Form).

Three Pastoral Leaders take responsibility for Years 7 & 8, Years 9 & 10 and Year 11, and each is supported by year teams of tutors and three non-teaching Pastoral Support Managers. In addition, there is a House System, with four House Leaders working vertically across the school to provide pastoral support and a wide range of additional opportunities for students.

Behaviour management systems are supportive of students and have a strong emphasis on ensuring that our students become 'the best that they can be'.

Relationships within the school are excellent and this ensures that the school is a very pleasant place in which to work.

> *"The school is a safe and ordered environment. Pupils continue to behave very well in lessons and during unstructured times."*
>
> - Ofsted 2017

THE FUTURE

We are committed to an ongoing and intensive programme of school improvement in order to ensure that our students, and those in our partner schools, have access to outstanding educational provision, from our Gifted and Talented students, who have their own enrichment and mentoring programmes, to the students who require additional support at school.

We are one of the original members of the 'Challenge Partnership', a group of schools working nationally to improve education across the country. We are also a Leading Edge school and a member of the International Boys Schools' Coalition, both groups of high-performing boys' schools nationally and around the world. This affiliation allows us to share experiences and learn from UK and international colleagues to improve the educational successes of boys.

> *"The school celebrates its long history which dates back to 1630, but it is forward-looking with a sharp focus on continuous improvement."*
>
> - Challenge Partners 2018

Our improvements are focused on ambitious outcomes for students, a rigorous focus on high-quality teaching, ensuring leadership and management throughout the school is outstanding, and underpinning this with a 'no excuses' culture when it comes to student behaviour.

We are a technology-rich environment, within which all members of the community have the opportunity to develop high levels of capability, confidence and competence in the integrated use and application of ICT. Every classroom is networked and all have interactive facilities in place. Self-evaluation is the key to fulfilling our improvement agenda.

School reviews consistently note how well we were aware of our own strengths and weaknesses. At our most recent visit (February 2017), Ofsted reported that "leaders are ambitious and have set robust targets to drive improvements."

Over the next five years, we intend to maintain and build on our existing strengths, setting ever more aspirational targets to ensure that our staff enjoy their work and our students achieve academic excellence, whilst developing into mature, considerate and confident young men.





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