



MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL
INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOL FOR BOYS 7 - 18 AND SIXTH FORM GIRLS



Information Pack

Part-time Teacher of Politics

Closing date: Midday, Tuesday February 4th

Interview date: Wednesday February 12th

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Introduction from the Master, Helen Pike

Magdalen College School is a remarkable place. We are now well into our sixth century, and our former pupils include scholars, war heroes, musicians, Olympians, two Nobel Prize laureates, a Hollywood film director, and a saint. Our success in public examinations, in securing places at top universities, and in an astonishing array of extra-curricular pursuits ensures that we continue this proud tradition. We do so by nurturing the individual potential of each of our pupils, and above all we believe that learning is as fun as it is fulfilling.



Magdalen College School was founded in 1480 by William of Waynflete: schoolmaster, bishop of Winchester and Lord Chancellor of England. Being of humble origins, Waynflete was determined that others of ability should be given the opportunity to learn, to serve and to prosper as he did. And so MCS offers a transformative education in our global university city, the community to which we contribute.

We attract and retain the best staff and MCS is a stimulating, welcoming and thriving environment in which both to learn and to work.

A lot happens at MCS. The various sections of our website (www.mcsoxford.org) including the recent [News](#) will give you an impression of our school.

Thank you for your interest.

H. C. Pike



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PART-TIME TEACHER OF POLITICS

General Information



The School

Magdalen College School, founded in 1480 by William of Waynflete, is one of the country's leading independent day schools. It is situated in an enviable location at the heart of Oxford beside the River Cherwell. It educates boys from 7 – 18, and girls in the Sixth Form.

The Role

The school is seeking to appoint a part-time (approx. 50%) Teacher of Politics from 1st September 2020 to teach A Level Politics to bright and enthusiastic pupils. The ability to teach History will be highly desirable. Further information on the post is included below.



Application Process

Candidates should submit the Application Form for Teaching Staff which can be found on the Job Vacancy link of the website (www.mcsoxford.org). To access [click here](#). This should be emailed together with a cv and covering letter of application to the Recruitment Officer, Mrs Sarah Hunter (applications@mcsoxford.org). All documentation should be sent no later than **midday Tuesday February 4th**. The school's preferred method of communication is by email and it will not be necessary to send a hard copy of the documents by post.

We anticipate holding interviews on Wednesday February 12th and will be in contact with shortlisted candidates by telephone. We reserve the right to change the interview date if necessary.

References may be taken up in advance. If you do not wish references to be called for at this stage, please make that clear on the reference section of the application form.

Safeguarding Policy

Magdalen College School is committed to the safeguarding of pupils, and any offer of employment will be subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure, the receipt of satisfactory references and the school's pre-employment medical questionnaire. We also require sight of relevant original ID documentation and degree certificate(s).



The Department

Politics is a dynamic and thriving department with expanding pupil numbers in the Sixth Form. We follow the AQA Exam Board specification at A-level with all public exams sat at the end of Upper Sixth. Pupils study the Government and Politics of the United Kingdom, the Government and Politics of the United States, Comparative Politics and Political Ideas (the latter of which focuses on the intellectual history and political theory of Liberalism, Conservatism, Socialism and Feminism).



The Politics Department achieves outstanding results in public examinations. Last year 37% of pupils achieved an A*, with 79% of results at A*-A. The department currently consists of two teachers and one Waynflete Academic.

Younger pupils who have not yet joined the Sixth Form, and pupils who do not study Politics A-Level, join

pupils of Politics in a diverse range academic, curricular and extra-curricular events, options and programmes.

The pupil-led Politics Society organises a regular cycle of lectures and workshops with invited academics, journalists and political activists. These are open to all pupils, and there is a further range of pupil societies which focus on political themes - from Model UN through Debating Society to FemSoc. There is a weekly Politics Reading Group, and many pupils in the Lower Sixth undertake a Waynflete Studies Project - the School's unique extended project taught in conjunction with members of the University - in Politics. Aspects of Government and Politics are taught to younger pupils through components of the Liliun (PSHCE) programme. We organise a number of excursions – to the Houses of Parliament and the Supreme Court, to the Rothermere American Institute during term time, and to Brussels, New York and Washington during vacations.

Every year a significant number of pupils go to university to read Politics and related disciplines, including *Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE)* and *Modern History and Politics (MHP)* at Oxford, and *Human, Social and Politics Sciences (HSPS)* at Cambridge. Extension work and support with university applications is a significant part of our work in the department.



The Candidate

The successful candidate will be required to teach Politics to A Level and Oxbridge and will have the energy, enthusiasm, experience and expertise to contribute significantly to this successful department.

Candidates short-listed for interview will be asked to teach an observed lesson when they come to the school. They will also be required to bring with them the necessary ID documentation and degree certificate(s), all of which must be originals. Further information on the observed lesson and documentation required will be provided with the invitation to interview.

In a lively day school, a willingness to contribute to other areas of school life, whether in the pastoral system, in games, music, drama, CCF or other activities, is always advantageous.

Benefits

MCS currently has its own salary scale, and salaries are substantially more generous than those in the maintained sector; there is also a relocation allowance on a sliding scale, by agreement with the Master and Bursar, and dependent on current location. The school also operates a cycle to work scheme, and travel loans are available. The school subscribes to the Teachers' Pension Scheme, in which all teaching staff are auto enrolled – there is, of course, an opt out, should this be preferred.

The school has a fully equipped gym which is available for staff use, and staff may also enjoy access to the University of Oxford's Rosenblatt Swimming Pool. Tennis courts are available, and there is a comprehensive programme of staff sports clubs, including football, climbing, yoga, Pilates, and badminton. Staff also have the opportunity to join choirs and music groups, and to get involved in drama productions.



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Staff are encouraged to make use of the Senior Common Room within and after the school day, as an area for relaxation and shared discussion outside departments. There is also a quiet room located close to the SCR where staff can work and study. Tea and Coffee are served in the SCR at morning break, Lunch is provided in the Dining Hall, and cakes and cut fruit are available in the SCR at the end of the school day. Staff socials, guest nights and Master's Drinks are regular features of each term.





Professional Development

The school places a significant emphasis on the professional development of all staff. A half termly CPD & Teaching Newsletter is distributed by email, which aims to highlight educational research and practical ideas, to share ideas from courses and conferences attended, to offer guidance on opportunities for CPD, and to highlight the work of colleagues in the area of teaching and learning. All colleagues are encouraged to attend at least one external CPD course each year, and also to visit another school, place of work or university, where appropriate.

The Teaching & Learning group meets before school twice per half term. Its purpose is to consider developments in educational research, to facilitate discussion of teaching and learning, to offer a forum for the sharing of good teaching practice, and to support colleagues in experimenting with new teaching techniques. There is also a programme of Learning Lunches each term for colleagues to share good practice. Colleagues who have been teaching for more than seven years (including a minimum of three years' service at MCS) may make an application for study leave for the second half of the Trinity term.

Waynflete Teaching Certificate

The School aims to offer teaching staff joining the school without a teaching qualification (UQTs) the opportunity to develop their teaching craft and reflect on their professional practice through a structured programme of training and support. For such colleagues, the school offers the Waynflete Teaching Certificate, which may ultimately lead to Qualified Teacher Status through the Assessment Only route offered by the University of Reading.

Additional Information

Please note that MCS is an inner-city school, with limited parking. Candidates who have been offered a post will be invited to make representations in the term preceding their arrival to the Usher (Senior Deputy Head) for a parking space. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Recruitment Officer: 01865 253401.