**EXETER SCHOOL**



**Head of Art**

**Maternity Cover**

#### From November 2017

**The Appointment**

Exeter School is a strong academic school and is especially recognised for its excellence in Drama, Music and Art. The Art Department is thriving in excellent facilities and its annual art exhibition is widely acclaimed.

The school seeks to appoint a full time Head of Art to cover the maternity leave of Mrs Alison Escott. This will start in November 2017. Applications are encouraged from teachers of any specialism, although the Department has a strong Fine Art bias.

The successful candidate will have the experience to lead the GCSE and A Level courses including the marking and moderation of coursework and examination elements in the senior three years. A willingness to contribute fully to the many extra-curricular elements of Art at Exeter School would also be desirable.

**The Art Department**

The Department is housed in two studios, which are well-equipped for a multi-disciplinary approach to teaching. There is also a printmaking area with a large etching press and a silkscreen printing bed. A Level pupils are allocated individual ‘pods’ within the studios to encourage independent work outside of lessons. The Department currently has three computers available to pupils for research and digital work. Both studios are equipped with data projectors and staff computers and there is a departmental office space with an additional work station. The school also has four excellent ICT suites which are bookable and widely available to pupils. The school network is well-managed and reliable and hosts a thriving Intranet for staff and pupil use.

The Department has continued to evolve over many years to provide a stimulating and exciting environment in which to work. It has its own purpose-built Gallery which is used to showcase the artwork of pupils, staff, Old Exonians and other institutions, such as WESC in Exeter.

The department is staffed by the Head of Art and a second full time Art teacher. There is also an Art Technician who currently works in the Art Department each morning to support the delivery of the curriculum and assist with the preparation for departmental events and activities.

**Curriculum**

In the Senior School, pupils are taught in form groups from Year 7 to Year 9. Pupils then opt for their GCSE subjects. At present, Years 7 – 9 are taught for half a year each, rotating between Art and Design Technology. Since classes are divided for this, they are smaller, averaging 11 or 12 pupils. Great emphasis is placed on the teaching of critical and contextual studies at every level from Year 7 upwards and therefore a secure knowledge of both traditional and contemporary Art is essential.

At GCSE and A Level, the AQA Fine Art syllabus is followed. Exam results in the subject are very good, with the majority of pupils achieving A\* - B grades at all levels. There has been considerable interest in pursuing careers in the Creative Arts and departmental staff help to prepare pupils for entry onto Art Foundation programmes and a wide range of Art-related or Architecture degree courses.

**Extra-Curricular**

The Art Department runs an ‘Open Studio’ policy which encourages GCSE and A Level pupils to make use of the facilities outside of timetabled lessons. Applicants must be willing to supervise pupils wishing to work in the Art studios during break times, lunchtimes and after school until at least 5pm each evening.

Life Drawing classes are well-established and run during the Autumn and Spring terms for Sixth Form artists after school. This is seen as a critical area of the teaching provision and applicants must be willing to teach on this programme. Junior Art Club (for pupils in Years 7 – 9) runs weekly and is managed by departmental staff.

The Department has a history of supporting theatrical events and regularly provides the imagery for posters and flyers to advertise school performances. The Art Department also helps set design, set painting, costumes, props and make-up.

The Department regularly runs trips to local and national galleries. There is an annual residential trip to St Ives for Year 11 pupils in the October half term break and this provides the stimulus for one of their GCSE coursework projects.

It is expected that the applicant will be keen to contribute fully to these areas of extra-curricular provision.