

# Application Pack

for the position of

Teacher of History and  
Geography

For September 2021 (if available)  
or January 2022

## About St George's

St George's is an independent boarding and day school with approximately 270 pupils aged from 11-18 years about 45% of whom are boarders (both full and tailored) and with a Sixth Form of approximately 80 pupils. The school operates as an Educational Trust administered by a Board of Governors, is a member of the Girls' Schools Association (GSA), Boarding Schools Association (BSA), and is ISC accredited.

We are a welcoming school with a warm sense of community and visitors often comment on the perceptible supportive and cheerful atmosphere. We believe that a happy and successful school is one where all pupils have the opportunities to develop their strengths. The richness of opportunities within and outside the classroom are fundamental elements of the St George's experience and this allows the girls to foster the confidence, independence and academic curiosity that lead to success. Our academic results are impressive, with the 'value-added' in public examinations a real strength. We understand how girls learn effectively and we regularly add at least one grade higher at GCSE and A Level than baseline testing would suggest.

Over the past two years at GCSE, St George's has been placed in the top 5 to 10% of schools nationally for value added.



#SGACapable  
#SGAConfident  
#SGAConnected

    
@stgeorgesascot

## Our location

The School is approximately 25 miles west of central London, on a beautiful, leafy 30 acre site, within walking distance of Ascot High Street. We are close to Windsor, Eton and Bracknell and equidistant from the M3 and M4 motorways. Ascot High Street can be reached on foot in five minutes while Ascot Railway Station is less than a mile away.

All facilities are on site and include, amongst others, a state-of-the-art 350 seat theatre, three boarding houses, a sports hall, squash courts and gym, spacious library, Science centre, photographic, textiles and art studios, 6 floodlit netball/tennis courts, extensive sports pitches and a 25m 6 lane indoor swimming pool.



## Academic Results

We aim to get the very best from each girl and Georgians are encouraged to work conscientiously and to the best of their ability as well as get involved in the wider school community and all the activities that are on offer in the busy co-curricular programme. This, combined with committed and inspirational teaching, delivers excellent GCSE and A Level results. Our pupils achieved the following results in 2020:

A Level: 69% A\*-A, 99% pass rate

GCSE: 45% 9/8 or A\*, 65% 9-7 or A\*-A, 94% 9-4 or A\*-C

## The History Department

The Head of Department and three other specialist members of staff teach in the History Department. The Department has two well-equipped classrooms dedicated to the teaching of History, as well as a well-stocked departmental library and a storage room.

The objective of the History Department is to create an atmosphere in which both pupils and staff can achieve their own maximum potential in such a way that encourages learning, stimulates a love for History, and achieves success in examinations. We seek to deliver a lively and diverse curriculum to all of our pupils.

The following History examination specifications are followed:

Pearson (Edexcel) IGCSE History

Pearson (Edexcel) A Level History

Pearson (Edexcel) A Level Politics (Politics is not required for this role)

The Department runs trips for all year groups to provide an opportunity to visit different sites and develop their understanding of the historical context. For example, pupils in the Fourth and Fifth years (Years 10-11) visit Berlin to complement their studies on Nazi Germany and the Cold War. Sixth Form girls have the unique opportunity of visiting Washington DC and studying at William and Mary College in Williamsburg for a week during the October half term holiday.

In addition, the History Department is responsible for Debating both within school and in competitions with other schools, as well as taking part in Model United Nations conferences.

The specific aims of the History Department are as follows:

- To foster a love of History through providing a stimulating learning environment, and to pursue that love through further reading and investigation as well as further study at higher levels
- To deliver high quality, creative and stimulating teaching, influenced by modern methods, which ensure a high level of engagement and help to develop independent and effective learners
- To teach pupils an excellent and diverse range of History throughout their time at the school as well as the skills of oral and written communication, and an ability to analyse and to evaluate written sources
- To encourage pupils to take responsibility for their own learning
- To offer (working in liaison with the SEN, EAL and AGT staff) support and help where necessary to pupils in all years who experience difficulties, or require greater stretch
- To maximise the potential of all pupils to achieve the highest standards through their being offered stimulating schemes of work which ensure differentiated learning (where necessary), continuity and progress



## The Geography Department

In addition to History teaching, the successful candidate will be required to teach Geography at Key Stage 3, and possibly at GCSE for the right candidate. Geography is taught by the Head of Department and one other specialist member of staff. The Department is well resourced and has two classrooms dedicated to the teaching of the subject, as well as a departmental office.

The Geography department prides itself on engaging pupils with a challenging, inclusive and diverse curriculum, aiming to cultivate curious and independent learners. The Department is passionate about Geography, as well as teaching high quality and exciting lessons, allowing pupils to become skillful and curious geographers. We aim to stretch the minds of gifted and talented pupils, and to support those who require help. We aim to ensure that every girl achieves their potential and aims for the very best. We believe that fieldwork is a crucial element of course delivery.

The First Year (Year 7) study the UK, map skills, rivers and flooding, Africa and geographical skills.

In the Second Year (Year 8) the girls study Coastal Landscapes, Weather and Climate, Our Warming Planet and Ecosystems.

Girls in the Third Year (Year 9) study the Middle East and hot deserts, population and development, and natural earth hazards.

The following Geography examination specifications are followed:

AQA GCSE Geography

OCR A Level Geography

The Geography Department runs trips for all year groups to provide an opportunity to visit different sites and develop their understanding of the historical context. The First Year usually visit Henley River and Rowing Museum and carry out an investigation into flood risk in Henley and the surrounding area. The Second Year visit 'The Living Rainforest' in order to further investigate the adaptations of rainforest plants and animals, whilst the Third Year visit the Natural History Museum in order to carry out plate tectonics investigation and are involved in a practical workshop to consolidate their understanding. At GCSE the pupils attend both physical and human fieldwork trips, where they learn a range of geographical skills and carry out investigations on changing river characteristics on the River Tillingbourne and the regeneration of Leatherhead town centre. At A Level the pupils experience a five day residential trip to West Somerset, where they investigate a range of issues, in order to prepare for their NEA.

The specific aims of the Geography Department are as follows:

1. To deliver high quality and stimulating teaching, influenced by modern methods. Lessons should allow all learners to succeed but also to take risks, and encourage curiosity and a love of the subject.
2. To promote up-to-date subject content, developing pupils' understanding of the world. This should include current issues and ensure diversity is at the heart of our content.

This includes:

- a. Helping pupils understand the scientific principles of physical geography
  - b. Helping pupils understand the social and economic principles of human geography
  - c. Helping pupils to understand the interactions between these geographies
3. To challenge and support pupils so that they become skilled geographers.

This includes:

- a. Developing pupils' geographical knowledge with a wide range of topics
- b. Developing pupils' application of geographical theories
- c. Developing pupils' use of geographical skills

## Responsibilities

**The following are the key duties and responsibilities:**

The role is to provide inspirational teaching of History and Geography in the curriculum and as part of the co-curricular provision.

Given the nature of the role, and the need to be flexible and adaptable, this is not an exhaustive list and all the School's job descriptions include the following "Other duties from time to time as directed by the Headmistress".

The teacher of History and Geography will be line managed by the Head of History and the Head of Geography on a day to day basis.

### Teaching staff responsibilities

- Teach History in the curriculum for iGCSE and possibly A Level examinations.
- Teach History and Geography in the curriculum at Key Stage 3, and possibly GCSE Geography.
- Teach Classical Civilisation to Third Year (Year 9).
- Encourage pupils' learning and engender enthusiasm for the subjects.
- Set and mark class work, prep work, in-year assessments, end-of-year examinations and entrance examinations.
- Keep records of work covered and pupils' progress.

- Attend parents' evenings for all classes taught.
- Prepare pupil reports in line with the school's protocol
- Attend Continuing Professional Development courses
- Attend all Staff and Department meetings including INSET at the start of each term
- Attend Open mornings and Education Days on occasional Saturdays if required
- Act in the capacity of Tutor
- Run a weekly co-curricular activity after school
- Take prep duty after school, on approximately three evenings per term
- Carry out a weekly break or lunch time duty
- Maintain a positive and professional approach with parents and colleagues
- Actively promote good behaviour amongst pupils
- Organise and participate in educational visits
- Cover for absent colleagues
- Be a member of one of the school's Houses, attend House meetings, House events and the annual House Party
- Positively promote the school in the community including outreach work with local maintained schools and other organisations
- Support departmental colleagues in the consistent use of pupil rewards and sanctions
- Attend some occasions such as concerts, plays, matches and other parent/staff social events as required

### **Person specification**

The successful candidate should

- Be passionate about their subjects, forward thinking and show a real desire to motivate pupils of all abilities
- Hold an undergraduate degree in History and/or Geography or a closely-related discipline (applications from experienced teachers or NQTs are welcomed)
- Be a qualified teacher (holding QTS or its equivalent) or have equivalent experience
- Have a record of outstanding classroom teaching of History and Geography at Key Stage 3 and History at GCSE. The ability to offer A Level History would be an advantage.
- Be able to demonstrate excellent subject knowledge
- Be able to demonstrate excellent leadership and teamwork skills with the ability to motivate others
- Be an excellent oral and written communicator
- Ability to maintain a positive and professional approach when dealing with parents and colleagues
- Promote high standards of education, care and behaviour
- Be able to use ICT for a range of administrative and teaching purposes
- Display strong interpersonal skills

- Demonstrate sound judgement and discretion
- Be well-organised and have the ability to plan effectively, clearly and well ahead, whilst being able to juggle successfully multiple tasks of varying size and importance
- Be flexible and adaptable when going about his/her work
- Have energy, commitment and stamina
- Have a good sense of humour and be able to work effectively as part of a team
- Be sympathetic towards the ethos of a busy boarding and day school

## Salary and Benefits

- Start date:** September 2021 or January 2022.
- Salary:** St George's operates its own generous salary scheme.
- Pension:** All teaching staff will be auto enrolled in the APTIS pension scheme unless they opt out.
- Hours of work:** This is a full-time teaching post. There will be a requirement to attend routine teaching events such as parents' evenings, staff training days preceding each term and Open Days and Educational Days (as notified).
- Notice Periods:** The notice period required by either side to terminate your employment will be one full term.
- Facilities:** Lunch is provided free of charge during term time. Members of staff can use the School's sports facilities at allocated times. There is free on-site parking. The post holder's children may, upon passing the entrance assessments, be eligible at the discretion of the Governors for a reduction on the basic tuition fees.

## The Process

Letters of application to Mrs Hewer, Head, should be no more than two sides of A4 and, together with the completed application form should be emailed to [recruitment@stgeorges-ascot.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@stgeorges-ascot.org.uk) and reach the School by **9am Monday 24 May**.

First round interviews will be held online via Google Meet on Tuesday 25 May, followed by final round interviews in School later that week. The School reserves the right to interview suitable candidates before that date, if deemed necessary.

St George's School is committed to safeguarding the welfare of children at the School. Therefore, this appointment will be subject to a successful disclosure check from the Disclosure and Barring Service. This will give details of all spent and unspent convictions and other recordable matters. A policy on the recruitment of ex-offenders is available, if required, from the School Office. The supplied references will be taken up and the School may approach previous employers for information to verify particular experience or qualifications. A medical questionnaire will be required to be completed by the successful candidate.

