MAGDALEN
COLLEGE SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOL
BOYS 7-18 & SIXTH FORM GIRLS



Information Pack

Teacher of Mathematics

To start September 2021
(January 2022 start will be considered)

Closing Date: Midday, Tuesday 25th May

Interview date: Friday 28th May

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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.

William of Waynflete founded Magdalen College School in 1480: 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. L. Pike

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TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS

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 well-qualified Mathematician from 1st September 2021. (A January 2022 start will be considered for the right candidate). The role would be suitable for an experienced teacher, a Newly Qualified Teacher (NQT), or someone without a teaching qualification, who might be interested in pursuing the School's Waynflete Teaching Certificate, which can lead to Qualified Teacher Status (QTS).



The Mathematics Department, which has expanded significantly in recent years, consists of 15 teachers. The successful candidate will be required to teach across senior school year groups, from Second Form (Year 7) to Further Maths A Level and Oxbridge preparation. The role could include some Computer Science teaching, but this would not be a requirement.

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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 and addressed to the Recruitment Officer, Mrs Sarah Hunter, at email address shunter@mcsoxford.org. All documentation should be sent no later than Midday, Tuesday 25th May. We anticipate holding interviews on Friday 28th May and will be in contact with shortlisted candidates by telephone. 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.

References may be taken up in advance, although this does not necessarily mean that a candidate will be called for interview. 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, the school's pre-employment medical questionnaire, plus sight of relevant original ID documentation and degree certificate(s).

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The Department

Mathematics is currently the most popular A Level in the school: 55 (33%) of this year's Lower Sixth have chosen to study Further Mathematics and a further 77 (46%) have chosen Single Maths. The department has nine dedicated Maths classrooms and a well-resourced departmental office. All classrooms are equipped with an interactive screen that wirelessly mirrors the teacher's Microsoft Surface. Autograph and Geogebra are installed on computers in classrooms and study areas around the site.



Pupils are taught in mixed ability classes in the Second Form (Year 7) and are thereafter taught in sets from Third Form (Year 8) to Fifth Form (Year 11). At all times we encourage mathematical development and confidence through a combination of experimentation, discovery, explanation, practice and experience.

Rayner Essential Maths 7H is the main text book used in the Second Form (Year 7), Alexander Maths for Common Entrance Three is used for Third Form (Year 8), and Pearson's Edexcel IGCSE Maths Book 1 is used for Lower Fourth (Year 9). These are supplemented by Tony Gardiner's extension books as well as other resources including puzzles and games. There is plenty of scope for pupils to experience topics beyond the National Curriculum syllabus within these years, and the focus is on developing problem solving techniques alongside extending mathematical skills.

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The current examination courses are Edexcel IGCSE Mathematics, OCR Additional Mathematics, and OCR MEI Mathematics and Further Mathematics A Levels. The department subscribes to the MEI Integral website, and these resources, as well as a large variety of others, are used throughout A Level teaching and to provide additional challenge in the IGCSE years.

There is an emphasis on problem solving throughout all of our teaching; puzzles, team games and challenges are used regularly within the classroom.



Academic standards are high and results were as follows last year. In IGCSE: 66% grade 9, 91% grade 9-8, and 98% grade 9-7. In Additional Maths: 60% A, and 76% A-B. In A Level Maths: 47% A*, 78% A*-A, and 94% A*-B. At A Level Further Maths: 43% A*, 77% A*-A, and 91% A*-B. In recent years 5-10 pupils have applied for Mathematics degrees annually, and a good number are successful at gaining Oxbridge offers. A high number of Sixth Form pupils choose a mathematical or related subject for Waynflete Studies, the School's unique extended project, taught in conjunction with members of the university.

In national Mathematical Challenges, MCS pupils win large numbers of gold, silver and bronze certificates, and significant numbers qualify for Olympiads. In 2018-19 there were 46 golds for the Senior Mathematical Challenge (14 qualified for the British Mathematical Olympiad), 59 golds for the Intermediate Mathematical Challenge (8 qualified for the Intermediate Mathematical Olympiad), and 52 golds for the Junior Mathematical Olympiad (5 qualified for the Junior Mathematical Olympiad). In 2018 our Junior UKMT Team Challenge Team were national runners-up, and the Senior Team took the same honours in 2017.

Pupils are also encouraged to enter the National Cipher Challenge, with an MCS team coming third nationally in 2017.

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We aim to inspire pupils into further studies in Mathematics by taking Sixth Form pupils (and interested Year 11) to the monthly lectures at the University of Oxford's Maths Institute and Year 10 pupils to Maths Inspiration lectures. We also run Maths clubs at lunchtimes and very popular Maths Pairs Competitions after school for three different age groups.

Outreach is a central part of the department's activities and ethos, and we work closely with the local community. We work closely with AMSP (Advanced Maths Support Programme), and as part of this we host an afternoon of Oxbridge interview practice for Oxfordshire state schools. The School runs an annual Gifted and Talented Week for Year 5 pupils from local primary schools, and Maths is a regular and popular contributor to this event. We also run a well-established Primary Maths Challenge Day for Year 5 and 6 pupils from local Primary Schools. Through the School's Community Service Organisation, Lower Sixth pupils have the opportunity to help with numeracy and mathematics teaching at local primary schools and an FE College. We invite local secondary school pupils to our University Admissions Test Preparation Sessions, and have recently started to offer a Homework Club for a local secondary school. We are now looking to offer extension classes and resources for gifted pupils in local primary and secondary schools, as well as becoming a hub for CPD for local primary and secondary teachers.

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The Candidate

The successful candidate will be a well-qualified Mathematician who will be prepared to take a share of the teaching of the subject at all levels. Above all, he/she will be enthusiastic about the subject as a whole and be prepared to participate in our extra-curricular and outreach events. The Teacher of Mathematics will report to the Head of Maths, and ultimately to the Master via the Deputy Head (Academic) for the proper discharge of his/her duties. 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.

Candidates shortlisted for interview will 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.

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 offers private medical cover and 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. School fee remission for full time staff sons (from Junior School through to Sixth Form) and staff daughters (Sixth Form) who pass entrance tests for the school is currently 50%; this operates on a pro-rata basis for part time staff. In addition, Headington School currently allows full time staff daughters who pass entrance tests for the school a 20% remission. (Headington fee remission also operates on a pro-rata basis for part time staff, and is only available to permanent staff with a Full Time Equivalent of 50% or over).

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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.

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.



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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 though 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.

TRINITY 2021