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# English Curriculum Team Leader

**Contract Type: Full Time, Permanent**

**Required for: September 2023**

**Salary: TLR1(2)**

**Closing Date for applications: 10am, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**Interview date: w/b 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

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This is an outstanding opportunity to join one of Oxfordshire's most successful schools. Wallingford School is an oversubscribed, 11-18 school with enthusiastic students, supportive staff and great facilities. We have an excellent reputation, enjoying strong support from parents and students, and a good and growing working relationship with the local community.

We are among the most successful schools in the country for progress in English and Maths. In 2022, 83% of our students achieved at least a Grade 4 in English and Maths at GCSE, almost 40% of all grades achieved were at Grade 7 or above and 9% of all entries gained a Grade 9. At KS5, our A Level students are consistently in the top 25% nationally for Value Added progress. In our most recent results, 73% of all entries gained A\*- B grades and 43% of all entries gained A\*- A, including 15% at A\*.

These results are great, but our school is about much more than just exams. We are an inclusive school which – as the only secondary school in the town – is determined to serve its local community well. Comprehensive school values are important to us. Students of all abilities thrive at Wallingford and we pride ourselves on giving students a chance who may not have had one at other schools.

Staff – both teaching and associate – are happy at Wallingford. Professional development is hugely important to us and our programme is varied but also bespoke to support individual needs and priorities. There are many opportunities for teachers to work collaboratively across the school. Our annual two-day Teaching and Learning Conference is the highlight of this programme. Student attitudes and behaviour are excellent and are frequently commented upon by visitors as being so. It is an excellent place to work and we are committed to staff wellbeing and a healthy work-life balance for all our colleagues. The successful applicant should expect to be very well supported in their professional development.

We are looking to appoint a team leader for English with the ability to deliver both an engaging curriculum and exceptional results for our students. The successful candidate will know how to oversee the development and implementation of inspiring and challenging programmes of study. They will also understand the importance of effective data analysis, assessment systems and monitoring to ensure pupil progress. Their understanding of high-quality teaching and learning will enable them to support and guide our team of talented and committed teachers to build on their existing record of success.

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## THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

English has a record of success at all key stages (2022: GCSE English Language 85% 4+, 69% 5+ and 30% 7+ and GCSE English Literature 78% 4+, 67% 5+) and a successful uptake for English Literature at KS5 (2022: English Literature 85% A\*-B).

The English Department is a strong team of specialist teachers with excellent results at all levels and it is no coincidence that English is regularly cited as a “favourite” subject by students. You would be leading a team of passionate teachers who show all round ability and dedication. In addition to scheduled meetings, the team frequently enjoy gathering informally to share resources and ideas. There are currently post holders within the team for each key stage and, from September '23, the curriculum co-ordinator for Media Studies will also be linked to the English team as will the school's literacy lead.

The team like and respect each other; there is a lot of support involved in the day-to-day work and in participation in the wider life of the school. The English rooms and office are grouped together close to the staffroom, main office and photocopiers.

## THE CURRICULUM

### Key Stage 3

KS3 students are taught in mixed-ability groups. We all follow a negotiated schedule of units and there are central resources on the school portal for each unit to which we contribute new ideas. This system allows a welcome degree of professional autonomy. Work is assessed using our own Wallingford levels, focusing on major skills.

### Key Stage 4

At KS4 we follow AQA specifications for English Language and English Literature, entering almost all pupils for both. Students have five lessons per week and are taught in mixed-ability groups. Some students have interventions after school in small groups.

### Key Stage 5

English Literature (for which we follow OCR specifications) has traditionally been a popular subject choice in the sixth-form. Students regularly comment that they enjoy the challenge of being forced to think, remarking that they cannot be passive learners in this subject.

## SELECTION CRITERIA

### Essential:

The successful candidate will:

- Hold Qualified Teacher Status
- Have an Enhanced DBS Certificate (originally known as a CRB)
- Be able to lead and develop the teaching and learning of English successfully across the ability range and up to KS5
- Gain successful results, believing that our pupils are capable of achieving high standards
- Be fully conversant with the demands of the curriculum at KS3-5

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- Be a good, enthusiastic team member
- Be a reflective practitioner, who has the potential to develop his/her own career further
- Have the ability to communicate effectively with staff, parents and students

### **Desirable:**

The successful candidate will:

- Have unquenchable enthusiasm for English
- Believe that students are capable of high standards, and expect them to achieve
- Have the capacity to develop our pupils both in lesson time and beyond
- Enjoy working as part of a team and sharing expertise
- Motivate, inspire and support the English team
- Be keen to contribute to the development of the department
- Be keen to contribute to the work of curriculum team leads across school
- Be keen to contribute to working parties on topics such as teaching and learning; assessment
- Have competent ICT skills

## **GENERAL DUTIES**

At Merchant Taylors' Oxfordshire Academy Trust we pride ourselves on providing a safe and happy environment where young people can flourish and we want to send every young person into the world able and qualified to play their full part within it. This job description should be read in conjunction with the current School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document and the provisions of that document will apply to the post holder.

Merchant Taylors' Oxfordshire Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All successful candidates will be subject to Criminal Records Bureau checks along with other relevant employment checks.

You will be expected to carry out the professional duties of a teacher as outlined in the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document currently in operation, or any subsequent legislation. The performance of all the duties and responsibilities shown below will be under the reasonable direction of the Headteacher, or other Senior Manager if appropriate, who will be mindful of his/her duty to ensure that the employee has a reasonable workload and sufficient support to carry out the duties of the post.

The successful candidate will be expected to be a form tutor and on Friday mornings help with the delivery of the school's PSHE programme.

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Teaching and Learning:

1. Plan, prepare and deliver high quality lessons to students at Key Stages 3, 4 and 5.
2. Report on progress and any concerns to line manager and parents.
3. Contribute to curriculum development work of the team.

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## **TEACHERS PENSION DETAILS**

The link for teaching staff to the Teachers' Pension website is:

<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/>

## **TERMS & CONDITIONS**

Merchant Taylors' Oxfordshire Academy Trust employs teaching staff working at Wallingford School on the conditions of service contained in the General Terms and Conditions of Employment for Teaching Staff which can be found at <http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/teachers-conditions-employment>

*Please see our privacy notice:*

<http://www.wallingfordschool.com/index.php/documents/category/24-privacy-notice>

## **TO APPLY**

**Please complete the attached application form and email to [recruit@wallingfordschool.com](mailto:recruit@wallingfordschool.com)**

**Interviews are planned to take place w/b 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**We look forward to receiving your application**

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