TEACHER OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Contract Type: Permanent / Full Time
Required for: September 2025
Closing Date for applications: 10am 24th January 2025

This is an outstanding opportunity to join one of Oxfordshire's most successful schools. Wallingford School is an oversubscribed, successful 11-18 school with enthusiastic students, supportive staff and excellent facilities. We are among the most successful schools in the country for progress in English and Maths. In 2024, 71% of our students achieved at least a Grade 4 in English and Maths at GCSE, 54% achieved at least a Grade 5 in English and Maths and 30% of all grades achieved were at Grade 7 or above. Vocational grades were similarly impressive, 78% of entries gained at least a Level 2 Pass and 22% at a Distinction or Distinction*.

At KS5, our A Level students are consistently in the top 25% nationally for Value Added progress. In our most recent results, 53% of all entries gained A*- B grades and 23% of all entries gained A*- A. In Vocational qualifications, 44% of all entries gained at least a Distinction, with 19% gaining a Distinction*.

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 important to us and our programme is varied but also bespoke to support individual needs and priorities. Our annual Teaching and Learning Conference is probably 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 COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

This is an exciting opportunity to join a small but truly talented, dedicated, and friendly team of teachers. All students study STEM at KS3 and Computer Science is a consistently popular option for our students at KS4. In 2024, 64% of the entries awarded were at least a Grade 5 and almost half of all entries (48%) were awarded at Grade 7 or above. There is also a strong extra-curricular offer including trips to Williams Racing and Harwell Laboratories as well as competing in the Cyberfirst Girls competition.

Sending every young person into the world able and qualified

THE CURRICULUM

KS3
STEM is taught to years 7, 8 and 9 and students develop a variety of skills including coding in blocks and script (mostly Python). In addition to coding, Year 7 study additional topics such as farming, astronomy and spreadsheets; Year 8 study STEM elements of music and cyber security; Year 9 study animation (using Blender software) and mobile app development.

KS4
Students study Edexcel Computer Science. The syllabus has two main components:

- A written exam on topics such as Computational Thinking, Computer Hardware and Software, and Networking (1.5 hours)

- A practical examination - taken on PCs - that tests students in Python across a range of coding skills (2 hours)

We use Thonny as our main coding platform for Component 2 and this is what students use in their final practical as well. We also other platforms (SmartRevise.online, trinket.io and codio) to support student learning across both examinations.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The successful candidate will:
- Hold Qualified Teacher Status
- Have an Enhanced DBS Certificate
- 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
- Believe that students are capable of high standards, and expects them to achieve
- Have the capacity to develop our pupils both in History and beyond
- Enjoy working as part of a team and sharing expertise
- Be keen to contribute to the development of the department
- Ideally have a good grasp of Python coding and Computational Thinking

GENERAL DUTIES

At The 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. The 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. In addition to support from within the department, newly appointed staff are able to benefit from the induction support programme.

You will find many opportunities at Wallingford Schools Academy Trust and we look forward to receiving your application.

TEACHERS PENSION DETAILS
The link for teaching staff to the Teachers' Pension website is:
https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/

TERMS & CONDITIONS
The Merchant Taylors Oxfordshire Academy Trust employs teaching staff working at Wallingford Schools Academy 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-notices

TO APPLY

Further information and an application form can be found on our school website at www.wallingfordschool.com or telephone us on 01491 829722 or e-mail us at recruit@wallingfordschool.com