



Tunbridge Wells Girls' Grammar School

# Temporary Teacher of English

## Information for Candidates

Start: February - May 2025



# Welcome from the Headteacher

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TWGGS is a forward-looking school embracing traditional values. We aim to provide pupils with a full and balanced education for life within a caring environment. Our consistent and outstanding academic record demonstrates this but, more importantly, reflects the commitment and qualification of our teachers supported by the hard work and determination of our pupils.

“The school has exceptionally high expectations of all pupils, which they consistently meet. Across the curriculum, pupils keenly engage in challenging subject content. Staff foster a love of each subject so that all pupils thrive in their phase and are well prepared for their next stages of learning. As a result, pupils enjoy school. They excel academically and flourish as well-rounded individuals.”

*Ofsted, September 2023*

“Working together towards high standards is part of the school ethos which encourages every pupil to achieve their full potential in public examinations, sports and artistic, cultural and community pursuits. The special, successful community in which these activities take place allows pupils to feel supported, happy and safe, and it is one which we feel very privileged to be a part of. We look forward to welcoming you to TWGGS.”

*Katie Marchant, Headteacher*

## The confidence to achieve your full potential

The motto of our school has long been 'Give your best' and it is an approach that we encourage our pupils to take in everything that they do. We believe our environment of mutual respect affords every member of the TWGGS community the confidence to achieve their full potential in all aspects of school life. Our approaches to teaching and learning support the individual needs of pupils, while we are sensitive and responsive to the wellbeing of every child.

- **Community**

Achievements and contributions are valued and celebrated in all areas, both in and out of school, encouraging our pupils to succeed in public examinations, sports, and artistic, cultural and community pursuits. We believe that parents and carers are key partners in nurturing our pupils and aiming for this success and we involve them at every stage. By participating in our extensive programme of enrichment beyond the classroom, each pupil is encouraged to enjoy the pleasure and rewards which come from the activities themselves and from the sense of community that they engender.

- **Challenge**

We have very high expectations of all members of the school community. Our pupils enter the doors with high baselines and, as a grammar school, we encourage them to push themselves to achieve their true potential. Our staff prepare challenging lessons, and content is constantly refreshed to remain contemporary. Throughout their time at TWGGS, we prepare young people for life beyond school, equipping them with the skills to become self-assured, engaged and responsible members of society, in a challenging and competitive world.

- **Character**

We value the individual and ensure that all pupils are catered for. Working together towards high standards is part of the school ethos and values, and we balance these high expectations with warmth and support. The wellbeing of all is at the heart of our approach, allowing pupils to feel respected, included, secure and, above all, happy. With happiness comes the self-confidence to strive and achieve, both academically and personally.

# Job Profile

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We are looking for a dynamic and enthusiastic teacher to join the English department, which is one of the largest in the school. There are currently eight members of the English teaching staff; all are subject specialists. The post is part-time, teaching English Language and Literature to Years 7-10, including to GCSE level, across three days per week, at 0.5-0.6 FTE.st

English at Tunbridge Wells Girls' Grammar School (TWGGS) is a thriving and extremely popular subject which achieves outstanding results at all levels. At GCSE 60% of pupils in 2024 gained grades 9-7 for both English Literature English Language; at A level 44% of pupils gained A\*/A, with 72% gaining A\*-B. English is a popular subject at A level with consistently strong cohort numbers of 70 to 80 pupils across the Lower and Upper Sixth each year. A number of A level pupils go on to study English and related subjects at top universities with notable success.

There are six purpose-built English teaching rooms equipped with whiteboards and visualizers and we have an extremely well-stocked library of teaching texts in a dedicated English Office. In addition to these facilities, there is a well-resourced and spacious library and there are four ICT rooms in the main school buildings.

All English teachers are expected to be able to teach all key stages and to cater for the needs of a large number of gifted and talented students. In Years 7-9, students follow schemes of work that cover the requirements of the National Curriculum but also aim to challenge, enthuse and extend. Over the course of each year, a Shakespeare play, a novel, a modern play, a selection of poetry, short stories and a variety of media and non-fiction texts are studied. A creative and analytical assessment is completed within the course of each of these units of work. At GCSE, students currently follow the AQA specifications for GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature. In the Sixth Form, pupils follow the Edexcel A Level Literature specification.

The department offers a wide range of extra-curricular activities at all key stages, enriching the three skills areas of English: speaking and listening, reading and writing. We have thriving reading groups, including participation in the Carnegie Medal shadowing scheme; a creative writing club run by sixth form pupils; and a sixth form literary appreciation society. We aim to take each year group on an educational visit: for example, Year 7 have recently visited Regent's Park to see a performance of a Shakespeare play; sixth formers have taken part in the English & Media Centre's *Poems of the Decade* conference in London; and GCSE pupils have taken part in workshops at the British Library. There is also an exciting programme of other events: for example, World Book Day celebrations for Year 7 and our annual Shakespeare Festival for Year 8.

The post arises as a result of planned staff illness and offers an exciting opportunity for an enthusiastic candidate to join a highly successful, supportive and inspirational department, building even further on its success. We are looking for a candidate who is passionate about the subject, an outstanding classroom teacher and keen to join a department eager to inspire pupils to develop their skills to the very highest level.

TWGGS is an 11 – 18 girls' selective school of about a thousand pupils, where girls are encouraged to be as active beyond the curriculum as they are within it. Trips, visits and extra-curricular activities are unrivalled in the state sector, but, more importantly, it is an amazingly happy, positive community to be part of. The prospectus is on the school's website which may be found at [www.twggs.kent.sch.uk](http://www.twggs.kent.sch.uk); and will, we hope, give you a feel for the atmosphere and ethos of TWGGS.

TWGGS is a diverse and inclusive school and we aim to recruit talented individuals from all backgrounds who add value to our pupils and who share our vision and ethos. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. As such, the successful applicant will be required to undertake a criminal record check via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

- At least one member of each interview panel will have completed Safer Recruitment Training and understanding of child safeguarding will be asked at every interview.
- References will be taken up at the selection stage and an enhanced DBS is required for all applicants.
- We will also carry out online searches for all shortlisted candidates related to suitability to work with children.

TWGGS is an equal opportunities employer and an Ofsted Outstanding school (September 2023).

# How to apply

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The deadline for applications is 12 noon on **Thursday 23 January 2025**.

Application is by completion of the TWGGS application form, accompanied by a supporting letter; this should outline your skills, strengths and experience, stating how you feel these suit you for the post.

Further information about TWGGS and an application form can be found on our [website](#)

Should you have any questions, please contact Mrs Michelle Clarke, Headteacher's PA at [admin@twggs.kent.sch.uk](mailto:admin@twggs.kent.sch.uk)



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