



Head of Maths
Meopham School
Information



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Welcome

At Meopham School, we are on an incredible journey to excellence.

My name is Ethan Roberts and I am very proud to be the new Headteacher at this fantastic school. I want to thank you for taking the time to read through this recruitment pack and learn more about the exciting opportunity we have available.

In short, I want Meopham School to be a school like no other. In order to achieve that, I need a team of Curriculum Leaders that are like no other too. If you are an innovator - someone with energy, drive, passion - keen to embrace new ideas and challenge conventional thinking, then we want to hear from you. We need a Head of Maths with the tenacity and drive to be a catalyst of change within this school community.

For several years, the school has enjoyed some fantastic Maths results, thanks to the strong leadership of the department. Our Head of Maths now moves on for promotion elsewhere, so we are looking for someone to take over the mantle and grow our Maths department from strength to strength. I don't need to tell you how important securing excellent Maths results is for young people as they embark upon their careers. It is absolutely vital that we employ someone of real talent and skill to inspire our children and make a real impact on their lives. We are looking for someone who truly loves Maths, can share that passion with our young people and make them believe that anything is possible with tenacity and hard work.

As a key middle leader within the school, you will of course be a fundamental part of our future at the school and we are committed to investing in the future career of the right candidate. Should you wish to gain further experience, we will have opportunities available for secondment to senior leadership and also a funded place on the National Professional Qualification for Senior Leadership. We believe passionately in growing our own, and whether your ambition is to become a stalwart Head of Maths that drives the department forward, or you have aspirations to move towards senior leadership, we will define a career path for you.

Meopham School is a vibrant and ambitious 11-18 school with a strong community ethos. This helps create a supportive and inspiring climate for success. Students at Meopham School are valued and nurtured as individuals. In April 2023 Ofsted awarded the school with a 'Good' grading in all areas, drawing attention to the fact that, "pupils are proud to attend this inclusive and positive school. They value the supportive and nurturing relationships they have with staff." We have exceptionally high standards where we value the hard work which makes it possible for every student and staff member to fulfil their potential. We are proud that visitors to our school often comment on the mature and courteous manner in which our students present themselves.

We are proud that Meopham students are also curious in their learning, resilient in overcoming difficulty, and are confident in evaluating their own progress. As a consequence they are ambitious to achieve academic and personal success, both in school and the world beyond.

Our Vision

At Meopham School, we work in unity to create an exciting future for every individual, by instilling a culture of tenacity and excellence that both respects and truly improves the lives of all those within our school community.

To achieve our vision, we place the recruitment, retention and professional development of teachers as a top priority. We want teachers with the drive, passion and enthusiasm to motivate and inspire our young people, who have the highest expectations of both themselves and the students in their classes. We want teachers who love their subject, love working with young people and are motivated by the goal of improving the lives of those around them.

Our Values

At Meopham School, we have four TRUE values that we expect everyone - students, staff, parents, carers - to live by everyday, as we know it is these values that are needed to form an excellent school community, and ultimately to develop a young person into an excellent young adult.

Welcome

Tenacity - we do not give up when things get tough. We know that sometimes in life we face challenges and we recognise that these challenges are opportunities for growth. When life knocks us down, we pick ourselves up, we dust ourselves off and we try again. We believe in a bright future and that we create our own destinies. We don't expect things to be handed to us on a plate. It is our life and our responsibility to shape it in the way we want.

Basic rule: try your hardest.

Respect - we demonstrate respect in all we do. We are respectful and courteous to everyone we meet. This is a non-negotiable. We celebrate our differences and champion our diversity. We have the greatest respect for ourselves, for others and for our surroundings.

Basic rule: respect comes first.

Unity - as a school, we work for each other: we share in our successes; we support each other through challenges and we are all jointly responsible for the community we uphold. We are proud to be active members of our local village community, making a positive contribution to life in Meopham and beyond. We help each other to grow in confidence and support each other in shaping our own paths through life.

Basic rule: always be ready to listen and help.

Excellence - we strive to be the very best in all our endeavours, whether that be academically, creatively, competitively or morally - we dream big and never put limits on ourselves or others. We are encouraged to think for ourselves and demonstrate independence. We develop excellence as a habit and recognise that talent isn't enough. True excellence is only achieved through practice and effort.

Basic rule: make the right choices.

About Meopham

We are located in the beautiful village of Meopham, taking students from the surrounding villages and also from Gravesend, which is close by via public transport. We are very proud to be able to offer these young people a dynamic and forward-thinking school that embraces modernity, whilst also providing the tranquility and natural beauty of a traditional village setting. We believe that all young people - regardless of background - should be able to benefit from an education in such a setting.

We are unique in that we have all the benefits of a school in a rural setting, with the advantages of working as part of a larger Trust. We are involved in extensive outreach work across schools in Kent, both within the Trust and beyond. This means that we can offer you an invigorating professional environment in which to grow. We invite you to be part of our future success.

We're a supportive, friendly, approachable team who all work together because we all believe in the same thing: that our job, as educators, is to make the world - and its future - a better place. If you believe in the same thing too, then I warmly welcome you to come and take a look at what our school has to offer. We'd love to hear from you.

If you wish to apply, please visit Kent Teach to submit your application as soon as possible. We look forward to receiving your application and welcoming you into our school community.

All the best,



Ethan Roberts
Headteacher

Job Description

Job Title: Head of Department
Grade: MPS/UPS
Responsible to: Headteacher

Purpose of the job

The current School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document describes the general professional duties which teachers are expected to undertake in the course of their employment.

Teachers are also expected to perform particular duties as may reasonably be assigned to them by the Headteacher.

For the purpose of this general job description these particular duties are:

Curriculum

- To plan and prepare courses.
- To continuously review teaching methods, schemes of work and resources as necessary.
- To advise and co-operate with the line-manager, other teachers and the Senior Leadership Team on the preparation and development of courses of study, teaching materials and resources, teaching programmes, methods of teaching, assessment and pastoral arrangements.
- To participate in meetings of the school which relate to the curriculum for the school or the administration or organisation of the school, including pastoral arrangements.
- To take part as required in the review, development and management of activities relating to the curriculum, organisation and pastoral functions of the school.

Professional Development etc.

- To participate in any arrangement within an agreed national framework for the performance management of performance and that of other teachers.
- To participate in arrangements for further training and professional development as a teacher.
- To contribute as appropriate to the selection for appointment and professional development of other teachers and support staff, including the induction and assessment of new and newly qualified teachers.
- To co-ordinate or manage the work of other teachers as appropriate.
- To manage or supervise support staff as necessary.

Pupils:

- To plan and prepare lessons.
- To teach pupils assigned, including setting and prompt marking of work carried out by pupils in school or elsewhere.
- To set relevant and sufficient homework, according to the homework timetable, and to ensure prompt marking of the homework or coursework.
- To assess, record and report on the development, progress and attainment of pupils, according to departmental and whole-school policies.
- To participate in the arrangements for preparing pupils for public examinations. To assess pupils for the examinations and record and report these assessments.
- To promote the general progress and wellbeing of individual pupils and of any class or group assigned.
- To provide guidance and advice to pupils on educational and social matters and on their future education and careers, including information about the sources of more expert advice on specific questions.
- To make records of, and reports on, the personal and social needs of pupils.
- To provide or contribute to oral and written assessments, reports and references relating to individual pupils and/or groups of pupils.
- To maintain good order and discipline among pupils and to safeguard their health and safety both when they are authorised to be on the school premises and when they are engaged in authorised school activities elsewhere.

Job Description

- To attend assemblies and to supervise tutor groups while in assembly, unless the teacher wishes to opt out of any religious aspect of assembly where this is against their beliefs.
- To accurately register pupils at a.m. and p.m. registration and during lessons and at any other time necessary before, during or after school.
- To provide, as a Tutor, the individual contact, knowledge and support for pupils within the allocated tutor group and to liaise with parents and other staff accordingly, as appropriate.
- To contribute to the personal and social education of pupils generally and specifically through the teaching of the PSE programme to the tutor group.
- To support all colleagues in ensuring that high standards of uniform and behaviour are maintained within the school.
- To work with other colleagues to ensure that there is a consistent approach in ensuring pupils abide by the school's code of conduct and the same consistency in dealing with pupils who do not conform to school rules.
- To make relevant records and reports as necessary.

Parents and the wider community:

- To communicate and consult with the parents of pupils when required.
- To communicate and co-operate with other persons and outside agencies as required.
- To participate in meetings arranged for any of the purposes described above.
- To foster good relationships with parents.

Resources and Accommodation

- To take responsibility for the care of resources, accommodation and fabric of the school, particularly when pupils are present.
- To allocate, as appropriate, equipment and materials in connection with his/her teaching.

Policies and Staff Handbook

- To ensure that all departmental and school policies are understood and complied with.
- To ensure that they have read and understands the contents of the Staff handbook and complies with all the requirements detailed in the handbook.

Administration

- To participate in administrative and organisational tasks related to the above duties.

Health and Safety

- To accept responsibility for own safety – as well as that of the pupils and colleagues with whom you work.
- To undertake Health and Safety training offered.
- To be aware of Health and Safety issues and the hazards associated with manual handling tasks, including the cumulative effect of repeated manual handling operations.
- To follow any control measures and care plans required by the generic or individual risk assessments.
- To be familiar with and use available equipment safely.
- To be aware of your own limitations and inform your employer of any circumstances that may alter ability to perform manual handling tasks.
- To report accidents and hazards.
- To report deficiencies in the employer's Health and Safety protection arrangements.

Job Description

Head of Department / Subject Leader

In addition to the requirements of a class teacher and any other agreed responsibilities:

1. To be accountable for the results of a named curricular area / aspects of the school's work and to support, hold accountable, develop and lead their team.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES:

2. To work with subject teachers to develop their classroom organisation and teaching methods, including providing regular feedback for their team in a way which recognises good practice and supports their progress against performance management objectives
3. To ensure high quality teaching resources are consistently used across the subject area
4. To support, facilitate and monitor the progress of designated subject area / development plans to ensure they make a significant contribution to the School Improvement Plan.
5. To review and report, as required, on the standard of leadership, teaching and learning in the designated subject / area consistent with the procedures in the school self-evaluation policy.
6. To support and assist subject teachers with the behaviour management of their students.
7. To intervene with the behaviour for learning strategies as required.
8. To follow agreed School protocol regarding the tracking and monitoring of rewards and sanctions.

Working Time

The following is extracted from the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document.

- A teacher employed full-time shall be available for work for 195 days in any school year, of which 190 days shall be days which they may be required to teach pupils in addition to carrying out other duties; and those 195 days will be specified by the head teacher
- Such a teacher shall be available to perform duties at such times and such places as may be specified by the head teacher for 1265 hours in any school year, those hours to be allocated reasonably throughout those days in the school year on which they are required to be available for work.
- Such a teacher shall work such additional hours as may be needed to enable them to discharge effectively their professional duties, including, in particular, the marking of pupils' work, the writing of reports on pupils and the preparation of lessons, teaching materials and teaching programmes. The amount of time required for this purpose beyond the 1265 hours and the time outside the 1265 specified hours at which duties shall be performed shall not be defined by the governors but shall depend upon the work needed to discharge the teacher's duties.

A summary of the directed time for teachers as allocated by the Headteacher is detailed in the staff handbook.

The Working Time Regulations 1998

All teachers are subject to the EU Working Time Regulations which are described in paragraph 114 of DfEE Circular No. 12/99.

The duties / responsibilities of this post may vary from time to time according to the changing needs of the Trust services.

Person Specification

Qualifications	ESSENTIAL/ DESIRABLE
Qualified Teacher Status or willingness to work towards this.	E
A Degree	E
Experience	
Teaching of specialist subject across all three key stages.	E
Skills and Abilities	
Ability to communicate positively with children.	E
Ability to work supportively and collaboratively within a team.	E
Ability to reflect upon and improve your teaching practice.	E
Knowledge	
Knowledge of the National Curriculum.	E
Understanding of the issues surrounding the safeguarding of children and commitment to child welfare and safety.	E
A good understanding of the importance of literacy and numeracy across the curriculum.	E
A good understanding of how to assess pupil progress.	E
A good understanding of how to plan and assess work for vulnerable groups, such as SEN pupils, pupil premium pupils and gifted and talented pupils.	D
Personal Qualities	
Enthusiasm for your specialist subject.	E
Ability to manage own workload.	E
A commitment to own continuing professional development.	E



Working at Meopham School

Benefits

- Teachers Pension Scheme – with a generous employer contribution
- Enhanced Maternity Pay
- Employee Referral Recruitment Incentive
- Access to training and development
- Discounts with local and national retailers, cinemas and restaurants

Well-Being

- Employee Assistance Programme – Wellbeing and advice
- Cycle to Work scheme
- On-site Parking

Finding Us

Meopham School

Wrotham Rd, Meopham, Gravesend DA13 0AH

01474 814646

mss-reception@swale.at

Closest Train Station: Meopham Station

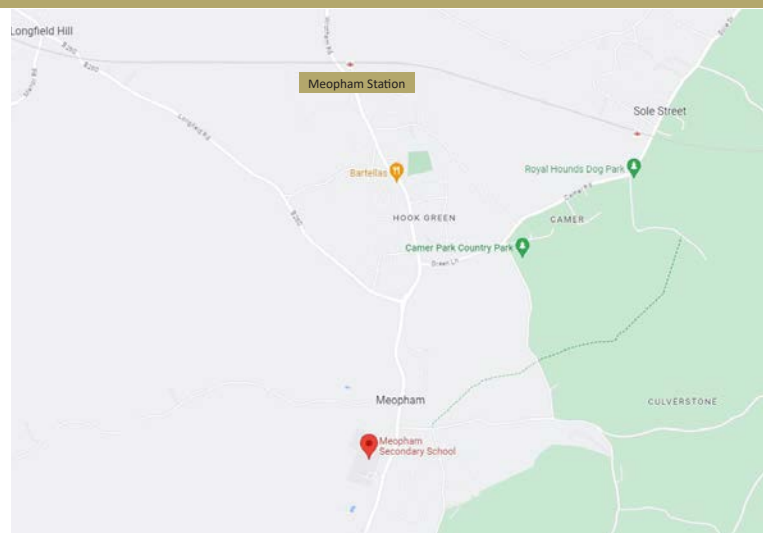
Approx. 35 minute walk or 9 minute Bus

Closest Bus stop:

Secondary School -

223*, 305*, 306*, 308*, 311, 418R*, 418W*, 695*, VIGO1*

*go to/from Meopham Station





Meopham School Overview

About Meopham School

Meopham School is a warm and fully-inclusive community set in the beautiful rural setting of the historic village of Meopham. At Meopham School, we strive to ensure all young people are nurtured to become aspirational and resilient in all areas of life. Students are encouraged to become respectful, tenacious, excellent young adults who go on to successful futures.

Our £14 million main school building opened in Spring 2018, and our new £9 million building opened in Spring 2024, offering eight new English classrooms, a Photography lab, a DT and Art suite and a fully equipped Performing Arts studio.

Our Vision

At Meopham School, we work in unity to create an exciting future for every individual, by instilling a culture of tenacity and excellence that both respects and truly improves the lives of all those within our school community.

Our Mission

Our mission at Meopham School is to provide our students with an excellent education through a fully inclusive and appropriately challenging curriculum that provides students with the creativity to meet the demands of an ever-changing world. We will create life-long learners by inspiring our students through outstanding lessons delivered by highly trained and qualified teachers. Through both a traditional academic curriculum at KS3 and KS4 and an ever-growing and highly-ambitious Sixth Form, students will make excellent progress and be encouraged to strive towards top-third universities, highly-sought degree apprenticeships or high-level employment.

Academic excellence is important, but we are also committed to instilling excellence in all aspects of our students' development. Our Culture and Ethos Strategy will establish a safe and stimulating learning environment, and develop tenacious young people who can overcome any barriers to learning and have a strong sense of moral purpose. Our students will go on to make a positive difference locally, nationally and globally.

Our Cultural Capital Pledge will develop our students into well-rounded, confident, excellent young adults who have the greatest respect for themselves and others and can thrive in all contexts. We are committed to promoting unity with our partners in the local area through an extensive Community Engagement Programme, which enriches our students' educational experience and establishes the school as a leading institution within Meopham, Gravesham and beyond.

We will empower our staff through an aspirational professional development programme, which provides meaningful and ambitious career routes for all staff. Meopham School will become a beacon of teaching excellence through its cutting-edge, forward-thinking pedagogy.



Meopham School Overview

Meopham School's TRUE Values

Meopham School

Tenacity, Respect, Unity, Excellence

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Respect - we demonstrate respect in all we do. We are respectful and courteous to everyone we meet. This is a non-negotiable. We celebrate our differences and champion our diversity. We have the greatest respect for ourselves, for others and for our surroundings.

Unity - as a school, we work for each other: we share in our successes; we support each other through challenges and we are all jointly responsible for the community we uphold. We are proud to be active members of our local village community, making a positive contribution to life in Meopham and beyond. We help each other to grow in confidence and support each other in shaping our own paths through life.

Excellence - we strive to be the very best in all our endeavours, whether that be academically, creatively, competitively or morally - we dream big and never put limits on ourselves or others. We are encouraged to think for ourselves and demonstrate independence. We develop excellence as a habit and recognise that talent isn't enough. True excellence is only achieved through practice and effort.



Meopham School Overview

Teaching and Learning - FIRE Strategies

Meopham School is particularly proud of its highly consistent approach to teaching and learning, which reflects our view that effective lessons will have FIRE at their heart:

Feedback: include appropriate and effective assessment and feedback opportunities;

Inclusivity: be fully inclusive and enable progress for all students;

Retrieval: allow opportunities for retrieval of key identified knowledge and skills;

Engagement: stimulate and encourage student curiosity, engagement and a love of learning.

“Leaders have high aspirations for pupils and make sure that all experience effective teaching overall.” (Ofsted April 2023)

Curriculum

Our curriculum is broad and balanced, and students benefit from a wide suite of subjects designed to meet the needs of tomorrow’s world. Essential skills of literacy, oracy and numeracy are woven through lessons across the curriculum.

“Across subjects, staff have strong subject knowledge and give clear explanations of lesson content. This was especially evident in teaching in the Sixth Form.” (Ofsted April 2023)

Inclusivity

At Meopham School we value children of all abilities, and offer a fully inclusive environment. We are especially proud of The Windmill, a specialist provision on-site for students with ASC.

We understand that every child is unique, and so we tailor our teaching and curriculum to help all students reach their full potential. Our aim is to ensure each pupil makes the greatest possible progress from their own individual starting point.

“Leaders identify well the needs of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). These pupils are well supported through the adaptations that teachers make for them in lessons.” (Ofsted April 2023)



The Application Process

Applications will only be accepted from candidates completing the appropriate application form. All sections of the form which are applicable to you must be completed as clearly and fully as possible.

Please note CVs will not be accepted in place of a completed application form.

Application forms can be found on the Kent-Teach website and applications should be made via this route. Alternatively, completed [SAT Application Forms](#) can be sent by email to diane.mills@swale.at or by post to the following address:

Mrs Diane Mills
Meopham School,
Wrotham Road,
Meopham,
Gravesend
DA13 0AH

The Shortlisting and Interview Process

After the closing date for this post a panel will conduct the shortlisting process. You will be selected for interview based entirely on the contents of your application form, it is therefore important that you fully read the Job Description and Person Specification prior to completing your form. Meopham School may complete online checks of any candidates as part of the shortlisting process.

After the shortlisting process has been completed candidates who have been selected for interview will be informed, and provided with full details of the interview programme. If you have not heard from us within 10 working days of the closing date for this post, you have, on this occasion, unfortunately been unsuccessful.

All candidates who are invited to interview must bring the following original documents:

- Documentary evidence of right to work in the UK
- Visual identification which includes a photograph, usually a passport or driving licence
- Documentary proof of current name and address
- Where appropriate any documentation evidencing change of name
- Certificates of educational or professional qualifications that are necessary or relevant for the post

Conditional Offer

Any offer of employment will be conditional upon a number of formalities, including, but not restricted to the following:

- Verification of right to work in the UK
- Receipt of two satisfactory references
- Verification of identity checks and qualifications
- Satisfactory enhanced DBS check, as well as additional checks that may be appropriate if you have worked or been resident overseas in the previous five years
- Satisfactory pre-employment health clearance
- A check against the Teacher Service Register for any teaching prohibition or restriction orders where you are applying for a teaching role or if you have previously held a teaching role in past [employment](#).



Safeguarding

Our Trust has robust safer recruitment procedures to help prevent unsuitable people from working with children.

All individuals working in any capacity at our Trust will be subjected to safeguarding checks in line with the statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education.

Swale Academies Trust schools will conduct an online check of shortlisted candidates in line with the Keeping Children Safe In Education guidelines.

Retention of information

All information is stored securely and any information supplied by unsuccessful candidates will be destroyed through the confidential waste system after six months from the date of the interview, in accordance with our retention of records procedure.

Privacy Notice

Please refer to the Trust's [Privacy Notice](#) for job applicants for information about how we use any personal data about them we hold.

Overview of Swale Academies Trust

Since its creation in September 2010, Swale Academies Trust has developed into one of the South East's leading Multi-Academy Trusts.

Our purpose is to develop good and outstanding schools and ensure the rapid improvement of schools with challenges. As the Trust has grown and developed, we continue to ensure that effective school support and leadership is maintained. The Trust's approach to school improvement is based on a combination of CPD, capacity building and collaboration, with a relentless focus on teaching and pupil progress, in order to effect rapid and sustained improvements in outcomes for young people.

The Trust is an organisation which is driven by the belief that all children deserve a good quality education where they are seen as individuals and above all are exceptionally well cared for.

Swale Academies Trust - Schools

Primary

- Beaver Green Primary School, Ashford
- Istead Rise Primary School, Istead Rise
- James Dixon Primary School, Bromley
- Langney Primary Academy, Eastbourne
- Parkland Infant School, Eastbourne
- Parkland Junior School, Eastbourne
- Regis Manor Primary School, Sittingbourne
- Shinewater Primary School, Eastbourne
- South Borough Primary School, Maidstone
- Westlands Primary School, Sittingbourne

Secondary

- Meopham Secondary School, Meopham
- Peacehaven Community School, Eastbourne
- The Eastbourne Academy, Eastbourne
- The Holmesdale School, Snodland
- The North School, Ashford
- The Sittingbourne School, Sittingbourne
- The Turing School, Eastbourne
- The Whitstable School, Whitstable
- Westlands Secondary School, Sittingbourne

Central Support Services

- Human Resource Team
- Finance Team
- ICT Team
- Estate Management
- Governance and Communications



Swale ACADEMIES TRUST

