



QUEEN MARY'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Academic in purpose - Generous in approach - Enterprising in spirit - International in outlook



Information Pack

Interim Head of Physical Education

Required from September 2023

Full Time

Initial 1 year Contract with a view to extend

Queen Mary's Grammar School
Sutton Road,
Walsall,
WS1 2PG

01922 720696



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Welcome



Queen Mary's Grammar School was founded in 1554 by Mary Tudor. We have been shaped by our past and are proud of our traditions, but we are also confident of an exciting future as we help to shape the new educational landscape with our partners in the Mercian Trust.

Queen Mary's is an academically selective school, but wellbeing and pastoral care is at the heart of what we do. The School has gained national attention for our focus on mental health (through the 'Change Your Mind' Programme) and the School community is a huge strength, summed up in our motto: 'Quas dederis solas semper habebis opes'; It is what you give that you will keep as eternal riches.

Our House system celebrates the four pillars of school life at Queen Mary's: an academic focus, an international ethos, an enterprising spirit and a sense of community. We enjoy our social, cultural and ethnic diversity and live by our core values:

- Courage – facing new challenges with determination & resilience
- Respect – for yourself & tolerance of others
- Equality – opportunities for all, whilst recognising & celebrating diversity
- Discipline – developing personal responsibility
- Integrity – to be honest, sincere, reliable & selfless
- Teamwork – stronger together

Outside the classroom, we offer a range of life-enriching opportunities: time at our Field Centre in Wales; membership of our thriving Combined Cadet Force; individual and team sports; foreign expeditions and travel; participation in music, debating and public speaking and many other activities. We believe that achievement and enjoyment go hand in hand.

The school is part of the IOE's Mandarin Excellence Programme and has been named as one of the top 100 secondary schools for cricket in the UK by the Cricketer magazine. The Horizon near-space programme has set new standards of what is possible for school-age students to achieve and we offer a multitude of other clubs, societies and opportunities.

We equip our pupils to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing world. Most choose to go on to higher education, but we prepare them through our wider curriculum for a range of pathways. Through partnership between School, pupil and parents, we aim to produce well-rounded and employable young people. It is our mission to attain excellence in all that we do.

Richard Langton
Headmaster

About Us

Queen Mary's Grammar School is an invigorating and rewarding place to work: the pupils are intelligent and committed to study; the staff are friendly and forward looking. It is more than just a place of work – it is a thriving community, proud of its past and confident of its future.

There are currently almost 1400 pupils on roll, including over 450 in the Sixth Form. The School has an outstanding academic record and regularly features at the upper end of the national league tables. In 2022, 78% of GCSE grades were 7-9 (A*/A) and 72% of A Level grades were A*, A or B. We are especially proud of our value-added scores, which regularly place us among the top schools in the country for progress. We do not rest on our laurels, but encourage all our pupils to realise their full potential.

In June 2011, the School converted to Academy status and we have undertaken a series of exciting building projects since then, including a new Sixth Form Centre, science labs and a humanities wing, music and PE refurbishments, extensions to existing English and maths classrooms, as well as a new dining room and reception. We were a founding member of the Mercian Multi Academy Trust (along with five other schools) in January 2018. Over the past couple of years, we have completed projects to add additional capacity through the building of extra science rooms, improving Design Technology and Art facilities and adding six new classrooms to the humanities wing.

The School encourages an enterprising and international outlook: trips, expeditions and exchanges have gone all over the world in recent years, as well as a wide range of vibrant and formative educational visits and experiences closer to home such as theatre visits, visiting speakers and the mental health ambassadors programme. We are proud to appear in Ross Morrison McGill's new book *Just Great Teaching*, showcasing our mental health work.

We want our pupils to lead happy and fulfilled lives. Learning here is not just about passing exams, but about enjoying the life of the mind. We also encourage all our pupils to take part in a wide range of enrichment activities in music, sport, the Combined Cadet Force and at our Field Centre on the Afon Mawddach in Southern Snowdonia. We were named in the Top 100 cricket schools by the *Cricketer Magazine* for two years in succession.

Our pupils come from diverse backgrounds, but they all thrive on the sense of support, encouragement and care that characterises Queen Mary's.

Benefits of working at Queen Mary's Grammar School

- teach gifted and intelligent students who have a real motivation to succeed
- a thriving and expanding school that achieves examination success, particularly at GCSE level
- professional autonomy in the classroom – you are encouraged to teach in a style that suits you and your subject
- a Headmaster and Senior Leadership Team that operate an open-door policy to support colleagues personally as well as professionally
- we take our mental health seriously, considering workload and staff wellbeing
- a dedicated induction programme for new staff and ECTs to ensure you are supported at whatever stage of your career you join us
- opportunities to play a role in the wider life of the school, including involvement in the CCF, music, debating, drama, coaching of sports teams and other opportunities
- career progression – many of our current middle and senior leaders are “home-grown” promotions from within.

Find out more

You can find out more about our school at <http://www.qmgs.walsall.sch.uk>.

For a flavour of daily life at QM follow us on Twitter at @QMGS1554.

Please contact Simran Sahota (HR Executive) if you would like to discuss the role further via email;

s.sahota@qmgs.merciantrust.org.uk

The Physical Education Department

Sport at Queen Mary's is a central aspect of school life. The school is currently undertaking an ambitious Future Sports @ QMGS project which will see the installation of a full-size multi-sports AstroTurf, large pavilion and levelled rugby and cricket pitches to ensure the sports provision remains at the forefront of the school's outstanding offer of education. Participation rates amongst students of all year groups are very high, both in terms of representing the school and in house competitions. The P.E. department are significant supporters of the house system at Queen Mary's and a large number of competitions take place during the year.

The students are well motivated and the school both promotes and celebrates the opportunities for students to gain representative honours outside of School. The school has enjoyed many successes, most recently being included in the Cricketer Magazine's 'Top 100 Cricket Schools Guide' for 2023, which is the sixth year in a row. We have also seen recent success as the Rugby U12 and U13 Staffordshire County Cup Champions and the Hockey U14 Midlands State School Champions / National Bowl Winners.

The P.E. department currently consists of the Head of P.E. and two Teachers of P.E. one being the lead PE teacher for Cricket and the other for Hockey. There are also two other coaching members of staff, one for Rugby and one for Hockey that play a crucial role within the department. Significant numbers of non-specialist P.E. teachers also make up the staffing for the Games lessons. All members of the current P.E. staff are able to teach a non-specialist subject in the school and it would be expected that a new member of staff could do the same.

The Head of Department will have responsibility for the strategic management, direction and delivery of all aspects of the School's P.E. curriculum and Games programme. They will oversee the delivery of GCSE and A-level PE programmes. Continuing to drive forward the curriculum design, teaching standards and the provision we can offer our pupils is a key element of the role.

Teams are run at all age groups in a variety of sports. A strong and well-established fixture programme allows opportunities across a full range of formats, providing pupils with the broadest possible exposure to competitive sports.

All students in years 7-9 have a P.E. lesson and separate games afternoon each week as well as a team-taught swimming lesson fortnightly in the school's swimming pool. Year 10 and 11 have fortnightly P.E. lessons and weekly games afternoons where Year 11 share the 'Senior' games afternoon with the Sixth Form. The games lessons currently follow a traditional format of rugby and hockey in the Autumn and Spring terms and cricket in the Summer. The increasing number of sixth form girls are also catered for in P.E. with a programme of exercise classes and netball.

The current facilities for sport at the school are extensive, with a large expansive playing field on site including 4 rugby pitches and 2 grass cricket squares (as well as a pavilion and sight screens). We also have a multi-play area (MPA), covered play area (CPA) and tennis courts outside. Inside, there is a large sports hall, squash court, a swimming pool, multi gym and shooting range. Currently, home hockey fixtures make use of Aston Universities facilities nearby.

The Role

Job Title:	Interim Head of Physical Education
Start Date	September 2023
Grade / Salary:	MPR/UPR plus TLR 2C
Contract	Initial 1 year contract

The successful candidate will:

- Have a clear vision for the curriculum intent and implementation for the PE department, in line with the broader ethos of the school
- Be an innovative and effective teacher, keen to develop the role of the Department across the school
- Consistently plan and deliver outstanding lessons to all year groups and support colleagues to do the same.
- Manage the creation, consistent implementation and ongoing improvement of medium term plans and curricula
- Instil discipline within the subject area, ensuring that behaviour is outstanding and that students are conforming to the school rules and expectations
- Lead P.E. in the School: take responsibility as the line manager for the department; ensure that teachers achieve their potential through professional development; manage budgets and resources
- Set and achieve high success standards for the department
- Communicate effectively within both the department and wider school community – fostering links with other subject areas, external agencies and through participation in the school's curriculum group (made up of Heads of Department)
- Teach challenging and differentiated lessons, whilst developing schemes of work that reflect the changing nature of the subject area
- Monitor and intervene with teaching, learning and behaviour for learning across the department
- Assess pupils' work, giving constructive feedback to aid improved performance; develop assessment pathways to ensure effective practice within the department; and monitor the marking of all colleagues work in the department
- Set, feedback to, and analyse internal assessments as required and have an oversight of results across the department, responding to the needs of individuals and groups as required.
- Attend the Curriculum Group meetings and regular review meetings with a member of the SLT

Person Specification:

- You will be an innovative and effective leader, keen to develop the sporting curriculum, facilities and achievements in the school
- You will be committed to diversity and representation in teaching and learning

- You will have a commanding presence and be able to instil discipline, whilst understanding and responding to the needs of the individual children
- You will be an experienced and skilled teacher with a proven track record of academic success and curriculum impact
- You will have a commitment to the ethos of the school and a willingness to lead and contribute to extra-curricular activities
- You will be positive and enthusiastic in your approach to teaching, departmental management and working in the school
- You will have good oral and written communication skills
- You will have good ICT skills
- You will have the ability to work as part of a team and to develop and maintain positive relationships with teaching and associate staff, as well as students
- You will be willing to be involved in the pastoral life of the school as a tutor

Please be aware that candidates submitting generic applications, which make scant or no reference to the school, will not be shortlisted.

NB You must be suitable to work with children. This job is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure.

Please return completed application forms to s.sahota@gmgs.merciantrust.org.uk

Closing date: Friday 9 June – 9:00am
Interviews: W/C 12 June 2023

Queen Mary's Grammar School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and all applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service. Safeguarding and Safer Recruitment Policies can be found on our website.

The Mercian Trust

Queen Mary's Grammar School is a Founder Academy of the Mercian Multi-Academy Trust. According to the National Schools Commissioner, Sir David Carter, MATs exist:

- to secure school improvement and develop people
- to encourage good governance and proper risk management
- to secure the financial health of all its academies.

We sign up to those ambitions. In our MAT, the Mercian Trust, we choose to pursue life to the full in the business of education.

The name of our Trust is significant. It is both rooted in royal history and expresses a geographical identity. Mercia was an ancient kingdom comprising parts of Cheshire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire, Worcestershire and, crucially for us, what we now call the Black Country. It was in Mercia that St Chad established learning communities which fostered a sense of common purpose. A thousand years ago, they spoke of bonds of kinship. Today, we want to adopt the same spirit in our approach to relationships within the MAT. So we very much hope that Y7 and Year 12 pupils joining us will feel that they are not only members of Queen Mary's Grammar School, but also of a wider family of schools.

We are convinced that we are stronger together. The Mercian Trust is already helping to shape the educational landscape in exciting ways. We welcome you to be part of that story.

The members of The Mercian Trust are: Aldridge School, The Ladder School, Queen Mary's Grammar School, Queen Mary's High School, Shire Oak Academy, Walsall Studio School, Q3 Langley, Q3 Great Barr, Q3 Tipton

Our schools prepare pupils to live life to the full by equipping them to realise their full potential as learners; to thrive in the world of work; and to make a positive contribution to the local, national and international community.

You may have heard about some MATs that seem to have turned into big businesses. That is not our view of what education should be about. That is why Queen Mary's Grammar School wanted to be right at the heart of decision making of what our MAT should look like.

The Mercian Trust respects the autonomy of its member schools but, through collaboration, it will foster strengths greater than the sum of its parts. Put simply, the Trust provides a framework for sharing expertise, enthusiasm and experience.

Location

Queen Mary's Grammar School
Sutton Road
Walsall
West Midlands
WS1 2PG

Tel: 01922 720696
Fax: 01922 725932

Queen Mary's Grammar School is located on the Sutton Road, in the leafy south of the town and close to the centre of Walsall. Travel to the school is very convenient, being approximately 10 minutes' drive from both junctions 7 and 9 of the M6.

There are good bus links from Birmingham to Walsall (with the 51 and X51 buses) and there is a direct train route to Birmingham from nearby stations in the town centre, Bescot Stadium and Tamebridge Parkway.

The close proximity of Walsall, Wolverhampton and Birmingham City Centre provides excellent access to shopping, leisure facilities, museums, cinemas and a wide range of nightlife.

House prices in Walsall are also very competitive compared to the Midlands as a whole and there is a range of good local primary schools and nurseries for those with young families seeking to move close to Queen Mary's.