

# Maidstone Grammar School *for* Girls



# Key Stage 4 Learning Mentor

Required for April 2025

Permanent Part-Time Term Time 8am-3.30pm over 2 consecutive days 14 hours per week, 39 weeks per year including 14 hours directed time Kent Scheme Salaries 6 £25,127-£26,383 23, per annum pro rata - equating to £8,250-£8,663 pa pending KCC pay award in April 2025





### The Post

We are seeking an enthusiastic, dynamic and innovative colleague to join our team of committed professionals. The post holder will work with the Heads of Study and Assistant Headteacher of Key Stage 4 to support the pastoral and academic work of students in Key Stage 4. The Learning Mentor will also act as a Cover Supervisor.

The postholder will receive a payment in respect of their pro rata entitlement to Annual Leave appropriate to their grade, Bank Holidays and the KCC concessionary day which is included in the salary above.



Maidstone Grammar School for Girls is a very successful selective girls' school of 1,270 students with a mixed sixth form of approximately 360. Ofsted judged us to be outstanding and our examination results reflect this. We are a happy, thriving community, with a long standing tradition of excellence in all that we do. We have been an Advanced Thinking School since 2015. The post offers the opportunity to work with intellectually able young people in a supportive and friendly environment. Staff benefits include strong support for professional development.

### The Team & Our Facilities

Our team of Learning Mentors support our Heads of Study and other pastoral staff by meeting with students as requested and acting as a mentor to students as required.





# Job Description

### **Core Purpose**

The purpose of the post is to support the Heads of Study and students in a specific section of the school (eg KS4), and to act as cover supervisor. The Learning Mentor will work closely with the Heads of Study to support the pastoral and academic work with students in that section.

#### The post holder will:

- Report to the Assistant Headteacher for the Key Stage
- Provide high quality care for individual students and secure good standards of behaviour within their section of the school
- Supervise students within Student Support

- Work directly with Heads of Study and form tutors to provide and receive information relating to students in their year teams, including attending meetings (e.g. Head of Study line management meetings and parent meetings) and completing referrals.
- Be committed to professional self-development in order to carry out the job successfully
- Act as a form tutor, if required

#### Leadership and Management

- Assist in creating and maintaining clear departmental documentation (Support Staff Year Book)
- Manage issues of behaviour management in line with school policy, including organising and maintaining records for detentions.

#### **Mentoring**

- Work closely with parents and teaching staff to ensure high quality support for students
- Assist the Head of Study with day to day administrative tasks as required
- Liaise directly with parents regarding concerns for their daughters/sons
- Refer concerns raised about students to the Leadership Team and the relevant Head of Study, especially with regard to safeguarding
- Regularly mentor students with specific needs
- Liaise with subject staff to provide work for absent students and information for ad hoc reports
- Support the Heads of Study in identifying students who are underachieving and putting in place corrective measures including more frequent monitoring arrangements
- Liaise with external agencies where required and ensure paperwork completed and copies filed
- Maintain records of students receiving external support
- Maintain records of students receiving counselling in school.

### **Cover Supervision**

- Maintain good behaviour throughout the lesson and ensure the classroom is left clean and tidy
- Return work and resources to the class teacher or Head of Department or nominated teacher and inform him/her of the point reached by the pupils
- Report any problems, difficulties, successes to the class teacher
- Carry out exam invigilation when required, maintaining the rules set out by external examination boards and school regulations.

#### **Other Tasks**

• Carry out other duties as may be directed. Some of these will be regular responsibilities of the team, eg recording and monitoring of detentions, providing support for the main office, maintaining the display boards in the school. Others will be assigned from time to time.

#### Safeguarding

- Adhere to the requirements as set out in the current version of KCSIE
- Attend/Complete all MGGS training in relation to safeguarding
- Report all safeguarding concerns in a timely manner as specified by the school
- Ensure there is a culture of safeguarding within all areas of the role
- Be committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people

# Person Specification

A list of qualities required always looks daunting. However, we would like to reassure you that we are realistic, and more interested in you as a whole person rather than in a tick-list of your attributes. It is not expected that you will have had the opportunity to develop each of the skills to the same level. Please use the statement in support of your application as an opportunity to tell us about your strengths, or the elements of your work of which you are most proud, and the ways in which you could make a contribution to this school.

	Characteristics
Qualifications	<ul> <li>A good standard of education including literacy and numeracy</li> <li>A minimum of level 3 (A level) qualifications.</li> </ul>

Personal qualities	<ul> <li>Ability to communicate effectively with individuals</li> <li>Supportive approach to others, and an ability to relate well to colleagues and students</li> <li>Capacity for hard work and high expectations of self and students</li> <li>Ability to make difficult decisions</li> <li>Generosity of spirit</li> <li>Capacity for hard work</li> <li>Willingness to contribute to extra-curricular activities.</li> </ul>
Knowledge and skills	<ul> <li>Strong communication and organisational skills</li> <li>Good ICT skills, knowledge of Google apps for education</li> <li>Ability to address the needs of individuals, particularly in identifying and addressing their potential</li> <li>A knowledge of SIMS</li> <li>A knowledge of current educational developments e.g. relating to 'well being' and mentoring.</li> </ul>
Experience and training	<ul> <li>Experience of working with students</li> <li>Experience of working within a secondary school</li> <li>Willingness to take part in professional development.</li> </ul>

# The Application Process

Application forms and full details can be found on our Vacancies page on our website: <a href="https://www.mggs.org/joining-us/join-our-team/vacancies/">https://www.mggs.org/joining-us/join-our-team/vacancies/</a> and should be sent to <a href="materials-mggs.org">mstarns@mggs.org</a>.

Teaching and Support Staff references will be requested prior to interview.

# Important Dates

\*Closing Date: 8am on 20th March 2025

Interviews: 25th March 2025

\*Applications are welcomed immediately. Applications will be considered in the order in which they are received. Suitable candidates may be interviewed before the closing date and Maidstone Grammar School for Girls reserves the right to withdraw the position if an early appointment is made.

Our School and all its personnel are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children. All posts are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Disclosure and Barring Service. For more information please see our <u>Safeguarding Policy</u>.

### How to Apply

Applicants should complete the application form and email it along with a covering letter addressed to the Headteacher, Miss Deborah Stanley via <a href="mailto:mstarns@mggs.org">mstarns@mggs.org</a>. Applicants are strongly encouraged to also complete our <a href="mailto:Equal Opportunities & Recruitment Monitoring Form">mstarns@mggs.org</a>. If you require any additional information please contact Ms Starns, PA to the Headteacher via email: <a href="mailto:mstarns@mggs.org">mstarns@mggs.org</a>.

Please note that pre-interview visits are not available, however, full information including a virtual tour can be found on our website <a href="https://www.mggs.org/">https://www.mggs.org/</a>

### General Information

Please refer carefully to the information you have been provided for this post. Please ensure you complete

**ALL** sections of the application form.

Your application will be treated in the strictest confidence. Please see our GDPR and Data Protection Policy, Equality Policy, Child Protection Policy on our website

MGGS is committed to ensure that we develop a safe culture and that all steps are taken to recruit staff and volunteers who are safe to work with our learners and staff. MGGS will follow relevant guidance in <a href="Keeping Children Safe in Education">Keeping Children Safe in Education</a> (Part Three, 'Safer Recruitment') and from The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). It is an offence to apply for a role if the applicant is barred from engaging in regulated activity relevant to children. Please see the Guidance on Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and the Exceptions Order 1975.

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### About Us

### Welcome to our forward-thinking community with a tradition of excellence

Maidstone Grammar School for Girls, or 'MGGS', as it is more often known, has a strong community spirit which is underpinned by our belief that the happiness of all our students is key to enabling them to succeed. We have been providing an academic education for girls (and boys in the Sixth Form) from the town of Maidstone and its surrounding area for over 135 years.

MGGS is a very special place. Our students love learning; they are talented, compassionate and inquiring young people who have a deep sense of belonging and commitment to their school.

Maidstone Grammar School for Girls was rated as Outstanding in the last Ofsted inspection which was carried out in March 2023.

"The ambition for pupils at Maidstone Girls Grammar School (MGGS) is limitless. Pupils, from Years 7 to 13, aspire to be the very best they can be. They value the dedicated support from staff as they determinedly pursue different career ambitions."

"Excellence sits at the very heart of the school's meticulous curriculum. Staff use their detailed subject expertise to diligently identify the most important knowledge pupils need to learn. Pupils keenly master different skills, whether this be solving complex problems in mathematics or using their creativity in English, art, and design and technology."

Our academic curriculum at MGGS provides students with outstanding examination results year on year. "I love being part of the MGGS community. From day one I felt welcomed into something special. There are so many opportunities for me to try new things and take part in activities that I enjoy. I really feel that my happiness is as important to the school as my academic success." Year 7 Student

MGGS is a Leading Light school, using G Suite for Education, and we have been acknowledged by Google UK as one of the most advanced schools for its integrated use to promote student learning. Other notable awards include the British Council's prestigious International School Award in recognition of our work in bringing the world into the classroom. Furthermore, we have been successfully reassessed and have maintained our Quality in Careers Standard, the national quality award for careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG).

We are widely recognised for our broad and balanced curriculum (all students study two languages at Key Stage 3), and our tradition of academic excellence, together with the many enriching extra-curricular activities we

provide for students. We believe that our Curriculum and Sixth Form Extra enrichment programmes are vital to building self-confidence, resilience, and leadership skills in all of our students. We nurture individuality and scholarship to ensure that our young people will go on to take leading roles in society and become happy and fulfilled adults.

### Our Results

### GCSE and A Level Exam Results 2024

We are very proud of our students; not only are their academic standards high, but they also develop as confident articulate individuals ready to take full advantage of opportunities as they arise.

We are pleased to report our summer results for 2024 that re-enforce Ofsted's quote, "The ambition for pupils at Maidstone Girls Grammar School (MGGS) is limitless."

Summer 2024 has seen our Year 11 and 13 students achieve some fantastic results, which is a result of their hard work and resilience especially over the last two years. Students have demonstrated their commitment to their education. I am so pleased for each and every student's personal achievement and delighted with the overall achievement of the year groups.



We see a continued trend of results, enabling students to pursue their individual goals. For Year 11 we are very proud of all of their individual achievements and look forward to the next stage of their education at MGGS Sixth Form. For Year 13 they go on to pursue a wide range of pathways, including university study, apprenticeships and employment.

# The Benefits of Working at MGGS

Maidstone Grammar School for Girls is located on a 16 acre site surrounded by attractive open grassed areas and woodland. We are within easy walking distance from the centre of Maidstone and served by two nearby mainline rail links and convenient access to the M20 and M2 motorways.

At MGGS, there is something for everyone. We offer a comprehensive and competitive range of benefits, to suit all circumstances.

- A great work-life balance We offer a variety of working patterns, such as part-time, job-share, term-time hours, and career breaks to get a work-life balance that's right for you.
- Personal Development
  - Tailored personal development plans We are committed to developing you as an individual.
     You will have a unique Personal Development Plan tailored to you, which focuses on developing your skills.
  - CPD days and a range or workshops delivered through twilight
  - Performance development opportunities
  - Relevant external CPD training courses
  - Easy-to-access training We have a range of training opportunities to suit your learning style, including face-to-face and eLearning courses as well as professional qualifications
  - Other great opportunities There are also coaching and mentoring and volunteering opportunities.

#### Support

- A thorough induction You'll get a comprehensive induction to MGGS when you join us
- Statutory sick pay
- Access to individual coaching to support you in achieving your career aspirations at MGGS
- Support Line a free confidential service that offers up to 7 counselling sessions a year
- An inclusive and supportive work environment that enables everyone to do their job to the best

of their ability. We also make workplace adjustments where necessary for health reasons.

- Free Benenden Healthcare (available for permanent staff only):
  - Benenden Health aims to make private healthcare accessible to all. MGGS pays the costs of this however, it is a taxable benefit. Full information via <a href="https://www.benenden.co.uk/health/healthcare/">https://www.benenden.co.uk/health/healthcare/</a>
- Kent Adult Education 10% discount on most Kent Adult Education courses.
- Kent Rewards:
  - Kent Rewards is the home of employee benefits, including staff in MGGS. The range of benefits may surprise you...
    - Shopping Discounts with so many great local businesses in Kent, through Kent Rewards there are fantastic deals and discounts:
      - Discounts on train tickets, ferries and coaches, savings on holidays and flights
      - Cashback when booking experience days with Groupon, Living Social, Wowcher and many more
      - Saving on your utilities.
- Free On-Site Parking
- Free break-time coffee/tea
- Staff Well-being Committee
- Staff social events and activities