

WIRRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

A Business and Enterprise School for Boys

Application information for the post of: **Temporary Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages (Maternity Cover)**

"Wirral Grammar School for Boys is a forward looking school that provides an outstanding education"



Dear Applicant

**Temporary Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages:
1 Year Fixed Term Maternity Leave**

Thank you for your interest in the above post at Wirral Grammar School for Boys.

Wirral Grammar School is a great place to work in. Our pupils are keen and there is a strong sense of collegiality and support among the staff. We place an equal emphasis on academic achievement and extra-curricular activity, all of which can be justifiably described as 'outstanding'.

Please note that Wirral Grammar School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Please note that the closing date for applications is 13th May 2021 **at 12 noon**. Completed applications should be emailed with **all accompanying documentation** to Mrs Tanya Fry, Headteacher's PA at tfry@wirralgrammarboys.com (please refer to the **application process** at the end of this document).

I wish you well in your application.

Yours sincerely



Mr S P Ascroft
Headteacher

Temporary Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages (Maternity Cover)

Salary Scale: Main Scale
Responsible to: Head of MFL
Required for: September 2021

This is an excellent opportunity for a well-qualified teacher of French and Spanish who is passionate about his/her subject.

Please note that for this post it is essential for applicants to be able to teach French to A level and Spanish to GCSE.

School Background

Wirral Grammar School is a selective state, 11 to 18 Business and Enterprise School for Boys. The school is situated on the Wirral peninsula in the village of Bebington, one mile from junction 4 on the M53. Our school is very popular and oversubscribed.

We have extensive specialist facilities and much of our accommodation is under 15 years old, while the older parts date back to the 1930s. Thanks largely to the Target Capital Grant that was awarded in 2006, new buildings have been added and all parts of the existing buildings have been re-modelled. ICT facilities cover the whole school with WiFi connectivity to most areas and all classrooms have ICT equipment for presentation purposes. We have our own purpose built Sports Hall and extensive playing fields.

Wirral Grammar School for Boys has been a converter academy since 2011. Prior to becoming an Academy, the school was a Foundation School and this followed from the school's Grant Maintained status, which was acquired in the 1990s. We serve the immediate community of Bebington and Bromborough and each year, pupils join us from other parts of Wirral and across the county border into Cheshire.

Wirral Grammar School is a selective 11 – 18 school and entry into Year 7 is by a threshold 11+ assessment that pupils take when they are in Year 6 at primary school. The admissions process is managed by Wirral Local Authority on behalf of the school and the same assessment is used for admission to the other Grammar Schools in the area. The school has capacity to admit 155 pupils in each year group making us a five form entry school. At the end of Year 11, most pupils stay on into our Sixth Form and upon leaving the Sixth Form, the majority go on to University. In recent years there has been a growing demand for routes into higher level apprenticeship placements.

During the specialist Schools Funding programme the chosen specialism was Business and Enterprise. Although the funding has ended, we have continued to place an emphasis on Enterprise Education given the importance of this from the perspective of employability skills. Enterprise activity is promoted through the House system and encouraged through the rewards system. The fact that our boys raise in the region of £14,000 every year for their choice of charity, bears testimony to their enterprise activity.

Our pupils' personal development is further enriched through a strong emphasis on promoting leadership opportunities through peer support, academic tutoring, anti-bullying, sport captaincy and music ensemble coordination.

Participation in a wide variety of extra-curricular activities, including overseas visits, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, outdoor pursuits; together with school-based clubs, all serve to further enrich our pupils' education.

Over a third of pupils are actively learning to play musical instruments, supported by eighteen school-based peripatetic music tutors and in sport our school has a reputation for winning competitions at local, regional and national levels.

In 2018 we achieved the Unicef 'Rights Respecting Schools Award' at Silver level and we are currently working towards the Gold Award.

Since 2011, we have successfully secured in the region of £1million through the Education Funding Agency Capital Improvement Fund; this has resulted in significant capital improvements with the replacement of all windows, flat roof areas and the creation of a new 'Hall Annex'.

In our 2009 Ofsted inspection, the school was judged to be outstanding and we have retained this judgement through the policy of inspection exemption for outstanding schools. Governors and senior staff maintain a clear picture of school performance through a process of self-evaluation that reflects the structure of the school inspection framework. Each year Governors produce an Annual Review which is circulated to all stakeholders. Past copies of the review can be found on our school website.

Annual surveys confirm that parents have a high degree of confidence in the school and across all aspects of school life. The reputation of the school within the community is very strong and this is reflected in the fact that the school is typically over-subscribed.

Further information about the school can be found on our school website:

www.wirralgrammarboys.com. Publications' section of our website includes links to a number of documents including: School Prospectus, Governors' Annual Review, Parent Handbook and recent copies of the termly news publication which is called 'Nuntius'.

We place an emphasis on professional development and we have established a strong commitment to collaboration and in-house support. Wirral Grammar School is well respected in its community and parent surveys reflect a high degree of satisfaction and confidence in the school. Parent surveys for the last academic year can be accessed through the 'Parent' link on the home page of our website. Further details about our school can be found at our website: www.wirralgrammarboys.com

The Languages Department

MFL at Wirral Grammar School for Boys is a department of five staff. Each member of the department has ownership of their own teaching area. All MFL rooms have the benefit of a Smartboard. All MFL rooms are located along the same corridor where there is a subject base and resource room.

All Year 7 pupils have 3 hours of French per fortnight and 3 hours of Spanish. This is the same in Year 8. At the end of year 8 pupils make their options and then have 4 hours per fortnight of French and/ or Spanish. Teaching is initially carried out in house groups (mixed ability). Currently, students may choose between French and Spanish at the end of Year 8 or continue with both. We currently use the "Expo" course material for Key Stage 3 (Year 7 and Year 8) and "Studio with Active Teach" for Key Stage 4. We use "Viva" for GCSE Spanish and "Mira Express" for Key Stage 3 for Spanish. At Spanish A level we use "Kerboodle" with the Oxford Course. Students follow the AQA syllabus at GCSE and the AQA syllabus at A level.

There is significant extra-curricular activity in languages at WGS: subject clubs take place each week to support students and to provide enrichment opportunities, often organised by Sixth Formers; booster classes are run to assist with preparation for GCSE; Year 8 students travel to France each year, Year 10/11 to Spain and Sixth Formers to Paris and Madrid, and we have also developed links with schools overseas as part of our International Schools Award programme and we organise extra-curricular activities with Wirral Grammar School for Girls. The MFL department is committed to the international dimension in the curriculum.

Core Purposes of this Role

The core purposes are:

- Having responsibility for standards of achievement and academic welfare of students
- Providing a lead on the development of resource materials appropriate for the needs of the students who you teach
- Applying and managing the assessment, target-setting and monitoring arrangements that are required by all members of staff
- Contributing to opportunities for the extra-curricular enrichment of Languages teaching through lunch-time activities, visits and partnerships etc
- Being accountable to the head of MFL for the attainment and achievement of pupils
- Be responsible for a tutor group

Skills and competencies required

- A well-qualified teacher of Modern Languages (French and Spanish)
- To be able to teach French up to A Level and Spanish to GCSE
- An individual who is passionate about Languages and promotes enthusiasm and interest for the subject and is committed to the extra-curricular element
- Experience of having taught across the full 11 to 18 age range
- Experience of all ability teaching with a particular awareness of the needs of able students
- A high level of ICT competency; an ability to use ICT effectively in planning and teaching
- Ability to work within a team of well-qualified and highly professional individuals with enthusiasm

Safeguarding Children

- Please note that Wirral Grammar School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.
- As part of the selection process, the interview will explore your perspectives on safeguarding young people in terms of a school context

What we are able to offer

- A high level of professional support with access to training where required and induction at both Department and School levels.
- A well-resourced Department
- Students who are highly motivated and want to achieve.
- An in-house CPD programme that encourages professional development.
- An ICT rich environment

Application process

The closing date is **13th May at 12 noon.** In your application you should include the following:

- The completed Wirral Grammar School application form
- The completed WGSB Self Disclosure Form
- A letter of application in which you address the following using each as a separate section:
 - Your experience and how it has prepared you for this role
 - How you would seek to engage and motivate pupils and promote a passion for Modern Foreign Languages
 - What your priorities would be if successful

Successful shortlisted candidates will be invited to interview, however, if you have not heard from us within one week of the closing date, please assume that this particular application has been unsuccessful.

Feedback is always offered to candidates who attend for interview but who are not appointed. **We regret that we are unable to give feedback where applicants are not shortlisted to attend for interview; this is due to the large number of applications that we receive.**

Applications **together with all supporting documentation (as indicated in the application process above)** should be emailed to tfry@wirralgrammarboys.com