
Teacher of Art

Contract Type:	Full Time, Permanent
Required for:	September 2021
Closing Date for applications:	10:00am, Monday 14th June 2021
Interview date:	w/b Monday 14th June 2021

This is an outstanding opportunity to join one of Oxfordshire's most successful schools. Wallingford School is a successful, oversubscribed, 8-form entry, mixed comprehensive Academy of over 1250 students aged 11-19, who come from Wallingford and its surrounding villages. We have an excellent reputation, enjoying strong support from parents and students, and a good and growing working relationship with the local community.

Examination outcomes are very strong indeed – what follows is a summary of our most recent externally assessed results from 2019. At Key Stage 5 our figure of 65% of grades being either A*, A or B was the highest of any state school Sixth Form in Oxfordshire in 2019 and our value-added score placed us once again within the top 20% of schools nationally. At Key Stage 4 our Progress 8 score was 0.31 with 61% of students attaining 5+ in both English and Maths and 24% 7+ in those subjects. In short, our students achieve highly during their time with us.

These results are great but our school is about much more than just exams. We are an inclusive school which – as the only secondary school in the town – is determined to serve its local community well. Comprehensive school values are important to us. Students of all abilities thrive at Wallingford and we pride ourselves on giving students a chance who may not have had one at other schools.

Staff – both teaching and associate – are happy at Wallingford. Professional development is important to us and our programme is varied but also bespoke to support individual needs and priorities. Our annual two-day Teaching and Learning Conference is probably the highlight of this programme. Student attitudes and behaviour are excellent and are frequently commented upon by visitors as being so. It is an excellent place to work and we are committed to staff wellbeing and a healthy work-life balance for all our colleagues.

Given the experience with our expressive arts team, this post would be ideal for someone towards the start of their career, but we will also consider more experienced colleagues.

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Expressive Arts:

The Art Department, alongside Music, Drama and Dance, form the Expressive Arts department. The Expressive Arts are highly regarded subjects within the school and are recognised as being instrumental in contributing towards the ways in which the students learn to enquire about the world, express themselves and be creative. The department boasts several well attended extra-curricular events, including the Art Exhibition and have been involved in some exciting projects within the wider community.

The staff are very experienced and form their own innovative, forward-thinking departments. Many of the staff have other roles within Wallingford School including Pastoral and 'Scholars' leads. The staff at Wallingford are encouraged to develop their specific interests in education and advance their own learning. The school provides a dedicated focus towards professional development and promotes the enhancement of teaching and learning techniques across the curriculum.

Art at Wallingford:

Art at Wallingford School has long been a successful and popular subject; encouraging and sustaining 2 classes to GCSE level. In the last few years the department has achieved 97% or more Grade 4s and above. The students on our KS5 BTEC courses quickly grow in confidence; utilizing their existing knowledge to become enthusiastic and committed practitioners. Many of our Year 13 candidates go on to degree level with a view to beginning a career within the Arts. We believe our successes at Key Stage 4 and above are directly related to the foundations constructed at Key Stage 3.

We believe the Art Department should be the focus for visual learning throughout the school. Individuals are increasingly bombarded with visual imagery. Sight is the main sense through which we make initial interpretations of our world and so through Art and Design education, students can become more critically aware of the imagery that surrounds them. As a result, we study a wide range of source material from historical works of art, to contemporary creations, craftwork, and design and media imagery.

Along with developing critical skills and the students' creativity and imaginations, the Art Department seeks to advance practical and technical skills through scaffolding learning. Throughout the Key Stages, students work in a variety of media and on different scales. Along with painting and drawing, we offer printing, sculpture, ceramics, photography and ICT work.

As well as skill acquisition, a central focus is the process of learning itself. Through understanding how their own knowledge can be improved and developed, the department's staff aim to empower students; not just to advance their artistic abilities, but also to maximise their learning potential in other areas.

The Art department runs regular trips to galleries and exhibitions in Oxford and London. It also provides well-attended Life Drawing sessions for Key Stage 5 students.

Accommodation:

The Art Department boasts - Three dedicated teaching rooms (each with an interactive whiteboard)

A Sixth Form studio

A Ceramics studio

An ICT suite

An exhibition area

A department office

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Selection Criteria

The successful candidate will:

- Have the ability to teach Art across the ability range, including KS4 & 5.
- Enjoys working as part of a team and sharing expertise.
- Be a reflective practitioner, who has the potential to develop his/her own career further
- Have the ability to communicate effectively with staff, parents and students
- Has unquenchable enthusiasm for Art
- Believes that students are capable of high standards, and expects them to achieve
- Has the capacity to develop our pupils both in Art and beyond
- An interest in building the Ceramics offer within the department
- Is keen to lead or contribute to the long-term development of the department.

General Duties

At The Merchant Taylors' Academy Trust we pride ourselves on providing a safe and happy environment where young people can flourish and we want to send every young person into the world able and qualified to play their full part in it. This job description should be read in conjunction with the current School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document and the provisions of that document will apply to the post holder. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All successful candidates will be subject to Criminal Records Bureau checks along with other relevant employment checks.

You will be expected to carry out the professional duties of a teacher as outlined in the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document currently in operation, or any subsequent legislation. The performance of all the duties and responsibilities shown below will be under the reasonable direction of the Headteacher, or other Senior Manager if appropriate, who will be mindful of his/her duty to ensure that the employee has a reasonable workload and sufficient support to carry out the duties of the post.

The successful candidate may be expected to be a form tutor and on Friday mornings help with the delivery of the school's PSHE programme. In addition to support from within the Art team, newly appointed staff are able to benefit from the induction support programme. You will find many opportunities at Wallingford School and we look forward to receiving your application.

Please email all completed applications to: recruit@wallingfordschool.com

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