



Dame Alice Owen's School

NoR: 1,447, Sixth form: 425

Ofsted: "An outstanding school", "Students achieve outstandingly well",
"Behaviour ... is excellent"

TEACHER OF DRAMA (MPS/UPS)

Required as soon as possible

We welcome applications from both NQTs and experienced teachers

**Part time, fixed term contract (Maternity Cover)
until the return of substantive post holder**

Closing date: 12 noon, Thursday 27th January 2022

Interview date: Wednesday 2nd February 2022

We reserve the right to make an appointment before the closing date, so early applications are encouraged.

The governors of this highly successful, partially selective, mixed school invite applications for the post of Teacher of Drama. We seek a highly motivated and energetic candidate to join our very successful and very well-resourced Drama department. The school benefits from a purpose-built concert/drama hall, a drama studio and excellent facilities in the main hall. If you believe you can enhance our performance further, and are committed to academic excellence, we would be interested in your application.

In 2019, 96% of all students secured five or more A*-Cs at GCSE, and 84% of A level entries were graded A*- B. 96% GCSE Drama results were graded 9-5, with 78% at grade 9-7 and 100% of A Level Drama results were graded A*-B.

The school is situated on an attractive 35-acre site in the Green Belt, has excellent facilities and is committed to an extensive programme of staff development. Central London is easily reached by rail from Potters Bar and the school is close to motorway links.

The Governing Body is committed to admitting the children of staff in line with our admissions procedures.

Please download our [Teaching Staff application form](#) from our website to make your application. Please note that applications cannot be considered unless the application is completed in full. We are not able to accept CV's for any posts based in school. To apply, please send your completed application form together with a covering letter stating why you are well placed to take this position at our school to recruitment@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk by **12 noon, Thursday 27th January 2022**.



Dame Alice Owen's School

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Headteacher | Mrs Hannah Nemko MA

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INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

Name of post: Teacher of Drama

Location: Potters Bar, Hertfordshire

Closing date: 12 noon, Thursday 27th January 2022

Interviews: Wednesday 2nd February 2022

Thank you for your interest in applying to Dame Alice Owen's School. Though much of the information we have about our school is available on our website, we have put some key information together here to help you through the application process.

The school is committed to safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. Please take time to read our Safer Recruitment and Safeguarding and Child Protection policies available in the vacancy section of our website.

The selection process includes scrutiny of the information provided in your application form, a request for references including a reference from your current/previous employer, teaching a lesson, an informal interview with a student panel and an interview.

If you have any general enquiries about the recruitment process, or to arrange a tour or informal discussion about this position, please do not hesitate to contact Emma Govier via goviere@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk.

Applicants shortlisted for interview must bring original evidence of their qualifications for verification. Applicants will also be asked to complete a declaration regarding convictions and working with children as posts in schools are exempt from the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service disclosure check.

Please email your completed application form together with a letter of application to recruitment@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk by **12 noon, Thursday 27th January 2022**.

We look forward to receiving your completed application.

Hannah Nemko
Headteacher

Details of the School, Department and vacancy

Teacher of Drama required as soon as possible

Part Time, maternity cover

Introduction

Dame Alice Owen's School is a mixed, partially selective secondary school with over 1,440 registered students and a vibrant and highly successful sixth form. Our school was founded 400 years ago by Dame Alice Owen, a remarkable philanthropist with an unusually modern vision for education. She established the first school in Islington and as demand outstripped space, it moved to its current setting in the Hertfordshire countryside. Because of its roots and its close and important relationship with the Worshipful Company of Brewers, there are 20 places each year for 11 year old students from Islington. It also offers 65 places to the highest scoring applicants who sit the entrance exam each year and a further 10 places for students showing the most aptitude in music who apply for a place in Year 7. The remainder of the places, in an annual cohort of 200, go to siblings, local students on the basis of proximity to the school and to those with priority need.

It is this combination of student and its truly outstanding record of achievement and added value that makes our school such a special place. It is oversubscribed by 5 applicants per place every year. Our dedicated staff, parents' association, Governing Body and school (staff and student) leaders constantly appraise and re-appraise the various aspects of school life, learning and achievement so we are never complacent. Our school faces the usual challenges of all educational establishments in the public sector, and ensuring that their impact is felt least by the students is a key objective.

We were delighted to be recognised as The Sunday Times Regional School of the Decade in November 2020' and the country's highest ranking non-fully selective state school of the year in 2021. Securing a place at Owen's has been described as "winning the lottery" in the Good School Guide and "the golden ticket" in Tatler. Our school benefits from some of the most able students in the country. Many of our school leavers from Year 13 have offers from top universities to choose from, including on average 20 places at Oxbridge each year.

Our Foundress left a number of fields in the then village of Islington to the care of the Worshipful Company of Brewers which now generate over one million pounds of additional income for the school annually, to support the school. This creates a very special ethos and fosters the very positive staff working environment. The students and staff benefit from a number of traditions including Beer Money, staff awards and Visitation.

Below are some of the key qualities and attributes we believe have contributed to the school's excellent reputation:

- Committed and dedicated staff who are responsive to change
- The value we place on collaboration, both within our school and with other schools
- Teamworking
- Superb pastoral care
- Energetic, curious and enthusiastic students
- A very wide range of extra-curricular activities, most notably within Music
- Excellent resources and facilities
- Forward-looking and proactive leadership
- Attention to detail
- A foundation stone of tradition and heritage; and
- Exceptional recognition by Ofsted.

Our primary aim is to work in partnership with students and parents to ensure that students achieve their full potential by:

- Striving for academic excellence;
- Providing a happy, safe, purposeful and caring environment and encouraging a sense of pride in the individual and our School;
- Embracing innovation whilst maintaining our strong links with tradition;
- Providing interesting and challenging opportunities so that students enjoy their learning and maintain a desire to continue learning throughout their lives;
- Recruiting and developing outstanding staff;
- Offering high quality extra-curricular activities which involve all students;
- Promoting respect for and understanding of religious and moral values.

The Drama Department

“A theatre is the most important sort of house in the world, because that’s where people are shown what they could be if they wanted, and what they’d like to be if they dared to and what they really are.”

Tove Jansson

Statement of Intent: In our Drama lessons we aim to give every child the opportunity to develop their imagination, confidence and empathy towards others. We believe that the Performing Arts enable students to explore a wide variety of social, historical, cultural, political and religious ideas in a creative and safe environment. Drama also gives the opportunity for students to challenge and question the world we live in and to bring about change.

Key Stage 3: In Years 7 students have one hour a week where they explore a range of theatrical performance styles including Fairytale, Mime, Improvisation, Physical Theatre and Scripted Performance. In Year 8 students have one hour a week where they explore a range of topics including Clowning, Commedia Dell’ Arte, Greek Theatre, Melodrama, Film Making & the Theatre of the Oppressed.

Key Stage 4: In Years 10 & 11 we follow the EDEXCEL/Pearson course studying a range of set texts including 1984, The Crucible & Twelfth Night. Year 10 students are currently learning about a range of theatre practitioners including Stanislavski, Brecht, Boal, Frantic Assembly & DV8; they will then choose a practitioner style to devise their exam piece in. Year 11 Students are currently devising their exam pieces which they will be performing in November.

Key Stage 5: In Year 12 & 13 we follow the EDEXCEL/Pearson Course studying a range of set texts including Machinal, That Face, Fences, Woyzeck, Hedda Gabler & The School for Scandal. Year 12 are currently learning about new theatre practitioners, studying a set text and devising their exam piece. Year 13 Students are currently studying their set texts and rehearsing their devised piece which they will be performing in November.

Extra-Curricular: We have three Drama Clubs for Years 7, 8 & 9. The first two are run by 6th form students and the latter by the Director of Drama. There is currently no Drama in Year 9, however there is a Drama Club where students explore Theatre Practitioners, Script Extracts and Devised Work with the Director of Drama. All clubs provide the opportunity for students to explore improvisational activities, develop their confidence & theatrical skills. We also run a successful playwriting group for 6th formers that has been run for around 7 years in association with both New Views in association with the National Theatre and Tamasha.

Internal Drama Workshops: We invite professional theatre companies and alumni into the school to run relevant workshops including Vamos, Frantic Assembly and Complicité. Our most recent was with New Views in association with The National Theatre with the playwright Christopher William Hill who led our students in a 2 hour workshop related to playwriting skills.

Theatre Trips: Theatre trips are a requirement as they form part of the students’ written exams and provide vital inspiration for Devising Exam work. Staff are expected to organise and run trips to a range of theatres in London. We follow up these excursions with analytical and evaluative lessons in class to prepare students for their written exams.

Extra-Curricular Plays: Traditionally there are three performances in the academic year; the Winter Show is a play for Years 10 - 13; the Spring Show a Musical and the Summer Show for the Junior Students in Years 7 - 9. Please see the website for past productions.

Creative Crew Club: Mr Anastasi the Director of Art and Ms Govier collaborate on a set design for the three productions, and a team of A Level artists paint the design. Mr Stensel in Design Technology has created all sorts of small props and larger set pieces for our productions.

Technical Crew Club: A group of students led by Year 13 students and overseen by Mr Pickering in Science who collaborate with Ms Govier as to the needs and technical design of the production in terms of lighting & sound design.

What we can offer you

The school provides an excellent range of staff development opportunities. This is currently led by Lauren Common, Assistant Headteacher and our team of ASTs/SLEs with responsibility for teaching and learning. All staff members are encouraged to continue their personal development and undertake further qualifications if they wish.

We have a commitment to ensuring staff undertake minimal cover and wherever possible none at all. The Governing Body is committed to admitting the children of staff in line with our admissions procedures.

We fully appreciate the time and consideration which go into applying for a new job. If there is anything we can do to help you through this process, please do not hesitate to ask.

We very much look forward to receiving your application.

Job Description



Post Title: Teacher of Drama
Responsible to: Director of Drama

Purpose of the Role: To teach a range of classes across the 11–18 age and ability range and use available resources to maintain the highest possible standards of teaching and learning in the subject.

Teaching and Learning

1. Teach well prepared, challenging lessons in accordance with Dame Alice Owen's expectations
2. Make good use of class information and data to ensure all students are supported and challenged according to their need
3. Demonstrate your commitment to personal development through your actions and your commitment to your own Performance Management
4. Implement curriculum change as appropriate
5. Contribute to the writing and delivery of appropriate Schemes of Work which meet the academic needs of all students as directed by your HoD
6. Ensure public examination syllabuses are taught thoroughly, keeping abreast of changes and swiftly making amendments as required
7. Promote a stimulating learning environment, including useful and stimulating displays, which encourage students to learn

Achievements and Standards

1. Track and monitor individual students to bring about improvement where needed
2. Ensure appropriate participation in departmental moderation as required throughout the year
3. Take responsibility for overall behaviour management within lessons and throughout the school to ensure a safe, secure and structured learning environment
4. To play an active role in performance management and self-development activities

General requirements

1. To carry out any pastoral support roles (including being a tutor and delivering PSHRE) as required
2. To contribute to the extra curricular offer
3. To play a role in ensuring effective safeguarding and wellbeing of our students
4. Provide clear and useful feedback to students and parents/carers as required
5. To attend periodical after school meetings/events such as Visitation, Parents' evening, as required by the Headteacher and published in the school calendar
6. To check your email regularly and respond in a timely manner
7. To contribute articles to the half-termly newsletter as appropriate
8. To complete any other reasonable tasks as required by the Headteacher



Person Specification

	Desirable/ Essential
Education	
Holds a degree (or higher) level qualification in Drama or related subject	E
Holds QTS	E
Up-to-date in-service training in subject and whole school issues	E
Additional qualifications relevant to the post	D
Experience	
Experience from a similar post	D
Recent experience of teaching the 11-18 age range	E
Experience of producing examination results to a high standard	E
Experience of working in more than one previous school	D
Specialist skills and knowledge	
Strong working knowledge of the National Curriculum, issues and developments	E
Excellent administration, organisation and management skills	E
Excellent information and communication technology skills	D
Knowledge of equal opportunity issues for students and staff	E
Clear commitment to the safeguarding of students	E
An innovative and exciting approach to teaching and learning with an understanding and proven practice of excellence for all	E
Other	
An outstanding classroom practitioner	E
An energetic committed individual with a clear vision and unwavering commitment to excellence for all	E
Open and enthusiastic	E
A problem solver with a 'can do' attitude	E
Ability to multitask, prioritise, stay relaxed under pressure and deal with numerous challenges simultaneously	E
Willingness and clear commitment to be involved in extracurricular activities	E
Excellent emotional intelligence and interpersonal, communication skills	E
A good sense of humour!	E

This job description sets out the duties of the post at the time it was drawn up. Such duties may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the duties or the level of responsibility entailed. Such variations are a common occurrence and cannot in themselves justify a reconsideration of the grading of the post.