



QUEEN MARY'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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



Information Pack

Teacher of PSHE

0.6, MPS/UPS

Required from September 2026

Queen Mary's Grammar School
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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. It is our aim to support pupils to achieve their full academic potential. We value the life of the mind and want to pass on a love of learning.

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 exchanges and travel; participation in music, debating and public speaking and many other activities. We believe that achievement and enjoyment go hand in hand.

We equip our pupils to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing world. Most choose to go on to higher education. Through partnership between School, pupil and parents, we aim for the examination success that will open doors to the very best universities and international employers. It is our mission to attain excellence in all that we do.

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 recognise our many privileges. We are keen to share what we have - experience, expertise, enthusiasm - both with those who live on our doorstep and those from further afield.

To do so is very much in the spirit of our motto *quas dederis solas semper habebis opes*: it is what you give that you will keep as eternal riches.

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. In March 2023, it was recognised as 'Outstanding' in all areas by Ofsted.

There are currently almost 1400 pupils on roll, including over 500 in the Sixth Form. The School has an outstanding academic record and regularly features at the upper end of the national league tables. In 2025, 68% of GCSE grades were 7-9 and 70% 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 few years, we completed projects to add additional capacity through the building of extra science rooms, a humanities block and a sixth form study annexe.

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 recent 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 have been named in the Top 100 cricket schools by the *Cricketer Magazine* for the second year 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 trips and opportunities, such as visits to Farchynys (our Welsh field centre)
- 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>.

Please contact Mrs N Turner (SLT Administrator) if you would like to discuss the role further via email; n.turner@qmgs.merciantrust.org.uk

The PSHE Department

The Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) department at Queen Mary's Grammar School is a small, committed team with big ambitions for our pupils. As a department, we wish to create citizens of the world who are *international in outlook*, critical thinkers who are *academic in purpose*, active members of society who contribute meaningfully to its betterment by being *generous in approach* and successful, interesting and interested adults who are *enterprising in spirit*. Our work is underpinned by the school's four pillars and its motto of *quas dederis solas semper habebis opes* – it is what you give you shall keep as eternal riches.

PSHE is taken seriously at QMGS. All pupils in all key stages have a timetabled, fortnightly lesson that is taught by a specialist teacher who is passionate about the subject and its place on the curriculum. Other members of staff teach aspects of PSHE through form time, the 'tutor time curriculum' also being overseen by the head of PSHE. The department also offers additional enrichment opportunities through visiting speakers, workshops and QM Alliance, our society for LGBTQ+ pupils and their allies.

In the Sixth Form, PSHE is taught as 'Social, Political and Cultural Studies', a change in line with their graduation to the next level of academic study. The curriculum is centred around big ideas we feel it is important for our VIth Form leavers to have a solid understanding of before they leave us. This change was made only this year, after consulting pupils about what they felt they needed from their PSHE lessons, and so there is an exciting opportunity for further development of the VIth Form curriculum for a new department member.

The work of the PSHE department at QMGS has gained national attention. In 2019, QMGS featured as the case study school in the 'Student Mental Health' chapter of Ross Morrison McGill's book *Just Great Teaching*. Our previous Head of Department has quite literally 'written the book' on PSHE teaching: *Developing Quality PSHE in Secondary Schools and Colleges*.

Joining the department will provide an opportunity for you to develop as a PSHE subject specialist. You will be supported by the Head of Department, high-quality teaching resources and other colleagues to become a confident teacher of several different topics including media literacy, relationships and sex education, social issues, careers and finance, politics, physical health and mental wellbeing.

At the heart of our teaching philosophy is the idea of 'life to the full'. We encourage our pupils to look beyond themselves to consider the lived experiences of people very different to them, to develop empathy and emotional literacy, to know themselves deeply and to build happy and healthy relationships with others. It is our hope that their PSHE education contributes positively to all aspects of their future wellbeing, encompassing physical, mental and sexual health, having a positive impact on the communities they choose to be a part of, making confident financial, educational and career choices and feeling empowered to follow a life path they choose for themselves.

We also aim to contribute to our pupils' cultivation of a range of personal values and ethics. We support pupils to challenge one another's opinions and engage in healthy debate in order to think deeply and critically about their own assertions, placing a high degree of value on the process of open discussion, critical thinking and the development of a range of social and rhetorical skills, as well as the virtues of tolerance, civility and compromise.

The teaching style of PSHE at QMGS means that the ability and willingness to develop strong, warm relationships with all pupils is absolutely essential for any prospective candidate. It also requires you to be confident in guiding discussions between pupils, using Socratic questioning to encourage pupils to think deeply and reach their own conclusions. We welcome applicants with a rich, broad base of knowledge and interests, who are intellectually curious and able to teach PSHE with the academic rigour expected of a grammar school education. Prospective candidates are also expected to contribute to the extra-curricular work and future development of the department. We look forward to receiving your application and welcome informal visits to the school to meet with the Head of Department.

The Role

Job Title:	Teacher of PSHE
Start Date	September 2026
Grade / Salary:	MPR/UPR
Contract	0.6, Permanent

The successful candidate will:

- teach PSHE from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 5, adapting their teaching style to suit
- plan and teach challenging, thought-provoking lessons, which enable high levels of progress
- make a contribution to and follow the department's curriculum
- build relationships with pupils and maintain discipline in lessons to ensure that learning can take place and create a safe, warm learning environment where pupils feel comfortable to share ideas
- deploy a range of teaching strategies to engage pupils, with a focus on oracy and discussion
- monitor the progress of pupils by employing a range of assessment strategies suited to the nature of the subject, including using technology to do this (supported by the HoD)
- use relevant pupil data to help all pupils to achieve their full potential, including those identified as vulnerable
- communicate regularly with the Head of Department about pupil performance and achievement and engage in reflective conversations about the pedagogy of PSHE
- make an active contribution to the extra-curricular life of the department and the school.

Sociology is also taught within the department (currently GCSE with A-Level starting this year) and the ability to teach Sociology and/or an additional subject would be an advantage and an opportunity to increase the contracted hours.

Person Specification:

- well-qualified graduate, preferably in a related discipline (e.g., social sciences, humanities)
- hold, or be working towards, a Postgraduate Certificate of Education or equivalent teaching qualification in secondary education
- passionate about the academic rigour of PSHE
- a willingness and commitment to in-depth learning about curriculum areas that you may be less confident in teaching initially (supported by the Head of Department)
- a genuine team-player; resilient and blessed with a sense of humour
- ability to generate 'buy-in' from pupils for PSHE and adapt teaching style for different key stages
- positive, innovative and enthusiastic in approach
- excellent oral and written communication skills/effective ICT skills
- commitment to support the Head of Department and the team
- willing to be involved in the pastoral life of the school and act in the role of Form Tutor

- commitment to the wider ethos of the school and a willingness to contribute to enrichment activities

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

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

Queen Mary's Grammar school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people/vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Safeguarding and Safer Recruitment Policies can be found on our website. This position is subject to appropriate vetting procedures including a criminal record check from the Disclosure and Barring Service (formerly CRB) which will require you to disclose details of all unspent and unfiltered spent reprimands, formal warnings, cautions and convictions as part of the recruitment process.

The Mercian Trust

Queen Mary's Grammar School is a Founder Academy of the Mercian Multi-Academy Trust.

As one Trust we share a common purpose. We call it our social mobility and social justice mission to change our communities through the very best equitable education. When we get this right, it enables our children and young people to fulfil their potential, thrive in the world of work, and make a positive contribution to the local, national and international community.

Put simply, our common purpose is to increase opportunities and improve outcomes for our students. We are particularly committed to students who are under-served and under-resourced. We prioritise those who have special educational needs and disabilities, or who are more likely to face discrimination for whatever reason.

It is this common purpose that fuels everything we do. We deliver impactful, sustainable and ethical continuous school improvement in our schools to ensure the children and young people in the communities we serve learn in the very best and most inclusive schools.

We are deeply rooted in the communities we serve (which are the education investment areas of the West Midlands). We adopt a pioneering spirit and look to lead the sector with innovative solutions to the problems our students and families face.

We are proud of our achievements so far:

- Our selective schools are the most successful in the country at increasing the number of local disadvantaged students passing the entrance test and joining our grammar schools.
- Our St Matthew's campus in Walsall Town centre has brought new investment and innovation to the town and is home to our Alternative Provision Free School for students at risk of exclusion from Mainstream education. the campus is home to our Studio School where students can take a more technical or vocational route to university and employment - and also the home of our Digital Skills Hub connecting schools with employers and our students with industry professionals.
- Our social mobility and social justice mission goes beyond traditional education and training. We are proud to have hosted the region's first Youth Suicide Awareness and Prevention Conference at Villa Park, building on our pioneering work in youth mental health.
- Our innovative multi-disciplinary team of clinicians and allied health professionals support our vulnerable students, reducing clinical assessment waiting times from nearly 12 months to just 2 weeks.
- Our social mobility and social justice mission is both what we do, and who we are. We exist to enable all our students to fulfil their potential, thrive in the world of work and make a positive contribution to their local, national and international community.

Location

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

Tel: 01922 720696
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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.

You are very welcome to visit the school. Please contact Mrs N Turner at n.turner@qmgs.merciantrust.org.uk to arrange a visit.

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.