



TEACHER OF ENGLISH

Start Date: September 2021

Full-time or Part-time

THE DEPARTMENT

Introduction

The department's philosophy is to promote accuracy and creativity as complementary qualities while analytical and critical skills, at all levels, are promoted and nurtured across both English Language and English Literature. One of the hallmarks of the department's educational care is the willingness of staff to guide and help individuals in and beyond the classroom. There are also EAL and Learning Enhancement departments, separately staffed.

Facilities

The department occupies the upper half of the main teaching block where all rooms have ICT provision. Members of the department either use their classrooms as a study base or a shared room nearby, suitable for preparation and consultation. The department and Library stock a comprehensive selection of books, journals and DVDs. Proximity to the Templeman Library at the University of Kent provides excellent access to academic materials.

Staffing and Teaching

The English department is held in high regard by pupils, parents, other departments and Senior Leadership. It is staffed by four full-time teachers: Head of English and three others (one of whom is the Head of Film Studies). There are also four part-time teachers, all with other academic responsibilities, some in other departments, some in Senior Leadership. The school's two-week timetable comprises 30 lessons, Monday to Friday. Each lesson lasts roughly 60 minutes. Members of staff with no other major responsibilities can expect to teach approximately 36 lessons over a two-week cycle. There are many opportunities in a supportive environment for an enthusiastic and dynamic teacher both within and beyond the classroom.

Courses

The department sets its own programme of study in Year 9 (Lower Fifth). At GCSE (Years 10 and 11), the OCR English Language and English Literature specifications are taught. Classes are set by ability – with movement

between sets contingent on progress. Regular internal examinations and assessment of classwork, in addition to school-based academic review cards (ARCs) and departmental discussions, form a secure benchmark for all academic decisions. At A-level, the OCR English Literature specification is followed. Sixth Form classes regularly comprise two teaching groups of up to 10 pupils each. At GCSE level pupils have 8 lessons per fortnight; in the Sixth Form, 9 lessons.

Examination Results

The department has a strong track record in terms of examination results, with 89% achieving level 9 – 4 in English Language (2019) and 90% 9 – 4 in English Literature (2019). At A-level, 92% of candidates scored A* – C (2019), with a third of candidates being awarded A* – A. Above all, the department aims to enable each candidate in every year to reach his or her maximum potential.

Outside the Classroom

The extra-curricular life of the department includes regular visits both to local theatres (the Marlowe Theatre and the Gulbenkian Theatre at the University of Kent) and to London theatres. The Literary and Debating Societies provide opportunities for sharing ideas and discussing opinions after school or in the evening. Annually, there are prizes for speaking as well as for creative work and poetry.

THE POST

The attributes of the successful applicant will include:

- A good honours degree
- Excellent subject knowledge
- Good classroom management skills
- The ability to communicate effectively with pupils of all abilities
- A flexible approach
- Sensitivity, including to issues of pupil welfare
- Organisational skills; reliability in working to deadlines
- Enthusiasm

The desirable qualities of the successful applicant will include:

- Experience of teaching across the age range from key stage 3 to A-level
- A formal teaching qualification
- High standards of oral and written expression
- Good ICT skills
- A willingness to organise, attend and contribute to extra-curricular activities, including play trips, within the department as well as in the wider school

THE SCHOOL

St Edmund's School is a co-educational day and boarding school with c. 550 pupils from the ages of 3 to 18. The school is officially designated "a school of religious character". The Choristers of Canterbury Cathedral, who are full members of the Junior School, were incorporated into St Edmund's in 1972. The Head is a member of the

Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference (HMC) and the Head of the Junior School is a member of the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools (IAPS) and of the Choir Schools' Association (CSA).

The Pre-Prep, Junior, and Senior Schools are on the same site and are closely integrated, using the same Chapel, music and art facilities, dining hall, science laboratories and sports hall. The school prides itself on its friendly, family environment where every pupil and staff member is known and valued.

Although the majority of children are day pupils, one quarter of the school's pupils are boarders, from a wide range of backgrounds. The school operates a five-day teaching week, but also runs a Saturday morning activities programme which is optional for Senior School day pupils. All boarders participate in both Saturday and Sunday activities programmes.

All full-time members of the Senior School teaching staff are expected to offer and contribute to the full programme of extra-curricular activities and study opportunities on Saturday mornings on a rotational basis.

The school adjoins the University of Kent and is able to make use of many of the University's facilities: the Templeman Library, the Gulbenkian theatre and the public lectures amongst others. London's West End is within easy reach. Further information about St Edmund's may be found on the School's website: www.stedmunds.org.uk.

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

The school is a member of the Teachers' Pension Scheme and it is assumed that all teaching staff will continue as members of this pension scheme unless they inform the school otherwise. Fee remission is available to all members of staff subject to spaces being available and subject to change. Lunch is offered free-of-charge for all staff whose working hours encompass the time of school lunch and who accept the necessary supervisory role of staff and pupils during this period. Free parking on site is available for all staff.

All members of staff are expected to contribute to the wider life of the school community and are personal tutors to some 8 to 10 pupils. All full-time members of staff contribute to the games and/or activities programmes.

St Edmund's School Canterbury is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

Personal information provided by candidates will be kept on a secure file in the school and will not be released to third parties outside the school without the permission of the person concerned, except where there is a legal requirement so to do.

APPLICATIONS

Applications must take the form of a completed Teaching Staff Application Form, and a concise covering letter outlining the candidate's suitability for the post. The names and contact details (including email addresses) of two referees are required (one of whom must be your current or most recent employer and neither referee should be

a relative or someone known to you solely as a friend).

Applications should be emailed to slh@stedmunds.org.uk no later than 09.00am Monday 21st June 2021.