

Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall



Teacher of Mathematics Post – From September 2017
MPR



The School

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 far more than just a place of work – it is a thriving community, proud of its past and confident of its future. In November 2008, it was recognised as '*Outstanding*' by Ofsted.

There are currently 938 pupils on roll, including 342 in the Sixth Form. The School has an outstanding academic record and regularly features in the upper reaches of the national league tables. In 2016, 79% of GCSE grades were A*/A and 76% of A Level grades were A*, A or B. Our value added scores are particularly impressive (with GCSE being in the 5th percentile nationally in 2015); we do not rest on our laurels, but encourage all our pupils to take up the challenge of realising their full potential.

In June 2011, the School converted to Academy status and we have undertaken a series of exciting building projects over the past 6 years, including a new Sixth Form Centre, Science labs and a Humanities wing, as well as a new dining room and reception. We partnered a local Charity in the founding of Walsall Studio School in 2012 and are currently in the final stages of setting up the Mercian Multi Academy Trust (along with four other schools).

The School encourages an enterprising and international outlook: we have enjoyed exchanges with a partner school in Shaoxing, and schools in Albi (France), Biedenkopf (Germany) and Vigo (Spain).

We want our own 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 sport, drama and music, in the Combined Cadet Force and at our Field Centre on the Afon Mawddach in Southern Snowdonia.

You will notice a relaxed working atmosphere as you walk round the school. Our pupils come from diverse backgrounds, but they all thrive on the sense of support, encouragement and care that characterises Queen Mary's. Increasingly our pupils play a leading role in the school's development; *participation* is the key idea behind our motto - it's what you are prepared to put in that will prove to be a source of riches for the rest of your life or, more succinctly in Latin: *Quas dederis solas semper habebis opes*.



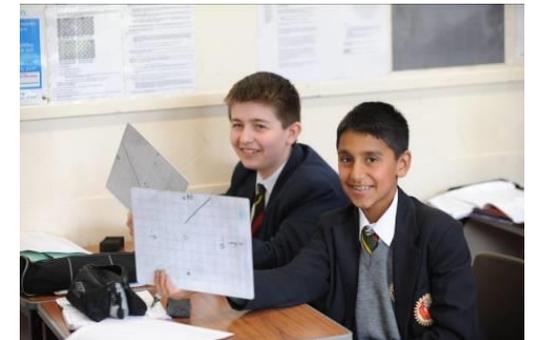
The Department

The Mathematics department at Queen Mary's is a happy and rewarding place to work. Our pupils have outstanding natural ability in the subject and their teachers gain great pleasure in stretching them to achieve the highest possible standards.

There are currently eight permanent full-time members of staff: Simon Willis, who is the head of department, Matthew Litchfield, Alex Hudson, John Smethurst, Joe Diskin, Aaron Mitchell, Alec Scott and Paul Bradley. The Maths Department is staffed by highly qualified and gifted teachers and there is a real sense of teamwork in everything that they do.

Mathematics enjoys outstanding success in examinations: an impressive 91% of the 2016 GCSE cohort obtained A* or A grades. The most able students complete the GCSE and the Free Standing Additional Mathematics qualification in Year 11. It is no surprise, then, that it is the most popular A Level subject in the school and there are currently fifteen sets across the two years of the sixth form, four of which are Further Mathematics groups. At A2 level, 70% gained A*, A or B grades in 2016. In the sixth form, pupils study modules in Pure Mathematics, Mechanics, Statistics and Decision Mathematics. This job opportunity therefore provides the chance to teach gifted children from Year 7 all the way up to A2 Further Mathematics students.

There is a good balance, in the Mathematics teachers at the school, between experience and enthusiasm. There are good opportunities for purposeful career development and active support in trying out new teaching ideas. Staff are serious about the job of realising the potential of every student, but they enjoy the process too. All members of the department play a key role in the wider life of the school, from involvement in the CCF and music, to heading up School chess, the coaching of sports teams, organising quiz and other competitions, to the running of the Project Horizon initiative and the Alabama Space Camp trip.



The position

Job Description:

The successful candidate will:

- teach Mathematics to all Year groups from Y7 to A Level
- plan and teach challenging and differentiated lessons which enable high levels of progress
- maintain discipline in lessons to ensure that learning can take place
- monitor and mark pupils' work, giving constructive feedback to aid improved performance
- communicate regularly with the Head of Department about pupil performance and achievement
- use relevant pupil data to help pupils to achieve their full potential
- make an active contribution to the extra-curricular life of the school

Person Specification:

- You will be a well-qualified graduate in the appropriate subject discipline
- You will possess, or be working towards, a Postgraduate Certificate of Education or equivalent teaching qualification in secondary education
- You will be an innovative teacher, keen to develop Mathematics teaching in the school
- You will have a commitment to the ethos of the school and a willingness to contribute to enrichment activities
- You will be positive and enthusiastic in approach
- You will have good oral and written communication skills
- You will have well developed ICT skills
- You will have the ability to work as part of a team and to develop and maintain positive relationships with teaching and associate staff
- You will be willing to be involved in the pastoral life of the school and act in the role of form tutor
- You will be suitable to work with children. This job is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure.

Closing date: 12noon on Wednesday 8th May 2017

Interviews: Wednesday 10th May 2017

Open Morning for potential applicants: Friday 17th February between 9.00 - 10.00 am

Introducing a new Multi Academy Trust

Dear Potential Applicant,

The Mercian Trust offers an exciting opportunity for Queen Mary's Grammar School, along with four other partner schools, to be involved in shaping a new educational landscape across the Borough of Walsall.

The Mercian Trust brings together five schools, all rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted, to work for the benefit of all our pupils. The Schools are: Aldridge School, Queen Mary's Grammar School, Queen Mary's High School, Shire Oak Academy and Walsall Studio School.

The Multi Academy Trust or MAT will, we hope, come into existence as a legal entity in April 2017, but The Mercian Trust has already begun to function, establishing good working relationships between the different institutions and the people in them. The Trust respects the autonomy of its founding schools: they will be custodians of their heritage, distinct identity and successful operation. However, as we focus on meeting the needs of pupils across the educational piece, The Mercian will foster and develop strengths that will be greater than the sum of its parts. Diversity is what underpins this Trust; what makes it work is seamless collaboration.

Our MAT will prepare pupils to enjoy life to the full by inspiring them to:

- Realise their full potential as learners
- Thrive in the world of work
- Make a positive contribution to the local, national and international community

Thank you for your interest in joining Queen Mary's Grammar School. It is an exciting prospect in a great school. We hope that the MAT might be able to offer you extra possibilities in terms of development and experience. The DfE described the MAT's plans as a "compelling vision for Walsall." Perhaps you might be involved in turning that vision into reality. If that interests you, it might be something you would like to discuss at interview.

Queen Mary's Grammar School looks forward to receiving your application.

Yours faithfully,



Timothy Swain, CEO Designate,
The Mercian Trust



