



# QUEEN MARY'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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



## Information Pack

Full-time

Teacher of Chemistry

Required from September 2022

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

01922 720696



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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.

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.

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.

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# 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.

There are currently 1263 pupils on roll, including 455 in the Sixth Form. The School has an outstanding academic record and regularly features at the upper end of the national league tables. In 2019, the last available nationally-comparative data due to covid-19, 76% of GCSE grades were 7-9 (A\*/A) and 62% of A Level grades were A\*, A or B. Our value added scores place the school top in the borough, with a Progress 8 score of +0.76 in 2019. 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 couple of years, we have completed projects to add additional capacity through the building of extra science rooms, improving Design Technology and Art facilities and adding six new classrooms to the humanities wing.

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 new 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 were named in the Top 100 cricket schools by the *Cricketer Magazine* for two years 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 NQTs 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 opportunities
- 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>.

For a flavour of daily life at QM follow us on Twitter at @QMGS1554.

Please contact Simran Sahota (HR Executive) if you would like to discuss the role further via email;

[s-sahota@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:s-sahota@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk)

## **The Sciences at Queen Mary's:**

Science at Queen Mary's is a partnership of independent Biology, Chemistry and Physics departments. Each has its own identity and practices, but they work together closely and effectively on strategic issues. There is a good balance between experience and enthusiasm amongst the teachers, and there are exciting opportunities for purposeful career development. Science staff are serious about the job of realising the potential of every student, but they enjoy the process too. Our pupils follow a general science course in Year 7, and are taught the three sciences separately from Year 8 through to Year 11.

The popularity of the three sciences at Queen Mary's is reflected by the expansion of the Science Block, which was finished in 2019, and by the numbers choosing to follow science A-Level courses with the ambition to study a science-related degree course at university. Due to school expansion and the popularity of science subjects at A-Level, we are looking to appoint a specialist chemistry teacher. The ideal candidate will also be able to offer biology teaching to Key Stage 4. It would also be advantageous for the successful candidate to be able to offer an additional subject in the wider school curriculum.

## **The Chemistry Department:**

The chemistry department at Queen Mary's is a happy and rewarding place to work. The Head of Department brings great enthusiasm in his leadership of the department and in stretching the most able to aim high. We are fortunate to have such an experienced, motivated and highly qualified team working alongside him.

The chemistry department ensures excellent outcomes for its students: 88% of the 2019 GCSE cohort obtained grades 7-9. It is no surprise, then, that it is amongst the most popular A Level subjects in the school: there are eight sets in Year 12 and seven sets in Year 13 this academic year. At this level, 55% gained A\*-B grades in 2019. This job opportunity therefore provides the chance to teach gifted students from Year 7 to Year 13.

Academic success has been built on a curriculum that is clear in its progression. As pupils advance through the school, there is demonstration of how content is connected and understanding is deepened by building on previously acquired knowledge and skills. Pupils are aware of what they need to know and should be able to do at each stage. It is an aspirational curriculum but one that is also inclusive. On finishing their school education, many pupils go on to study chemistry at the very best universities, as well as degrees in related fields.

We aim to inspire pupils to be curious about the world around them and assess how developments in the chemical sciences not only affect their lives but also wider society. In providing meaningful contexts and applications, the breadth of chemistry is demonstrated. Not only is this achieved in the classroom but also through extracurricular opportunities: pupils attend the Birmingham University Sixth Form Lectures; take trips to Ecton Hill Copper mine; enter external competitions, such as the Chemistry Olympiad and Cambridge

Chemistry Challenge; and, can take part in a Chemical Synthesis Club, grounding pupils in the artistry of the discipline.



# The Role

<b>Job Title:</b>	<b>Teacher of Chemistry</b>
<b>Start Date</b>	September 2022
<b>Grade / Salary:</b>	MPR/UPR
<b>Contract</b>	Permanent

The successful candidate will:

- teach Chemistry to all year groups from Year 8 to 11, plus A Level for experienced candidates
- teach Year 7 General Science
- be able to teach Biology to Key Stage 4.
  - It would also be advantageous for the successful candidate to offer an additional subject on the wider curriculum
- plan and teach challenging and differentiated lessons which enable high levels of progress
- maintain discipline in lessons to ensure that learning can take place
- deploy a range of teaching strategies to engage students
- mark students' assessments, giving constructive feedback to aid improved performance, and monitor their progress
- work alongside colleagues and students in mentoring and intervention sessions
- use relevant student data to help pupils to achieve their full potential
- communicate regularly with the Head of Department about pupil performance and achievement
- make an active contribution to the co-curricular life of the school.
- appreciate the challenges of the 'Recovery Curriculum', post-covid.

Person Specification:

- well-qualified Science graduate, with a specialism in Chemistry
- hold, or be working towards, a Postgraduate Certificate of Education or equivalent teaching qualification in secondary education
- passionate about the academic rigour of their subject and all that Science entails
- committed to diversity and representation in teaching and learning
- a genuine team-player; resilient and blessed with a sense of humour
- ability to see the bigger picture and work accordingly
- positive 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 must be suitable to work with children. This job is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure.

**Closing date:** Thursday 10 February 2022 – 9:00am

**Interviews:** W/C Monday 14 February 2022

Please return completed application forms to [s-sahota@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:s-sahota@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk)

*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.*

# The Mercian Trust

Queen Mary's Grammar School is a Founder Academy of the Mercian Multi-Academy Trust. According to the National Schools Commissioner, Sir David Carter, MATs exist:

- to secure school improvement and develop people
- to encourage good governance and proper risk management
- to secure the financial health of all its academies.

**We sign up to those ambitions. In our MAT, the Mercian Trust, we choose to pursue life to the full in the business of education.**

The name of our Trust is significant. It is both rooted in royal history and expresses a geographical identity. Mercia was an ancient kingdom comprising parts of Cheshire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire, Worcestershire and, crucially for us, what we now call the Black Country. It was in Mercia that St Chad established learning communities which fostered a sense of common purpose. A thousand years ago, they spoke of bonds of kinship. Today, we want to adopt the same spirit in our approach to relationships within the MAT. So we very much hope that Y7 and Year 12 pupils joining us will feel that they are not only members of Queen Mary's Grammar School, but also of a wider family of schools.

We are convinced that we are stronger together. The Mercian Trust is already helping to shape the educational landscape in exciting ways. We welcome you to be part of that story.

The members of The Mercian Trust are: Aldridge School, The Ladder School, Queen Mary's Grammar School, Queen Mary's High School, Shire Oak Academy, Walsall Studio School.

Our schools prepare pupils to live life to the full by equipping them to realise their full potential as learners; to thrive in the world of work; and to make a positive contribution to the local, national and international community.

You may have heard about some MATs that seem to have turned into big businesses. That is not our view of what education should be about. That is why Queen Mary's Grammar School wanted to be right at the heart of decision making of what our MAT should look like.

The Mercian Trust respects the autonomy of its member schools but, through collaboration, it will foster strengths greater than the sum of its parts. Put simply, the Trust provides a framework for sharing expertise, enthusiasm and experience.

# Location

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

Tel: 01922 720696  
Fax: 01922 725932

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 Simran Sahota (HR Executive) to arrange a visit. Such visits are strongly encouraged.