



APPOINTMENT OF HEAD OF DRAMA

Applications are invited for the post of Head of Drama at Christ's Hospital, with effect from January 2020.

THE SCHOOL

King Edward VI founded Christ's Hospital in 1552 to take the poor children from the streets of London and provide shelter and education for them. Throughout over 460 years of social and economic change, Christ's Hospital has remained true to its founding principles. It now provides high quality boarding education for children who, but for Christ's Hospital, would not have the chances in life that their potential deserves.

When Christ's Hospital was first founded, both the male and female pupils were based in what had been the Grey Friars' Priory in Newgate Street, but the girls and some of the younger boys were relocated to Hertford in the 18th Century. The boys at the Newgate campus were moved to the Horsham site in 1902 and were joined there by the girls in 1985. Christ's Hospital retains strong links with the City of London and many City Livery Companies provide financial support to pupils at the School. The School retains many of its ancient traditions, including the everyday use of its unique Tudor uniform, known as 'Housey' and Band Parade six days a week.

Of the 882 pupils currently enrolled at CH, half are boys and half girls and all are boarders apart from a handful of staff children and day pupils. The main intake each year is at Year Seven (11 years of age) with a small number joining at Year 9 (13+) and 40 to 45 new pupils joining the Sixth Form. A balanced pupil population is a feature of the School, and children are admitted from a wide range of backgrounds. Selection is based on academic ability, talent in some combination of music, art, drama and sport and the potential to benefit from a first class boarding education. However, the over-riding principle of the admissions procedure is to help those with need, whether that need be financial, familial or educational.

The School offers a traditional academic education and our expectations of pupils are high. Exceptional standards are achieved, with 90% of pupils gaining places at Russell Group universities, art colleges or music conservatoires. Around 10% of pupils each year go to Oxbridge colleges.

Currently, over 70% of the cost of running the School is funded by Christ's Hospital's charitable Foundation, with the balance coming from grants from a variety of sources and from parental contributions. Around 80% of pupils receive bursary support; 14% pay no fees at all and just under 20% pay the full fee. The resultant mix of pupils is refreshingly down to earth and lacking in pretension, but there is an underlying desire to make the most of the opportunities on offer at Christ's Hospital.

The school has a proud tradition of sporting achievement and runs an active and successful extra-curricular programme that includes CCF and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. Music is outstanding and in addition to the Marching Band, there is a large and impressive Chapel Choir, plus various orchestras, classical ensembles and jazz groups. Drama flourishes with regular productions in the purpose-built theatre and the Art School produces work of a very high order.

The lesson timetable is planned across a two week period (known as Week A and B), which is spread across six days, with five lessons on Saturday morning and games or activity sessions on three afternoons each week including Saturday. The school works on a three weekly cycle, with a leave weekend or longer break at the end of every three week period. All staff are expected to contribute to the busy co-curricular programme throughout the year and day staff are required to help out in a boarding house for one evening each week.

THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT

Ideally, the successful applicant will be a well-qualified, creative and inspirational teacher of Drama and Theatre Studies within the framework of a large co-educational boarding school. Innovation, flair and vision will be highly valued, as will the ability to inspire pupils both in and out of the classroom.

Energy, resilience and the ability to build and lead a strong team are also essential traits.

THE POSITION

This is an exciting opportunity to lead one of the longest established Independent School Drama Departments in the country. The purpose built, five hundred seat theatre, which is undergoing a major refurbishment in 2019/20, provides an outstanding show piece for productions and pupil interest in both curricular and co-curricular Drama is strong at all levels. With appropriate leadership and initiative, Christ's Hospital is a national leader in secondary school drama.

The successful candidate will show a passionate commitment to the subject and its place within the school's academic curriculum and he or she will be expected to work tirelessly to enhance the artistic and creative endeavours of the Drama and Theatre Studies Department.

Duties will include responsibility for:

- The organisation, planning and teaching of Lower School Drama, GCSE, A Level Theatre Studies and, in due course, IB Theatre Studies;
- Academic results at GCSE, A Level and IB Diploma Level;
- Responsibility for overseeing a range of co-curricular activities including preparation for Trinity Guildhall Graded Examinations;
- Preparing pupils for audition at major conservatoires, universities, colleges and leading theatre groups such as the National Youth Theatre;

- Working in collaboration with the Drama Department team (two other Drama teachers, an Actor in Residence, the Theatre Technician, Box Office and, potentially, a part-time Theatre Manager) to deliver the relevant syllabus and extra-curricular activities;
- Overall responsibility for the major school productions each year;
- Working with the Director of Music and the Heads of Art and DT to ensure that productions are of the highest order;
- Co-ordinating (with the Drama Technician and the Theatre Manager) the day to day running of the Theatre; and
- Developing and overseeing an exciting programme of performances by touring companies and outside groups.

REMUNERATION

Christ's Hospital has its own generous pay scale and the financial package offered will be commensurate with the responsibilities of the post and the experience of the person appointed.

A substantial remission of fees is available for the successful applicant's children at Christ's Hospital, assuming that: a) they meet the normal academic criteria for entry; and b) a place is available. School accommodation is normally provided as part of the package for staff at CH, although there is a modest rental charged for this. Utilities and any benefit in kind as a result of these arrangements remain the responsibility of the tenant.

All new staff appointments are subject to a clear medical check, receipt of satisfactory references including one from the current employer and a clear DBS check at Enhanced Level. The appointment is also subject to a probationary year during which a month's notice to coincide with the end of term can be given by either party without prejudice.

Equal Opportunities and Child Protection. Christ's Hospital is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all sectors of the community. The school also follows current Child Protection procedures for the appointment of new staff.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

An application pack can be downloaded from the CH website; follow the links to Vacancies, where you will find full details of the role. More information about Christ's Hospital can be found at www.christs-hospital.org.uk

The completed application form should be sent to:

Human Resources Department,
Christ's Hospital,
Horsham,
West Sussex
RH13 0LU

Email: hr@christs-hospital.org.uk

and should include the names, addresses and telephone numbers of two referees, one of whom should be your current employer.

Applications should be received by **9am on Monday 3rd June 2019**. Interviews of the short-listed candidates will be held at the school shortly after the closing date.

If you have any queries about this position, please call the Human Resources office in the first instance on 01403 246635.

Simon Reid,
Head Teacher

May 2019