



CHRIST'S HOSPITAL

A SCHOOL LIKE NO OTHER

APPOINTMENT OF HEAD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING SKILLS SUPPORT

Applications are invited for the post of Head of Teaching and Learning Skills Support 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 overriding 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.

CH takes part in the Newly Qualified Teacher scheme and provides assistance and guidance for staff who are working towards NQT status.

THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT

The successful applicant will be an exceptional classroom practitioner, with the ability to lead, motivate and inspire staff and students. Applicants should ideally hold a NASENCO Award or be committed to working towards one in the immediate future. The successful candidate will be familiar with specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia, dyscalculia and dyspraxia, and a wide range of neurodiversity including autism, ADHD, mental health issues and physical disabilities. He or she will be an expert in formulating strategies for supporting such pupils to achieve their full academic potential. They will work closely with the Assistant Head Academic, tracking students who are on the Learning Support register.

The Head of TLSS (Teaching and Learning Skills Support) will have a key role to play in working with the admissions team, advising specifically on the needs of pupils entering in year 7, year 9 and year 12 (the main entry points). Christ's Hospital is an academically selective school and is committed to supporting pupils who can take advantage of a high quality (and demanding) academic education. The Head of TLSS therefore has an important role in identifying suitable candidates.

Ideally the successful candidate will be able to offer some teaching in a formal academic subject.

There are many rewards of this role:

- To teach and to oversee others who teach students with a learning need, and watch them become empowered, growing in confidence as they learn to overcome or cope with their specific difficulty.
- Through building a network across all subject teachers, to promote the understanding needed to help the students on the TLSS register to become self-sufficient and fulfil their academic potential.
- To give help and guidance to parents, who are often very grateful for the understanding and support that we can give them.

We are looking for an energetic and confident teacher, able to understand the context of an academic school, looking to provide opportunities to develop their own practice through CPD and to disseminate this through training of teachers and Heads of Department. They will need to advocate for the needs of a large group of pupils, and to ensure that those who teach here are doing so in a way that allows all pupils to succeed.

THE DEPARTMENT

The Teaching and Learning Skills Support department (TLSS) is a very significant part of the academic life at Christ's Hospital. With approximately 130 pupils on the SEND register the department is responsible for dealing with access arrangements, screening all students and delivering one-to-one and group lessons to students who need help. The Head of TLSS is ably supported in this role by two part time and one full time teacher. The department is housed in the LARC building at the centre of the campus and staff have use of a range of different rooms when working with pupils.

Christ's Hospital delivers a fast-moving academic curriculum. Pupils are drawn from the top 15% nationally in terms of ability, and many of those on our Register are diagnosed with dyslexia or dyspraxia; difficulties with short term memory, processing speed, organisation or fine or gross motor skills which would make it very hard for them to show their true ability without the intervention of the Teaching and Learning Skills Support department, and the understanding of appropriate teaching strategies by their subject teachers. We also support a small number of pupils with more significant needs, such as Asperger's.

The Head of TLSS is a member of the School Welfare Team and Behavioural Management Programme.

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.

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 and utilities remain the responsibility of the tenant.

The appointment is pensionable and Christ's Hospital participates in the Teachers' Pension Scheme.

All new staff appointments are subject to a clear medical check, receipt of satisfactory references including one from the current employer and a cleared Disclosure & Barring Service (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 link to Vacancies on the home page 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 17th June 2019. Interviews of the short-listed candidates will be held at the school **w/c 24th June 2019.**

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

June 2019