



BERKHAMSTED

— 1541 —

## Teacher of Art

A well-qualified and enthusiastic teacher of Art is required for September 2020 to teach pupils across the Senior School (Years 7-13). This is a part-time role, point 4 of a teaching timetable. Whilst knowledge and experience with painting would be desirable, a willingness to deliver sculpture projects at Key Stage 3 would be essential, as this is taught as a foundation skill prior to GCSE.

The department extends over two senior school campuses, Castle and Kings, which are separated by an eight-minute walk. Pupils in Years 7-11 are taught in single-sex groups up to GCSE: boys are taught at Castle and girls at Kings. The Sixth Form is co-educational and classes are delivered in two Sixth Form studios – Photography & Art, on the Castle campus. Art has become an extremely popular option, with 45 students currently in the combined Sixth Form. With easy access to London, pupils benefit from regular visits to art galleries and special exhibitions.

The Art department currently has one part-time and four full-time members of staff, who have considerable teaching experience and contribute individual strengths to the team. In addition, we are fortunate to benefit from the stimulus of an artist-in-residence and two part-time technicians. At GCSE, Art attracts an average of 30 pupils each year. For several years, the department has enjoyed outstanding examination success, with 91% pass rate (9-5) in 2018 at GCSE level. At A-level, 83% & 82% receiving A\*-B at Art & Photography respectively. A large number of students go on to study visual arts courses beyond school and the department has an extremely strong record of successful applications to top courses at, for example, The Bartlett (UCL), Central St Martin's, Leeds College of Art, Oxford Brooke's and Loughborough, to name but a few.

The Art department is housed in a modern building on the Castle campus, including a gallery, seven studio spaces, a kiln room, a large shared office and a dark room, while at Kings the three Art studios are situated in the main teaching block and include a separate ceramics studio and kiln room. Excellent departmental resources include Macs (with Adobe CS), Epsom projectors, Nikon DSLRs and large-bed etching press. Each member of staff receives a Microsoft Surface Pro and all the pupils at Berkhamsted will have a Surface Pro or Surface Go from September 2020 onwards. The department has already implemented these as a means for live monitoring via shared documents and is trialling many other applications for digital learning.

Courses emphasise both a personal approach and an awareness of the significant role Art plays in our lives, from the Fine Arts to the design-based areas. Practical work consists of art, craft and design processes in two and/or three dimensions, with an emphasis on how ideas, feelings and meanings are conveyed through images and artefacts. Historical and critical studies, which are an integral part of all courses, enable pupils to learn about a wide variety of genres, styles and traditions in art from both European and non-European cultures.

The A level course in Art and Design involves an extension in breadth and depth from GCSE Art. There is increased emphasis on individual programmes of work, with the greatest possible opportunity for

students to pursue their own interests and develop their particular aptitudes with as much guidance as is required. Critical and analytical skills will be developed not only in the classroom, but also in front of artworks in major galleries. Regular summer trips to the Venice Biennale have more recently been superseded by a planned visit to New York in October, 2021 – an exciting addition to the department’s extra-curricular programme, which also offers a Y10 visiting artist workshop, Sixth Form Creative Commission and numerous clubs and societies, including the Artist-in-Residence Club, ‘Paint a Postcard’ (a link project with Denbigh High School), ‘Colour Me Calm’ and Photography.

With both single-sex and co-educational teaching across the School, Berkhamsted offers excellent opportunities for professional development. This exciting post would suit an NQT or a more experienced teacher looking for career development in a large and successful school. It is expected that all members of the teaching staff will be able to contribute fully to the life of the School through participation in the pastoral and extra-curricular activities programmes, which are an integral part of a teacher’s role in an independent school community. The salary will be commensurate with the qualifications and experience of the successful candidate and above national scales.

### **Summary of Terms and Conditions of Employment**

- i) **Employer**  
The post holder will be employed by the Berkhamsted Schools Group
- ii) **Place of Employment**  
The post will be based at Berkhamsted School
- iii) **Salary**  
To be discussed at interview
- iv) **Pension Scheme**  
Teachers’ Pension
- v) **Notice Period**  
1 Term
- vi) **Probation period**  
1 academic year

### **Application and Recruitment Process**

#### Application Form

- Applications will only be accepted from candidates completing an Application Form in full, together with a supporting CV. CVs by themselves will not be accepted in substitution for completed Application Forms in the absence of good reason.
- Candidates should be aware that all posts in the school involve some degree of responsibility for safeguarding children, although the extent of that responsibility will vary according to the nature of the post. Please see job description for the post.
- Accordingly, this post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and therefore all convictions, cautions and bind-overs, including those regarded as ‘spent’ must be declared.

- Where appropriate the successful applicant will be required to complete a DBS check at the appropriate level for the post.
- We will seek references on shortlisted candidates and may approach previous employers for information to verify particular experience or qualifications, before interview.
- If you are currently working with children, on either a paid or voluntary basis, your current employer will be asked about disciplinary offences, including disciplinary offences relating to children or young persons (whether the disciplinary sanction is current or time expired), and whether you have been the subject of any child protection allegations or concerns and if so the outcome of any enquiry or disciplinary procedure. If you are not currently working with children but have done so in the past, that previous employer will be asked about those issues. Where neither your current nor previous employment has involved working with children, your current employer will still be asked about your suitability to work with children, although he/she may, where appropriate, answer “not applicable” if your duties have not brought you into contact with children or young persons.
- You should be aware that provision of false information is an offence and could result in the application being rejected or summary dismissal if the applicant has been selected and possible referral to the police.

#### Invitation to Interview

- If you are invited to interview this will be conducted in person and the areas which it will explore will include suitability to work with children.

#### Conditional Offer of Appointment: Pre-Appointment Checks

Any offer to a successful candidate will be conditional upon:

- receipt of at least two references (if these have not already been received) satisfactory to the School
- verification of identity and qualifications
- a satisfactory DBS Disclosure
- verification of professional status
- where the successful candidate has worked or been resident overseas in the previous five years, such checks and confirmations as the school may require in accordance with statutory guidance.
- having the right to work in the UK
- satisfactory (to the School) completion of the probationary period.

Where a candidate is:

- found to have provided false information in, or in support of, his application; or
- the subject of serious expressions of concern as to his/her suitability to work with children the facts will be reported to the Police.