



QUEEN MARY'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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



Information Pack

Teacher of Mathematics
September 2020

Queen Mary's Grammar School
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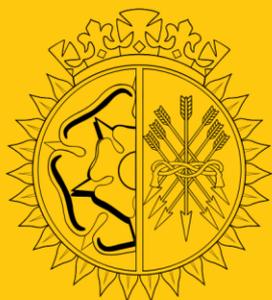


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Welcome



Queen Mary's Grammar School was founded in 1554 by Mary Tudor. We have been shaped by our past and are proud of our traditions, but we are also confident of an exciting future as we help to shape the new educational landscape with our partners in the Mercian Trust.

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.

Outside the classroom, we offer a range of life-enriching opportunities: time at our Field Centre in Wales; membership of our thriving Combined Cadet Force; individual and team sports; foreign exchanges and travel; participation in music, debating and public speaking and many other activities. We believe that achievement and enjoyment go hand in hand.

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 HE institutions and international employers. It is our mission to attain excellence in all that we do.

Our House system celebrates the four pillars of school life at Queen Mary's: an academic focus, an international ethos, an enterprising spirit and a sense of community. We enjoy our social, cultural and ethnic diversity and recognise our many privileges. We are keen to share what we have - experience, expertise, enthusiasm - both with those who live on our doorstep and those from further afield.

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.

Richard Langton

Headmaster

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 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 nearly 1150 pupils on roll, including 422 in the Sixth Form. The School has an outstanding academic record and regularly features in the upper reaches of the national league tables. In 2019, 76% of GCSE grades were 7-9 (A*/A) and 62% of A Level grades were A*, A or B. Our value added scores are particularly impressive (with a Progress 8 score of +0.76 in 2019); 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 8 years, 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 year, we completed projects to add additional capacity through the building of extra science rooms and improving Design Technology and Art facilities.

The School encourages an enterprising and international outlook: we have enjoyed trips, expeditions and exchanges all over the world in recent years and have many successes in national competitions but also carry out a wide range of vibrant and formative trips and experiences closer to home such as theatre visits, visiting speakers and the mental health ambassadors programme. In fact, we are incredibly proud to appear in Ross Morrison McGill's new book *Just Great Teaching*, showcasing our mental health work with staff and pupils.

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 sport, drama and music, in the Combined Cadet Force and at our Field Centre on the Afon Mawddach in Southern Snowdonia. We have just been named in the Top 100 cricket schools by the *Cricketer magazine* for the second year in succession.

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.

Benefits of working at Queen Mary's Grammar School

- The opportunity to teach gifted and intelligent students who have a real motivation to succeed.
- A thriving and expanding school that achieves examination success at both GCSE and A 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, always considering workload and staff wellbeing.
- Plenty of opportunities for professional development in the school, across our MAT, and externally.
- A sense of community, amongst staff and pupils.
- A dedicated induction programme for new staff and NQTs to ensure you are supported at whatever stage of your career you join us.
- We organise school trips, travelling across the globe.
- There are opportunities to play a key role in the wider life of the school, from involvement in the CCF and music, coaching of sports teams and countless other opportunities.
- Career progression – many of our current middle and senior leaders are “home-grown” promotions from within.

Some quotes from the Good Schools Guide about us:

“...QMGS is a calm yet bright environment.”

“There are no elephants in the rooms at QMGS - mental health and well-being of pupils and staff alike are taken very seriously.”

“There is no ‘typical’ QMGS pupil. Students come from a wide range of backgrounds. This is what perhaps makes QMGS stand aside from the usual grammar schools.”

“QMGS is rich and fulfilling for both students and staff. A school with one foot in the past and the other in the future.”

Find out more

You can find out more about our school at <http://www.qmgs.walsall.sch.uk>

Alternatively, for a real flavour of daily life at QM follow us on Twitter at @QMGS1554

The Mathematics 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 10 members of staff within the mathematics department: Simon Willis, who is the Head of Department, Matthew Litchfield, Alex Hudson, Joe Diskin, Alec Scott, Zakiyyah Fahmida, Nazola Tariq, Michael Borchers, Rahila Naguthney and Pamela Patel. The Maths Department is staffed by highly qualified and gifted teachers and there is a real sense of teamwork in everything that they do.

The department enjoys outstanding success in examinations: an impressive 87% of the 2019 GCSE cohort obtained grades 7-9. The most able students complete the GCSE and the FSMQ in Year 11. It is no surprise, then, that it is the most popular A Level subject in the school and there are currently sixteen sets across the two years of the sixth form, four of which are further mathematics groups; as well as a Core Mathematics class, a new initiative for students to have continued study of mathematics post 16. At A level, 57% gained A*, A or B grades in 2019 and many went on to study maths-related courses at university. This job opportunity therefore provides the chance to teach gifted children from Year 7 all the way up to A-Level Further Mathematics students.

There is a 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, coaching of sports teams, organising charity events and house competitions and the Rubix cube club.

We would be delighted to offer you a tour of the school with either Simon Willis (Head of Mathematics) or Michael Lax (Deputy Head) and encourage any interested applicants to take up this opportunity.

The role

Job Description:

The successful candidate will:

- teach Mathematics to all Year groups from Y7 to Y13. The ability to teach Mathematics at A Level would be a distinct advantage.
- 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: Thursday 6th February

Interviews: Tuesday 11th February

Please return completed application forms to c-wood@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
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WS1 2PG

Tel: 01922 720696
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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.