



CRANLEIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE ASSISTANT (ENGLISH)

Cranleigh School seeks to appoint for September 2024 a good honours graduate to join our outstanding English Department for a one-year Graduate Assistant position. The post would suit someone who is looking to start a career in the subject. The successful candidate should expect to teach English in years 9 and 10, with the possibility of some A level teaching for the right candidate. The successful candidate will also show a willingness to contribute in other ways to the life of a busy boarding school.

Cranleigh is a leading, fully co-educational independent boarding and day Senior School consisting of around 700 girls and boys of 13–18 years. There is also a Preparatory School in close proximity.

Cranleigh aspires to be a beacon of excellence in learning and teaching and is committed to the continuing professional development of all employees.

THE DEPARTMENT

The Cranleigh English department is a particularly friendly, cheerful group and currently consists of nine teachers: we get along very well and we hope to provide a good home for an enthusiastic and knowledgeable teacher or trainee teacher. Each year, we have around 40 students opting to take English at A Level, making it one of the most popular subject choices in the school.

Our expectations of our students are very high and the results are very good; over the last five years, at A Level, 87% of our students have attained A*-B, with 44% attaining an A* or an A. Since the switch to the 9-1 grading system in 2018, the 7-9% percentages have been 86% for English Language and 85% for English Literature, with 33% attaining a 9 in English Language and 34% attaining a 9 in English Literature. We usually have a couple of pupils each year who wish to apply to Oxbridge to read English Literature and there is scope for engagement there too, should a new appointee be interested in mentoring applicants.

We also like to encourage students' interest in the subject outside the classroom. We regularly take theatre trips to London, Guildford and Stratford and, in recent years, have taken our A Level students to academic lectures on their set texts in London and Cambridge. Visitors – both writers and academics – are always warmly welcomed and there are annual creative writing and poetry competitions for both junior and senior pupils. We also have a Sixth Form enrichment society, called the Minot Society, aimed to alert our students to a wide range of literary texts and to show them new ways of looking at and responding to them.

THE CURRICULUM

Year 9 pupils study novels, drama and poetry and complete an Independent Reading Project on a novel of their choice, enabling them to develop skills of analysis, creative expression and presentation.



With regards to exam classes, our Year 10 and 11 pupils take the Edexcel IGCSE English Language and IGCSE English Literature examinations, working towards examinations in these subjects at the conclusion of the course.

In the Sixth Form we teach the Edexcel A Level syllabus – Sixth Form teaching is covered by teachers working in pairs. The courses require pupils to work towards three exam papers and a coursework module in their Upper Sixth year. There is considerable scope for teachers to pursue their own personal interests and enthusiasms when putting together A Level coursework plans and we are keen to attract a teacher who relishes the prospect of coming up with interesting and exciting ideas.

THE POST

The responsibilities of Graduate Assistant (English) will include:

- teach approximately 0.6-0.7 of a full-time teaching load to a high standard, with teaching sets to be decided by the Head of Department;
- preparing suitable teaching material and following the departmental programmes of study;
- contributing to the making and sharing of Department resources;
- setting an appropriate level and quantity of prep in line with Departmental and Whole School Marking policies;
- providing written reports, report grades and summative assessment marks by the deadlines set by both the Head of Department and the Deputy Head (Academic)
- attending weekly Department meetings;
- contributing to the preparation of students for tertiary education.
- Take responsibility for applying a compliant data protection approach across all activities which involve personal data or data processing, in line with the School's Data Protection, Information Security and IT Acceptable Use policies.

THE PERSON

We aim to recruit a graduate who will be able to enthuse and engage pupils across these year groups; someone who possesses a very sound grounding in literature and its contexts. The department will be helpful and supportive in enabling a new appointee to settle in and establish how the courses work; previous teaching experience is useful but by no means necessary.

The ideal candidate will be passionate about literature, good-humoured and a good team player.

In addition, they would be expected to get involved in all aspects of this busy boarding school. They will be allocated to one of the eight boarding houses, in which they will act as tutor to a group of students and perform one boarding duty per week. All teachers are expected to contribute to the School's co-curricular programme alongside their academic responsibilities.

Accommodation is available with the post.



If you have any questions or would like to discuss any aspect of the post informally, please get in touch with Gordon Neill, the Head of English, by email in the first instance: gjnn@cranleigh.org

Please read 'Join Our Team' and the 'Recruitment Pack' to be found on our website, to gain an impression of the ethos to which it is expected that the successful candidate will contribute.

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The post holder will be subject to a DBS check.