



CRANLEIGH SCHOOL TEACHER of ENGLISH and DRAMA

Cranleigh School seeks to appoint for September 2024 a dynamic honours graduate to join a good-humoured, successful and enthusiastic department to teach English and Drama from years 9 to 13. This post will suit someone of energy and intellect who is prepared to play a full part in the life of this busy and friendly 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 ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

The 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. The successful applicant will be expected to teach throughout the five year groups ranging from the Fourth Form (Year 9) through to the Upper Sixth. 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 ENGLISH 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 DRAMA DEPARTMENT

The Department is accommodated in a newly refurbished facility including superb rehearsal studios, two independent teaching classrooms, a flexible multi use large capacity performance space, a smaller scale thrust theatre, green room and dressing rooms.

The Department prides itself on the fact that it produces performances of a professional standard that both entertains and challenges its considerable audiences. There are currently three teachers in the Department, as well as a full-time Theatre/Production Manager and their Assistant. The team is a friendly and open one, committed to providing all pupils with the opportunity to fulfil their potential. Weekly Department meetings give the opportunity for colleagues to share good practice and discuss both curricular and school-wide issues.

THE DRAMA CURRICULUM

The department teaches the EDUQAS Specification at both GCSE and A Level.

At A Level the department teaches approximately 20 students across the two year groups, all of whom regularly attend high quality live theatre (usually in London) between 6 and 8 times in an academic year.

At GCSE the department teaches around 70 students across year 10 and 11. In the last 3 years the department has attained outstanding results: averaging 67% A*-A at A Level and 81% grade 9-7 at GCSE.

The post will involve teaching a wide range of abilities and ages and we consider it vital that the successful candidate enjoys the challenge of teaching such a broad range of pupils – giving confidence and enjoyment to those who struggle, whilst stretching and inspiring the most able. There are always opportunities to push pupils beyond the syllabus, and we would welcome fresh

ideas from the successful applicant. Each pupil and teacher has an iPad and the successful applicant should demonstrate a willingness to commit to utilising technology in his/her teaching.

THE POST

The responsibilities of the Teacher of English and Drama will include:

- teaching to the highest standard across all year groups;
- 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 Heads of Department and the Deputy Head (Academic)
- attending weekly Department meetings;
- contributing to the preparation of students for tertiary education.

THE PERSON

We aim to recruit a teacher or trainee teacher who will be able to enthuse and engage pupils across these year groups; someone who possesses a very sound grounding in literature, drama and its contexts. The departments 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 good-humoured and a good team player. In addition, they should expect to get involved in all aspects of this busy boarding school and 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 David Boggitt, the Deputy Head Academic, by email in the first instance:

drb@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.