



MERCHANT TAYLORS'  
School

# *Teacher of Art*

From September 2026

Information for Candidates



## Welcome from the Head Master



We are delighted that you are interested in joining us at Merchant Taylors'. We are a highly successful day school for boys aged 11-18 situated in north-west London, close to Moor Park on the Metropolitan Line.

This is an exciting time for Merchant Taylors' School. The School delivers academic excellence by nurturing pupils' individual passions and interests, instilling a lifelong love of learning. At the heart of the School is its commitment to holistic education: offering the widest set of experiences to each pupil. An education at Merchant Taylors' is academic and challenging, but full of joy.

We hope this brochure gives you a sense of Merchant Taylors' School and the role you could play here. I warmly invite you to join us on this journey.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Everson

Handmade,  
*for you.*



## The School

Merchant Taylors' School is a leading independent day school offering an outstanding, all-round education for over 960 talented boys aged 11 to 18 years. Competition for places is fierce, and entry is by competitive assessment at 11+ and 16+. Merchant Taylors' Prep School caters for an additional 370 boys from 3 to 11 years of age offering a through-school experience for appropriately suited boys.

Renowned for its high academic achievement, Merchant Taylors' pupils are intellectually able, curious and enthusiastic about learning. These qualities are fostered through an academically ambitious curriculum and forward-thinking teaching methods that seek to stretch, challenge and support boys in their studies. A wide range of co-curricular activities further inspires and develops the boys' skills, passions and interests, ensuring they develop as happy, confident individuals ready to make their mark on the world.

Public examination results are outstanding, the majority of pupils proceeding either to leading universities as well as medical schools in the UK or abroad. We pride ourselves on our outstanding pastoral care as well as our excellent academic results, and aspiration in all areas goes well beyond the norm, making Taylors' a particularly exciting and rewarding place to teach.



## History

Merchant Taylors' School has been one of the leading boys' schools in the UK since its foundation by the Merchant Taylors' Livery Company of the City of London in 1561. One of the nine great 'Clarendon schools', its alumni have achieved distinction throughout history. However, the school wears its heritage lightly, its strong sense of tradition very much at the service of the future.

Handmade,  
*for you.*



Through the Merchant Taylors' Educational Trust, it retains close links with other Merchant Taylors' schools, and with the Merchant Taylors' Company itself. Relocated from the City of London to Sandy Lodge, Northwood in 1933, the School sits on 280 acres of playing fields, and woodland, all within easy reach of Central London, Middlesex, Buckinghamshire, and Hertfordshire.

## Campus and Facilities

Set within 280 acres of beautiful parkland, playing fields and lakes, Merchant Taylors' is fortunate to have some of the finest school grounds in the country. With state-of-the-art facilities, it provides an exceptional educational environment for its pupils. Located in Moor Park in North London, Merchant Taylors' is just a 30-minute underground journey from Central London and is easily accessible from Hertfordshire, Middlesex and Buckinghamshire.

The School's impressive sporting infrastructure includes 60 acres of playing fields, a new world-class five-lane indoor cricket centre, cricket nets, ten cricket squares, a heated indoor pool, a large indoor sports hall, three floodlit all-weather hockey pitches, lakes for sailing and windsurfing, floodlit hard tennis courts, squash courts and an athletics track.

The state-of-the-art Design, Engineering and Technology building has university-standard equipment.

The Performing Arts are well catered for with rehearsals, recitals, chamber concerts and recordings taking place in the bespoke Recital Hall, while major concerts are given in the Great Hall. The Studio Theatre provides another rehearsal and performance space for plays throughout the year

## Innovation

Digital Learning is a key tenet of our provision for exam classes: pupils studying for GCSEs and A Levels each have their own Surface tablet, working digitally on OneNote for most of their lessons. Staff are provided with Surface Pros and this has allowed us to reimagine what school work looks like, enhancing collaboration, differentiation, tailored feedback and engagement. Merchant Taylors' is an exciting, rewarding environment in which to teach and provides the means for the development of a successful career in a place with a real sense of community.

Handmade,  
*for you.*



## The Person

We are seeking to appoint an outstanding and inspiring Teacher of Art to join our high-performing and ambitious department at Merchant Taylors'. This is an exciting opportunity for an adventurous art practitioner to contribute to a thriving team with a strong track record of academic excellence and creative achievement.

Applications are welcome from experienced teachers as well as new or recent graduates, although demonstrable experience of excellent pupil outcomes at A Level and GCSE would be an advantage.

We are looking for a dynamic, motivated and imaginative teacher who is deeply committed to nurturing creativity. The ideal candidate will relish guiding pupils through the full creative process, from initial concept development to the refinement and completion of fully resolved outcomes. Our teachers actively promote the development of independence, calculated risk-taking, bravery, resilience and intellectual curiosity along the way.

Confidence across a broad range of artistic disciplines is essential. Applicants should be skilled in, and comfortable teaching, areas such as sculpture, painting, digital design, printmaking and mixed media processes. The ability to demonstrate high-level practical techniques and inspire students through strong subject knowledge is crucial.

Our departmental ethos places first-hand observational drawing at the heart of the curriculum. We believe that rigorous observational practice underpins the development of sophisticated ideas and ambitious project work. Therefore, applicants must possess strong observational drawing skills and be able to teach these with clarity, enthusiasm and creativity, enabling students to translate close study into rich and compelling works.

All teachers are expected to play a full part in the wider life of the school and there is substantial scope for involvement in and development of related enrichment and co-curricular programmes.

We therefore welcome applications from reflective practitioners who are eager to contribute to a collaborative team, support co-curricular enrichment and play a full role in the wider life of the school.

Handmade,  
*for you.*



## The Department

### Curriculum & Results

Fine Art predominates, and by default all students are entered for the OCR Fine Art endorsement for GCSE and AQA for A level, there are no set project briefs from GCSE onward – a bespoke approach prevails. The teaching philosophy is based on the premise that if you 'create great art, then you'll get a great grade'; and that all students are capable of doing so: when nurtured and enthused within a clearly structured framework, they inevitably do.

Students are taught observational drawing skills, which are at the core of every project. All pupils in years 7-9 currently have a weekly Art lesson. Public Exam results are never less than excellent: In 2025, A Level students attained 100% A\*-A. Historically at GCSE the vast majority of pupils regularly attain Grades 7-9.

A good number of students are taking Art influenced degrees after leaving school and are gaining direct entry on prestigious courses at well-known colleges, including at Loughborough, Edinburgh, Leeds and Bath, including a scholarship to The Prince's Foundation.

### Resources & Accommodation

The Art department is exceptionally well equipped and fully supported, offering four flexible studio spaces, a dedicated Art library, and a specialist Art IT suite. Sixth Form students benefit from an independent studio, fostering autonomy and advanced practice.

The department also enjoys shared access to Design Engineering and Technology workshops, including a hot metal workshop and spray room. We make strong use of the kiln room, secure storage facilities and photography studio. Generous display spaces throughout the department and wider school celebrate student achievement and creative excellence.

### Co-curricular Activities

There are a vast number of enriching activities and clubs to get involved with at Merchant Taylors'. Within the Art Department, Studio86 is our dedicated scholars' programme, designed and delivered as a foundation-style course. It equips scholars with advanced knowledge, refined practical skills and access to materials and processes beyond the core curriculum. The programme encourages intellectual curiosity, ambitious experimentation and independent practice, preparing students for high-level study and creative pathways beyond school.

Art Café runs weekly for Lower School pupils, offering a vibrant range of projects across diverse media and techniques. The focus is on delivering joy, curiosity and creative excitement, providing an accessible and inspiring space for artistic exploration.

Weekly life drawing sessions are open to all members of the school community from Middle School upwards, offering the opportunity to develop observational skills and experience sustained, focused practice.

A programme of wider trips and field days takes place throughout the academic year, providing stimulating experiences within London and further afield, enriching students' cultural understanding and creative development.

Handmade,  
*for you.*



## Summary of Responsibilities

The main responsibility of each Teacher is their classroom teaching duties; there are, however, other responsibilities, such as being a Tutor, a Form Teacher and taking part of the school's games and activities programme. All these should be carried out to the highest standard to ensure the all-round quality of education for pupils at Merchant Taylors' School and to promote and safeguard the welfare of children and young persons:

- To discharge all professional duties as outlined in the Contract of Employment and associated Employment Manual
- To set personal professional standards (for example, in matters of dress and punctuality) that are of the highest level and that will enable the individual teacher to act as a role model for pupils
- To support the ethos of the school and to work in accordance with the desired aims and policies
- To share in pastoral responsibility for all pupils (especially those in the individual's teaching or Tutor Groups) in liaison with the appropriate Heads of School and senior managers
- To play an active role in the life of the school, including in the games and extra-curricular activities programme

### Teaching

- Planning and preparing courses and lessons
- Assessing, marking, recording and reporting on the development, progress and attainment of pupils in line with school and departmental policy
- Promoting the general progress and well-being of individual pupils and groups of pupils
- Exercising proper care of teaching materials and rooms to maintain a stimulating teaching environment
- Following the agreed policies in the Departmental Handbook with regard to such matters as programmes of study, teaching methods, supporting pupils with learning support needs and homework
- Advising and co-operating in the preparation and development of courses of study, teaching materials, teaching programmes, and methods of teaching and assessment

### Pastoral

- When required to undertake duties as a Tutor and/or Form Teacher as detailed in a separate job description
- To discharge all professional duties as outlined in the Contract of Employment and associated Employment Manual to the highest standard
- To set personal professional standards, for example in matters of dress and punctuality, that are of the highest level and that will enable the individual teacher to act as a role model for pupils
- To support the ethos of the school and to work in accordance with its desired aims and policies
- To share in pastoral responsibility for all pupils (especially those in the individual's teaching and Tutor Groups) in liaison with the appropriate Heads of House, Heads of School and senior managers

Handmade,  
*for you.*



## Assessment & Reporting

- Providing or contributing to oral and written assessments, reports and references relating to individual pupils and/or groups of pupils
- Communicating and consulting with the parents of pupils both formally at Parent's Meetings and informally
- Participating in arrangements for preparing and assessing pupils' work for public examinations

## Professional Development

- Participating in the school's arrangements for teaching review
- To take part in the school's programme of induction and review for new teachers
- Reviewing from time to time teaching methods and schemes of work
- Participating in arrangements for further training and professional development as a teacher

## Behaviour Management

- Maintaining good order and discipline amongst the pupils and safeguarding their health and safety, both when they are on the school premises and when they are engaged in authorised school activities elsewhere
- To require from the pupils the high standards of behaviour, dress, punctuality, effort and attendance that are consistent with the school's expectations

## Cover

Supervising (and when appropriate teaching) any pupils whose teacher is not available to teach them as required by the Head of Department or the Deputy Head (Information Systems).

## Co-curriculum & Games

To play an active role in the life of the school, including games afternoons and clubs and societies. For a more comprehensive list of activities please see the school website. Many activities occur on Saturdays e.g. inter school sport, prize giving, open days etc

## Meetings

Participating, as required, in meetings that relate to the curriculum, the organisation of the school or pastoral matters.

Handmade,  
*for you.*



## Person specification

### Qualifications

	Essential	Desirable	Method of Assessment
A strong degree-level qualification closely aligned with the primary subject(s) to be taught	✓		Applicant's certificates. Discussion at interview. Independent verification of qualifications.
3 A-levels at grades C and above (or equivalent)	✓		
Postgraduate professional qualification, e.g. PGCE		✓	
UK Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)		✓	
Postgraduate academic qualification e.g. Master's degree		✓	

### Skills & Knowledge

	Essential	Desirable	Method of Assessment
Strong passion for the subject	✓		Contents of application form.
To promote and safeguard the welfare of children and young people	✓		
Effective classroom management and organisation to ensure a positive and safe learning environment	✓		Discussion at Interview. Professional references.
The ability to deliver engaging, adaptive and inclusive lessons to inspire, support, and challenge pupils of all backgrounds, abilities, needs and dispositions	✓		Lesson observation. Practical exercise.
The ability to foster confidence in pupils, and create a learning environment which encourages pupils to ask questions and express their understanding effectively	✓		
Proficiency in analysing data and presenting outcomes with clarity	✓		
Excellent numeracy and literacy skills	✓		
Proficiency in utilising ICT to enhance teaching, learning and data analysis	✓		
The ability to prioritise tasks effectively	✓		
Adept at working accurately under pressure, maintaining attention to detail, and adapting to new or challenging situations	✓		
Awareness and understanding of safeguarding and welfare of children	✓		
The ability to innovate and embrace new approaches to teaching and learning		✓	
Recent demonstrated commitment to personal development in core subject areas		✓	

Handmade,  
*for you.*



## Personal Attributes

	Essential	Desirable	Method of Assessment
Upholds high professional standards and expectations for both pupils and self	✓		Contents of application form.
A commitment to a collaborative approach to teamwork and problem solving	✓		
Demonstrates a genuine passion for learning, creative thinking, and initiative	✓		Discussion at Interview.
Actively promotes and upholds the School's ethos by fostering an environment of joy, courage, innovation, confidence and inspiration	✓		Professional references.
A commitment to ongoing professional development	✓		Lesson observation.
Excellent numeracy and literacy skills	✓		
A willingness to contribute to the co-curricular life of the School	✓		



Handmade,  
*for you.*



## The Benefits

- The School offers membership to a Defined Contribution (DC) pension scheme under a Master Trust provided by the Aviva Pension Trust for Independent Schools (APTIS)
- Access to a cash flexible benefit in lieu of pension contribution
- As a member of the pension scheme, there is life cover 4x annual salary and income protection
- Staff accommodation is often available and nearly half of the academic faculty lives on campus
- Interest-free loans are available to staff vacating school accommodation and taking out a mortgage

## Career

- There is an extensive induction programme for all new colleagues, and we encourage ongoing professional development through generous inset provision
- Each member of the academic faculty has a voice on professional matters via the General Purposes Committee



## Personal

- Fee concessions are available for the sons of any member of the academic faculty who meet the school's entry requirements
- Longer holidays than the maintained sector
- School Nurse on site
- Physiotherapist on site
- School Counsellor on site

## For Recreation

- Free use of the school's extensive leisure and sporting facilities.
- Free lunch and free refreshments are available throughout the working day during term time

Handmade,  
*for you.*



## The Merchant Taylors' Lifestyle

The working environment at Taylors' is collegiate, supportive and purposeful and we deeply value the contribution of our talented and dedicated staff across all areas of the School. The Senior Common Room is a beautifully appointed space with a fully stocked bar for refreshments, situated at the very heart of the school. There are also a number of events held throughout the year which offer opportunities to socialise and forge new friendships. With so many staff living onsite this genuinely enhances the experience for staff. Here is a brief summary of activities which staff are welcome to join:

- Staff Choir
- Wine Society
- Life drawing class
- Staff cricket team
- 5-a-side football

There are various trips which are organised throughout the year such as a staff ski trip and an annual pre-Christmas trip to Harrods. There are also many popular events run by Parents Associations such as the summer barbecue by the lake, a rugby dinner & dance, a Burns Night supper and concerts which staff are most welcome to attend.



Handmade,  
*for you.*



## The Process

Please complete an application form and an accompanying letter (maximum 500 words) outlining your suitability for the post; you may wish to include a brief CV.

Applications to be submitted by 9am on Friday 6 March 2026.

First round online interviews to be held on Wednesday 11 March 2026.

Second round interviews in school to be held on Tuesday 17 March 2026.

If you have any questions regarding the role, please reach out to Jon Gosden, Head of Art ([JGosden@mtsn.org.uk](mailto:JGosden@mtsn.org.uk))

Applications to (email or post):  
Recruitment Officer,  
Merchant Taylors' School,  
Sandy Lodge,  
Northwood,  
Middlesex,  
HA6 2HT  
Email: [recruitment@mtsn.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@mtsn.org.uk)

Merchant Taylors' School is an equal opportunities employer and committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. This role will bring you into contact with children, you are expected to share this commitment. This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. Applicants will be required to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

### How we use your information

We will use the information which you provided, and which we collect from other sources (such as from references and from the Disclosure and Barring Service) for the following purposes: to assess your suitability for the role for which you have applied, to assess your suitability to work with children and to enable us to comply with our legal obligations (including safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children). Further information on how the School uses personal data is set out in the School's Staff Transparency Notice, which can be found on the Vacancy page of the School Website

Handmade,  
*for you.*



MERCHANT TAYLORS'  
School

Handmade,  
*for you.*