



MERCHANT TAYLORS'
School

Teacher of English

Maternity Cover (Full Time)
12 Month, Fixed-Term Contract

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

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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. 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.

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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.

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The Person

We require a full-time teacher of English for a year's fixed term contract, beginning in September 2026. A part-time position would be considered for the right person. The ability to teach Drama would be an advantage, but not essential. You will be a highly qualified graduate with relevant qualifications and/or proven experience, prepared to join an extremely successful, friendly, committed, and experienced team of twelve English specialists. You will have excellent subject knowledge and be passionate about teaching English over the entire 11-18 age range.

We are looking for the ability to inspire the boys, so that learning English is a truly exciting experience for them. We hope that you will bring new ideas to the teaching of English at all levels and will contribute to raising the profile of the subject even further through co-curricular involvement. We expect your commitment and ideas to make a significant contribution towards maintaining the school's status as one of the top academic boys' schools in the country.

We are constantly looking to discover and develop innovative new teaching methods and resources; a willingness to commit to this philosophy is essential.

The school is proud of its reputation as a caring and friendly community with a high achieving culture across a broad range of curricular and co-curricular activities. You will be ready to engage fully in the life of the school. Our expectations of our pupils and teachers, academically and in terms of attitude and commitment, are very high.

There is a strong common room culture of going the extra mile to stretch and support, in and beyond the classroom, so that every boy realises his potential. Enthusiasm and ability are as important for this post as experience.

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The Department

English is one of the largest departments in the school, comprising ten full-time teachers and two part-time teachers, resulting in a diverse range of experience and interests. The atmosphere is lively, supportive and friendly, as you would expect in a busy, academic, high-achieving school. The well-appointed English Office, close to the library, the Sixth Form Reading Room and the suite of English classrooms, is the hub of the Department.

The Department teaches its own stimulating Lower School curriculum for Years 7 to 9, broadly based upon and enriching the framework of the National Curriculum. At Years 10 & 11, we offer the Pearson Edexcel IGCSE syllabus for both English Language and English Literature. Each year, there is a healthy take up of English Literature and English Language at A Level, and students have a choice of either the OCR specification in English Literature or the AQA specification in English Language (or both for that matter). All English teachers at MTS can expect the opportunity to teach Sixth Form classes.

The Department has enjoyed consistently excellent results in public examinations. 2025 saw 73% of our A Level English Literature students achieve A*-A grades, with A*-B at 91%. In A Level English Language, 75% of students achieved grades of A*-B and 100% A*-C. At IGCSE, in English Literature, 62.3% of boys achieved grades of 9-8, with 94% achieving grades of 9-6. In IGCSE English Language, 65% of boys achieved grades of 9-8, with 97% achieving grades of 9-6.



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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 in 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

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

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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.

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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.
3 A-levels at grades C and above (or equivalent)	✓		Discussion at interview.
Postgraduate professional qualification, e.g. PGCE		✓	Independent verification of qualifications.
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	✓		
The ability to teach Drama		✓	Discussion at Interview.
Effective classroom management and organisation to ensure a positive and safe learning environment	✓		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.
The ability to foster confidence in pupils, and create a learning environment which encourages pupils to ask questions and express their understanding effectively	✓		Practical exercise.
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		✓	

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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	✓		Discussion at Interview.
Demonstrates a genuine passion for learning, creative thinking, and initiative	✓		Professional references.
Actively promotes and upholds the School's ethos by fostering an environment of joy, courage, innovation, confidence and inspiration	✓		Lesson observation.
A commitment to ongoing professional development	✓		
Excellent numeracy and literacy skills	✓		
A willingness to contribute to the co-curricular life of the School	✓		

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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

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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.



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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 1st May 2026.

First round online interviews to be held on Thursday 7th May 2026.

Second round interviews in school to be held on Wednesday 13th May 2026.

If you have any questions regarding the role, please reach out to Matthew Hilton-Dennis, Head of English (MGHD@mtsn.org.uk)

Applications to (email or post):
Recruitment Officer,
Merchant Taylors' School,
Sandy Lodge,
Northwood,
Middlesex,
HA6 2HT
Email: 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

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