



**MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL**  
INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOL FOR BOYS 7 - 18 AND SIXTH FORM GIRLS



## **Information Pack**

### **Teacher of Mathematics**

Closing date: Midday, Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January

Interviews: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February

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## Introduction from the Master, Helen Pike

Magdalen College School is a remarkable place. We are now well into our sixth century, and our former pupils include scholars, war heroes, musicians, Olympians, two Nobel Prize laureates, a Hollywood film director, and a saint. Our success in public examinations, in securing places at top universities, and in an astonishing array of extra-curricular pursuits ensures that we continue this proud tradition. We do so by nurturing the individual potential of each of our pupils, and above all we believe that learning is as fun as it is fulfilling.



Magdalen College School was founded in 1480 by William of Waynflete: schoolmaster, bishop of Winchester and Lord Chancellor of England. Being of humble origins, Waynflete was determined that others of ability should be given the opportunity to learn, to serve and to prosper as he did. And so MCS offers a transformative education in our global university city, the community to which we contribute.

We attract and retain the best staff and MCS is a stimulating, welcoming and thriving environment in which both to learn and to work.

A lot happens at MCS. The various sections of our website ([www.mcsoxford.org](http://www.mcsoxford.org)) including the recent [News](#) will give you an impression of our school.

Thank you for your interest.

*H. C. Pike*



## TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS

### General Information

#### The School

Magdalen College School, founded in 1480 by William of Waynflete, is one of the country's leading independent day schools. It is situated in an enviable location at the heart of Oxford beside the River Cherwell.

#### The Role

Magdalen College School is seeking to appoint a teacher of Mathematics from September 2018. The role would be suitable for an experienced teacher, a Newly Qualified Teacher (NQT), or someone without a teaching qualification, who might be interested in pursuing the School's Waynflete Teaching Certificate, which



leads to Qualified Teacher Status (QTS). The Mathematics Department, which has expanded significantly in recent years, consists of 11 teachers. The successful candidate will be required to teach across senior school year groups, from Second Form (Year 7) to A Level and probably Oxbridge preparation. The ability to teach Computing would be an advantage but is not a requirement.

#### Application Process

Candidates should submit the Application Form for Teaching Staff which can be found on the Job Vacancy link of the website ([www.mcsoxford.org](http://www.mcsoxford.org)). To access [click here](#). This should be emailed together with a CV and covering letter of application to the Recruitment Officer, Mrs Sarah Hunter, ([applications@mcsoxford.org](mailto:applications@mcsoxford.org)). All documentation should be sent by midday Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January. Interviews will be held on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February and shortlisted candidates will be contacted by telephone. The school's preferred method of communication is by email and it will not be necessary to send a hard copy of the documents by post.



## The Department

Mathematics is currently the most popular A Level in the school: 36% of this year's Lower Sixth have chosen to study Further Mathematics and a further 38% have chosen Single Maths. The department has eight dedicated Maths classrooms and a well-resourced departmental office. All classrooms are equipped with a Smart board and data projectors. Autograph software is installed on computers in classrooms and study areas around the site, as well as Geogebra for use by teachers and pupils.



Pupils are taught in mixed ability classes in the Second Form (Year 7) and thereafter taught in sets until the Fifth Form (Year 11). At all times we encourage mathematical development and confidence through a combination of experimentation, discovery, explanation, practice and experience.

Rayner Essential Maths 7H is the main text book used in the Second Form (Year 7), Alexander Maths for Common Entrance Three is used for Third Form (Year 8), and Pearson's Edexcel IGCSE Maths Book 1 is used for L4th (Year 9). These are supplemented by Tony Gardiner's extension books as well as other resources including puzzles and games. There is an emphasis on developing problem solving techniques alongside extending mathematical skills. There is plenty of scope for experience of topics beyond the National Curriculum syllabus within these years, especially for higher sets.

The courses taught at present are Edexcel IGCSE Mathematics, OCR Additional Maths and MEI Mathematics and Further Mathematics A Levels. The department subscribes to the MEI Integral website and uses the resources available widely throughout A level (and as additional challenge at IGCSE) teaching as well as a large variety of other resources. There is an emphasis on problem solving within our teaching as a whole with puzzles, team games and challenges being used regularly within the classroom.



Academic standards are high and were as follows last year. In IGCSE: 93 A\* grades, 5 A grades, and 1 B grade. In Additional Maths: 41 A grades, 5 B grades, and 2 C grades. In A2 Maths: 55 A\* grades, 32 A grades, 10 B grades, and 1 C grade. In A2 Further Maths: 17 A\* grades, 5 A grades, 4 B grades, and 2 C grades. In recent years there have been around three Oxbridge Mathematics offers annually. A high number of Sixth Form pupils choose a mathematical or related subject for Waynflete Studies, the school's unique extended project, taught in conjunction with members of the university.

In national Mathematical Challenges, MCS pupils win large numbers of gold, silver and bronze certificates in Junior, Intermediate and Senior levels, and significant numbers qualify for Olympiads. In June 2010 MCS won the National Team Challenge; we were 4<sup>th</sup> in June 2012 and 3<sup>rd</sup> in June 2013. Our Senior Team was 12<sup>th</sup> in the National Finals in 2011, joint 2<sup>nd</sup> in 2012, qualified for the National Finals in 2014, and came 2<sup>nd</sup> nationally in 2017. The year 2015 was very successful for both teams: the Senior Team achieved 15<sup>th</sup> in the National Finals and the Juniors achieved 4<sup>th</sup> in their National Finals. Girls join the school in the Sixth Form, and we encourage participation in the Maths Olympiad for Girls on a voluntary basis for any female Further Mathematician in the school.

We aim to inspire pupils into further studies in Maths by taking Sixth Form pupils (and interested Year 11) to the monthly lectures at the University of Oxford's Maths Institute and Year 10 pupils to Maths Inspiration lectures. We also run Maths clubs at lunchtimes and internal Maths team competitions after school for three different age groups.

The department is also very involved in outreach for the local community. On behalf of FMSP (Further Maths Support Programme) we host an afternoon of Oxbridge interview practice for Oxfordshire state schools. The school runs an annual Gifted and Talented Week for selected local primary school Year 5 children and Maths is a regular and popular contributor to this event. Furthermore, we recently introduced a Primary Maths Challenge Day event for Year 6 pupils from local Primary Schools, and this has become an annual event.



### **The Candidate**

The successful candidate will be a well-qualified Mathematician who will be prepared to take a share of the teaching of the subject at all levels. Above all, he/she will be enthusiastic about the subject as a whole and be prepared to participate in our extra-curricular events. The teacher of Mathematics will be responsible to the Head of Department and ultimately to the Master via the Deputy Head (Academic) for the proper discharge of his/her duties.



Candidates short-listed for interview will be asked to teach an observed lesson when they come to the school. They will also be required to bring with them the necessary ID documentation and degree certificate(s), all of which must be originals. Further information on the observed lesson and documentation required will be provided with the invitation to interview.

In a lively day school, a willingness to contribute to other areas of school life, whether in the pastoral system, in games, music, drama, CCF or other activities, is always advantageous.

### **Safeguarding Policy**

Magdalen College School is committed to the safeguarding of pupils, and any offer of employment will be subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure, the receipt of satisfactory references, the school's pre-employment medical questionnaire and sight of relevant original ID documentation and degree certificate(s).

### **Additional Information**

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Recruitment Officer: 01865 253401.



## **Benefits**

MCS currently has its own salary scale, and salaries are substantially more generous than those in the maintained sector; there is also a relocation allowance on a sliding scale, by agreement with the Master and Bursary, and dependent on current location. The school offers private medical cover and subscribes to the Teachers' Pension Scheme, in which all teaching staff are auto enrolled – there is, of course, an opt out, should this be preferred. School fee remission for full time staff sons (from Junior through to Sixth Form) and staff daughters (Sixth Form) who pass entrance tests for the school is currently 50%.

In addition, Headington Girls school currently allows full time staff daughters who pass entrance tests for the school a 20% remission. (Headington fee remission is only available to staff with an FTE of 50% or over). In recent years the school has introduced its own Waynflete Teaching Certificate scheme and successful candidate without a formal PGCE, who meet the necessary criteria, may be invited to join this scheme.

Please note that MCS is an inner-city school, with limited parking. Candidates who have been offered a post will be invited to make representations in the preceding Trinity Term to the Usher (Senior Deputy Head) for a parking space.