



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



INFORMATION PACK

Teacher of LAMDA

Closing date: Midday, Friday 30th August

Interview date: Week beginning 2nd September

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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) including the recent [News](#) will give you an impression of our school.

Thank you for your interest.

H. C. Pike



TEACHER OF LAMDA

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.

Drama at MCS

The school has a long tradition of interest in drama, extending back at least to the 17th century. In recent times, it has been particularly keen to explore and consolidate this tradition. Recent former pupils include directors John Caird and Sam Mendes.

In expanding all aspects of its extra-curricular tradition over the past six years, the school has increasingly involved professional experts. Following the success of two productions directed by Tom Attenborough (one of Chapman's *The Gentleman Usher* and the other of a musical commissioned about the life of former pupil, Ivor Novello), and a production at Blenheim Palace of Sheridan's *The Critic* directed by Adrian Noble and Joanne Pearce Noble, the school finalised with Oxford Playhouse the current ground-breaking agreement. MCS's inaugural performance at Oxford Playhouse took place in July 2012. This was an adaptation of *Aeneid: The Journey* by Joanne Pearce Noble, who continues her close collaboration with Drama at MCS. This production met with great critical acclaim, and was followed by the world premiere of an adaptation of William Golding's *Lord of the Flies* in 2013, of Tennyson's *Idylls of the King* in 2014, of Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* in 2015, and Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows* in 2016.

Drama thrives at the school, with around ten productions being staged each year. One production per year transfers to the Edinburgh Fringe. The success of the 2011 Edinburgh production, Pinter's *Celebration*, was sufficient to persuade the playwright's widow, Lady Antonia Fraser, to speak about her former husband at the school in 2012. Other regular productions include Sixth Form Plays (most recently *Black Comedy* and *DNA*), an outdoor Shakespeare (recently *Much Ado About Nothing*,



A Midsummer's Night's Dream) an annual Greek play (recently *Ajax* and *Prometheus Bound*) and a school musical (recently *1917* – a new piece written for the school – and *Cabaret*).

There is a diversity of other productions, for pupils of all age groups, including plenty of opportunities for pupils to take a lead with directing, producing or managing technical aspects of productions. Recent additions to the annual drama programme have included a site-specific production in Oxford's university church based on the trials of the Oxford Martyrs and a 'strolling players' tour of Tuscany. Two productions a year take place in the Burton Taylor studio at the Playhouse, one of which transfers to Edinburgh. The school has recently entered a relationship with the Pegasus Theatre, which provides a further professional space for our Theatre Academy. LAMDA lessons are delivered to about 60 pupils.

The school is committed to fostering creative and cultural opportunities within the wider community, and hosts an annual Arts Festival in June-July each year which forms a particular focus for its partnership work. Recent community engagement projects with a theatrical focus have included workshops for primary school children in connection with the production of *The Wind in the Willows*, a production of Catherine Johnson's play *A Letter to Lacey* by vulnerable young people living in Oxfordshire as part of the National Theatre Connections scheme, storytelling workshops with Crisis Skylight and Restore, and collaborations with The Oxford Academy in 2014 and 2015 to create devised pieces of theatre under the direction of Oxford Playhouse Associate Artist Ben Park. In 2015, the Festival hosted *Direct Roots: A Theatre-makers' Symposium* as a forum for young professionals making their way in the world of theatre.

The Magdalen College School theatre is the School Hall (Big School) which has recently been improved by generous grants from the Parents' Association. There is a diversity of other auditoria available in the school, in the city, and in the University.



The Role

The school is seeking to appoint a LAMDA teacher, starting in the Michaelmas term 2019, to teach bright and enthusiastic pupils from Y3 to Y13. Further information on the post is below.

Application Process

Candidates should submit the Application Form for Peripatetic Coaches which can be found on the Job Vacancy link of the website (www.mcsoxford.org). This should be emailed together with a cv and covering letter of application to the Recruitment Officer, Mrs Sarah Hunter (applications@mcsoxford.org). All documentation should be sent no later than **Midday Friday August 30th**. 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.

We anticipate holding interviews the week beginning 2nd September and will be in contact with shortlisted candidates by telephone. We reserve the right to change the interview date if necessary. We sometimes receive a large number of applications, and often need to interview for two or more jobs at the same time. We try to give every application the closest possible personal attention, but if you have not heard from us by the end of the interview week, you should assume that your application was unsuccessful on this occasion.

References may be taken up in advance, although this does not necessarily mean that a candidate will be called for interview. If you do not wish references to be called for at this stage, please make that clear on the reference section of the application form.

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, plus sight of relevant original ID documentation and exam/degree certificate(s).



Additional Information

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

The Department

The Drama department at MCS is an active one, with a wide range of drama productions taking place each term across the Junior and Senior Schools.

LAMDA lessons are offered in both Junior and Senior Schools, and the number of pupils choosing to study LAMDA in recent years has been very healthy.



The LAMDA Teacher will be supported by a member of the administrative staff. Moreover, reprographics (word processors, photocopiers, binders etc.) are centrally administered and a full-time secretary to the Common Room is available to help in these areas.

The LAMDA Teacher will report to the Head of Drama and ultimately to the Master.



The Candidate

The successful candidate will be a well-qualified and enthusiastic LAMDA instructor.

This will be a part-time appointment, and School LAMDA lessons take place during term-time before the start of the school day, during lunchtimes, and after the end of the school day. Pupils elect to study LAMDA, and are taught individually, in duos, or sometimes in small groups. The hours required will, therefore, depend on the level of pupil interest, and may vary from term to term. Pupils work towards LAMDA exams at appropriate intervals, and the successful candidate will be expected to support them in preparing for these.

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



Benefits

Peripatetic staff at MCS are paid on an hourly basis, calculated on the basis of the number of lessons taught. The School subscribes to the Teachers' Pension Scheme, in which all teaching staff are automatically enrolled – there is, of course, an opt out, should this be preferred. Benefits are on a pro rata basis where applicable. Free lunches are available when on duty. 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.