



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



## **Information Pack**

## **Teacher of English**

Closing date: Midday, Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January

Interviews: Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February

Oxford OX4 1DZ Telephone 01865 242191  
Email: [master@mcsoxford.org](mailto:master@mcsoxford.org) · [www.mcsoxford.org](http://www.mcsoxford.org)

Registered Company 2106661 Registered Charity 295785



## 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 ENGLISH**

### **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. It educates boys from 7 – 18, and girls in the Sixth Form.

#### **The Role**

The school is seeking to appoint a well-qualified Teacher of English to teach bright and enthusiastic pupils from Year 7 to Pre-U and Oxbridge. Further information on the post is included below.



#### **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 ([shunter@mcsoxford.org](mailto:shunter@mcsoxford.org)). All documentation should be sent no later than **midday Monday January 27th**, and early applications are encouraged. 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 on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February but reserve the right to interview before this date, and will be in contact with shortlisted candidates by telephone.

#### **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 and the school's pre-employment medical questionnaire. We also require sight of relevant original ID documentation and degree certificate(s).



## The Department

The English department at Magdalen College School is a thriving, ambitious and stimulating environment where pupils have the opportunity to develop a love of reading and writing in lessons and independently.

Outstanding classroom teaching is supported by a busy enrichment programme which includes the school's creative-writing society and magazine, lunchtime seminars, lectures from visiting speakers, regular theatre trips to Stratford and London, debating, and pupil-led reading groups with other local schools.

Academic standards are high. In 2019, 71% of A Level results were graded A\* and 100% were graded A\*-A. At GCSE, 80% of boys gained 8 or 9 in English Literature and 66% in English Language (90% and 86% 7-9 respectively). The subject is a



popular choice for university applications; each year a good number of our applicants receive offers to read English at Oxford, Cambridge, and many more leading universities.

English is at the centre of the curriculum at MCS, with all boys taking four periods of English per week in Years 7-10, and five periods per week in Year 11. In the Sixth Form, there are three or four sets in each year-group, and pupils study the subject for eight periods per week.



In the Lower School (Years 7 to 9), the development of the boys' creative and analytical writing skills is driven primarily through the close study of a wide range of poetry, prose and drama texts. Our aim in these years is to foster a love of literature as well as to ensure the boys are well equipped to make the transition to GCSE, where we follow the AQA English Language and English Literature specifications. In the Sixth Form, we formerly taught OCR English Literature A Level, but have recently moved to teaching the Pre-U Literature in English specification; the flexibility of our Pre-U course offers teachers and pupils alike extensive opportunities to exploit and develop their passions in the subject, both collaboratively and individually.

### **The Candidate**

The successful candidate will be required to teach English from the Second Form (Year 7) up to Pre-U and Oxbridge preparation and will have the energy, enthusiasm, experience and expertise to contribute significantly to this successful department.

The Teacher of English will report to the Head of English, and ultimately to the Master via the Deputy Head (Education Development).





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.



### **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 Bursar, and dependent on current location. The school also operates a cycle to work scheme, and

travel loans are available. The school 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.

The school has a fully equipped gym which is available for staff use, and staff may also enjoy access to the University of Oxford's Rosenblatt Swimming Pool. Tennis courts are available, and there is a comprehensive programme of staff sports clubs, including football, climbing, yoga, Pilates, and badminton. Staff also have the opportunity to join choirs and music groups, and to get involved in drama productions.

Staff are encouraged to make use of the Senior Common Room within and after the school day, as an area for relaxation and shared discussion outside departments. There is also a quiet room located close to the SCR where staff can work and study. Tea and Coffee are served in the SCR at morning break, Lunch is provided in the Dining Hall, and cakes and cut fruit are available in the SCR at the end of the school day. Staff socials, guest nights and Master's Drinks are regular features of each term.



### **Professional Development**

The school places a significant emphasis on the professional development of all staff. A half termly CPD & Teaching Newsletter is distributed by email, which aims to highlight educational research and practical ideas, to share ideas from courses and conferences attended, to offer guidance on opportunities for CPD, and to highlight the work of colleagues in the area of teaching and learning. All colleagues are encouraged to attend at least one external CPD course each year, and also to visit another school, place of work or university, where appropriate.

The Teaching & Learning group meets before school twice per half term. Its purpose is to consider developments in educational research, to facilitate discussion of teaching and learning, to offer a forum for the sharing of good teaching practice, and to support colleagues in experimenting with new teaching techniques. There is also a programme of Learning Lunches each term for colleagues to share good practice. Colleagues who have been teaching for more than seven years (including a minimum of three years' service at MCS) may make an application for study leave for the second half of the Trinity term.



### **Waynflete Teaching Certificate**

The School aims to offer teaching staff joining the school without a teaching qualification (UQTs) the opportunity to develop their teaching craft and reflect on their professional practice through a structured programme of training and support. For such colleagues, the school offers the Waynflete Teaching Certificate, which may ultimately lead to Qualified Teacher Status through the Assessment Only route offered by the University of Reading.

### **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**

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 term preceding their arrival to the Usher (Senior Deputy Head) for a parking space. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Recruitment Officer: 01865 253401.