



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



Information Pack

Teacher of Computer Science

Closing date: Thursday 27th February

Interviews: Thursday 5th March

Oxford OX4 1DZ Telephone 01865 242191

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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 COMPUTER SCIENCE

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 full-time Teacher of Computer Science from 1st September 2020. 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 can lead to Qualified Teacher Status (QTS).



The successful candidate will be required to teach Computer Science at (I)GCSE and A Level, as well as contributing to the department's clubs and societies. They will join a new, rapidly developing department and contribute to shaping its vision for the years to come. The ability to teach Maths to A Level, or indeed Further Maths A Level would be advantageous 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). 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). All documentation should be sent by midday on Thursday 27th February. Interviews will be held on Thursday 5th March 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. **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.**



The Department

We have offered Computer Science as an optional subject at (I)GCSE level at MCS since September 2017. It is one of the most popular options at this level, chosen by 40-50% of each year group. Our first cohort took the IGCSE examination in 2019, achieving 70% grade 9 and 91% grades 9-8. Since September 2019, we have offered the AQA A Level course in Computer Science. Our first cohort has 17 pupils and the signs point to increasing numbers in future years.

The department has two dedicated Computer Science classrooms; the successful candidate will be responsible for one of these. Each classroom is equipped with a class set of twenty Ubuntu Linux laptops, which are stored in charging cabinets. They form a network separate from the main school systems, which allows customisation and experimentation in lessons beyond what is normally possible under stringent general-purpose school network policies.



Our primary focus in the (I)GCSE course is on problem-solving and programming skills. We expect all (I)GCSE pupils to go beyond the exam requirements in these areas. We use the Grok Learning platform in the first half of the Upper Fourth (Year 10) and follow it up with in-house resources and tasks. Most programming at this level is completed in Python, though we also introduce students to assembler (using Little Man Computer), HTML/CSS and SQL.

At A Level, we use Kevin Bond AQA textbooks for the core part of the course. We use Python as the main course language, supplementing it with other languages as appropriate to illustrate particular concepts. In addition to the core curriculum, all our Lower Sixth Computer Science pupils follow a practical programming syllabus, covering project design and testing, GUI development, 2D game engines, object-relational mappers and web applications.

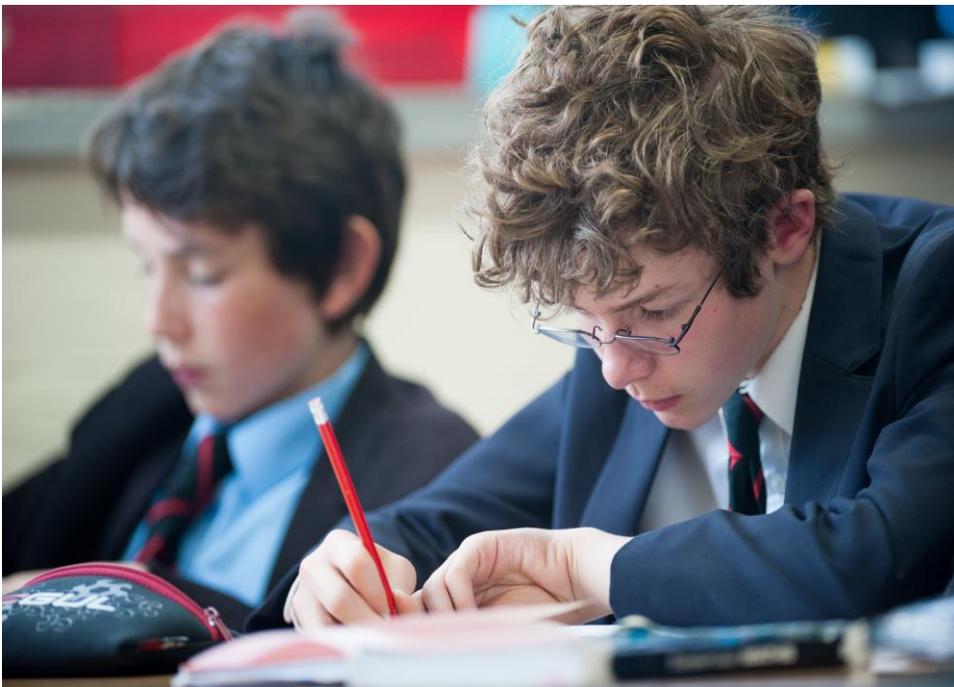
Our pupils take part in competitions, including the British Informatics Olympiad, Perse Coding Cup, Cyber Discovery and National Cipher Challenge – with many achieving top results at the national level. We regularly offer lunchtime and weekend workshops focused on competitive programming and on specific practical technologies not covered by the core syllabus. There are also clubs aimed at younger pupils, and the department is involved in the School's Liliam (PSHCE) programme, delivering rotations on computational thinking and data



The Candidate

The successful candidate will be a well-qualified Computer Scientist (or a mathematician with experience in software development) 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 Computer Science will report to the Head of Computer Science, and ultimately to the Master via the Deputy Head (Academic) for the proper discharge of his/her duties. 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.

Candidates shortlisted for interview will 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.

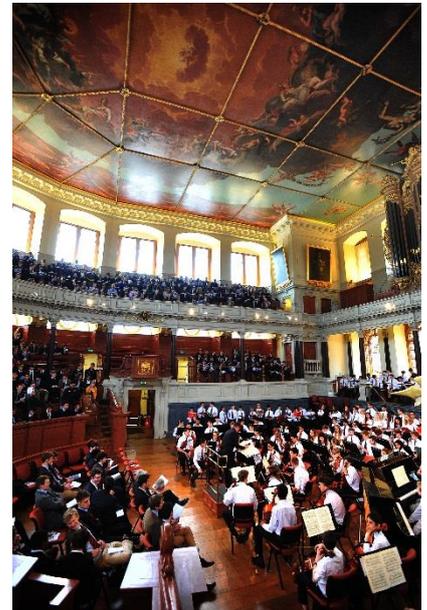




Benefits

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 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 School through to Sixth Form) and staff daughters (Sixth Form) who pass entrance tests for the school is currently 50%; this operates on a pro-rata basis for part time staff. In addition, Headington School currently allows full time staff daughters who pass entrance tests for the school a 20% remission. (Headington fee remission also operates on a pro-rata basis for part time staff, and is only available to staff with a Full Time Equivalent of 50% or over).

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.





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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.