

Creating the Future



THORPE HOUSE SCHOOL

AN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL FOR BOYS

WELCOME



Thorpe House School is a thriving boys' independent day school in Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire. The School provides its 300 pupils with an education tailored to the way boys learn best. It is a truly unique school in the local area, offering boys a bespoke learning journey.

Thorpe House School is forward-looking, thriving and inclusive.

A Christian-based ethos underpins the School's nurturing environment. Kindness, compassion, respect, politeness, and resilience are traditional Thorpe House values. The School invests a high level of care and attention in every pupil and instils the boys with a love of learning. It has a caring family atmosphere, with a welcoming staff who work closely in partnership with parents to ensure that the boys achieve their best. Excellent teaching, small class sizes and a learning environment where boys are known by their teachers, guarantees the best opportunity for each pupil to fulfil his potential.

The boys generally achieve GCSE grades above those predicted, many of them excellent, and by the time they leave, are well prepared to cope with the many and varied challenges of modern life. Thorpe House School's educational approach encourages the boys to become responsible members of their local and global community. The staff are committed to providing the boys with the guidance and support they need to succeed.

Creating the Future

Our
HISTORY



Steeped in history, the School was founded in 1923 by Cyril Averill. Originally sited in Queensway, the School moved to its present site in 1925. The former Poet Laureate, Sir John Betjeman, was for a time the School's Master in Charge of Cricket. The Pre-Prep was established in 1964 and in 1985 the School became a Charitable Educational Trust. In 2006, with great success, the School extended its age range to 16.

In 2023/24 the School will mark its centenary and welcome Year 12 pupils into its new co-educational sixth form which opens in September 2024.

Our
LOCATION



Gerrards Cross is a wonderful place to live and work. It has an abundance of green space for cycling and walking, notably the beautiful Gerrards Cross Common. The town has a friendly community feel and it is consistently rated as one of the most sought-after locations close to London. The centre of London is only a 20-minute train journey. The Chiltern Railway also serves Aylesbury, High Wycombe, Bicester, Stratford-upon-Avon and Birmingham.

Pastoral Care

It is very evident that positive relationships exist between all members of the School community. Every boy is made to feel that he is an important member of the School, allowing his learning to flourish and an independence of thought to grow within him. The staff are committed to doing the very best for the boys in their care; all pupils feel valued. Pastoral care at Thorpe House is excellent and the boys know that their teachers demonstrate concern for them and readily listen to their views.

Aims

The School aims to educate and develop each pupil to the highest standard. When a boy leaves Thorpe House, the School is determined that he has the attributes to be a curious, independent and creative learner. The School encourages the boys to become risk takers who can reflect upon their ideas and use them to problem solve. Thorpe House School boys have well-developed personalities, are self-confident, and show consideration for others. The School strives for its boys to be culturally aware, spiritually fulfilled, and content with life whilst retaining a high self-esteem and a positive regard for themselves.



Governance and Leadership

The School is administered by dedicated and hardworking trustees who have a clear understanding of the School; they work hard to ensure that the School stays true to its ethos. They offer a wide range of effective skills to support the Head and the School. As a result, the School benefits from outstanding leadership. A clear and well-communicated vision for the future is supported by the Governing Body and a committed Senior Leadership Team. All those involved at the School aim to create a caring, learning environment for the boys. The Senior Leadership Team currently comprises the Headteacher, Deputy Head, Director of Studies, Head of Lower School and Finance Manager. Mr Simon McCallion formally joined the school as Head of Sixth Form on 1st September 2023.

Our SECTIONS

Lower School is a vibrant, inclusive and very happy place to learn. Small classes and teachers with experience throughout Early Years and both Key Stage 1 and 2 ensure a high level of care and attention to every boy. Lower School boys are encouraged to embrace the values of kindness, friendship and respect, alongside perseverance and a love of learning.



In the Middle School, the aim is to create an environment where every pupil's academic needs are met, challenged and stretched on a daily basis. We want all pupils to realise not only their level, but also to appreciate what the next steps are and ensure that they are motivated to take those steps.

In the Upper School, the aim is to provide excellent teaching in a small school environment, preparing the boys for tomorrow's world and their next step in education. We seek to challenge, inspire and inculcate a lifelong love of learning whilst also developing the key attributes of intellectual curiosity, independent thinking and learning, resilience, respect and leadership.



The School will be opening a co-educational sixth form in September 2024 and is very excited by the opportunities which this venture will offer for both staff and pupils.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Art Teacher

Required for Sept 2026

RESPONSIBLE TO: HEAD OF FACULTY

Purpose of Role

To be accountable for leading, managing and developing the subject to support the school's overall vision and ethos and reflect the aspirations and objectives for the area;

- To devise, implement and establish a greater focus on Electronics as part of the Design Technology offering;
- To raise standards of student attainment and achievement within the whole subject/curriculum area and to monitor and support student progress;
- To ensure the provision of an appropriately broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum for students studying Art which meets curriculum requirements;
- The Head of Department will establish and share an educational vision and ethos for the area that supports the school's overall vision and ethos and reflects the aspirations and objectives for the area. This will be based on rigorous self-evaluation and reflection and will be designed to secure continuous improvement.
- To teach the relevant subject across Years 6 to 11 and to 'A' level
- To facilitate and encourage a learning experience which provides students with the opportunity to achieve their individual potential;
- To manage the department's financial budget and physical resources effectively within the department;
- To share and support the school's responsibility to provide and monitor opportunities for personal and academic growth.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Main areas of Responsibility

- Operational and strategic planning (including formulating the subject and faculty improvement plans, and leading the development of appropriate syllabuses, resources, schemes of work, marking policies, assessment and teaching strategies);
- Ensuring the delivery of an appropriate, comprehensive, high quality and cost effective curriculum and leading development of the subject and its delivery;
- Staff development of Art Technician;
- Student outcomes (including ensuring the effective operation of target setting, monitoring and evaluation systems and the input and maintenance of accurate student data);
- Pastoral system (including being a form tutor to a selected group of students or Head of House if required);
- Teaching, including acting as an outstanding role model.

Other Professional Duties

- To communicate with staff, pupils and parents as required;
- To attend and contribute to Heads of Department meetings, staff meetings, Health & Safety meetings and others as required;
- To be responsible for personal professional development and to keep up to date with educational initiatives that impact on the school, specifically in relation to teaching and learning Design Technology;
- To participate in training, learning activities and appraisal process as required;
- To play a full part in the life of the school and support school events
- To follow the school's Code of Conduct and school policies, including safeguarding, health and safety, data protection.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

- Hold QTS or PGCE (secondary) and a relevant undergraduate degree;
- Demonstrate successful teaching of GCSE or better level;
- Show evidence of raising achievement in present post and showing good value added for groups;
- Have knowledge of current curriculum developments in subject and their implications;
- Have good knowledge and understanding of current educational thinking;
- Show good understanding of how children learn and how to raise standards of achievement;
- Have good communication skills in speech and writing;
- Display excellent organisational skills;
- Be able to build and sustain professional standards and relationships with students;
- Be able to contribute towards creating a safe and protective environment.



TERMS & CONDITIONS OF APPLICATION

This is an all year round position from 1st September 2026 with flexible working options

As well as working in a happy, committed school with committed colleagues, engaged parents and supportive parents, Thorpe offers the following:

- Excellent pension scheme with death in service benefit as part of a package of extensive benefits and remuneration
- Long school holidays
- Regular Staff Social Events
- A proactive and caring network of support staff across the school
- A yearly Activities Week where staff have travel and wider experiential opportunities (trips this year went to Costa Rica, Malta, Spain and Wales, for example)
- Free lunches plus staffroom snacks and tea/coffee
- Access to counsellor
- Fee remission for children of staff (reciprocal at St. Mary's)
- £300 Governor's Cash gift per year for wellness
- Personal device supplied by the school
- Fantastic levels of job satisfaction
- Potential for further flexible working options
- Regular professional development opportunities

Creating the Future

Our APPLICATION PROCESS



1

To apply, please return a completed application form and covering letter to Mrs Funmi Obamakin, HR Officer, at f.obamakin@thorpehouse.co.uk. The closing date for receipt of applications is 9am on Monday, 9th March. Early applications are encouraged as we reserve the right to appoint at any time during the recruitment process.

A copy of the School's recruitment policy, safeguarding policy and privacy notice are available at www.thorpehouse.co.uk/career-opportunities



2

Candidates will be expected to teach a lesson as part of the interview process. In the formal interview there will be questions investigating the applicant's attitude to safeguarding issues and pedagogy.



3

References of shortlisted candidates will normally be taken up prior to interview. In the interests of safeguarding and child protection, we reserve the right to telephone referees to clarify any questions which arise from application forms, verify facts and investigate any inconsistencies between a written reference and the application form.

Thorpe House School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any appointment made will be subject to child protection screening including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Thorpe House School is an Equal Opportunities employer.

Meet OUR TEAM



Mr Jake Burnett
Headteacher



Mr Sean Day
Senior Deputy Head



Mrs Paula Procopi
Deputy Head



Mrs Victoria Pidwell
Head of Prep



Mr Simon McCallion
Head of Sixth Form

Creating the Future



The Thorpe Way

This core set of values defines who we are as a school; we show these qualities every day in class, out of school, and as members of the Thorpe Community. Being consistent in our approaches and attitudes will help us to be happy, hard-working and successful, so that we can all do our best and take pride in our achievements.

We are:

T: Truthful

We always:

- Show integrity in words and deeds
- Make the correct decisions, with thought and care
- Take ownership of our learning and behaviour with accountability for actions and outcomes
- Demonstrate responsibility for our actions and in what we say
- Show honesty and courage at all times

H: Helpful

We always:

- Assist those in need without being asked
- Hold doors open and step aside as necessary
- Queue up sensibly and respectfully
- Look after our school environment and keep all areas tidy
- Demonstrate we are positive role models within our community

O: Organised

We always:

- Take pride in our appearance
- Manage time, tasks and information effectively and productively, including keeping a record of homework and completing it to the best of our abilities
- Recognise when technology is a distraction and when it is appropriate (or not) to use a device
- Bring the correct equipment to class
- Plan, prioritise and take action to achieve personal goals

R: Resilient

We always:

- Demonstrate preparedness to learn and contribute to a positive environment
- Learn from our mistakes as well as taking risks
- Concentrate and remain focused in class
- Show we are ready to ask and answer questions
- Show respectful confidence and no fear of making mistakes

P: Polite

We always:

- Use language that is appropriate and respectful, remembering to use 'please' and 'thank you'
- Make eye contact and respond positively to others
- Speak clearly and appropriately, knowing that slang and profanity are never tolerated
- Show respect to classmates, students, staff and visitors both at school and offsite
- Move calmly and in an orderly way around the school

E: Empathic

We always:

- Treat others the way we wish to be treated
- Regulate emotions appropriately and carefully
- Take pride in the successes and achievements of others
- Show kindness and care for everyone in the school community
- Respect the beliefs, feelings, views and cultures of others





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let's get in touch

Thorpe House School
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[@thorpehousesch](https://www.instagram.com/thorpehousesch)