

Creating the Future



THORPE HOUSE SCHOOL
AN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL FOR BOYS

WELCOME



Leading Independent school based in Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire.

Our Thorpians have gone on to be leaders, entrepreneurs, scholars, athletes and artists, to name but a few. Whatever the future holds for our boys aged 4-16, we support, challenge and empower each unique individual to explore their passions, develop their talents and fulfil their ambition.

September 2024 saw our brand new co-educational Sixth Form launch in the heart of Gerrards Cross, offering young men and women first class teaching with an emphasis on academic achievement, the development of key life skills, leadership and exploration, extended pastoral care, and bespoke university and careers guidance.

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 child achieve their best. Excellent teaching, small class sizes by design and a learning environment where students are known by their teachers, guarantees the best opportunity for each pupil to fulfil his potential.

The staff are committed to providing the boys with the guidance and support their need to succeed.

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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 marked its centenary and welcomed Year 12 pupils into its new co-educational sixth form 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 child is made to feel that they are an important member of the School, allowing their learning to flourish and an independence of thought to grow within them. The staff are committed to doing the very best for the students in their care; all pupils feel valued. Pastoral care at Thorpe House is excellent, and the students 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 students to become risk takers who can reflect upon their ideas and use them to problem solve. Thorpe House School students have well-developed personalities, are self-confident, and show consideration for others. The School strives for its students 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, Head of Sixth Form and Finance Manager.

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 students are encouraged to embrace the values of kindness, friendship and respect, alongside perseverance and a love of learning.



In the Middle School (Year 7-8), 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 (Year 9-11), the aim is to provide excellent teaching in a small school environment, preparing the students 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.



In the heart of Gerrards Cross, our Sixth Form offers young men and women access to first-class teaching, with an emphasis on academic achievement, the development of key skills, leadership and exploration, extended pastoral care, and bespoke university and career guidance.

JOB DESCRIPTION

KS4/KS5 History with Politics Teacher (0.5 FTE)

Required for Sept 2025

RESPONSIBLE TO: HEAD OF HUMANITIES

Job Purpose:

We are seeking an enthusiastic and dedicated teacher to join our Humanities department. The successful candidate will be responsible for delivering high-quality History and Politics lessons to students at Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5, fostering a passion for the subjects and supporting student progress.

Key Responsibilities:

Plan, prepare, and deliver lessons in accordance with published schemes of work for History and Politics, ensuring engaging and dynamic lessons that meet the needs of all students.

Make an effective contribution to the planning and delivery of History and Politics courses, ensuring a rigorous, analytical, and creative approach to both subjects.

Teach pupils in Year 9 and above, including setting and marking work and assessments in line with the school's policy, ensuring students are challenged and supported in their learning.

Set work for pupils absent from school, ensuring continuity of learning through appropriate assignments for both History and Politics.

Assess, record, and report on the development, progress, and attainment of pupils in both History and Politics, providing constructive feedback that helps students improve their written, analytical, and critical thinking skills.

Promote the welfare and individual needs of assigned pupils, fostering a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment that prioritizes emotional well-being and academic success, following school policies including child protection, health and safety, and behavior management.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Under the direction of the Head of Humanities, make a full contribution to the work of the departmental team, including involvement in school events, history and politics-related projects, and Open Days.

Contribute to the development and maintenance of electronic resources, including online platforms, lesson materials, and multimedia resources that enhance student engagement in both History and Politics.

Attend parents' evenings and meetings as appropriate to the year group taught, discussing students' progress and performance in both History and Politics with parents and guardians.

Attend all assemblies, departmental meetings, staff meetings, and INSET, contributing to the ongoing development of the school community and staying current with educational best practices.

Undertake a range of general duties to ensure the smooth running of the school, including supporting school-wide initiatives and events as needed.

Contribute to the school's programme of extra-curricular activities, including history clubs, politics clubs, debates, history trips, and other school activities, some of which may take place during evenings or weekends.

Act as a form tutor if required, being responsible for morning registration, overseeing and reporting on pupils' pastoral and academic progress, and offering guidance to help students succeed.

Teach some aspects of the school's PSHEE programme if acting as a form tutor, helping students develop key life skills and promoting personal growth.

Act as Head of House if required, supporting the pastoral development of students within the house system, and leading or organizing related house activities.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Be a qualified teacher in the 11 to 18 age range;

A degree in History, Politics, or a related subject.

Experience teaching History and Politics at KS4 and KS5 is desirable.

Strong subject knowledge and a passion for teaching.

Be a qualified teacher in the 11 to 18 age range.

Have a proven record of successful teaching with secondary-aged pupils.

Have an extensive knowledge of History and Politics and an awareness of teaching methodology to motivate pupils to extend their knowledge and understanding.

Have energy, enthusiasm, vision, and initiative to motivate pupils.

Have high expectations of pupils' behaviour and achievement.

Able to work within organisational procedures and meet the required standards and deadlines for the role.

Good inter-personal skills, able to work collaboratively and supportively with school colleagues.

Able to relate to pupils and parents.

Able to communicate clearly and effectively orally and in writing.

Able to use ICT effectively in all aspects of teaching, learning, and administration.

Able to plan effectively, setting priorities and targets.

Be committed to continual personal and professional development and be reflective and able to learn from past experience.



TERMS & CONDITIONS OF APPLICATION

This position has availability for part time and/or another teaching subject from September 2025.

The School offers flexible pension arrangements, and fee remission on completion of probation subject to meeting admission criteria and available places.

Lunches are provided during term time at no cost and, tea, coffee and biscuits are provided at break times.

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Our APPLICATION PROCESS



1

To apply, please return a completed application form and covering letter to Mrs Funmi Obamakin, HR Officer, at funmi.obamakin@thorpehouse.co.uk. The closing date for receipt of applications is 9am on Friday, 2nd May. 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.

Meet OUR TEAM



Mr Jake Burnett
Headteacher



Mr Sean Day
Deputy Head



Mrs Sue Jenkin
Director of Studies



Mr Simon McCallion
Head of Sixth Form

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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

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