



Fettes College

Teacher of Art (Cover)
Summer Term



This is an opportunity to join a thriving Art Department at Fettes College for the Summer Term 2026. The successful candidate will be an excellent classroom practitioner who can inspire students of all abilities, demonstrating a real passion for Art.

The successful candidate will be well-qualified and have an active interest in developments in Art and in Art education. Ideally, they will have experience of teaching GCSE Art, A Level Art and Design, and IB Visual Arts.



About Fettes

The school stands on a magnificent site of approximately 100 acres, within walking distance of Edinburgh's city centre and is a leading HMC co-educational independent boarding and day school. Founded by Sir William Fettes in 1870, it was originally a boy's school but started admitting girls in 1970.

We are now a community of more than 1000 individuals, made up of just under 700 students and over 300 dedicated staff. Fettes has a strong focus on pastoral care and all-round education, providing our students with '*A place to live. A place to learn. A place to grow*'. We are unique in Scotland in following the English curriculum of GCSE examinations and the dual pathway of A Level and International Baccalaureate (IB). The school was in the Top 10 in the UK for the IB in 2025 and recently rated 'Excellent' by Education Scotland for its curriculum, and for raising attainment and outcomes.



Aims

Fettes College aims to nurture the whole individual while fostering a happy and caring community. To this end, we will do our utmost to ensure our students:

- Receive the highest possible quality of education within a boarding environment
- Feel safe, valued, have a sense of personal worth and are thoughtful and considerate of the needs of others, possessing a willingness to take on responsibility
- Develop their self-confidence, integrity, emotional resilience, loyalty, good manners and humour, leadership skills and teamwork
- Value a sense of community and service, and develop a clear sense of right and wrong, equipping them for life beyond Fettes
- Are encouraged to stretch and challenge themselves in everything they undertake
- Are provided with equal opportunities regardless of gender, sexuality, ethnic origin race, or religion

The Art Department

Art is a popular subject at Fettes. Around 60 pupils are currently following the GCSE course and 30 of the Sixth Form are on our A Level and IB courses.

The department is housed in our beautiful Spens Building. In addition to general purpose studios, there are specialist facilities for printmaking and ceramics, a darkroom, and a well-stocked Library. All Upper Sixth Form students have a permanent studio space in their own dedicated studio.

There are 3 full time teachers and 2 technicians, one based in the Art Workshop and the other in the Art Studios. We have an open-door policy which allows all students to use the facilities outside lesson times to develop their work further and to pursue individual interests.

Aims of the Art Department

The primary aim of the Art Department is to enable our pupils to experience the essential value of Art. Art is both a form of communication and a means of expressing ideas and feelings. It forms a language which complements those of the literary, mathematical, scientific and factually based subjects.

The Department aims to stimulate and encourage;

- An awareness and appreciation of the interdependence of art and design and the individual within cultural contexts
- Confidence, initiative, independence, and a sense of achievement
- The ability to identify, research and evaluate problems in a systematic way
- The ability to perceive, understand and express concepts
- The ability to record from direct observation and personal experience
- The ability to communicate by using appropriate materials and techniques in a controlled way
- An experimental and innovative approach to the subject
- Imaginative responses to stimuli
- The acquisition of a relevant working vocabulary



Curriculum

All pupils in the Third Form study Art. Here we offer a broad course in which every student gains experience in each of our specialist areas and gain skills in a variety of processes in preparation for exploring these on the GCSE course. In Fourth and Fifth Form, we follow the AQA GCSE syllabus which allows a very broad and flexible approach, and we encourage pupils to work to their strengths and within their individual areas of interest.

In the Lower Sixth Form, we teach both A level and IB groups together for much of the year as the structure of our course is compatible with both. This course develops practical skills and critical and theoretical understanding. In their final year of school, each student embarks on their independent course of study in either the AQA A level syllabus or the IB Visual Arts course at either HL or SL.

Co- Curricular Activities

We offer a range of clubs, open to all students, allowing those not studying Art to benefit from our facilities. We also hold weekly portfolio preparation sessions for those applying for Fine Art, design or Architecture courses at university, and we invite artists and other speakers to contribute to our Art Society programme. Across all year groups, we use local galleries and special site visits to support our teaching.





A Supportive Common Room

New teachers at Fettes join a friendly and supportive Common Room with a dynamic mixture of age and experience. Every new member of staff undergoes a detailed induction process and engages thereafter in a supportive Review and Development and CPD system to develop their skills as an all-round teacher.

We are committed to inclusion for all staff and welcome staff into our community regardless of age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief and marriage and civil partnerships.

We are particularly passionate about creating a diverse workforce and welcome applications from under-represented communities. We particularly encourage applications from Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic (BAME) candidates. If you would like to have an informal chat about the inclusive culture at Fettes College or have any questions about how this might work for you, please contact Anushka Chakravarty Deputy, Head (Academic) at a.chakravarty@fettes.com

Excellent Career Development

There are multiple further opportunities for career development, whether those are of an academic or pastoral nature, or in the extracurricular fields. The close-knit nature of boarding school life means that staff enjoy excellent student/teacher relationships and there are usually opportunities for suitable new appointments to progress quickly and take on whole-school responsibilities.

Expectations of Staff

The academic teaching that takes place in the classroom is of fundamental importance and we pride ourselves on the quality of learning and teaching at Fettes. However, typical of a boarding school, our teaching staff do so much more than teach. Our full-boarding ethos means that each member of the teaching staff can become fully immersed in all aspects of life at Fettes.

Teachers can also involve themselves in the Fettes community by coaching sports and bringing their particular interests and strengths to our thriving extra-curricular programme (where over 40 activities are offered).

Fettes expects all our staff to be professional, well-mannered, well-presented and courteous to students, staff and visitors to the College always. All staff are expected to read and understand the various school policies we must ensure that these are followed.

Quality of Life

Fettes (and, more widely, Edinburgh and Scotland) offers an exciting environment in which to work and live. The school is situated a short walk from the restaurants and bars of Stockbridge and within easy reach of galleries, concert halls, theatres and cinemas. Each member of staff enjoys membership of the excellent on-site Westwoods Sports Centre and there is never far to travel for further outdoor pursuits such as water sports, hill-walking, skiing and climbing. Staff also have the opportunity to lead or assist on exciting trips and tours to all corners of the globe.



The Ideal Candidate

Successful applicants for a teaching post at Fettes would be expected to have the following characteristics:

- Excellent academic pedigree with a specialism in one or more art and design subjects at GCSE, A Level and/or IB
- Interest and knowledge of contemporary art practice and approaches
- Ambitious, diligent, keen to develop their existing talents
- Understand the commitment required of a boarding environment
- Enthusiastic to become involved in all aspects of school life
- Good skills in digital media

Conditions of the Appointment

- The appointment will date from April 2026 for one Term
- Salary will be by negotiation and will depend on the qualifications and experience of the successful candidate
- All applicants must be either registered with GTCS or eligible for GTCS registration. If you are unsure of your eligibility you should check the GTCS website: www.gtcs.org.uk before applying
- Other details and conditions of service will be discussed at interview

Interested candidates can contact Laura Sutherland, Head of Art by email at L.sutherland@fettes.com, if they wish to discuss the role prior to a formal application being made.

The closing date for applications is Saturday 14th March, with interviews likely to take place online the following week. If selected for interview you would be required to show a portfolio of student artwork including evidence of the research and development process.