

Fettes College

Teacher of Classics
For April or September 2025



A place to **live.** A place to **learn.** A place to **grow.**

This is an exciting opportunity to join an outstanding department in a thriving school as a Teacher of Classics. The successful candidate will be an excellent classroom practitioner who can inspire pupils of all abilities and demonstrate a real enthusiasm for the Classics.

There is no requirement to teach Greek, although Greek teaching is available to a suitably qualified candidate.

Academic ability and rigour, a passion for learning and an enthusiastic approach to classroom teaching will be vital qualities for the successful applicant. All members of staff take part in a review process in which their own career development and progression is discussed and supported.



Fettes College is a leading HMC co-educational boarding and day school close to the heart of Edinburgh. It has a strong tradition of academic, sporting and cultural excellence underpinned by outstanding pastoral care.

Fettes opened its doors in 1870 and became fully co-educational in 1980: it is now an independent school of some 770 students. There are 580 students in the Senior School (13-18 years) and 190 students in the Preparatory School (7-13 years). The academic staff in the College consists of the Head and 90 full-time members of the Common Room. Our Prep School shares the same site and consists of a further 30 teaching staff.

The school stands on a magnificent site of approximately 100 acres, but still within walking distance of Edinburgh's city centre. The historic main building holds the Chapel, Library, the English, Classics and History Departments as well as the Medical Centre and two boarding houses. A large purpose-built teaching block (the Spens Building) houses Art, Modern Languages, Mathematics, Economics, Geography and Music. The Theatre, Science Laboratories and Dining Hall are adjacent. The Preparatory School and seven further boarding houses (including Craigleith, our U6th House, specifically designed to prepare students for university) are also on the campus. Our sports facilities (including extensive playing fields, two all-weather pitches and a private Health Club) are excellent.

As well as our teaching staff, we employ over 220 operational staff across the many departments, including Estates, Security, Housekeeping, Finance, Admissions and Marketing with a pervading sense of community amongst staff, students and parents alike.





The Aims of the College

Fettes College aims to nurture the individual while fostering a happy, well-ordered and caring community with strong family values at its core. 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, 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 provided with equal opportunities regardless of gender and identity, sexual orientation, disability, ethnicity or religion.
- Are encouraged to stretch and challenge themselves in everything they undertake.





Classics at Fettes

There are currently three full-time Classics teachers in the Senior School at Fettes and one in the Prep School. The Department is flourishing, with Latin, Greek and Classical Civilisation all attracting talented students for GCSE, A Level and IB. There are usually around 20 students doing GCSE Latin each year and a reasonable number taking Greek and Classical Civilisation. Many of these students continue studying these subjects to A Level and IB in the Sixth Form. We follow the OCR boards for all Classical subjects at GCSE and A Level.

There is a very firm base of teaching in the Prep School provided by an enthusiastic and popular specialist teacher. Pupils (11-13 years old) get two years of Latin teaching in the Prep School before they are given the chance to choose it in the Third Form as one of their Language options, resulting in two Third Form sets including a 'Gratin' set who have chosen to study Greek as well as Latin.

Students in the Middle School study Latin using John Taylor's Latin to GCSE and set texts whilst Greek students follow the Greek to GCSE course.

For Classical Civilisation, students study the Homeric World and Myth and Religion modules, using the prescribed OCR textbook, as well as other resources to expand on the basic information.



In the Sixth Form, Latin and Greek students study their set texts alongside the language, where we teach a mixture of translating and comprehension of unseen passages. We use Taylor's Latin and Greek Beyond GCSE textbooks. For Classical Civilisation A Level, we currently teach the World of the Hero, Greek Theatre and the Politics of the Late Republic modules.

Our results have been excellent. In the last 6 years at GCSE for Latin and Greek, 90% of students have achieved grades 7-9, and for A Level and IB Latin, 91% of students have achieved A*/7. We have had successful Oxbridge candidates each year for the last 6 years.



Key Responsibilities

- Set high expectations of learning and behaviour in the classroom
- Plan and deliver lessons across Third Form, GCSE, A Level and IB Latin curriculum
- Assess, record and report on students' progress, attainment and effort
- Provide pastoral care as a tutor, promoting the general wellbeing and progress of students.
- Attend Parents' Meetings and communicate with parents, as appropriate
- Participate in the school's extra curricular activities
- Work with colleagues to develop professional practice

Extra-curricular

The Department has a busy extra-curricular programme, hosting visiting speakers from both UK and International Universities to deliver lectures for students of all year groups. The Department runs biennial trips to classical sites abroad, with a trip to Greece having just taken place in October 2024. We take the Sixth Form to the annual Newcastle University Classics Conference, and often take students to visit museums, classical plays and author talks both in Edinburgh and further afield. We host an annual Ancient Olympics Day for the Third Form and a Classics Day for our feeder Prep Schools.



The Ideal Candidate

Successful applicants for a teaching post at Fettes would be expected to have/be:

- Excellent academic pedigree
- Ambitious, diligent, keen to develop their existing talents
- Willing to embrace new experiences
- Understanding of the commitment required in a boarding environment
- Enthusiastic to become involved in all aspects of school life



Conditions of the Appointment

1. The appointment will be from 15th April 2025 or 1st September 2025.
2. Salary will be by negotiation and will depend on the qualifications and experience of the successful candidate.
3. All applicants must be either registered with the GTCS or eligible for GTCS registration. If you are unsure of your eligibility you must check the GTCS website (www.gtcs.org.uk) before applying.
4. Subject to the availability of places at the time of first entry, you will be eligible for a generous staff discount on school fees.

The Classics Department is led by Miss Clare McDonnell. She is happy to discuss this post with interested candidates before a formal application is made. She can be contacted via email at C.Mcdonnell@fettes.com.

Other details and conditions of service can be discussed at interview.

Applications are via the link on our website: <https://www.fettes.com/about-us/work-with-us>. The closing date for applications is **Thursday, 21st November 2024**, and interviews will be held on **Friday, 29th November 2024**.



Fettes College aims to provide a workplace in which all staff are treated in a fair and consistent manner. We will ensure, to the best of our ability, that staff and all others who have contact with the College are not discriminated against, either directly or indirectly.

We are committed to providing equality of opportunity in all areas of dealing with staff, whether in recruitment and selection, promotion or training and development.

We are committed to 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 Sadia Hussain-Savuk (DEI Lead) at S.Hussain-Savuk@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 of sports coaching, leading activities or the multiple responsibilities which arise in the education of young people. 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 within a short time.

“I found out in my very first term of being attached to a boarding house how fundamental it is. I had a student in my class who has always been quiet, but when I got to know him in house, outside of the structures of the classroom environment, he opened up. I found he had depths that he had previously not revealed, and he trusted me more and would participate more actively in my lessons. In some ways, being a part of a boarding school is like living in a village. There are so many opportunities to get to know those around you as people, and not just as students or colleagues.”





Why Teach at Fettes College?

Fettes College is both a traditional and progressive co-educational boarding school, which offers teachers unique professional and personal opportunities as well as an outstanding quality of life situated in the heart of one of Europe's greatest capital cities.

“The induction programme was well-planned and allowed me to start the term with enough information to get going, but spread the rest of the training across the first term which avoided a huge overload of information and meant that as a group of new staff we got to meet and support each other throughout our first term.”



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 equality of opportunity for everyone, and welcome applications from all.

“I have always been struck by how supportive, welcoming and competent the staff is here. The quality of my colleagues, and not just the teachers, is one of the best things about working at Fettes.”



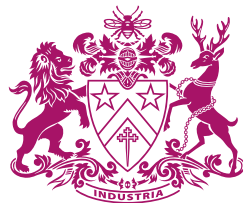
Expectations of our Staff

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 will become fully immersed in all aspects of life at Fettes. This means that every teacher is also a Tutor attached to one of our boarding houses and, as such, is on duty in house one evening per week and has a group of tutees to mentor and guide. Teachers 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 at all times. All staff are expected to read, understand and follow various school policies.

“Fettes is a busy and nonstop school but a fulfilling and happy place to teach with an underlying sense of calm.”





Fettes College