

Hutchesons' Grammar School



Appointment of Teacher of English (Maternity Cover – FTC for 1 Year)

The Aims of the School

Hutchesons' Grammar School aims to provide boys and girls with a broad Scottish education, with the emphasis on academic excellence.

Founded in 1641, Hutchesons' is a famous school, which has always been at the forefront of teaching and learning in Scotland. Nowadays, it is a large and dynamic school of great vitality and diversity, where around 1250 pupils from pre-school right through to sixth year follow a broad curriculum, blending the traditional and the modern. Excellent teachers are one of Hutchesons' greatest strengths, along with the resources, training and support they need to do their job to the highest possible standards.

Hutchesons' pupils excel in a wide variety of sports both nationally and internationally, and the quality of performance in music, drama and the arts is equally high. All pupils can follow a structured programme in and out of the classroom, which broadens their outlook and helps them develop their interests and enthusiasms. There are many opportunities for involvement in clubs and societies, community work and charity fund-raising, visits and tours both within the UK and abroad, and for the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme.

As individuals, Hutchesons' pupils are encouraged to develop confidence, self-discipline, integrity, courtesy and consideration for others. They are part of a large community of learners, where every individual is important. They learn to be thoughtful, articulate and well-read and to have a clear idea about how they want to live their lives beyond school and university.

Scots have always valued education very highly, and for nearly four centuries Hutchesons' has sent young men and women out into the world secure in the knowledge that they are part of that tradition.

Hutchesons' prides itself on being an equal opportunities employer and positively encourages applications from suitably qualified and eligible candidates regardless of sex, race, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief, marital status, or pregnancy and maternity. If you have what it takes, we really want to hear from you.

Vision for the English Department

Hutchesons' Grammar School aims to be known as a school where every pupil is able to flourish and reach their potential academically, physically, creatively, spiritually and socially.

English plays an incredibly important role in developing our young people, offering them the opportunity not only to achieve academic excellence but to experience a rich variety of literature, to create, discuss and perform.

The English Department provides an exciting and inclusive space where pupils are encouraged to be themselves, where their achievements are celebrated, and their passions are nurtured.

Ethos and Aims of the Department

The English Department is fortunate to work with all pupils from S1 to S5. Over 150 pupils study English at National Five and Higher level respectively and the Advanced Higher course is incredibly popular with approximately 30 young people currently studying across two classes.

The English Department is comprised of a team of twelve exceptionally experienced and enthusiastic professionals, supported by two Senior Teachers and led by the Head of Department. They meet weekly to plan, exchange good practice, develop resources and undertake moderation and cross marking sessions led by colleagues who are SQA Appointees. A passion for professional development is shared by the teachers in the Department and many have recently completed or are currently undertaking their Masters.

The English curriculum at Hutchesons' offers pupils the opportunity to experience a vast array of literature. From *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in S1 to *Macbeth* in S5, our pupils enjoy the classics alongside those more contemporary texts as *Salt to the Sea* and *A Monster Calls*. Indeed, there is scope for teachers to select the literature they most enjoy teaching; we have a very well-resourced Departmental base and book cupboard and work closely with our school Librarian to ensure a rich variety of literature is available to all.

Teachers within the English Department are celebrated for their specialisms and are encouraged to choose the texts which most inspire them for delivery in their classes. Members of the English Department also supervise at least one Advanced Higher dissertation each year, again inviting them to share their own research and passions with the young people they support.

We are highly ambitious for our pupils and the Department has a consistently excellent track record of examination success at all levels. We are proud that all pupils undertake Higher English in S5 and, on average, upwards of 70% achieve an A each year.

Finally, in addition to its place in the academic curriculum, English staff play a huge part in the rich co-curricular programme on offer and there will be scope for the successful candidate to contribute to our many clubs and societies. These include, but are not limited to, Debating, the school show, the school magazine, and our Literacy Groups. We also host study trips and have, in the past, taken tours to London and New York.

Job Description

Overview

The successful candidate will report to and be line-managed by the Head of English and will work closely with all members of the English department. They should be an excellent classroom practitioner who can inspire pupils across all ages and stages, instilling in them a love of literature.

The effective delivery of an outstanding curriculum is vital to enable the highest level of pupil progress and attainment. The successful candidate will be expected to plan and deliver lessons of the highest standard, utilising stimulating resources and differentiating appropriately to manage the needs of individual pupils and have a sound understanding of the SQA course specifications and be confident in their delivery of presentation classes.

They should have a strong academic background and a passion for teaching young people and be an effective communicator and demonstrate an ability to engage confidently with pupils, colleagues and parents alike.

It is expected that the successful candidate will contribute not only to the life of the English department but also to the wider school community. This might mean assisting with performance, sport, Duke of Edinburgh, or running a lunchtime club.

Key Responsibilities

Teaching and Learning

- Be alert to the needs of each individual pupil. At Hutchesons' 'every story matters' and the educational, pastoral and social needs of each pupil is paramount.
- Keep abreast of current educational developments to ensure a full contribution to departmental discussion can be made.
- Prepare lessons and achieve a classroom atmosphere that creates a sense of belonging and allows our pupils to flourish and achieve.
- Set appropriate levels of class and homework which is marked and returned effectively to help track pupil progress.
- Report on each pupil's progress as required by the school.
- Prepare pupils for both internal and external examinations as directed by the Head of Department.
- Follow and uphold the Department's Discipline Policy alongside the School's Discipline Policy.

Wider School Duties

- Be involved in the school's House System as a Form Teacher and undertake the associated duties with rigour and compassion.
- Be aware of the school's Wellbeing and Safeguarding Policies and report matters of concern to appropriate colleagues.
- Undertake Lunchtime playground duties as appropriate.
- Be prepared to be involved in the extra-curricular and co-curricular aspects of the school.

The points above cannot, by their very nature, reflect all aspects of the role. These should be read in conjunction with the School Handbook to ensure a full understanding of the requirements.

It is essential that the successful candidate is registered with or is eligible to register with the GTCS.