



TEACHER OF HISTORY

FOR APPOINTMENT IN SEPTEMBER 2024
FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME
PERMANENT OR FIXED TERM CONTRACT (ONE YEAR)

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

A message from the Warden

Thank you for your interest in working at St. Edward's.

This is an important moment in the School's development. The recent opening of outstanding new academic and performance facilities at the heart of the campus is accelerating the momentum evident over the last few years in all areas of school life – in academic results, in the development of the curriculum, in co-education, and in admissions.

For all its recent success, however, St Edward's remains a refreshingly different kind of school. Our deliberate emphasis on selecting young people broadly and inclusively on their attitude and their ambition rather than narrowly and exclusively on test results makes for a community rich, diverse and rewarding in its interests and enthusiasms.

Academic work is unquestionably the most important part of our pupils' education, but at St Edward's there is much more to school life. Talented scholars, musicians, sportswomen and men, performers, dancers, humanitarians, adventurers, entrepreneurs, filmmakers and artists – among many others – live and work together, inspire each other, and become lifelong friends.

St Edward's is forward-looking and progressive. It is one of the few UK schools to offer both A Level and the IB Diploma in the Sixth Form, and our academic programme was further enhanced in 2020 with the launch of pioneering new courses for the middle school years. These externally accredited new courses, Pathways and Perspectives, complement a core programme of GCSEs, more fully to develop pupils' skills of research, collaboration and communication. The introduction of co-educational boarding in the Sixth Form is the most recent of the many innovations in the last few years on the pastoral side of the School.

Beyond Teddies, the partnership programme in which we work with other schools and charities, ensures that pupils engage with the community beyond the School and learn to play a meaningful part in the life of the city.

It is an exciting time to be joining St Edward's. As you learn more about the School, I hope that you will share that sense of excitement and want to be part of the next chapter in its history.

About the School

Founded in 1863, St Edward's is an independent, co-educational boarding and day school for pupils aged 13 to 18 (Year 9 to Year 13). There are presently 770 pupils, of whom 85% are boarders.

There are 13 boarding Houses of around 60 pupils in Years 9-13 – five for girls, five for boys and three co-residential Houses (boys from Year 9 to Year 11, and boys and girls in the Sixth Form). The school week includes lessons on Saturday mornings, apart from leave weekends and exeats (half-term holidays), which typically occur every three weeks.

The boarding and day arrangements offer flexibility for families. Boarding pupils may choose full or weekly boarding, with weekly boarding at St Edward's giving pupils the option of going home on Saturdays after sport and other commitments. The lively and varied weekend programme, however, means that a significant proportion of the boarding community stays in the School on Saturday nights. Day pupils may leave at 6:30pm or 9:00pm on weekdays, with most opting for the latter so that they can join in the evening programme and enjoy leisure time with their friends.

Pupils take part in a wide range of sports and other activities in the afternoons and at weekends. St Edward's has a national reputation for sport: both boys' and girls' teams have been county and regional champions in a variety of sports and at all ages.

The arts are particularly strong at St Edward's. The North Wall Arts Centre, on school grounds, houses a professional theatre and gallery, and runs a critically acclaimed public programme. Alongside the public facilities, the Arts Centre houses the School's impressive Drama and Dance Departments, and the Gallery is shared with our art and design pupils. All pupils benefit from having access to this creative powerhouse, and it is particularly valuable for those wishing to develop careers in the creative industries.

All teaching staff play a full part in the boarding and co-curricular life of the School.

About the History Department

The History Department consists of nine teachers with a range of specialisms. We are looking for a dynamic teacher who wants to inspire pupils of all abilities and deliver forward-thinking pedagogy in the classroom. The fast-evolving demand for greater social awareness in society means that History teachers today have an important responsibility to deliver an education that enlightens the past and connects with the present.

The History Department at St Edward's is excited to have the opportunity to be in keeping with current global developments through the provision of a broad curriculum. In the Shell year, pupils complete topics including a local study of the history of Oxford, the Russian Revolution and the Slave Trade. In the Fourth and Fifth Form, pupils study for the Edexcel IGCSE. The IGCSE course looks at Germany 1918-45, the USA 1918-41, The USSR 1924-53, and China 1900-89. In the Sixth Form, pupils complete either the IB or A level course. At IB, pupils study topics including US and South African Civil Rights, the French Revolution and Napoleon and Authoritarian States. At A level, pupils currently complete the OCR History course and study either a largely medieval or largely modern route. The School is proud to offer a wide variety of different units within each route, according to the passions of the teacher and their pupils.

Around 100 pupils choose the subject at IGCSE and around 60 continue with History at A level and IB. Every year a significant number of our students go on to read History at university and we offer these pupils extension classes in order to prepare them for History at this level. Many A level and IB pupils complete an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) or IB Extended Essay in a History related topic which are supervised by members of the History Department. The History Department is thriving and busy, with a particularly rich and active extra-curricular range of lectures, societies and visits to enhance pupils' enjoyment and understanding of the subject. The successful candidate will be expected to make a contribution to these events and a willingness to enhance the programme with fresh ideas is very welcome.

All of the classrooms contain a networked PC and a data projector and all teachers in the Department have a wireless tablet PC to use in their teaching. We make good use of the departmental library along with the main school library which offer students an especially impressive range of works with which to engage.

About the role

Teachers report to the Head of Department and are responsible to the Warden. This role relates to pupils, parents, teaching staff and non-teaching staff.

Main responsibilities:

- to deliver well-planned, engaging and challenging lessons in accordance with the schemes of work
- to engage positively with their own professional development
- adhere to all departmental and school policies relating to assessment, tracking and monitoring of progress, including regular reporting to parents and tutors
- be fully aware of Health and Safety regulations relating to all activities which they undertake
- play a full part in the wider life of the school community, which for part-time staff may include sports and other co-curricular activities and assisting in evening supervision in a boarding house
- act as academic tutor to a small group of pupils, carrying out regular 1:1 tutorials

While every effort has been made to explain the main duties and responsibilities of the post, each individual task undertaken may not be specifically identified. This Job Specification is current at the date shown but, in consultation with the post holder, it may be changed by the Warden to reflect or to anticipate changes in the job commensurate with the grade and job title.

St Edward's operates its own pay scale and the School will comply with the employer pension duties in accordance with Part 1 of the Pensions Act 2008. Other non-contractual benefits include private health scheme; membership of the Nuffield Health Fitness & Wellbeing Gym and death-in-service insurance.

About the Candidate

The person appointed will be a well-qualified History Teacher with a good degree from a recognised university, experience of working with children or young people, and, in most cases, a post-graduate teaching qualification. The successful candidate will be happy to contribute to ToK, EE or EPQ candidate supervision. Experience of teaching IB, while desirable, is by no means essential. He or she will be fully supportive of the School's academic vision and pedagogical principles.

Person Specification Characteristics	
A good Honours degree in a relevant subject	Essential
Educational qualifications (PGCE, M.Ed)	Desirable
An outstanding classroom practitioner	Essential
Able to work flexible hours, including some evening and weekends	Essential
Passion for the subject	Essential
Able to enthusiastically contribute to the wider life of the school e.g. sports, music, drama, CCF, Duke of Edinburgh or other co-curricular activities	Essential
A proven track record of building and maintaining good relationships with pupils	Essential
A proven track record of building and maintaining effective working relationships with colleagues	Essential
Excellent communication skills (written and spoken)	Essential
Awareness of, and willingness to use, contemporary educational research	Desirable
Committed to safeguarding children and young people	Essential

Confidentiality and Data Protection

In the course of their employment, staff may have access to confidential information relating to pupils and their families, or to the general business of the School, and they are required to exercise due consideration in the way in which they use such information. A strict code of confidentiality must always be respected and followed. The School is registered under the Data Protection Act 1984 and staff must not at any time use the personal data held by the School or disclose such data to a third party. Staff should not act in any way which might be prejudicial to the School's interests.

Child Protection at St Edward's

St Edward's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we aim to create and maintain a safe environment for our pupils, where they feel respected and supported. We expect all staff to share this commitment and to become familiar with our policies and procedures for child protection and security. All staff are required to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Health and safety

The School is obliged, so far as is reasonably practicable, to provide safe and healthy conditions and systems of work for all employees, which prevent risk to health, safety and welfare. You are required by health and safety legislation to take reasonable care for your own health and safety and for the health and safety of others. Employees must not intentionally or recklessly interfere with or misuse anything provided in the interests of health, safety and welfare in pursuance of any of the statutory provisions.

About the selection process

The deadline for applications is Noon on Tuesday 7th May 2024. Interviews will take place on Friday 10th May and Saturday 11th May 2024. References will be taken up once candidates are short-listed, unless the candidate explicitly requests a delay. The interview process will include an observed lesson. Early applications are welcomed and we reserve the right to appoint prior to the advertised application closing date should an exceptional candidate be identified.

The interviews will seek to assess how well the candidate meets the requirements of the post and will include an assessment of the candidate's suitability to work with children. Any discrepancies or anomalies in the application form will be addressed at interview. As part of the verification process, a candidate's present and past employers may be contacted, whether their name is given as a referee or not.

Application forms can be found on the School website: www.stedwardsoxford.org. Candidates should send their completed forms by email to wardenpa@stedwardsoxford.org or, for information, please contact 01865 319 323.

If you would like further information about this post, particularly if you would like to discuss part-time working, please contact the Head of History, Mr Henry Moore, by email: mooreh@stedwardsoxford.org