

Queen Elizabeth's School

A selective, Foundation School for boys with specialist Music status cited by Ofsted (2008) as an 'outstanding secondary school'.



**Teacher of Design & Information
Technology vacancy
for September 2010**

TEACHER OF DESIGN & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

THE POST

A teacher of Design and Information Technology is required. The school currently offers courses in graphics, resistant materials, ICT and computing. The successful applicant will be expected to teach across two departments which work closely together. The ability to teach to A-level in one subject area and to support able boys in their preparation for university entrance will be an advantage. All suitably qualified candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

THE PERSON

We are looking for a lively and engaging teacher. The ability to motivate and stretch able boys, instilling a genuine enthusiasm for the subjects, is essential. The successful applicant will need to be a committed team player. S/he will also bring new ideas to the teaching of Design and Information Technology at all levels and will contribute to raising the profile of the subjects even further through extra-curricular activities. All teachers at Queen Elizabeth's are encouraged to play a full part in the wider life of this thriving School.

THE DESIGN DEPARTMENT

The Design department is staffed by four full-time teachers and one technician.

Design and Technology courses at Queen Elizabeth's School are based on the ethos of giving pupils hands-on experience with a variety of tools, processing materials and equipment, and of then allowing pupils to utilise their skills to solve design problems.

This approach applies right from the beginning: as early as Year 7, boys learn about the use of electronics, CAD software and plastics forming. They are given an introduction to woods, joints, saws and finishing and to drawing.



Within the Design and Technology Department, our teaching focuses on practical tasks and excellence of presentation. Assignments offer boys the challenge of both designing and making products, thus fulfilling our aim of always providing hands-on practical experience. Group discussions and analysis are also a valued element in teaching and learning at QE.

The School has a popular lunchtime Design Club. We also offer additional support to GCSE, AS and A2 Design and Technology students through clinics held throughout the year both at lunchtimes and after school.

We aim to offer our pupils as many opportunities as possible to broaden their horizons in Design and Technology. In the Sixth Form, students take part in the Engineering Education Scheme, which involves a team working with a company on a real-world brief. They begin by producing concepts and then develop these and present them to the company board.

QE boys enter the Starpak student packaging awards and the Rotary Young Innovators competition.

The School is also part of the Arkwright Scholarships scheme, which aims to encourage high-ability 15 and 16-year-old students to take up engineering or technological careers by awarding scholarships during their A Level studies.

THE ICT DEPARTMENT

The ICT and Computing department is currently staffed by two full-time teachers and one non-specialist. ICT is taught at all age ranges in the School.

At KS4, all pupils currently follow a course leading to the OCR Short Course GCSE in ICT Specification B (1095). It is likely that the department will start to prepare all students for a Full Course GCSE from September 2010.

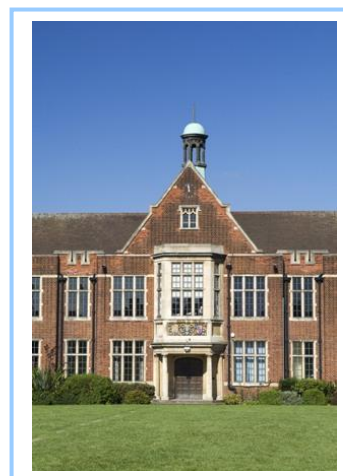


In the Sixth Form the Computing A-level provides an entirely new challenge. In Year 12 the course introduces the technical world of computers, covering topics including pure binary arithmetic, programming and the topologies and hardware of networks. Year 13 brings more sophistication into students' knowledge and understanding. After interviewing, observing and examining paper work for a real problem, they devise a programmed solution, which is tested and documented. All boys on this course can participate in the British Computer Science Olympiad.

All pupils have access to the ICT suites at lunch times, and there is a clinic for boys experiencing particular difficulties.

THE SCHOOL

Queen Elizabeth I's favourite, Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, successfully petitioned his sovereign for a charter for "...the establishment of the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth in Barnet, for the education, bringing up and instruction of boys in Grammar and other learning and the same to continue for ever". Since that final "for ever" may well have been just a rhetorical flourish, he would probably be surprised to discover that the School thus established in 1573 still exists. Yet what is really arresting is not merely the fact of its continued existence, but that more than four centuries later the School is still delivering education according to the precise tenets of its charter.



It was Elizabeth's half-brother, Edward VI, who had created the national system of "free grammar schools", both by reorganising existing schools teaching Latin grammar and by creating many new ones. They, like the School in Barnet established a generation later, did indeed provide a free education: that is, they offered free tuition to those who could not afford to pay the fees. But, the reality, of course, was that, 300 years before the introduction of compulsory education, few families could afford to forego the income from their sons' labour.

Today, Queen Elizabeth's School offers an education that is "free" beyond anything that Dudley is likely to have imagined. Its blue blazers are worn by boys of all social backgrounds, with 60% of them from ethnic minorities, and the School on London's northern fringe is proud of the open access it offers.

The School was first established in Tudor Hall on Barnet's Wood Street. This remained its base for more than 350 years, until 1930, when Hertfordshire County Council erected elegant – and much more spacious buildings – on Queen's Road. In recent years, several new buildings have been added to the 30-acre campus. They include: the Heard Building, purpose-built to accommodate the enlarged Sixth Form; the Friends' Music Rooms to serve the many musicians; the Clark Laboratories to improve the science facilities and the new Olympic-size Martin swimming pool.



Having become a comprehensive during the 1960s, the School reverted to its former selective status as a boys' grammar school in 1994. Since then, it has established a reputation for academic excellence, with A level averages last year exceeding 3As and GCSE performances averaging 9A*s and 1A. Nearly all boys at Queen Elizabeth's School go on to Russell Group universities, with 20 of the leavers in 2007 going on to take up places at Cambridge or Oxford. Twenty-five of those who left this summer are set to become doctors and dentists.

Beyond the classroom the boys at Queen Elizabeth's continue to excel disproportionately in fields as diverse as cricket, athletics, water polo, music and chess. The School invests a great deal of time and resources in extra-curricular "enrichment" activities. Its main sports are rugby and cricket – and all boys are encouraged to participate – but there are many other sports offered, including athletics, tennis, water polo and Eton Fives. Among a wide range of clubs and societies, the chess and debating clubs are both strong and successful in external competitions. Music groups also perform at an exceptionally high level at Queen Elizabeth's School, commensurate with its specialist school status as a music college.



Thus Queen Elizabeth's School's modern-day success consists not only in the social breadth of its intake, which includes many boys from modest backgrounds, but also in the way it stretches even the brightest of these boys, opening up new intellectual and career horizons that were often only a dream to their parents' generation. It is not just about the boys the School takes in at 11; it is about how these boys are transformed by the time they leave at 18.

From the day they first walk into the impressive main building past cabinets containing the names of some of their most illustrious predecessors, there is inspiration aplenty for today's young pupils. Some of those listed have played rugby for England; some have made their mark as water polo internationals; others still have been selected to represent their country in Olympiads, pitting their brains successfully against the finest young mathematicians, linguists, chemists and chess players in the world.

But the inspiration of past glories alone cannot explain the academic success of the School and the social mobility it provides for the talented sons of ordinary North London families. To understand the causes of its modern success, one must look closely at how Queen Elizabeth's School operates.

One of those causes is indisputably the School's own high expectations. Led by the example of Headmaster Dr John Marincowitz, the staff quietly but determinedly expects the very highest levels of effort and application from all their pupils from the day they arrive at the School. There is also meticulous attention to detail at all levels of the curriculum – and indeed in every aspect of school life, including how the uniform is worn. "Early-warning" systems are in place both to help pupils who are struggling academically and to intervene when boys are beginning to kick over the traces. Parental involvement is considered an important element in a boy's education at Queen Elizabeth's School. Parents are expected to take a detailed interest in their sons' work, not only ensuring that homework is done, but also steering them towards leisure activities that will stimulate their particular interests.

Another aspect that marks out Queen Elizabeth's School is its emphasis on what it calls "bespoke education". Boys can find one-to-one help in the lunchtime or after-school clinics in every subject. These are not just for boys who are finding the work too difficult: they are equally for pupils who are finding it too easy. There is no glass ceiling here: teachers are both willing and able to take gifted boys as far academically as they are able to go.



Queen Elizabeth's is a school that cherishes its links with the past, its traditions sitting comfortably alongside forward-thinking leadership and developments that enable academic excellence and the rounded preparedness of boys for the Twenty First Century. As such it delivers its characteristically understated mission to 'produce boys who are confident, able and responsible.'

WORKING AT QUEEN ELIZABETH'S

Teachers at Queen Elizabeth's enjoy working with supportive colleagues and motivated, talented pupils in a calm, positive academic environment. Facilities are excellent: all teachers have their own office space, most have their own classroom or laboratory and all learning spaces are equipped with interactive whiteboards and projectors.



There are excellent opportunities for professional development and career enhancement including a School-based Masters programme which the School offers in partnership with the University of Middlesex.

Queen Elizabeth's was designated as a Training School in April 2009.



APPLICATIONS

Please complete an application form and send with a covering letter and curriculum vitae to the Human Resources Department.

Application forms can be found on our website www.gebarnet.co.uk

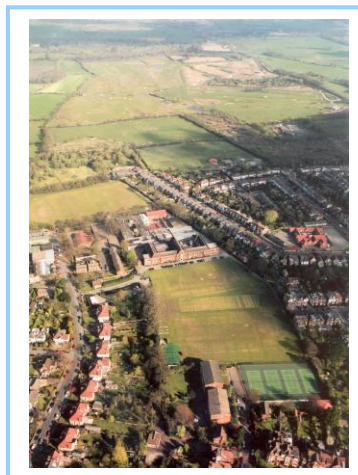
- This post is being advertised in the TES on Friday 5th March 2010.
- The closing date for applications is Monday 15th March 2010.
- Interviews will take place shortly after the closing date.

Applications (email, fax or post) should be sent to:

Dr John Marincowitz, Headmaster
c/o Human Resources
Queen Elizabeth's School
Queen's Road
Barnet
Hertfordshire EN5 4DQ
Fax: +44(0) 208 440 7500

recruitment@gebarnet.co.uk

Applicants should state any special needs they have under the Disabilities Discrimination Act.



Queen Elizabeth's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Criminal Records Bureau. We are an equal opportunities employer.

Neil Enright, Assistant Head, is happy to speak to prospective applicants on 020 8441 4646 x270 and visits to the School before making an application are welcome.

