

TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS

Full Time from September 2010

Thank you for your enquiry about this post.

Bedales School

Bedales was founded in 1893 as a reaction to the more regimented boarding schools of the day. The founder, John Badley, established Bedales as one of the first coeducational boarding schools with the introduction of girls in 1898.

Nowadays Bedales is a boarding school of 460 students aged 13 – 18, fully co-educational, and with 30% day students. It is situated in a beautiful rural estate of 120 acres which it shares with its Junior School (Dunhurst) and Dunannie, the pre-prep day school. Petersfield, about 2 miles from the school, is an attractive market town, with easy rail and road links to London (55 miles, 1 hour by train), Portsmouth (18 miles), Chichester, Winchester and the south coast.

Bedales staff – there are about 50 full-time teachers, and 10 part-time - can enjoy a good student/staff ratio (just over 7:1); a well formulated programme for Appraisal; a collegiate and open structure of management. ICT facilities, including laptop computers for trained staff, reflect the importance the school places on best practice in the classroom and in management. All staff are encouraged to apply for a sabbatical term every seven years. The founder's original, radical aims have been redefined (please see the 'Development Plan' document on the home page of our website www.bedales.org.uk for further information). A £7.4 million classroom and administration building was opened in autumn 2005 (the Orchard Building). New science laboratories and sports facilities are already in place; the school also enjoys excellent library, theatre, recreational and concert facilities. Boarding accommodation is characteristically different from many schools, eschewing inter house rivalry and forming, instead, strong social links across the year-groups.

The ISI Inspection in April 2008 and the Ofsted Boarding Inspection in October 2007 were most favourable, stressing the school's high academic achievements, its strong relationships amongst the student body and between students and staff, its willingness to value the unconventional, and recognise individualism, its range of activities and its fine boarding provision.

The students and their parents

Bedalians are an idiosyncratic bunch. Many are cosmopolitan and highly self-confident. Others need to be drawn out somewhat. The vast majority are extremely warm, personable boys and girls who are fully supportive of what is done for them. They are proud of their school and are excellent ambassadors for it. Day students integrate well with the boarders. The parents, who pay high fees for places for their son or daughter, are very supportive of the staff but expect to be kept well informed. Full subject reports are written termly and all tutors (most full time staff) keep in touch with the parents of their 10 to 14 tutees by telephone or e-mail. Each year group has a parents' meeting on a Friday or Saturday afternoon for subject staff – there are six of these per year.

Responsibilities for full-time staff

In addition to teaching, the person appointed to this post must expect to be involved in the school in other ways. All full-time teachers are tutors, undertaking the academic guidance of about 10 – 15 students, formally through the Review Marks and academic discipline systems, but informally in all other ways that the nurturing of individual students requires. Staff living in school accommodation can work alongside the housestaff in the boarding houses during the evening; everyone takes part in Games or the innovative Outdoor Work programme

and is involved in the duties necessary for the smooth running of the school. Although terms are, relatively speaking, short, the days are long, and teaching continues on Saturday mornings. There are some evening meetings, as well as the pleasures of the school's theatre and concert and lecture programmes – so candidates should be enthusiastic about the full-time nature of the commitment!

The Mathematics Department

The Mathematics department consists of six members of staff, many of whom teach in other subject areas or have responsibilities elsewhere in the school. Teaching takes place in a suite of rooms around a mathematics office in the attractive Orchard building. Electronic white boards are fitted in all of the rooms.

In Block 3 (Year 9) all students follow a common curriculum in preparation for the Edexcel IGCSE years (Blocks 4 and 5). There are five or six sets in each year. The A set follow an accelerated programme, sitting IGCSE Higher level examination in November of Block 5. For the rest of Block 5 they study for a FSMQ in Additional Maths. Many students in the A set continue with mathematics in the sixth form, completing their A level at the end of 6.1, with the option of taking AS and A2 Further Mathematics at the end of 6.2.

There are 3 mathematics sets in each sixth form year, one of Further Mathematics and two of A level Mathematics. There are currently about 40 students studying mathematics in the sixth form. The department has an excellent record of exam success.

Applicant Qualities

- Proven teaching ability
- Sound subject knowledge
- Good interpersonal skills
- Organisational skills
- Diplomacy
- Understanding of different learning styles
- Approachable, yet firm and patient personal qualities

Desirable Qualities

- The ability to teach another subject, especially Economics, will be an advantage

The Application

Please use the standard application form and attach a brief supporting statement for this particular post.

The closing date is Wednesday 10th March 2010. Interviews will take place on Wednesday 17th March 2010.

All applicants will be required to undergo an enhanced CRB check.

Keith Budge,
Headmaster, Bedales
February 2010