



GUNNERSBURY CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Teacher of English Information Booklet

Gunnersbury Catholic School



enabling our students
to achieve to the very highest

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Letter from the Headteacher

Dear Applicant

As Headteacher of Gunnersbury Catholic School I would like to extend a very warm welcome to you.

This is a fantastic time to join Gunnersbury Catholic School. The talents of our leadership, teachers and the superb student body has culminated in our school being ranked as the leading **Boys' Comprehensive School in the country for GCSE achievement (DfE Performance Tables 2025)**. Our 2025 cohort achieved 93% 5 GCSEs at 9-4 *including English and Mathematics* and a 'Progress 8' score of +1.0. Similarly at A-level we enable outstanding outcomes for our students. The appetite for success that our pupils possess, their Catholic values and superb behaviour allied to the supportive colleagues and leaders at Gunnersbury make this a great place to work and take your career on to the next level.

We seek a dedicated, talented and enthusiastic teacher of English to be a key member within our English Department. If you have a passion for the subject and a desire to enable students to receive the very best English teaching then we would like to hear from you. Furthermore if you are ambitious to develop your professionalism then this role at Gunnersbury Catholic School will swiftly and thoroughly prepare you to take responsibility within the department. As a member of the team you will receive training, coaching and development of the highest quality, enabling you to become the very best teacher that you can be. Developing our staff is key to what we do at Gunnersbury Catholic School as we understand that progressing staff ensures great job satisfaction and learning of the highest quality for our pupils.

Within our school we have been able to create a unique setting. Ours is a school within which students take pride in succeeding, where the pupils strive to achieve the very highest and where there is an unrelenting desire to do even better. At Gunnersbury Catholic School successes and achievements in all spheres are proudly celebrated by our students. We are a busy, thriving and ambitious school. Gunnersbury's academic achievement has been acknowledged by Fischer Family Trust as being amongst the top 3% of schools in the country. Year after year government schools' ministers have acknowledged our GCSE success as being amongst the top 100 schools nationally. Ofsted and the Diocese of Westminster have both determined that we are an outstanding school. We pride ourselves on our academic success, achievements that provide entry for our students to world leading universities and high quality careers.

There is however even more to a Gunnersbury education. We enable our students to develop in all aspects of their person: spiritual, moral, sporting, artistic and social. Gunnersbury moulds fully rounded individuals ready to take their place in and make a difference to society. More so, Gunnersbury strives to and succeeds in developing young adults equipped to take their place as leaders in an ever-changing world.

If you are someone who seeks to reach for the highest in all that you do, Ad Altiora, then we would like to hear from you.

I look forward to receiving your application.

With kind regards.



Kevin S Burke
Headteacher

The Role

The English teacher role is integral to Gunnersbury's provision of superb teaching and achievement within the subject. Working under the direction of the Head of English the new postholder shall seek to further the learning experience and outcomes of our students. They should wish to establish an understanding of English across the key stages, whilst enabling outstanding learning for each child. Requirements of the position include:

Teaching

- Ensure that individual lessons are planned, well prepared and take account of the ability of individual groups. Teachers must demand the highest standards from pupils in all areas, including classwork, homework, behaviour, attitude, organisation and presentation.
- Create an effective learning environment for all pupils, maintaining high standards of behaviour and ensuring that rooms are a pleasant place to study.
- Regularly set and mark appropriate work for pupils in order to assess progress and understanding. When marking and assessing, teachers should follow the agreed departmental policies.
- Keep a record of work and records of assessment as outlined in the school and departmental handbooks. They must be prepared to provide information on individual pupil progress based on school target data as required by the Leadership team other teaching staff and parents.
- Attend and positively contribute to discussions in departmental meetings and take a full part in the development of departmental policies, schemes of work, assessment programmes and examinations, in consultation with the Head of Department.
- Attend appropriate parents' consultation evenings, well-prepared to discuss pupils' work and to provide assessment of individual pupils as and when required.
- Participate in regular self review and evaluation, attending appropriate training days as part of your ongoing professional development.
- In planning units of work and individual lessons, teachers should keep in mind the requirements of the Exam Boards and department schemes of work and ensure that the curriculum is accessible to all students.
- Contribute towards extra-curricular activities.
- Attend to all duties as directed by the headteacher.

The above characteristics and details of the role are not exhaustive. Rather they represent a guide to the requirements of the job. Furthermore the job description/requirements are subject to regular review and may change over time.



The Person

Personal Qualities and Attributes

- A passion for English and its teaching
- A commitment to providing students with the very best education and life chances.
- The talent and capability to be an outstanding teacher of English
- The ability to inspire and motivate pupils and staff
- Excellent communicator and a team player
- Ambitions for self development and future career promotion
- Persistent, energetic and enthusiastic
- Adaptable
- A positive outlook

Qualifications, knowledge and professional skills

- Qualified Teacher Status
- A relevant degree or higher qualification
- An excellent teacher who will enable pupil success
- Knowledge of the requirements of the English Curriculum at KS3, KS4 and KS5
- The ability to produce high quality schemes of work
- Understanding of safeguarding and its successful implementation to ensure the safety of children
- Leads by example with high professional standards

Above all else we seek to appoint a superb teacher with a real passion for English, who is committed to the success of their students and the talent to be an exceptional educator within the school. Potential, dynamism, determination and resolve are key attributes for this role.

In particular we are very keen to appoint an individual who wishes to be a leader of English within a few years. Our excellent school and English department will provide the experience, training and guidance to enable this ambition to be fulfilled.



The Department

The English Department is a dynamic, successful and thriving one, expecting and producing high standards at all levels and abilities. English is mainly taught in the main block, with two further rooms within our new school building, all classrooms are fully equipped with interactive whiteboards and computers. We achieve excellent results at GCSE with 96% of our latest cohort achieving a grade 9-4, reflecting exceptional value added, plus 63% achieved 9-7. This success is also replicated at KS5 where 85% of our students gained a grade A*-C in English Literature.

The department comprises of ten English specialists. The Head of Department is supported by two Assistant Heads of Department. A strong culture of support and professional development exists within the team. Students are taught in mixed ability in Year 7. Setting is in place from Year 8 with frequent opportunities for movement between sets. Considerable challenge is provided for our students at KS3 to securely prepare them for their GCSE course. Students commence the AQA GCSE course in Year 10. The quality of teaching and pupil engagement has enabled exceptional results to be achieved year on year at GCSE. At Key Stage 5 English is studied by a large number of students. The Edexcel GCE English Literature course is our chosen syllabus. The love of the subject and the depth of learning that our students achieve at Gunnersbury lead to many of them going on to study English and related subjects at the very best universities.

From Year 7, boys build on their skills in reading, writing and speaking and listening. We follow the National Curriculum and there is a strong emphasis on independent reading and extended writing. All pupils are introduced to a wide range of literature and are taught how to analyse texts and become confident and articulate speakers. We teach a wide range of texts at Key Stage Three from 'A Monster Calls' to 'Romeo and Juliet', 'Jekyll and Hyde' and 'Myths and Legends'. Drama is taught as part of English at Key Stage 3, including 'War Horse' and 'Frankenstein'. Debating and public speaking are popular with pupils participating in a variety of competitions, including Bar Mock Trials, Magistrates Law courts and Jack Petchey 'Speak Out'. Staff are also keen to ensure pupils have opportunities to join our departmental Film, Board Games and Drama Clubs.

The English Department at Gunnersbury is an energetic, creative and innovative team. Our aim is to achieve the highest possible standards for all pupils; we aspire to ensure that all pupils enjoy their learning in English and we strive to foster a love of reading and literature so that our pupils can enjoy its richness and rewards throughout their lives. The post offers excellent opportunities to develop your teaching and leadership skills within a team of dedicated, enthusiastic English teachers.



The School

Gunnersbury is a Voluntary Aided School for Catholic boys. Administered by a Board of Governors acting under the trusteeship of the Archdiocese of Westminster. The annual intake is 184 pupils and the total number of pupils on roll is 1257, including a mixed Sixth Form of boys and girls. We achieved 'Outstanding' in all categories of our recent Ofsted Inspection in January 2023. Year on year our school regularly achieves excellent examination results. In 2025 93% of year 11 pupils gained at least five GCSEs at 9-4, including English and Maths. Our 'Progress 8' score for this cohort was +1.0. As such we are ranked as the leading Boys' Comprehensive School for GCSE in the country. Similarly we achieve excellent results at A-level.

The school was founded in 1919 by Fr William Roche, became a Voluntary Aided Grammar School in 1932, took its first comprehensive intake in 1972, became Grant Maintained in April 1993 and returned to Voluntary Aided in September 1999. It has been designated a Specialist School in September 2003. Since then we have been awarded a further specialism, Leading Edge, whilst also achieving High Performance Specialist Status.

Although located in the London Borough of Hounslow, Gunnersbury considers itself a Diocesan School and draws from a wide catchment area consisting mainly of the London Boroughs of Hounslow, Ealing and

Richmond, but some pupils attend from even further afield coming from Central London, Brent, Hillingdon, Spelthorne and Harrow.

The Catholic character of the school is an essential and important part of school life. It is made explicit not just in the religious education programme and shared values but in the liturgical life of the school. There is a voluntary mass on Fridays and important feast days together with family liturgies, a retreat programme and Morning Prayer in Advent and Lent. The School Chapel is set-aside as a quiet area for prayer and liturgy.

The school is led by a Headteacher supported by three Deputy Heads within a senior staff of 8. Each member of the Senior Leadership Team is responsible for a distinct pastoral, academic, administrative and policy area of the school. Departments are subject based. The school has a well-developed system of pastoral care, overseen by a Year Head and Form Tutor. High standards of behaviour and dress are expected and the pastoral system aims to promote the development of self-discipline and consideration for others. The School Council meets regularly, chaired by a member of the Sixth Form.

Gunnersbury is always over-subscribed with first choice applications from Catholic pupils. Our mission is to continue to provide these pupils with the very best Catholic education for their lives ahead.



How to Apply

To assist in this key decision of your career visits to Gunnersbury Catholic School, prior to application, are welcomed. Visits can be arranged through the Business Manager, Ms K Smith email:

welcome@gunnersbury.hounslow.sch.uk, telephone no: 020 8568 7281

In order to apply, please complete the CES Teacher Application Forms on the school website.

Completed applications should be posted to the headteacher's PA at:

Gunnersbury Catholic School
The Ride
Boston Manor Road
Brentford
TW8 9LB

or emailed to: welcome@gunnersbury.hounslow.sch.uk

The closing date for receipt of applications is: Friday 15th May 2026 at 10am

Applications will be considered immediately upon their receipt

Gunnersbury Catholic School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.



The Advert

Job details

Employer:	Gunnersbury Catholic School
Location:	London (Brentford)
Salary:	MPS/UPS (an additional TLR payment may be available for a suitable applicant)
Contract type	Full time
Contract term:	Permanent
Start date:	September 2026 (Potential July start for ECT candidates)

Gunnersbury Catholic School is seeking to appoint a highly talented and ambitious Teacher of English at our Outstanding School. This post provides the opportunity for an ECT or current educator of English to receive the very best coaching, training and experience within their subject. As a school that has consistently enabled extraordinary outcomes for our students, we are uniquely placed to develop and guide a teacher of English in their career. Applications are welcome from individuals of all religions who will support the Catholic ethos of our school.

The Role

Our teachers are integral to Gunnersbury's success through their superb teaching and its enablement of outstanding achievement. Working under the direction of the Head of English the new teacher shall seek to further the learning experience and outcomes of our students. They should wish to establish a love of English across the key stages whilst enabling fantastic learning for each child.

The Person

Above all else we seek to appoint an enthusiastic teacher with a real passion for English who is committed to the success of their students and is highly motivated to develop the teaching and learning across the department. Potential, dynamism, determination and resolve are key attributes for our new teacher. In particular we are very keen to appoint an individual who wishes to be a leader of English within a few years. Our excellent school and English Department will provide the experience, training and guidance to enable this ambition to be fulfilled.

The School

Year on year Gunnersbury Catholic School has developed our staff to become fantastic teachers and leaders. In doing so, from one year to the next, we have enabled unparalleled success for our students.

Our school is:

- a Catholic community where care for each other, student ambition, pupil motivation and behaviour are exemplary
- committed to providing quality support, guidance and coaching to develop our staff so that they may progress to the highest levels as teachers and leaders
- highest achieving for GCSE boys non-selective school in the country
- an environment that enables achievement of the highest order 93% 5 GCSEs at 9-4 *including English and Maths* in 2025, Progress 8 score of +1.0
- The setting that achieved the highest proportion of A*s at A-Level in the borough
- determined by Fischer Family Trust as being amongst the top 3% of schools Nationally
- determined 'Outstanding' by Ofsted (2023)
- determined 'Outstanding' in all areas by Diocese of Westminster (s48 inspection, 2019)
- a workplace where staff are a friendly, welcoming and helpful team



GUNNERSBURY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
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