



Art and Drama Technician

Location: Tonbridge/Sevenoaks

Start Date: As soon as possible

Grade: Kent Range 5

Full Time, Permanent Post, Term Time Only



Weald of Kent
Grammar School

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About Us

Weald of Kent is a selective Girls' Grammar School for 11-18 year olds with a roll of approximately 1900 students including our co-educational Sixth Form. The school is one of the highest performing schools in the country. We aspire to excel at everything we do. Owing to our continued success we are thrilled to have been given permission by the Secretary of State to expand and mirror what we deliver at our Tonbridge campus in a campus at Sevenoaks, which opened in September 2017. In addition to the exciting new facilities, we have also invested in our Tonbridge campus which now has a state of the art Sports Hall and university style Sixth Form Study Centre and a new science block has been built this year. Both campuses are situated in beautiful rural settings with far reaching views across the Garden of England with excellent transport links.

Results

We are, once again, exceptionally proud of the magnificent performance that has led to some wonderful results both at GCSE and A Level. Our examinations data from 2019 records the average GCSE grade was above a Grade 7 and our Progress 8 was well above average at 0.95. We also enjoyed superb A Level results with 67% of our students achieving A*-B grades in 2019. The average was a Grade B and our Level 3 value added was above average at 0.12. Our aim is for students to achieve high academic results whilst still affording them a platform to extend their personal qualities, talents and interests. Result statistics were not published for the 2020 or 2021 cohorts.

Staff Development Opportunities

We are passionate about staff development. Individual Development Plans are tailored to help and support staff in new positions, existing posts and preparation for promotion. A whole range of developmental and capacity building training is available, supporting staff to develop their skills and professionalism. This includes opportunities such as:

- A personalised induction programme
- CPD days and a range of workshops
- Performance development programme
- Mentoring-Coaching programme
- Relevant external courses and training

The Team

Lessons for both Art and Drama are one hour in duration. In Year 7, 8 and 9 students receive two periods per fortnight, at GCSE students receive two single periods a week, while A Level students receive twelve periods per fortnight.

We have a beautifully equipped, lively and expanding Art Department. Students follow a variety of topics that have an emphasis on developing their artistic understanding through a wide range of focused, contextualised projects.

Our schemes of work explore a range of artistic disciplines, from drawing and painting to ceramics and textiles. In Year 7 and 8, students are taught the key art skills while exploring a variety of themes, art movements and cultures. They enjoy exploring the possibilities of various 2D and 3D materials and their associated techniques and processes. Year 9 is a GCSE foundation year, where students are given an introduction to GCSE and its assessment criteria. This will help them gain a clear overview of what the GCSE will entail should they wish to continue with their Art education through Year 10 and 11. We are keen to develop independent students whilst supporting them in making informed choices about the development of their work. They are encouraged to be open to new ways of thinking and not to be afraid to be more experimental in their use of 2D and 3D materials, using their sketchbooks to make mistakes and try out new ideas. Less emphasis is placed on the final outcome.

We also offer a range of extracurricular activities for different year groups to extend their learning and appreciation of art outside of lessons. We have regularly arranged for Key Stage 5 students to work with practicing artists, whilst both KS4 and KS5 students have had the opportunity to attend galleries and participate in residential art trips to help extend their learning outside of the classroom. We are always seeking opportunities to display our students work both in and outside of the school. As well as our annual Art Exhibition displaying our GCSE and A Level work, we have been involved in successful exhibitions at Tonbridge School and West Kent College.

The Art department comprises a suite of rooms including three specialist art rooms and one photographic darkroom at our Tonbridge site and currently two specialist Art rooms at Sevenoaks. All of the art rooms have a projector and computer access for students.

The Drama department is an exciting and innovative part of the school. Students follow a variety of topics that have an emphasis on developing their physicality and non-naturalistic response to both devised and scripted work.

Our schemes of work explore a range of skills, including movement and vocal work, and practitioners – from Emma Rice in year 7 to Meyerhold in year 13. Students are taught methods of approach which allow them to maximize their creativity and individual interpretation while understanding the semiotics of the actor/audience relationship. Students are encouraged to use technology to enhance their performances, and we have recently undertaken some very successful multimedia projects inspired by 1927 Theatre Company and Katie Mitchell.

In Year 7, we move from Pantomime through the tropes of ghost stories to an exploration of tales from a variety of cultures. This is expanded in year 8, where physical theatre takes priority and the students learn the techniques of Commedia Dell'Arte and the approach of Boal before honing their ability to devise within a set narrative structure. In year 9, we move into scriptwork, Verbatim Theatre and explore the methodology of Brecht, which is an excellent foundation for the Eduqas GCSE, a popular option from year 10. A level Drama and Theatre follows the AQA specification, and includes components on set text study, devising and dramatizing script.

We also offer a range of extracurricular activities, including Drama clubs and the annual Drama Festival. We regularly have visits from theatre companies to perform to or work with the students. This helps to extend their learning outside of the classroom.

The Drama department comprises 3 rooms across the 2 school sites, all equipped with lighting and sound facilities.

The Post

Job Title: Art and Drama Technician **Reports to:** Head of Art/Head of Drama

Team: Expressive Arts **Start date:** As soon as possible

Grade: KR5

Hours: 37 hours per week

This position is an excellent opportunity for an outstanding and inspirational Technician to join our exceptional team. The post will involve providing support to teachers in the Art and Drama Departments on the teaching and learning of Art across all key stages.

Key Responsibilities:

- Providing technical support to our staff and students.
- Maintaining two highly organised departments to facilitate this delivery.
- Ensuring the Art teaching areas and sinks at the end of every day are tidy and clean and ready for lessons the next day.
- Supporting Drama staff in lessons where requested with lighting, sound and basic video recording.
- Communicating with the Heads of Art and Drama on a daily basis with specific tasks.
- Keeping the departments running efficiently at all times from an administrative perspective.
- Being responsible for managing orders and working with the Heads of Art and Drama to manage the budgets.

This post would ideally suit a colleague who is looking for a new challenge and wishes to work with highly motivated, extremely engaged, enthusiastic and able learners. If you are keen to develop further as a Technician then Weald of Kent would be a perfect fit for you.

About You (Person Specification)

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications		
NVQ Level 3 or equivalent or experience in relevant disciplines		✓
GCSE English and Maths, 4 (C) or above	✓	
Other relevant school-based experience		✓
Experience		
Knowledge and experience of Art and Drama	✓	
Thorough understanding of Health and Safety procedures especially as they relate to work in the specific environment	✓	
Knowledge and experience in the demands in a high achieving school environment	✓	
Skills & Knowledge		
Ability to be practical and adaptable	✓	
Ability to undertake simple woodworking tasks	✓	
Ability to prioritise and pre-empt what resources will be needed	✓	
Ability to manage a budget and order resources	✓	
Able to support students in maintaining high standards	✓	
Good communication skills, both written and verbal	✓	
Efficient and effective administrative, organisational and IT skills	✓	
Knowledge of, or willingness to learn about Stage Lighting and Sound	✓	
Personal Attributes		
Empathy with students	✓	
Have a positive approach to education with a desire to succeed	✓	
Energy, enthusiasm and perseverance	✓	
Reliability and integrity	✓	
Good interpersonal skills	✓	
Professional appearance and manner	✓	
Ability to remain enthusiastic when working under pressure	✓	
Positive commitment to individual personal development	✓	
Capacity to work hard, under pressure, to meet deadlines and manage time effectively	✓	
Ability to use and clean all equipment to the required standard	✓	
Ability to work independently and in a team, take a collaborative approach	✓	
Ability to build supportive working relationships with colleagues	✓	
Commitment to supporting the full life of the school	✓	
Suitable to work with children	✓	
Equal Opportunities – A commitment to inclusive education	✓	

The Package

Salary: Kent Range 5: £20,595 - £21,693 per annum

Actual salary for 37 hours per week, 39 weeks per year: £17,792.02 - £18,857.72 per annum

Benefits:

Generous Pension Scheme (TP / LGPS)	Health Care Cash Plan *
Priority Admission for Staff Children **	Free On-Site Parking
Kent Reward Scheme	Free refreshments
Cycle 2 Work Scheme	

Weald of Kent Grammar School is located on two sites; Tonbridge and Sevenoaks. The successful candidate will be required to work across both sites.

*Available upon successful completion of probation

**See Admission Policy on the School Website

The Application Process

Application forms can be found on our website and should be sent to Human Resources, HR@wealdgs.org or posted to the school. Please include a 1-2 side of A4 application statement or letter of application. The communication should set out how your proven relevant experience relates to this role.

References may be taken up before being short-listed, please indicate on your application form if you have any objection to us contacting the referee prior to interview.

Dates:

Closing date for applications: Wednesday 20 July 2022, 9am*

Interview day: TBC

**Interviews and appointments may be arranged where a suitable candidate is found prior to the closing date.*

The Board of Trustees is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An Enhanced DBS check will be carried out for the successful candidate.

