



KING ETHELBERT
SCHOOL



HEAD OF FOOD START DATE: SEPTEMBER 2026

Registered Office: King Ethelbert School, Canterbury Road, Birchington, Kent CT7 9BL
T: 01843 831999 | E: mail@kingethelbert.kent.sch.uk | W: www.kingethelbert.com

Coastal Academies Trust: a company limited by guarantee Registered in England: Company Number: 07552665



Head of Food

Salary: Main scale or upper pay scale plus TLR 2b

We are seeking an outstanding, dedicated teacher with a passion for enabling young people to achieve high standards in Food. This vacancy provides an excellent career opportunity for an enthusiastic and dynamic professional. The successful candidate will take up a key role, leading and promoting a culture where students exhibit our ASPIRE values; a positive and proactive attitude, the desire to succeed, pride in themselves and their school, the opportunity and ability to inspire others and are resilient and enterprising in their approach to school and life.

King Ethelbert School is rated Good by Ofsted and is very popular, being oversubscribed for several consecutive years. We are part of the Coastal Academies Trust which is made up of a grammar school, three Thanet high schools and two primary schools. All of these schools operate independently and have unique characteristics but good practice is shared helping to drive forward standards at every level: our mission is to make Thanet the centre for excellent education. In the sixth form we offer the exciting International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme (CP) which has brought the school international recognition.

King Ethelbert School is located in the picturesque seaside town of Birchington which has stunning coastal views. Housing is affordable and the area benefits from a warm and sunny climate.

Potential applicants are welcome to visit us to experience the school first-hand. If you would like to arrange a visit, please do not hesitate to contact Debbie Shallcross, Personnel Administrator, via personnel@kingethelbert.kent.sch.uk, or on 01843 831999. More information about our school can be found by visiting www.kingethelbert.com.

King Ethelbert School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. The post is subject to safeguarding checks including an Enhanced Disclosure application to the Disclosure and Barring Service and in accordance with the Requirements of Keeping Children Safe in Education (2025), King Ethelbert School will undertake an online search via social media platforms of publicly available information concerning the short listed candidates.

How to Apply: Via the Kent Teach, or the school website.

Closing Date: Please apply as soon as possible but not later than
9am on Friday 13th February 2026



Dear Applicant

King Ethelbert is a mixed non-selective school of approximately 900 students. In the context of Thanet (Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate), it is one of the most popular non-selective schools each year, filled with first-choice students and long waiting lists for each year group. We have a wide range of abilities studying with us, including some students who have passed the Kent Test but want to be at their local school where they can be equally successful; such is our reputation. We were last visited by Ofsted in June 2024 and were again rated Good with the school receiving some extremely positive feedback. Particular strengths identified by Ofsted were; the positive relationships between staff and students, the school's high expectations for pupils' behaviour and the broad and ambitious curriculum delivered to all pupils.

The school's outcomes are strong consistently, but we are determined to ensure that we do not compromise the curriculum or breadth of educational experience that we offer, in order to achieve a positive Progress 8 score or increase Attainment 8. We want all of the students to be happy, confident and successful during their time here with us and use our ASPIRE values so that students know how to be successful in school.

King Ethelbert was one of the first state schools in the country to offer the International Baccalaureate Careers-Related Programme in the sixth form because it is the best post-16 educational offer in the world. We are a lead school for the IBCP and support many other schools in Kent, as well as welcoming visitors from across the world to see what the IBCP does for our students and how we can share good practice internationally as well as locally.

The commitment to work together lies at the heart of Coastal Academies Trust. The trust began as a federation between King Ethelbert and Dane Court Grammar School in 2009 and these two schools still share a governing body. Over the last few years we have been joined by Cliftonville Primary School, Hartsdown Academy, Royal Harbour Academy and Newington Primary School. As a trust our commitment to all schools is non-negotiable. All students who attend any one of our schools are valued and important and we have a collective responsibility to all. We are committed to making Thanet the centre of excellence for education.

The trust is fully invested in the continuous professional development of all its staff. We deliver bespoke leadership training to complement the new, revised NPQ programmes and give hands-on, practical experience and training to our aspiring and existing leaders at all levels.

If King Ethelbert School and the Coastal Academies Trust sounds like the place you would like to work - and you have the ambition, commitment, and passion necessary, then apply.

Should you require any additional information please contact Laura Pease, PA to the Headteacher, via personnel@kingethelbert.kent.sch.uk, or on 01843 831999.

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This is a key role in the school and we are keen to appoint an excellent practitioner so we may progress with interviews prior to this date to secure the right person for this post.

Tom Sellen
Headteacher



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Food Department

The department will consist of a head of department with the support of an excellent food technician.

At KS3, students are introduced to the food preparation and nutrition curriculum through our design rotation. This allows students to build their knowledge of the fundamentals of food preparation including important knowledge of healthy balanced diets, packaging, marketing and gaining hands-on experience of preparing simple recipes. At KS4, students have the opportunity to study the subject via the WJEC Level 2 Hospitality and Catering qualification.

The subject is consistently a popular choice in key stage 4, with two groups in both year 10 and 11 as standard. In 2024, the department achieved a progress 8 score in line with the national average and 55% of students achieved a 9-4 GCSE. We are looking for enthusiastic candidates to drive the department forward and further improve our results.

The food department contributes significantly to the school's curriculum outside of the classroom as well, providing the students (and staff) with opportunities such as; visits from local primary schools to use our facilities, after-school cooking clubs, a variety of bake-off competitions, staff creative workshops, a KES cookbook of recipes from former students and staff and providing catering for school events.

The department benefits from a specialised food room, with extensive equipment and resources available to students. Alongside this is a classroom area suitable for theory teaching and access to IT resources. There is also a skilled technician available for support.

Why join our team?

A comprehensive induction programme is provided into the work of King Ethelbert School, and a specific mentoring and guidance programme operates for all new entrants. Ofsted have recognised that guidance and support given by staff for students is outstanding. It is expected that all potential members of staff will have a passion and a commitment to each child achieving their personal best. King Ethelbert School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. This position is therefore subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service application.

The successful candidate may also hold a pastoral responsibility as a tutor within a year system.



Job description

Post title:	Head of Food (Food and Nutrition or Hospitality and Catering)
Line manager:	AHT or DHT
Core purpose:	To provide strategic leadership and management of the food department. To be an effective teacher (and tutor) who supports and challenges all students so that they reach their potential and the school's 'why' of being happy, confident and successful students.

Main responsibilities:

- Provide strategic leadership and management of the food department.
- Design an appropriately broad, balanced and relevant subject curriculum. Ensure that this subject curriculum and learning journey is reviewed and updated regularly.
- Create and coordinate extracurricular activities to promote the subject and support students' all-round learning in and out of the classroom.
- Maintaining the equipment and inventory for the practical element of all courses, along with ensuring Health and Safety requirements are met
- Oversee the day-to-day management of the subject team.
- Set and lead the department in having the highest expectations for all students.
- Monitor and evaluate standards of teaching and learning across the team regularly. Implement support and accountability in necessary areas.
- Use assessment data to ensure all students make strong academic progress in the subject. To aim for outcomes in the department to be at average nationally at both KS4 and 5 annually.
- Use assessment data to target support and interventions to drive up the standards and achievement in the subject.
- Plan so that SEND and vulnerable students can access all of the curriculum and make the same rate of progress as all other students.
- Collaborate effectively with equivalent subject leads across the Coastal Academies Trust.
- Take a full and active role as a member of the school's wider leadership team. take responsibility for your own professional development - focusing on teaching practice and pedagogy, subject knowledge and leadership and management.
- Line-managing the other members of the department, ensuring they receive the appropriate balance of support and accountability.
- Work with colleagues to create aims, objectives and targets related to the performance of the team and individuals.
- Provide members of the team with the support and frameworks they need to ensure their positive wellbeing.
- To carry out all of the duties outlined in the job description for a classroom teacher at King Ethelbert School.

Professional values and practice:

- To contribute to the overall ethos / work / aims of the school.
- To attend and participate in relevant meetings.
- To assist with the supervision of pupils out of lesson time including before and after school and at break times.
- To deal with any immediate problems or emergencies according to the school's policies and procedures.
- To undertake any other duties which may reasonably be regarded as within the nature of the duties and responsibilities as may be required by the line manager or headteacher.
- To participate in training and other learning activities and an annual performance review as required.

Safeguarding:

- To follow school policies and procedures especially those relating to child protection and health and safety, reporting all concerns to the appropriate person.
- Help to create a school culture where students feel safe and that they can approach any member of staff with problems or concerns.
- Identify students who are at risk of harm, and know how to recognise the signs of abuse or neglect. All staff undertake regular safeguarding training and must be aware of the most up-to-date version of 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'.



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**Click here
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prospectus**



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