



King's College
TAUNTON

PREP SCHOOL

Speech and Drama Teacher

Closing Date: Thursday 9 May 2024





Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the role of Speech and Drama Teacher.

Working under our Head of Drama (Prep school) and Director of Drama and Performing Arts (Senior school), we are looking to appoint a dynamic and forward-thinking person who not only has their own personal passion and skills for drama but is also able to translate that effectively in a teaching environment for the enjoyment and benefit of all children, whatever their own current level.

The successful applicant will use their talents to help enrich the quality of a wide range of dramatic opportunities for the children, be a role model and add proportionally to the vibrant life of our day and boarding school. Whilst this is predominantly a Prep based role, in all things we aim to maximise the benefits of our 'one school, two sites' connection with our senior school, King's College and it is anticipated that the role will likely include around three days at the Prep and one day at the senior school.

In return, we can guarantee you a strong and hugely rewarding culture of enthusiasm for drama, collaborative effort and an awareness that life should be enjoyable for the staff as well as the children!

We look forward to hearing from you and considering your application.

Justin Chippendale

JUSTIN CHIPPENDALE
Headmaster



“ In their everyday lives around the school, our pupils show the confidence to succeed, and the determination to give their very best. ”

About the Schools

King's provides continuous day and boarding education for girls and boys aged 2 to 18 years. It comprises King's College Prep which has approximately 300 children from 2 to 13 and a senior school with approximately 450 pupils from 13 to 18.

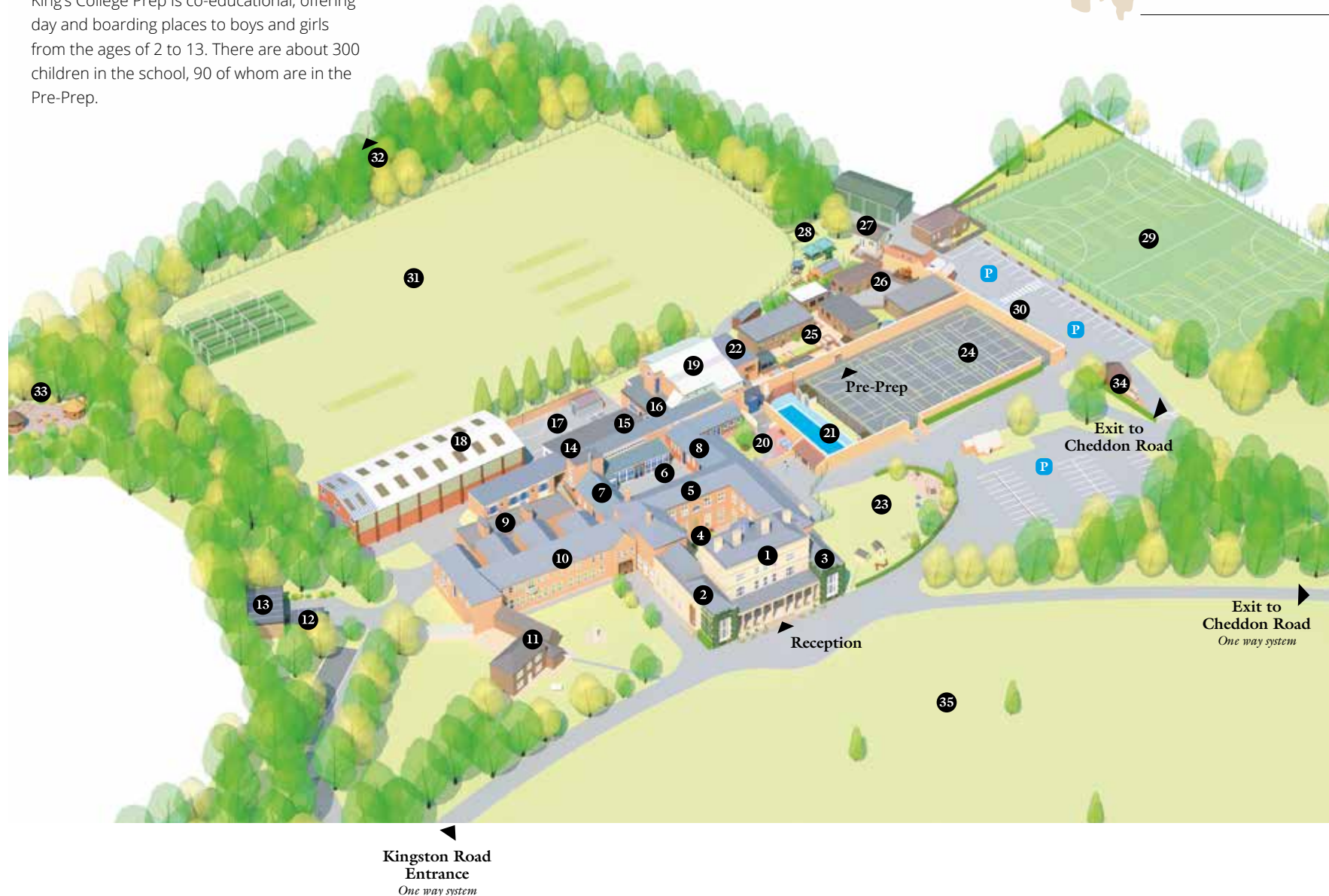
The schools are situated on separate sites in the South West of England and combine traditional values with state-of-the-art facilities. Both schools are run by one governing body, with many functions (marketing, strategy and finance for example) undertaken jointly.

King's College Prep is co-educational, offering day and boarding places to boys and girls from the ages of 2 to 13. There are about 300 children in the school, 90 of whom are in the Pre-Prep.

The school is built around Pyrland Hall, an impressive Georgian country house on the edge of the Quantock Hills. The 50 acre estate (including 15 acres of playing fields) is entirely surrounded by National Trust farmland but is also within a mile of Taunton, the county town of Somerset. Bristol and Exeter are within easy reach while London is

a 1 hour 40 min train journey or three hours via the motorway.

The Pre-Prep's Early Years Foundation Stage consists of a Nursery, which takes children after they have reached their second birthday, and there are then one or two classes in each year from Reception to Year 2.



King's College Prep

Kingston Road, Taunton TA2 8AA

The Prep department, Years 3 to 8, has two or three classes in each year group. There is continuity of educational provision between Years 1 and 8.

The school is a member of the Woodard Corporation, a group of fifty schools educating boys and girls in the Christian tradition in most parts of the country. It works in harness with King's College, Taunton which is on a separate site about three miles away and most pupils transfer there at the age of 13+.

There is an excellent record of academic, musical, artistic, dramatic and sporting achievements throughout the school. There is a programme of continual development including a new sports hall, a performing arts centre used for concerts and drama productions, new changing areas, computer centres for both the Pre-Prep and Prep, a refurbished swimming pool, a new full size astro turf pitch and a cookery school. The Pre-Prep also had extensive refurbishment and the new Science Faculty has transformed the provision for more than just science.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Main Building | 18 Sports Hall |
| Pemberton Room | 19 Arts Centre |
| School Office | 20 The Rose Garden |
| Headmaster's Office | 21 Swimming Pool |
| Deputy Heads' Offices | 22 Bunting Room |
| Boarding House - <i>upstairs</i> | 23 Adventure Playground |
| 2 Woodard Room | 24 Netball and Tennis Courts |
| 3 Library | 25 Pre-Prep |
| 4 Memorial Garden | 26 Nursery |
| 5 Dining Room | 27 Log Cabin |
| 6 Outer Quad | 28 Little Woods |
| 7 ICT Suites | 29 AstroTurf Pitches |
| 8 Learning Strategies | 30 Astro Café |
| 9 Science Faculty | 31 North Field |
| 10 West Wing | 32 Top Field |
| Maths | 33 Big Woods |
| Geography | 34 Uniform Shop |
| 11 Headmaster's House | 35 Front Field |
| 12 Cookery School | |
| 13 Language Cabin | |
| 14 Design Technology | |
| 15 Art Room | |
| 16 Music Department | |
| 17 Hard Play Area | |

A Rural County of Rolling Hills

Taunton is surrounded by natural beauty, with the Blackdown, Mendip and Quantock Hills on the doorstep, plus Exmoor National Park, the Somerset Levels and Dartmouth a short drive away.

Somerset is renowned for its cheddar cheese and cider. A wealth of apple orchards once made Somerset the cider capital of the UK, whilst the Cheddar Gorge caves are still used to mature cheese today.

Taunton is the county town of Somerset, in the South West of England. It is a busy market town located between junction 25 and 26 on the M5.

A growing commercial and residential centre, Taunton has a splendid small theatre, the County Cricket Ground, a successful rugby club, a delightful museum, the usual shopping outlets and restaurants, and a regular farmers' market.

If you love the great outdoors, you can be on the beach in 40 minutes and the Quantocks are just 15 minutes away. For those who prefer city lights, the fast West Country train service reaches Paddington in under two hours. By car, Exeter is 25 minutes south, Bristol 35 minutes north and you can reach Bath in about an hour.



The Role

Post Speech & Drama teacher

The Role

We are looking for an inspirational and enthusiastic part-time Speech & Drama teacher, who is passionate about drama and the performing arts. The Drama department is busy and successful with the Head of Drama teaching curriculum lessons and the Speech & Drama teacher currently seeing around 100 pupils each week for additional lessons. The Drama department puts on a wide range of productions and Speech & Drama showcases throughout the year.

Prep and College

We are one school over two sites, which are 10 minutes' drive apart. Each site has its own timetable, management and teachers. The role is predominantly, in terms of time, based at the Prep, as such, whilst there is flexibility with the final commitments, it is anticipated that the role will likely include around 3 days at the Prep (Rec to Year 8) and 1 day at the College (Year 9 to 13).

The postholder would be responsible to the Head of Drama at the Prep and to the Director of Drama and Performing Arts at the College and through them to the Headmasters.

Key Responsibilities

- Deliver Speech & Drama lessons to children ranging from Reception to Year 13 on an individual/paired or small group basis, with material that gives the children confidence, sets high expectations and improves their self-discipline and communication skills.
- Prepare and enter children as required for Vanguard, LAMDA and NEA exams. This might include acting and/or public speaking.
- Prepare and enter children in local festivals such as the Taunton Festival. Festivals will be attended by the Speech & Drama teacher wherever possible and support given to the children.
- Ensure that each child has a 30-minute lesson (individual, pairs or small groups) each week.
- Prepare a clear weekly timetable of lessons and ensure it is available to all teachers/boarding staff well in advance of the first lesson of the week and that it is also put on display on the Drama Department notice board and in the teaching area.
- Keep in regular contact with parents by email, face to face and by phone, advising the Head of Drama and Deputy Head of any issues arising.
- Teach a variety of methods, including speech technique, breath control, imaginative play, improvisation and interpretation and performance of appropriate poetry, prose and dramatic scenes.
- Write reports for each child at the end of every term, adhering to the school's report writing guidelines and schedule.
- Be aware of the events detailed in the school diary (e.g. trips, matches, Golden Time, rehearsals) and plan the timetable accordingly.
- Encourage pupils to partake through the likes of open door sessions or workshops. Promote opportunities to parents. Provide the Marketing department with photographs and written reports of any achievements/events for both external and internal profile.
- Show a willingness to be involved in extra-curricular activities such as running a drama hobby, helping and supporting with school productions as required/appropriate. Support preparation for 'Platform Events' in consultation with department leads.
- Be involved as appropriate with drama Outreach events and/or enrichment experiences in school.
- Meet regularly with the department leads.
- Ability to teach prose theory – children need to know the plot, setting, be able to analyse characters and show an understanding of the time period the piece was written.
- Knowledge of teaching form and structure of poems, as well as style, content, rhythm, rhyme, figures of speech, pauses (sense pause, caesura pause etc.), how the breath and voice are produced, and the effect needed for different styles of performance.
- If suitable or available, there is a willingness to consider wider involvement in music, drama and performing arts in the school.

Person Specification

	Essential Criteria	Desirable Criteria
Qualifications and Experience	<p>A recognised Drama qualification</p> <p>Experience of teaching pupils from Reception to Year 13</p> <p>Ability to teach the Vanguard syllabus and LAMDA syllabus or other recognised examinations such as Trinity Guildhall</p>	<p>Ability to work with scholarship pupils on scholarship material</p>
Knowledge, Skills and	<p>An ability to communicate well with young people and engage their imagination, earn their trust and be able to stretch their abilities beyond what the pupils themselves might think they are capable</p> <p>Be involved in extra-curricular activities such as running a drama hobby, helping and supporting with school productions</p> <p>Ability to communicate effectively and build professional relationships with parents and colleagues</p> <p>Demonstrate excellent personal acting skills</p> <p>Ability to assess and record the development of the children, setting targets based on prior attainment</p>	<p>Have a technical knowledge of theatre to give support to Drama productions</p> <p>Ability to offer other drama opportunities such as musical theatre, acting for film, dance</p>
Personal Attributes	<p>Good organisational, record keeping and planning skills</p> <p>Excellent interpersonal and communication skills</p> <p>Patience</p> <p>Reliability and trustworthiness</p> <p>A positive approach to inclusive practice, with children and colleagues</p> <p>Enthusiasm for working with children</p> <p>Enjoy working as part of a team</p> <p>Committed to achieving the highest possible standards for all children</p> <p>Maintain a high standard of timekeeping and personal presentation</p>	<p>Flexibility</p> <p>Sense of humour</p>

The qualities and experience outlined in the person specification will be assessed by the following methods:

- Sight of original qualifications
- King's College Prep application form
- Interview, including teaching a lesson
- References from current employer and other, chosen, professionals

Appointment Process



Candidates are expected to have read the enclosed appointment policy and agreed to the terms within.

King's has its own pay scale and there are discounts at both King's College Prep and King's College for staff children.

Please apply by completing the appropriate King's application form (we are unable to accept CVs without our application form), plus a covering letter which outlines your interest in the role and how your experience relates to the role responsibilities.

Please address to the Headmaster and send by email or post to:

Mr Craig Sweet/Mrs Sarah Matthews
c/o HR Department
King's College, Taunton, Somerset TA1 3LA

CSweet@kings-taunton.co.uk
SLMatthews@kings-taunton.co.uk
01823 328105/328231

The closing date is Thursday 9 May 2024.

Interviews will be held on Thursday 16 May.





King's College
TAUNTON

PREP SCHOOL

Kingston Road, Taunton, Somerset TA2 8AA

www.kings-taunton.co.uk