



King's College
TAUNTON

HOUSEPARENT (GIRLS BOARDING HOUSE)

CLOSING DATE:
MONDAY 16 MARCH 2026



HEADMASTER'S WELCOME

At King's, we are committed to ensuring that every young person has the opportunity to unlock their potential, regardless of background or circumstance.

Thank you for your interest in the role of Houseparent of Meynell House.

The Houseparent position is a vital and highly rewarding role within our school community. As Houseparent, you will have the opportunity to make a real and lasting impact on the lives of our pupils, overseeing their welfare, happiness, and academic progress. You will play a central role in ensuring that Meynell House remains a nurturing, respectful, and inclusive environment where each pupil is valued and supported.

We are seeking an individual with strong leadership qualities, a genuine passion for supporting young people, and a commitment to the values and aims of King's College. If you enjoy working with young people in a dynamic and enriching environment, and can bring creativity, care, and vision to the role, we would be delighted to receive your application.

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

At King's College, our boarding houses sit at the heart of school life, and we are proud of the unique blend of boarders and day pupils that creates a dynamic, integrated community. Indeed, this was cited by the ISI as a significant strength of the School following our successful inspection in November 2025. The role of Houseparent offers a fulfilling balance of pastoral care, leadership, and academic oversight, allowing you to shape the culture and character of the house while also working closely with our wider school team.

This is an exciting time to join King's College, as we have recently published our ambitious five-year plan and strategic vision. These plans lay the groundwork for an even brighter future for the school, and the Houseparent of Meynell House will play a key part in delivering these goals - particularly in nurturing the wellbeing and academic progress of our pupils. By joining us, you will have the opportunity to contribute to this development, ensuring that Meynell House continues to thrive as an integral part of our vibrant school community.

As Houseparent, you will be part of a committed and collaborative team, supported by both experienced colleagues and a dedicated leadership team. Your work will be central to the continued success of our boarding community and to the broader ethos of the school.



Michael Sloan
Executive Head, King's College Taunton



King's College and King's College Prep are Woodard Schools. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the safe welfare of children and young people, and expect all staff to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check.

ABOUT THE SCHOOLS

King's provides continuous day and boarding education for girls and boys aged two to 18 years. It comprises King's College Prep which has approximately 300 children from 2 to 13 and a senior school with approximately 400 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 has a rich and welcoming family and community ethos. Just over 60% of the pupils board. For a relatively small school, it has an enviable record of success in all areas.

The school has regularly topped GCSE and

A-level league tables for Somerset. A broad range of co-curricular activities is offered, and the school is renowned for its success in sport, music, performing arts, fine art, design technology and outdoor pursuits. In many of these activities our pupils have achieved success at national and even international levels.

Good discipline is encouraged in a firm and positive way within a supportive pastoral framework. King's College is strong on manners and social skills. Pupils go on to thrive at good universities and in their professional careers. In short, King's is a purposeful, outward-looking, down-to-earth, highly successful school.



KING'S COLLEGE

South Road, Taunton TA1 3LA

Main School Building

- 1 The Chapel
- 2 The Quad
- 3 Dining Hall
- 4 Woodard Room
- 5 Latin
- English
- Philosophy of Religious & Ethics
- Modern Foreign Languages - upstairs
- 6 Main School Corridor
- Headmaster's Office
- PA to the Headmaster's Office
- Examination Office
- Admissions Office
- Careers Office
- Maths
- 7 Philip Richards Building
- Library - upstairs
- IT Helpdesk
- Visitor toilets
- 8 Headmaster's House
- 9 Silvermead Studio and Arts House
- 10 Briar Lee Tennis Courts
- 11 Sixth Form Centre
- Head of Sixth Form Office
- Development Office
- 12 School Uniform Shop
- 13 Cookery School

- 14 Laundry
- 15 Shooting Range
- 16 CCF and Outdoor Pursuits
- Stores
- Chindits
- Army/Navy/Marines
- 17 Finance Office
- 18 Design Technology Centre
- 19 Squash Courts
- 20 First Team Cricket Pavillion
- 21 First Team Cricket Pitch
- 22 Buttler's Ramp
- 23 Tennis and Netball Dome
- 24 Tennis and Netball Courts
- 25 Sports pitches (rugby/cricket/athletics/football)
- 26 All-weather Hockey Pitch
- 27 Cricket Pavilion
- 28 Athletics Cabin
- 29 Sports Performance & Cricket Centre
- 30 Swimming Pool
- 31 Changing Cabins
- 32 Sports Hall
- Climbing Wall
- Gym
- PE Classrooms

- 33 Science Centre
 - Biology
 - Chemistry
 - Physics
 - History
 - 34 Geography Centre
 - 35 The Amphitheatre
 - 36 The Theatre
 - Black Box
 - Auditorium
 - 37 Music School
 - The Octagon
 - Music Technology
 - Practice Rooms
 - 38 Medical Centre
- A Bishop Fox House - Boys
 - B Carpenter House - Girls
 - C Meynell House - Girls
 - D King Alfred House - Boys
 - E Taylor House - Girls
 - F Woodard House - Boys
 - G Tuckwell House - Boys



A RURAL COUNTY OF ROLLING HILLS

Taunton is surrounded by natural beauty, with the Blackdowns, Mendips and Quantock Hills on the doorstep, plus Exmoor National Park, the Somerset Levels and Dartmouth are 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 POST

Meynell House is one of six boarding houses at King's College, and one of the three girls' houses. The house consists of approximately 65 pupils, comprising a 40% / 60% mix of boarders and day pupils. At King's all houses have a combination of boarding and day pupils: a feature of the school specifically recognised as significant strength by the ISI, and one which we believe enables all pupils to integrate fully into the life of this busy school.

The boarding houses are at the heart of life at King's College, providing a home for each pupil, and therefore the importance of the advertised role cannot be underestimated. The houseparent has direct responsibility for overseeing the pastoral care of the pupils within their house and for ensuring that the house is a nurturing, respectful and friendly community, within which all pupils are valued as individuals. Whilst there are, of course, school rules and expectations that cover all pupils in the school, each house is encouraged to develop its own character and camaraderie, something which is largely based on the leadership and outlook of the houseparent.

The Meynell houseparent lives in a well-appointed attached family home and is supported by a full-time residential matron and live-out deputy houseparent. In addition, a team of tutors is attached to the house, each responsible for a small group of girls in years 9, 10 or 11. Many of these tutors undertake an evening duty one night a week, while the houseparent and their deputy look after the weekends. The House Matron plays a key role in covering the house during the day.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

As the current houseparent is stepping down at the end of this academic year after six years of excellent service to the House, we require an enthusiastic teacher and leader to run Meynell House from September. Running a boarding house is a diverse and dynamic job which requires flexibility and stamina. The holder of this vital role will need to employ creative and effective management techniques to co-ordinate the pastoral, academic, spiritual and co-curricular development of the pupils in their care. The successful applicant will also be a teacher of a subject offered by the school, able to inspire pupils of all ages, raising expectations and achievement. The post could suit either a teacher, with suitable experience, who is now looking to step up to lead a house, or someone who is already a houseparent.

King's College has a lively and friendly Common Room of over 50 full-time teachers, all of whom contribute to the school's outstanding co-curricular programme of sport, music and many other activities.

King's College is an exciting, forward-looking and rewarding school to work in. We support all staff to develop their teaching and pastoral skills, providing frequent access to high quality professional development, utilising the skills and experience of colleagues through our peer-coaching programme and tailoring professional development to each individual and their aspirations. We believe that investing in the development our staff is a key element in ensuring excellent teaching, learning and pastoral care. We are keen to embrace new ideas and technologies to ensure that teachers at King's are at the forefront of teaching and learning innovation and are rightly proud of the quality of pedagogy displayed daily around the school.

PERSONAL SPECIFICATION

	Essential Criteria	Desirable Criteria
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Degree level qualification PGCE or equivalent teaching experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BSA training or qualifications, or equivalent pastoral leadership qualifications (we will provide access to equivalent training if required)
Knowledge and Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of working in a boarding school Understanding of the pastoral (emotional, social and educational) issues affecting adolescent girls Understanding of academic and career options for the girls Understanding of the safeguarding issues experienced as a boarding houseparent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding of health and safety issues and requirements, in an educational setting Experience of social media and its use by young people Experience of working within a fixed budget Experience of managing and developing a staff team Experience of working in the independent sector
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proven leadership skills Proven ability to communicate effectively with parents, pupils and staff members Able to form and maintain appropriate relationships with the pupils in your care Ability to promote the qualities of boarding to prospective pupils and their parents Efficient and effective administration and organisational skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good IT skills Educational marketing skills
Personal Qualities and Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personable, with a sense of humour Patience, kindness, resilience and the ability to be firm but fair Highly organised, calm under pressure and resourceful when faced with a problem Diplomatic and discreet 	

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

- Sight of original qualifications
- King's College application form
- Interview, including a verbal presentation on a topic of our choosing
- References from current employer and other, chosen, professionals

King's College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the safe welfare of children and young people, and expect all staff to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check.

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 write a brief letter of application, addressed to the Headmaster, complete the application form enclosed and send by email or letter to:

HR Department

c/o King's College, Taunton, Somerset TA1 3LA

recruitment@kings-taunton.co.uk

01823 328231 / 01823 328190

The closing date for applications is 9.00am on Monday 16 March 2026.

Interviews will be held later in the same week or in the week beginning Monday 23 March.



We encourage.
We are courageous.
We are King's.



King's College Taunton

South Road, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 3LA

www.kings-taunton.co.uk