

BABLAKE SCHOOL



TEACHER OF ART

PART-TIME (IN THE REGION OF 0.5 FTE)

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Bablake School is an HMC independent co-educational day school, with 850 pupils, of whom 220 are in the Sixth Form. There is an even balance of boys and girls. The main entry to Bablake is at the age of 11, when about 125 pupils join, of whom one third come from our Junior School. Entry is governed by academic ability, and the availability of Bablake School Bursaries and Scholarships allows us to assist over a quarter of pupils financially. The School occupies an attractive site approximately 1 mile from Coventry city centre, and is easily accessible by road from surrounding towns and villages. Coventry itself is undergoing healthy regeneration after the loss of some manufacturing industry, and is surrounded by some beautiful countryside in the heart of England. The School enjoys the educational, artistic and historical benefits of its proximity to Warwick and Coventry Universities, Birmingham, Royal Leamington Spa and Stratford-upon-Avon.

For those seeking selective co-education, Bablake is often the natural first choice for pupils from primary and preparatory schools throughout Warwickshire and the West Midlands. There is healthy competition for places, and it is not surprising that the vast majority of pupils obtain 10 GCSE passes at grades A* to C. Over the last three years, 65% of GCSE grades have been A* or A, with 81% of A Levels graded A or B.

The School was founded in 1344, but has occupied its current home since 1890. The main impressive Victorian building has been constantly upgraded and improved. Recent developments have included a Language Block (1991), a Junior School (1993), a new Science Laboratory (1997), a suite of ICT rooms (1999), an English, Drama and Music Block (2000), refurbishment of the Design Technology area (2001 and 2002), two new Science Laboratories (2004), refurbishment of the swimming pool (2005), an extension to the Library (2005), a new multi-media Language Laboratory (2006), refurbishment of the Main Hall (2007/08) and new indoor sports facilities (2009). In addition, there has been a gradual improvement of all teaching areas, so that all departments now have their own suite of rooms and staff areas, as well as having access to ICT equipment including multi-media projectors and interactive whiteboards. There are 40 acres of excellent playing fields about one mile away from the School. Next to these is the Coventry School Foundation Astro Turf facility, which is shared with our sister school, King Henry VIII. The Governors are committed to building a new Junior School, which will enable the Senior School to develop the current Junior School as a new Sixth Form Centre.

Extra-curricular activities, including sport, music, drama, art, Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme, are enthusiastically pursued and supported by staff and pupils alike, as is a vigorous programme of Community Service and charity fundraising. A Combined Cadet Force was introduced in September 2002, and is the largest volunteer contingent in the West Midlands. There is a vibrant House system. In recent years the School has been represented in national finals for Rugby and Netball, with the Hockey teams (boys' and girls'), Cricket teams and the Athletics teams regular winners of local and regional competitions. There is a full and varied programme of visits and tours, to all parts of the world. All pupils visit Le Logis de Fousseau, a French manor house owned by the Coventry School Foundation.

Staff are all well qualified and enthusiastic. The School received an outstanding inspection report in February 2008, and it was said that "lessons are distinguished by a powerful sense of purpose to learn, in a shared enterprise between teacher and pupil". The School has a strong reputation for pastoral care, and staff are committed to extra-curricular activities. Salaries are based on a generous interpretation of the National Scales and, in addition, there is a Bablake allowance (at present £1280), as well as the School's own 'threshold scheme'. Generous fee remission for staff children is available at all Foundation schools (from age 3). The School is part of the HMC NQT accreditation scheme that allows newly qualified staff to gain QTS after one year's successful teaching. There is an excellent and loyal support staff.

Individuals at Bablake are nurtured and encouraged to develop their own talents and grow in self-esteem. There is a strong sense of consideration for others within an outward-looking and friendly community.

A fuller description of the school may be found on our website (www.bablake.com), which also contains a link to the latest ISI inspection report. Bablake is one of five schools in the Coventry School Foundation, which comprises Bablake Senior and Junior Schools, Bablake Pre-preparatory School at Cheshunt, and King Henry VIII Senior and Preparatory Schools.

J W Watson
Headmaster
February 2010

ART AT BABLAKE

The Art Department has two full-time and two part-time teaching staff, as well as a technician who is shared partly with the Textiles department. The teaching staff are given the opportunity to teach throughout the full age range and to interpret projects to make full use of their technical expertise and specialisms. At present we follow AQA specifications at GCSE and the OCR syllabus at GCE. The department consists of five teaching rooms and a departmental office. These include; a room equipped for ceramic work with kick wheels and a kiln; a room equipped for textiles with screen-printing facilities, six sewing machines, an over locker and an embellisher; a general teaching room equipped with a suite of computers and Laser printer as well as the department's library; and two rooms which are used for teaching sixth form groups, one of which has an interactive white board. In addition to this there is a small darkroom with three enlargers which are currently underused. We are developing our ICT capabilities and have renewed our small collection of digital cameras. As well as the work which goes on in the classroom, the department contributes to school life through displays and exhibitions of work as well as involvement in school plays and productions.

The Art Department encourages pupils to achieve their potential and develop their own themes and ideas through their work. Great emphasis is placed on the pupils developing their independent learning abilities and a sense of ownership towards their work. The number of students taking the subject has grown in recent years, reflecting the successful and popular position the department holds within the school. Currently 56 pupils are taking GCSE with 14 at A Level. Results are strong and many students continue with their studies in the field of art at degree level.

The department is a well supported, exciting and rewarding environment in which to work. There are a number of teaching styles within the department, which reflect the specialisms and expertise that the staff are able to bring to the subject. Flexibility, enthusiasm and accessibility are key to the way in which the department operates. The department is open to pupils during lunchtime for the extension of what has been covered in lessons or the development of themes and projects instigated personally. The intention is that the department should be a welcoming and stimulating environment in which to learn and develop understanding through art. The development of drawing skills forms a key part of the syllabus as does a more contextual understanding of the history and development of Art and Design across a range of subject matter, cultures and time. We aim to provide a broad-based curriculum which enables us to deliver a range of experiences to the pupils, encouraging them to make a personal and well-informed response to the work covered.

Visits to galleries are undertaken to enhance what we are able to offer in school. GCSE groups will make two visits during their course, with the sixth form also having an annual visit. In addition to this we undertake an overseas visit every two years with the sixth form groups. In 2005 we went to New York, in 2007 we visited Istanbul and in 2009 we travelled to Grenada and Seville. Artists are also brought in to work with sixth form groups and in recent times we have run workshops with the artist Betty Pepper and the jeweller Mikaela Lyons.

TEACHER OF ART

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FROM 1 SEPTEMBER 2010

We are seeking to appoint a well qualified, confident and enthusiastic teacher to join a vibrant, well resourced and successful department. The applicant should have excellent subject knowledge and practical skills and be confident and able to teach through to A level if required. Applications are particularly welcome from candidates who have expertise or experience in teaching Photography and Digital Imagery. Initially a contribution to the GCSE course is envisaged, but this may eventually be extended to include Sixth Form or even a specialised endorsement in Photography as an option for examination groups. The post has arisen due to the retirement of a member of staff.

Appropriate training will be available if necessary for newly qualified staff wishing to gain QTS status after one year's successful teaching. The successful candidate will have good communication and ICT skills, and will wish to work as part of a mutually supportive team. He or she will also enjoy developing and nurturing young people outside the department, and involvement in the pastoral and extra-curricular sides of the school community will be expected.

A teacher at Bablake contributes to the well-being and development of the school by supervising, guiding and caring for pupils inside and outside the classroom. He or she is responsible to the appropriate Head of Department, and is expected to:

- Teach within the agreed departmental scheme of work and follow agreed whole school policies on such matters as reports, marking and assessing and monitoring pupils' work and progress.
- Attend departmental meetings and INSET days, as well as whole school Staff Meetings as indicated by the Headmaster.
- Exercise proper care of rooms and equipment and follow the school's policy on Health and Safety matters.

While the first priority of a subject teacher is the teaching of his/her own subject - including preparation, marking, assessing and evaluation of the success or failure of any period of teaching - he or she is expected to:

- Attempt to improve qualifications and expertise and keep up-to-date with subject material and examination requirements, as is necessary and practicable.
- Participate in the various extra-curricular activities offered at Bablake as his/her interests allow.
- Become involved in the Tutor, Pastoral and House systems currently in operation in the school.

It is recognised that this job description is not comprehensive and will alter for each subject teacher, so as to reflect his or her own interests, aptitude and involvement in the various activities and roles in operation at the school.

Bablake School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and this is reflected in its recruitment procedures. Successful candidates for posts are required to undergo an enhanced CRB disclosure.

Application forms, accompanied by a covering letter and curriculum vitae, should reach the Headmaster as soon as possible, and no later than Wednesday 17 March. Interviews are likely to occur the following week.