

BABLAKE SCHOOL



TEACHER OF GIRLS' PHYSICAL EDUCATION

A message from the Headmaster

Thank you for your interest in Bablake. I hope that the following introductory notes will give you an impression of our school, and will help you to decide whether or not to submit an application. Our last inspection described us as “a happy community of successful learners”, and it is undoubtedly true that both pupils and staff make the school a very positive, warm and dynamic environment in which to work. Those who join us have no regrets, are fully committed to our aims, and only leave for promotion, relocation or retirement.

Context

Bablake is an HMC independent co-educational day school, with 860 pupils, including over 250 in the Sixth Form. There is an even balance of boys and girls, who share rich opportunities and encourage one another in their endeavours. The main point of 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 Bursaries and Scholarships allows us to assist almost 30% of pupils financially. This, combined with the relatively competitive annual fee (under £9,168), ensures that pupils are drawn from a wide range of social and cultural backgrounds; it is a real strength of the school. 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 five years, GCSE grades have averaged 65% A* or A grade, with almost 80% of A Levels graded A* to B. 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.

Situation

The school occupies an attractive, green 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.

History and facilities

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. More recent additions and improvements have included a Languages Block (1991), a Junior School (1993), an English, Drama and Music Block, including Theatre (2000), new Science Laboratories (2004), refurbishment of the swimming pool (2005), a Library extension (2005), a new multi-media Language Laboratory (2006), a Memorial Garden (2009) and new indoor sports facilities (2008-10). There has been a gradual improvement of all teaching areas, so that all departments 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 have planning permission to build a new Junior School, which will enable the Senior School to develop the current Junior School as a new Sixth Form Centre and to reassign vacated areas in the main building.

Opportunities

Extra-curricular activities, including sport, music, drama and the 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. The Combined Cadet Force is one of the largest volunteer contingents in the West Midlands. There is a vibrant House system. In recent years the school has been represented in national finals for Netball and Rugby, 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, both at home and abroad. All pupils visit Le Logis de Fousseau, a French manor house owned by the Coventry School Foundation.

Working at Bablake

Staff are all well qualified and enthusiastic, and have high expectations of themselves and their pupils. 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 £1309), as well as the school's own ‘threshold scheme’. Generous fee remission for the children

of permanent staff is available at all Foundation schools (from age 3). The school is part of the ISC 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, who understand their vital role in contributing to pupils' growth and achievements.

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

Do consult our website (www.bablake.com) for a fuller description of the school, and for our latest news. Our most recent ISI inspection report can be found at www.isi.net.

John W Watson MA
Headmaster
January 2012

Bablake Girls' Physical Education & Games Department

P.E. is taught throughout the school. In years 7, 8 & 9 the pupils have 2 periods of P.E. where Gymnastics, Dance and Swimming are taught in the first two terms, followed by Rounders and Athletics in the third term. There are 3 periods of Games – Hockey and Netball in the Autumn and Spring Terms, Athletics, Rounders and Tennis in the Summer Term. In years 10 & 11 the timetable allocation is a double period of P.E. and 3 periods of Games, but a much wider range of activities is offered. These include Water-polo, Life Saving, Badminton, Health Related Fitness, Trampolining, Self-defence, Aerobics, Basketball, Volleyball and Climbing. In the Sixth Form, pupils are allowed to follow the activity of their choice.

AS Level P.E. was introduced at Bablake in September 2000 and then A2 in 2003. The OCR syllabus is followed, and boys and girls are taught together. In recent years the department has produced some excellent results and interest in the subject continues to grow. Over the last three years A Level candidates have enjoyed a 100% pass rate, with an average of 74% A* - B grades.

The department provides a wide range of activities to cater for all levels of ability, for the individual and for the team player. The variety of extra-curricular activities encourages our pupils to work together, develop self-discipline, resourcefulness and friendship.

Competitive teams are organised for regular fixtures in athletics, hockey, netball, rounders and tennis. Other activities are arranged for pupil participation, recreation and enjoyment, for example, badminton, dance, gymnastics, trampolining, climbing, fencing and both recreational swimming and swimming training sessions.

Bablake enjoys local, regional and national success in sport. Several pupils represent their county and some go on to achieve regional and national representative honours. For example, we have an U16 England hockey player this year and an U16 English Schools Athlete. U16 indoor hockey players, and both U16 and U18 netballers were national finalists in 2010 / 2011.

There is a comprehensive fixture list throughout the year, with matches during the week and on Saturdays. There are occasional Sunday commitments, for example a weekend trip for fixtures. In the summer holidays an international tour is organised every 2 years with senior netball and hockey. This summer, Boys and Girls' Hockey and Netball tourists spent two weeks in Singapore and Malaysia.

The department works well together as a team, and is enriched by the diverse experience and expertise of its members. There are three full-time teachers (including the Head of Department), who are supported by a number of specialist staff, who teach P.E. and/or Games. Some staff have other responsibilities in school.

A Sports Hall (4 badminton courts, 1 netball court, 1 volleyball court, 1 basketball court, 1 indoor hockey area), Fitness Suite, Climbing Wall Room, Dance Studio, Swimming Pool and 2 flood-lit Netball / Tennis courts plus a grass area for Athletics lessons and 2 rounders pitches are all situated on site. 2 flood-lit artificial hockey pitches / 12 tennis courts (shared with King Henry VIII School) are situated about 1 mile away, and 4 grass rounders pitches are marked on the school playing fields.

TEACHER OF GIRLS' PHYSICAL EDUCATION

FROM SEPTEMBER 2012

This post will suit an enthusiastic and well-qualified graduate, capable of teaching the range of activities currently offered within the P.E. curriculum, in addition to playing a full role in the Games programme. The successful applicant will have expertise in either netball or hockey, and the ability to teach a secondary subject may be an advantage. There is also the possibility of contributing to the teaching of AS or A2 P.E.. 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 - it is hoped that a subject teacher will:

- Attempt to improve qualifications and expertise and keep up-to-date with subject material and exam 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.

The post holder's responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young persons for whom s/he is responsible, or with whom s/he comes into contact will be to adhere to and ensure compliance with the school's Child Protection Policy at all times. If in the course of carrying out the duties of the post the post holder becomes aware of any actual or potential risks to the safety or welfare of children in the school s/he must report any concerns to the school's Child Protection Officer (Designated Teacher) or to the Head.

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 8 February. Interviews are likely to occur during the week commencing Monday 20 February.