

A photograph of two young women in tennis attire standing on a tennis court. They are wearing white visors and white sleeveless dresses with red trim and Canterbury logos. The woman on the right is holding a tennis racket. The background is a blurred tennis court with a net and trees. The image is framed by large red diagonal shapes.

Candidate information for

Head of Academic PE and BTEC Sport

Hurst



“The Curriculum is
challenging and well
matched to pupils’
needs and interests.
**This is a significant
strength of the school.”**

Independent Schools Inspectorate

Hello + Welcome





Welcome from the Head of College

Hurst is a wonderful place to work and to live. We have a clear sense of our educational values, which underpin our vision for the future. Our mission and purpose as staff is based on a wholehearted commitment to ensuring that every pupil experiences an outstanding all-round education. Through this educational experience we seek to prepare the children in our care for life beyond Hurst.

Our educational philosophy is about far more than just exam grades; a Hurst education is genuinely holistic and rounded. We believe that pupils develop through a full-on engagement with every aspect of school life, whether in the classroom, in boarding and day Houses, or in sports teams, choirs, orchestras, casts, activity sessions, DofE groups and so much more. As such we seek to recruit staff who not only buy into this culture, but who will actively support and coach the pupils in these areas, as well as be role models for the Hurst values in the way that they lead their own lives.

In the same way that we care about the personal development of every single pupil, we also care about the development—personal as well as professional—of every member of staff. This requires a significant degree of commitment, and it comes with huge rewards for those who embrace the challenge. Our 'Teach Hurst' and 'Lead Hurst' programmes are proof of our commitment to our staff, and offer a unique and exciting way to develop a career in teaching. If you have got the potential and the willingness to work hard to fulfil it, then we will provide you with the training, the support and the opportunities to help you get there. You will not be the first to walk down that path, and you certainly won't be the last.

Before you even reach for the application form, I hope that you get a strong sense that being a member of the Hurst community is very much a way of life—not just for the pupils who attend Hurst, but also for the talented, inspirational and dedicated staff who work here. It's more than just a job. It's a vocation. If that appeals to you, then we would love to hear from you and I look forward to meeting you here at Hurst.

Dominic Mott

An introduction to the College

Hurstpierpoint College is one of the country's leading HMC co-educational schools and has a reputation for ensuring that every pupil experiences an outstanding all-round education that prepares them for life.

The College comprises a Sixth Form, Senior School, Senior Prep and Junior Prep with 1,300 pupils in total. Over half the pupils in the Senior School are boarders (weekly or flexi). Hurst is a significant medium-sized enterprise in Mid Sussex with around 480 employees and an annual turnover of £35 million.

What particularly strikes visitors to the College is the vibrant dynamic of our community. Situated within a 100-acre campus, surrounded by beautiful countryside, Hurst lies on the border of the South Downs National Park, close to the village of Hurstpierpoint in West Sussex.

This superb location is also just 20 minutes from the city and beaches of Brighton and Hove, whilst London train stations can be reached from Hassocks or Haywards Heath in under an hour.

The central campus is thoughtfully laid out and planned with zones for the Academic, Co-Curricular and Pastoral areas of school life. These all lie at the centre of a superbly equipped broader campus.

Hurst has an excellent academic track record and the vast majority of pupils go on to Russell Group universities including Oxford, Cambridge, and various London Universities, as well as large numbers to Exeter, Bristol and Durham.

Founded in 1849 by Nathaniel Woodard, Hurst is a Church of England College. The Christian ethos underpins College life but we are a diverse community; we welcome those of other faiths, or no faith, and pursue an inclusive approach in all that we do.

The College is a co-sponsor, together with the Diocese of Chichester, of the newly formed Hurst Education Trust, a local multi academy trust. The Trust currently has four local primary schools, although we envisage that it will grow over time.

Superb facilities

The College has invested heavily in campus developments, including substantial new academic and sports facilities, in addition to an extensive programme of day and boarding house refurbishments.

In the last five years, major developments have included the New Bury Theatre which opened in 2018, Pelican House in 2020, two new science laboratories in 2021, a complete overhaul of the College's catering facilities - completed in 2022 - and an extension to Eagle House and refurbishment of Woodard House in 2023.

Construction is currently underway on a new swimming pool. Future planned developments include upgrading our boarding house facilities, alongside the continued programme of refurbishing the College's existing facilities.





Head of Academic PE and BTEC Sport

Reporting to: Head of Faculty

Salary: Highly competitive salary and benefits, including membership of The Teachers Pension

The Sports Science and Physical Education Department consists of nine members of teaching staff, supported by two Graduate Sports Assistants.

We currently deliver Core PE, GCSE (OCR), A-level (OCR) and BTEC Level 3 Sport (Pearson). There are four groups at GCSE in both Years 10 and 11. In the Sixth Form we currently offer two sets of A-level PE and a set of BTEC Sport (Diploma).

While Academic PE and Games are separate departments, it is expected that the members of the PE department are expected to contribute significantly to the games programme.

The College boasts impressive sporting facilities as well as three theory teaching classrooms.

Sport is a huge part of Hurst culture, and the department is an exceedingly popular and successful place to be for our pupils. At all levels, the department is well resourced and embraces technology using online learning platforms and modern technology.

Key Qualities

Hurst has a reputation for offering an excellent all-round education with a strong academic core for every child.

The primary role of the Head of Department (HoD) is to develop effective teaching and learning in the PE and Sports Science department, ensuring all students and also department members achieve their personal best.

Additionally, they are responsible for managing departmental administration, including curriculum, assessment, examinations, and department documentation.

Essential

The successful candidate will:

Have the ability to lead, manage, engage and provide clear direction to staff and pupils to deliver the very best academic results.

Have the ability to design and continuously improve curricula and Schemes of Work across multiple Key Stages based on exam board specifications, as well as produce effective resources that can be shared across the department.

Have the ability to organise, administer and monitor efficient systems and processes.

Have the ability to manage, analyse and interpret data for the better performance of staff and pupils.

Be innovative, proactive and place the needs of the students at the forefront of everything they do.

Have a proven track record as an outstanding teacher.

Have a bachelor's Degree in Sports Science related subject with a PGCE, QTS (desirable not essential) and strong evidence of continuous professional development.





Responsibilities

Teaching

- To lead high quality teaching, learning and assessment within the department, facilitating best practice, and sharing outstanding resources.
- To review and revise the curriculum to cater for the needs and abilities of all students within the department.
- To monitor the quality of teaching and learning in the department via discussion of teaching strategies, reviewing of lesson planning, and lesson observations.
- To set and monitor Challenge Grades and academic progress for all pupils taught in the department.
- To liaise with the Learning Support and Examinations office to ensure that all extra learning needs are being addressed.
- To give presentations at Next Step and Sixth Form Choices Morning to promote PE and Sports Science to parents and students.
- To be in communication with parents when necessary to monitor the learning of individual students.
- To liaise with the team on how to best challenge and stretch students to achieve their personal best.

Staff

- To collaborate with staff to create Schemes of Work and a unified sense of purpose within the department.
- To monitor that the College's marking policy is consistent amongst the team and understood by the students.
- To subject mentor and oversee the training of Teach Hurst colleagues in the PE and Sports Science department.
- To represent the PE and Sports Science department in all matters within the College including attendance at HoDs' meetings.
- To liaise with department staff, parents, tutors, Library staff and the relevant Deputy Head as required.
- To identify the professional development needs of staff in the department and liaise with the Deputy Head Staff Development to ensure that necessary staff training is identified and implemented.
- To manage the effective administration of the department including examinations and assessment, administration, options booklets and handbooks.
- To liaise with other departments, pupils and the Director of Academic Administration on all matters concerning with the timetable, curriculum and setting arrangements.

College

- Responsibilities will be dependent upon the skills and interests of the person appointed but will include a requirement to participate in the College's tutorial system, being attached to a house, and to contribute to the programme of sporting, cultural and co-curricular activities.

Your benefits



Membership of the Teachers' Pension Scheme.

Free dining and refreshment facilities during term time.

Extensive professional development programmes, together with career opportunities across the College and Hurst Education Trust.

Free use of extensive sports and leisure facilities.

Comprehensive health and wellbeing offering including an on-site mind clinic, wellbeing MOTs, Employee Assistance Programme and Chaplaincy.

Contributory BUPA Health Insurance.

Cycle to work scheme.

Social calendar of events.

Free on-site parking.

Remission of fees in line with the School Fees Discount Policy

How to apply



The application process

Interested candidates should submit a covering letter, CV and application form to recruitment@hppc.co.uk

Safeguarding and equal opportunities

Hurst is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment will be subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure, the receipt of satisfactory references, the College's pre-employment medical questionnaire, relevant original ID documentation and examination certificates. The College understands that a robust, fair and transparent recruitment and selection policy plays a central role in achieving this aim. Our full equal opportunities policy is available in the Policy Documents section of our website.

Information



Further information

For further information please see our website at hppc.co.uk/work-with-us

Terms and conditions

The salary will be competitive and reflect the importance of the role as well as the experience and qualifications of the successful candidate.

Applications will be considered as they are received.

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