



APPLICATION PACK
FOR THE POST OF
PRE-PREP
TEACHING ASSISTANT





CHEAM | Overview

Cheam is situated in a stunning rural location ten minutes from Newbury and fifteen minutes from Basingstoke, just off the A339. It is surrounded by smaller towns and villages from which it draws many of its pupils.

Cheam was founded in 1645 and is one of the oldest prep schools in the world. Cheam is an IAPS boarding and day school with some 375 pupils, boys, and girls. Cheam prides itself on its excellent all-round record academically, musically, artistically and on the sports field. The facilities are outstanding. On completing their life at Cheam, children move on to the top Public Schools in England, including Eton, Wellington, Marlborough, Radley, Harrow, Winchester, Bradfield and St. Mary's Calne. The school is non-selective yet achieves consistently high standards academically through an inspirational and dedicated team of teachers, throughout the Pre-Prep and Prep schools.

PRE-PREP TEACHING ASSISTANT

An outstanding opportunity to join the team at one of the leading preparatory schools in the country from September 2024. Cheam, a wonderful co-educational prep school on the Berkshire/Hampshire border, is looking for a full-time Pre-Prep Teaching Assistant.

It is expected that the successful candidate will show great enthusiasm and passion for working with young children and be prepared to support the class teacher in all areas of academic and pastoral care both in the classroom and throughout the school day.

Candidates for all teaching posts will support the strong collective dynamic and inspirational ethos of the educational philosophy of the school and the community aims. We are looking for a candidate who has confidence, integrity, humility and humour and is happy to give their time and intellect to children and colleagues. The school prides itself on being an interface between modern and more traditional teaching methods.

TEACHING ASSISTANT



The ideal person for this post will be someone who has a Level 3 NVQ, has literacy and maths skills to GCSE level, can produce a creative display of the children's work and is prepared to be flexible. As well as working with the children in the classroom, the role includes playground duties, one after school activity duty and helping to supervise the children at lunchtimes. There is also an option to extend hours at the start of the day by helping to run breakfast club.

The Teaching Assistant will:

- Be able to communicate clearly and persuasively both orally and in writing with children, staff and parents alike.
- Be well organized and hard-working with a good sense of humour.
- Be able to work calmly and accurately under pressure and show resilience where necessary.
- Be able to work collaboratively with colleagues within the school.
- Be prepared and able to initiate and manage change, where necessary.
- Be aware of, and devoted to, the educational needs of the individual pupil.
- Display absolute commitment to the highest standards of professional behaviour and to promote the welfare and safeguarding of children.
- Be proficient in the use of IT and to understand issues that arise in the use of digital learning within a school environment.
- Act at all times as an outstanding ambassador for the school.
- Be willing and able to contribute to the wider extracurricular and pastoral life of a busy day and boarding school.

Summary

This is an outstanding opportunity for someone with energy and enthusiasm who is willing and capable of being part of a very happy and cohesive team that is driving the school forwards into a particularly exciting phase of its long and illustrious history. An ability to inspire children to produce and give of their best in the classroom is paramount.



Salary

Cheam offers a competitive salary according to experience and qualifications. Allowances will be made for whatever extra responsibilities are assumed by the successful applicant. Applicants who are looking to go into a teaching career and would like some early experience of the classroom are welcome to apply.

School Holidays | Days Off

School holidays are usually 4 weeks at Christmas, 4 weeks at Easter, 8 weeks in the summer, with half-terms and weekend excats. There are regular staff meetings and INSET days just before the start of each term and all staff are expected to attend these. This is a full-time term-time role; the hours are 7.45am-3.45pm four days a week and 7.45am-4.30pm on one day a week to be agreed with the Head of Pre-Prep.

BENEFITS

LOCATION

Nestled in 100 acres of beautiful Berkshire countryside



CAREER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

including mentoring and a variety of training opportunities



LUNCHES

Meals, snacks and refreshments provided



GENEROUS PENSION SCHEME



WELL-BEING

Focus on staff well-being, yoga classes, team socials and access to physio and counsellors



FACILITIES

Use of school facilities when available



WORKING AT CHEAM



Our staff are Cheam's greatest asset. From the inspiring and experienced teachers to the efficient and friendly support teams, everyone contributes to the special environment at Cheam. Cheam offers the brightest of learning environments. It is the perfect place for staff to thrive and grow.

“Having worked in a number of schools, when I found Cheam, it felt the most like home. The team, the amazing site and the positive, can-do attitudes are what makes it a great place to work and live.”

“The pupils who are happy, engaged, so well-mannered and keen to learn make coming to work something I genuinely look forward to.”

“The feeling of camaraderie amongst the staff and being part of the Team Cheam. It's a very special community.”

“It's a privilege to work in such a beautiful setting, with a brilliant group of colleagues who make coming to work worthwhile.”

- *Staff Members*

- “The quality of the pupils academic and other achievements is excellent.”
- “Pupils throughout the school display extremely positive attitudes towards their learning.”
- “Pupils show highly developed knowledge and strong understanding and skills across their studies.”
- “Pupils are excellent communicators.”
- “The quality of the pupils personal development is excellent.”
- “Pupils show high levels of self-understanding and self confidence for their age.”
- “Pupils behave notably well and show respect and kindness towards others.”
- “Pupils have a strong understanding of how their decisions affect their development.”
- “Pupils are extremely socially aware and collaborate highly effectively across all areas of school life.”

- *ISI Inspection Report 2023*

See also:

[THE GOOD SCHOOLS GUIDE](#)

[MUDDY STILETTOS SCHOOLS REVIEW GUIDE](#)

HOW TO APPLY & KEY DATES



- Candidates should complete the application form found on our website at www.cheamschool.co.uk and provide a covering letter with this.
- The application form requires the names, addresses and telephone numbers of two professional referees, one of whom should be your present or most recent employer.
- Candidates are also requested to provide the names, address and telephone number of one personal referee. Please do indicate clearly in your letter when it would be appropriate for referees to be contacted.
- Covering letters and application forms should be submitted by post to Cheam or online to hillmanj@cheamschool.co.uk

Closing date for receipt of applications is 20th May 2024.

Interviews will be held on Thursday 23rd May 2024 onwards although the school reserves the right to call someone to interview before this date.

Cheam School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. Applicants must undergo child protection screening, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.



