



Teacher of History (Maternity Cover) Queen Mary's High School

**Fixed-Term Maternity Cover, Full-Time
Required September 2026 to October 2027
MPS / UPS as appropriate**

APPLICATION PACK

Queen Mary's High School
Upper Forster Street
Walsall
West Midlands
WS4 2AE

Telephone: 01922 721013
Website: www.qmhs.org.uk
Email: qmarys@qmhs.merciantrust.org.uk
Headteacher: Mrs N Daniel
Chair of Governors: Mr T Normanton

WELCOME TO QUEEN MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL

May 2026

Dear applicant,

RE: Vacancy for the role of Teacher of History (Maternity Cover)

I would like to thank you for taking the time to find out more about this important role at Queen Mary's High School.

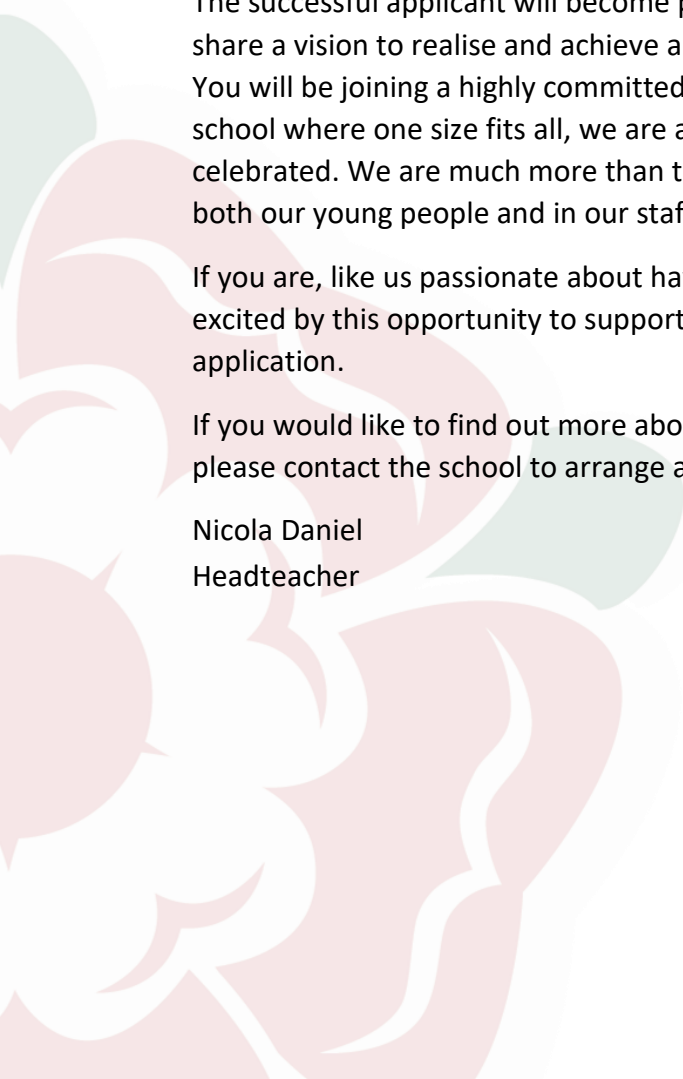
We are a school community passionate about learning and in cultivating an exceptional educational environment in which our young people are enabled to be the very best version of themselves. Our school community is one in which our students are expertly equipped with not only knowledge and understanding but the skills, the attributes and expertise to achieve their ambitions, to fully realise their potential and to enjoy learning. Our ethos and values are demonstrated by the endeavour of all in our school community, who work together to ensure the highest standards of academic achievement, and to provide excellent pastoral care that supports, nurtures and empowers our students in achieving this excellence.

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic History Teacher for a maternity-cover period, who has a passion for their subject and will motivate and inspire our exceptional students. The successful applicant will become part of a collaborative and supportive staff body, who share a vision to realise and achieve ambitious outcomes for every individual in our school. You will be joining a highly committed, experienced and expert pastoral team. We are not a school where one size fits all, we are a school in which diversity thrives, is encouraged and is celebrated. We are much more than the sum of our parts, growing exceptional talent in both our young people and in our staff.

If you are, like us passionate about having a positive impact on young people's lives, and excited by this opportunity to support exceptional young people, we warmly welcome your application.

If you would like to find out more about us and see how wonderful a place to work this is, please contact the school to arrange a visit. I very much look forward to hearing from you.

Nicola Daniel
Headteacher




ABOUT US

Queen Mary's High School is built upon a well-established history of success, shaping exceptional young people for young adulthood. We are an academically selective, 11-18 girls' grammar school, co-educational in our sixth form provision. We have approximately 950 students on roll.

Since the school's successful bid for funding from the Selective Schools Expansion Fund (SSEF), it has been able to increase its PAN and to engage in outreach to the local community with the aim of increasing the number of local disadvantaged children being admitted to the school. This, together with the inclusion of a lower qualifying score for disadvantaged local children, has resulted in the average percentage of disadvantaged students admitted to the school in Years 7-9 being 29% with the aim of this rising to over 30% for the whole school over time.

Located in the heart of Walsall, Queen Mary's High School has been educating young women since it was founded in 1893. We are a busy, friendly and energetic school with a distinctive family-oriented ethos, a positive culture and an ambition for success. We draw our students from a wide area including Walsall, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Sandwell and Staffordshire.

Our aim is to enable each student to achieve excellence in all aspects of their life. In order to achieve this, we seek to:

- Provide opportunities for each student to achieve the highest possible standards
 - Inspire a love of learning for its own sake
 - Foster self-esteem and sensitivity to the needs of others
 - Develop an appreciation of our cultural heritage
 - Equip each student to take a responsible place in society
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THE TRUST

The Mercian Trust's name is both rooted in history and indicative of a geographical identity and ambition.

It was in Mercia that St Chad established an association of small monasteries which fostered unity through bonds of kinship. The Trust intends, a thousand years later, to adopt the same spirit of kinship in our approach to a Multi-Academy Trust. The Trust recognises the unique history and achievements of constituent schools and academies that are part of the Mercian family.


The Mercian Trust is a unique multi academy trust based in Walsall and Sandwell with selective grammar schools, 11- 16 and 11-18 comprehensive schools, a Studio School and The Ladder school, an Alternative Provision Free School.

Together our mantra is 'Life to the full in pursuit of what is good, right and true'.

We define this as equipping students to:

- Fulfil their potential
- Thrive in the world of work (when they leave our schools and sixth forms)
- Make a positive contribution to their families and the local, national and international community.

The Mercian Trust is comprised of:

- Aldridge School
 - New Leaf School
 - Oakwood School
 - Queen Mary's Grammar School
 - **Queen Mary's High School**
 - Q3 Academy Great Barr
 - Q3 Academy Langley
 - Q3 Academy Tipton
 - Rushall Primary School
 - Shire Oak Academy
 - The Ladder School
 - Walsall Studio School
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HISTORY AT QMHS

The History Department is a hard-working, friendly and enthusiastic one which encourages mutual support and the sharing of skills, ideas and experience. The Department meet regularly to review, plan and share good practice. The Department aims to enable all students to become successful learners who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve their potential. We encourage students to become confident individuals and responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society.

History is successful and extremely popular option at both GCSE and A-Level. Attainment is high and consistently well above the national average at all levels. Students learn exceptionally well as a result of high-quality teaching and pupils' strong commitment to the subject. Effective and on-going self-evaluation, and associated intervention strategies, support the very good progress that pupils make across all key stages.

At KS3, our well-developed schemes of work take a broadly thematic approach. They include a diverse set of stories and voices, ranging from Civil Rights at Home and Abroad, the Vietnam War, to the Spanish Conquest of the Americas and the Holocaust. The schemes aim to challenge our brightest pupils and develop their historical skills. Students develop their understanding of their own identities through a study of history at a personal, local, national and international level. They find out about the history of their community, Britain, Europe and the World.

At KS3, classes are taught in mixed-ability groups of around 30 students. Pupils are enthusiastic, conscientious and committed to their studies and respond well to lessons which offer challenge, pace and tangible outcomes.

Students take part in an annual visit which is closely linked to their curriculum studies. At Quarry Bank Mill, the Imperial War Museum and the National Holocaust Centre, students enjoy interacting with the exhibits and artefacts. They also take part in 'hands-on' workshops run by specialists and historians.

At Key Stages 4, our four GCSE groups study the First World War, Germany 1890-1945, Elizabethan England and Power and the People 1170-present, following the AQA specification. This selection of units acts to inspire and challenge our students to achieve positive outcomes and develop into confident historians. At KS5 there is one class in each year group, following the AQA course with a focus on the Tudors 1485-1603 and the Cold War 1945-1991.

At Key Stage 4 and 5 students enjoy many different opportunities to develop their enthusiasm for, and understanding of, their studies. These range from interesting lectures by eminent historians and university professors to theatre shows and exam workshops. In addition to visits linked to the curriculum, all students have the opportunity to take part in the Department's extra-curricular trips such as our biannual Battlefields Tour. The visit is always a truly emotional experience providing pupils with a moving insight into the reality of warfare and the related ethical dilemmas.

THE ROLE: TEACHER OF HISTORY

As a Teacher of History, you will carry out duties in line with the conditions of employment as set out in the current School Teacher's Pay and Conditions document, and the Mercian Trust's policies and procedures.

Job Purpose

- To secure high quality teaching and learning, the effective use of resources and high standards of achievement for all the students directly taught;
- All teaching staff are expected to meet the requirements of the Teachers' Standards, these encapsulate the role of a teacher at Queen Mary's High School.

Teaching and Learning

- Having regard to the curriculum for the school, plan and teach challenging, well organised lessons and sequences of lessons, informed by secure subject knowledge;
- Planning and preparing stimulating and interesting courses and lessons for pupils across KS3 and 4;
- Teaching, according to their educational needs, the pupils assigned to her/him, including the setting and marking of work to be carried out by the pupils in school and elsewhere;
- A keenness to share in the Queen Marys' High School ethos which aims to support each student as they seek to fulfil their potential through academic excellence and personal development.

General

- Adhere to the policies of the school and The Mercian Trust, as published and amended from time to time, in particular, policies relating to the safeguarding of children.
- Work towards and support the school vision and the current school objectives outlined in the School Development Plan.
- Contribute to the school's programme of co-curricular activities.
- Work within the school's health and safety policy to ensure a safe working environment for staff, students and visitors.
- Work within The Mercian Trust's Diversity Policy to promote equality of opportunity for all students and staff, both current and prospective.
- Maintain high professional standards of attendance, punctuality, appearance, conduct and positive, courteous relations with students, parents and colleagues.

Review and Amendment

This job description should be seen as enabling rather than restrictive and will be subject to regular review. The Headteacher may ask you to undertake any additional responsibilities that may be deemed reasonable.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE	EVIDENCE
Honours Degree or Equivalent in an appropriate subject	✓		Application/ Certificate
QTS		✓	Application/ Certificate
Hold or be working towards a professional teaching qualification in secondary education	✓		Application/ Interview

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE	EVIDENCE
A well-qualified History graduate		✓	Application/ Interview
Ability to teach History to all year groups from Year 7 to 11, including GCSE plus A Level or equivalent level for the right candidate	✓		Application/ Interview
Form Tutor experience		✓	Application/ Interview
An awareness of the importance and role of the subject in contributing to the students' wider development	✓		Application/ Interview
Ability to use national and school data in target setting and monitoring		✓	Application/ Interview
Self-motivated hard worker	✓		Interview
Ability to seek and respond to advice positively	✓		Application/ Interview
Ability to work under pressure and to challenging deadlines	✓		Application/ Interview
Relates well to students, staff and parents	✓		Interview
Successful and innovative teacher	✓		Interview
Effective classroom manager	✓		Interview
Excellent written and oral communication skills	✓		Application/ Interview
Leadership potential		✓	Application/ Interview
Effective inter-personal skills	✓		Application/ Interview
Good organisational skills	✓		Application/ Interview
Ability to communicate effectively with parents, colleagues and pupils in a manner appropriate to each	✓		Application/ Interview
Clear sense of responsibility for their own professional development	✓		Application/ Interview

VALUES AND ATTRIBUTES	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE	EVIDENCE
Believe in an environment that encourages all staff and students to give of their best	✓		Interview/ reference
Commitment to safeguarding and promoting welfare of students	✓		Interview/ reference
Commitment to home school partnership	✓		Interview/ reference
Commitment to the School's role in the wider community	✓		Interview/ reference
Commitment to continuing professional development and collaboration	✓		Interview/ reference
Commitment to high standards of academic excellence and student behaviour	✓		Interview/ reference
Commitment to caring for the individual	✓		Interview/ reference



SAFEGUARDING AND SAFER RECRUITMENT

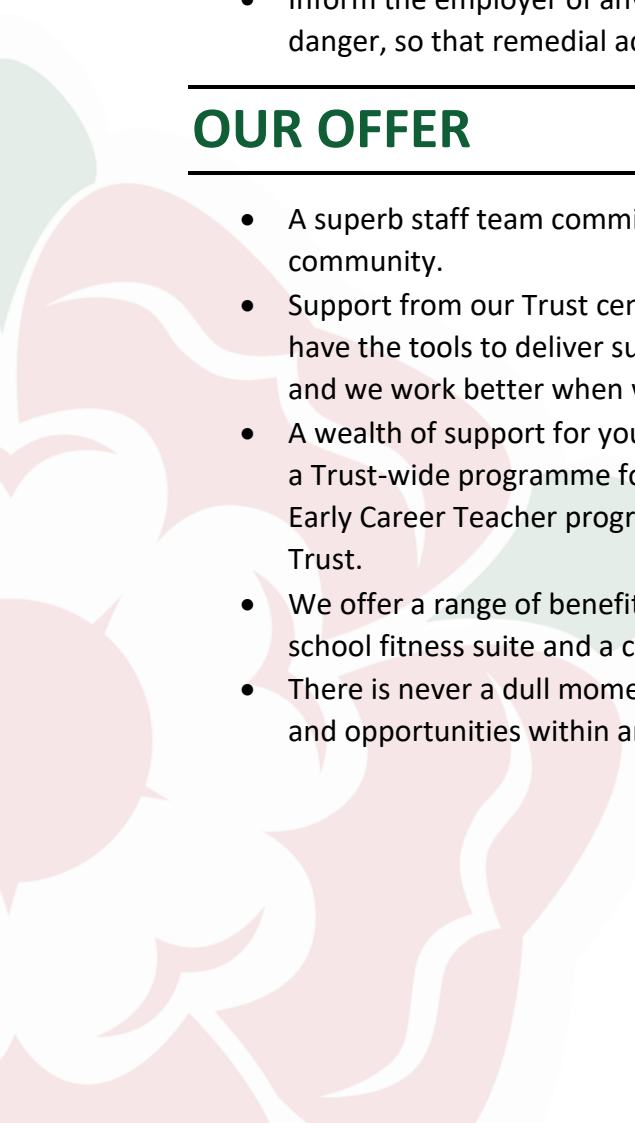
- Queen Mary's High School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people as required under the Education Act and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.
- You are required to:
 - Uphold the school's policy in respect of child protection and safeguarding matters.
 - Have commitment to the school's equality policy.
 - Ensure any extra-curricular activities will be free from partisan, political and religious view (where political issues are discussed, a balanced view is always presented).

HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Law requires employees to:

- Take reasonable care of their own health and safety and that of others who may be affected by what they do at work.
- Co-operate with their employers on health and safety matters.
- Carry out their work and duties in accordance with training and instructions.
- Inform the employer of any work situation representing a serious and immediate danger, so that remedial action can be taken.

OUR OFFER

- A superb staff team committed to doing their absolute best for all in our school community.
 - Support from our Trust central teams and other schools in our Trust to ensure you have the tools to deliver success (our schools are all located close to one another, and we work better when we are working together).
 - A wealth of support for your ongoing continuing professional development, including a Trust-wide programme for teachers at all career stages, including an exceptional Early Career Teacher programme drawing on expertise from across the Mercian Trust.
 - We offer a range of benefits to support our staff wellbeing including access to the school fitness suite and a cycle to work scheme.
 - There is never a dull moment; we never stand still, every day offers new challenges and opportunities within an ambitious, forward-thinking team.
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KEY INFORMATION – HOW TO APPLY

Post	Teacher of History (Maternity Cover)
Responsible to	Subject Leader of History
Contract and Salary	This is a full-time, fixed-term position working Monday to Friday from 1 st September 2026 to 31 st October 2027. MPS / UPS as appropriate
Closing Date	12pm, Monday 1 st June 2026
Interview Date	Monday 8 th June 2026
Start Date	1 st September 2026
End Date	31 st October 2027
How to apply	<p>Complete the Mercian Trust online application form and include a supporting statement / document no longer than 2 sides of A4 outlining:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How your recent and relevant experience and expertise match the requirements of the role.• How the impact you have had in your career / initial teacher training to date is an appropriate foundation for you to undertake this role. <p>Please note, your ability to communicate a wide range of information with appropriate examples and evidence clearly and concisely in your supporting statement will be assessed as part of the shortlisting process.</p> <p>For any other enquiries relating to this role, please contact Miss Tomkinson, PA to the Headteacher, via m.tomkinson@qmhs.merciantrust.org.uk</p>

