



Teacher of English – King's Ely Prep *September 2026*



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A message from the Principal of King's Ely

Welcome, and thank you for your interest in coming to work at King's. I hope that what you read here will excite you and chime well with your ambitions so that you will want to apply for this position.

King's Ely is an extraordinary place to work: a family of schools educating around 1350 boys and girls aged 2-18 in our Nursery and Pre-Preparatory, Prep and Senior Schools in Ely in Cambridgeshire, and up to age 11 at Fairstead House School in Newmarket. Most of our pupils come from Ely, Cambridge and surrounding areas, while about 200 pupils are boarders from all over the world. King's employs about 540 people in diverse roles from teaching and pastoral care to administration, finance, IT, site services and maintenance and catering.

We often talk about 4 'P's which make King's special: our fundamental **purpose**, unchanged in over 1000 years, in providing the best education and foundation for life we can for the children in our care; our **practice**, ensuring the very highest standards of professionalism and excellence in every area of school life and our commitment to everyone's wellbeing, development and training to achieve this; as an exceptional **place** to grow up and work in with our beautiful 75-acre campus adjacent to Ely Cathedral and the wonderful historical, environmental, spiritual and technological resources available to us; and most of all our **people**, the outstanding and diverse community of pupils, staff and supporters whose commitment, experience and skills are the root of our success.

We welcome all types to join this wonderful mix, and I thank you in advance for the time and thought which I know goes into preparing each application; we really appreciate it and give every application the careful consideration it deserves. I look forward to hearing from you and, I hope, meeting you in due course.

With best wishes,
John Attwater

About the School

Purpose, Ethos and Values

King's Ely exists to make the most and best of childhood, and in particular to give the very best education, opportunities and pastoral care to as diverse a community of children as we can. In doing so we aim to prepare each one to live positive, productive, successful and fulfilled lives, for the betterment of themselves and the world around them. We achieve this through the operation of a family of schools centred around a 2-19 co-educational day and boarding school in Ely, aiming to draw fully on our exceptional environment, history, physical, cultural, spiritual and human resources in doing so.

History

King's Ely can trace its origins from at least 970AD, making it one of the oldest schools in Europe. The School was first established to educate the choristers of the worshipping community of Ely and throughout our history we have maintained strong links with Ely Cathedral.

In 1541, King Henry VIII founded a College of Canons at Ely Cathedral to replace the monks whose monastery has been dissolved in 1539 and the School received its Royal Charter, later becoming known as "The King's School".

King's Ely Today

In recent years King's has expanded rapidly, becoming co-educational in 1970, and today educating around 1100 children aged 2-18 at Ely, including 185 boarders.

The school is divided into three sections: King's Ely Senior (age 13-18) and King's Ely Prep (age 7-13), which occupy adjacent campuses and benefit from shared facilities, and King's Ely Acremont and Nursery (ages 2-6) which have their own self-contained campus about 400m from the main site. Additionally, Fairstead House School in Newmarket (for pupils aged 1-11) joined the King's Ely family of schools in 2022.

The main campus extends to around 75 acres and contains buildings spanning the thirteenth to twenty-first centuries, including many of the historic monastic buildings adjacent to Ely Cathedral as well as more recent, purpose-built facilities and almost 40 acres of playing fields.

King's Ely plays a key role in the local community. We are one of Ely's largest employers and contribute greatly to the local economy, and we also continue to educate the choristers of Ely Cathedral. King's Ely also offers a number of bursaries to enable pupils from all walks of life to benefit from the education it offers.

In its recent ISI Inspection (March 2025), King's Ely was found to meet or to exceed all regulatory standards. In addition, the Inspectors judged the School to have a *significant strength* in the way in which its high quality pastoral care is interwoven with a dynamic enrichment programme. This enables "pupils of all ages to develop their independence, intellectual curiosity, creativity and socialization particularly well".

The School is rightfully proud of the Inspection. It is testament to the community spirit of King's Ely and the commitment and respect shown each day by pupils, staff and their families.

King's Ely is affiliated with the HMC, Society of Heads, IAPS, the Boarding Schools' Association and the Choir Schools' Association.

The English Department

We are searching for a fully qualified and highly skilled specialist English teacher to teach Key Stage 3 English at King's Ely, initially in Years 7 and 8, with the possibility of some Year 6 teaching in addition.

King's Ely has a thriving English department with the equivalent of six members of staff teaching across the Prep School (Years 3-8). All teachers in the department work closely to promote a love of English and reading throughout the school. It is a happy and co-operative department: we run theatre trips, poetry readings, writing competitions, reading groups and generally promote literacy and literature across all sections of the school.

Students are put into ability-based sets from Year 4 onwards. This continues in the Senior school for years 9-11, while A Level is taught in mixed ability groups. Some of our sets, especially sets 5 & 6, contain ESOL students. Teachers in the English Department are committed to fostering a love of reading and literature; we believe strongly in the centrality of reading to developing students' facility in all subjects.



About the Role

We are seeking to appoint a Specialist Teacher of English to work within the Prep School.



- Excellent, dynamic and creative teaching, with a high level of subject knowledge and skills;
- Determination to enhance, deliver and promote the teaching of English;
- Setting high expectation of pupils, both in academic achievement and behaviour;
- Commitment to continuous improvement and innovation, which leads to the teaching of challenging and differentiated lessons;
- Producing high quality preparation and delivery of lessons to stimulate and encourage students' learning;
- Setting and marking prep (homework) in line with school policies;
- Undertaking regular reviews of students' academic progress and acknowledging student success;
- Keeping comprehensive records of student achievement and progression;
- Setting targets to improve the quality of learning and complete regular reports for students;
- Establishing strong and positive professional relationships with staff, students and parents;
- Liaising with pupils and parents at Parents' Evenings throughout the school year;
- Provide stimulating extra-curricular clubs/activities and learning opportunities, including trips, when required.



Person Specification

Qualifications	
A good honours degree preferably in English	<i>Essential</i>
Recognised teaching qualification, such as a PGCE, or equivalent experience	<i>Desirable</i>
Experience, Knowledge, and Skills	
Thorough knowledge of the English subject curriculum at Key Stage 3, and GCSE levels	<i>Essential</i>
Ability to teach KS3 English and an ability to motivate, enthuse and influence with strong interpersonal skills.	<i>Essential</i>
Ability to teach KS2 English	<i>Desirable</i>
A secondary subject specialism	<i>Desirable</i>
Awareness of Safeguarding requirements and good practice within a day and boarding school setting	<i>Desirable</i>
Experience of teaching pupils for whom English is a second language	<i>Desirable</i>
Personal and Professional Qualities	
A passion for English Language and English Literature and for teaching	<i>Essential</i>
Excellent and effective classroom management skills, delivering inspirational lessons	<i>Essential</i>
Dynamic and creative approach to teaching	<i>Essential</i>
A sense of fun and a willingness to share ideas and inspire young people.	<i>Essential</i>
Excellent communication skills to enable effective dialogue with pupils, parents, staff and visitors	<i>Essential</i>
Organised and self-motivated, with a proven record for meeting targets and deadlines and a commitment to driving up standards	<i>Essential</i>
An ability to work in a fast-moving environment	<i>Essential</i>
Dedicated team-player, who strives for excellence.	<i>Essential</i>
A willingness to participate fully in pastoral care, school duties and extra-curricular activities	<i>Essential</i>
Enthusiasm to develop self and subject area	<i>Desirable</i>
High level of IT literacy	<i>Desirable</i>

Teaching at King's Ely

King's Ely is committed to rewarding our employees who share our passion, vision, and values, and to investing in their wellbeing and continuous professional development.

King's Ely has its own, generous salary scale. The salary for the role will be commensurate with experience and will recognise the responsibility this post entails.

Almost all teachers benefit from their own dedicated & well-resourced classroom.

In addition to the above, teachers at King's Ely benefit from:

- Generous fee-remission, subject to availability of places and successful admissions procedures. Staff currently enjoy a discretionary discount on fees for children in Reception year onwards, details of which will be provided upon request.
- The School operates a defined contribution scheme for teaching staff, with an employer contribution of up to 22.5%. This scheme is the Aviva Pension Trust for Independent Schools (APTIS) scheme. Further details about defined contribution scheme are available from the School's Chief Financial Officer.
- The school offers a private healthcare insurance scheme, which staff may opt to join shortly after the start of each academic year (the policy year starts on 1 November each year). The scheme can only be joined at the start of the policy year, not part-way through the year. P11D/BIK applicable.
- Use of school gym facilities and use of the swimming pool at specific times (during summer school holidays – small fee applies).
- Access to Salary Sacrifice Schemes such as: Cycle2Work, Home and Tech Scheme, and Local Gym Membership
- Limited free on-site car parking
- School lunch provided when at work over lunch time and tea and coffee throughout the day.
- Access to an Employee Assistance Programme, available to the employee and their dependents.
- Discounts at local businesses including Poets House, A Little Something Ely, The Almonry Tearooms, Ely Grazing Company, Sushi and Salad, Griddle Bar and Meathouse, and The Pantry (Newmarket).

Information for Candidates

Applications should be made via My New Term, you can do this by clicking the 'Apply Now' button at the top of the advert. The final closing date for applications will be **noon on 25th February 2026**.

Where Applicants have been successful in the shortlisting process they will be contacted for interview. Interviews will take place shortly afterwards.

We reserve the right to invite candidates for interview prior to the closing date. Therefore, we encourage interested applicants to submit an application as soon as possible.

If you are selected for interview, you will need to provide proof of identity, birth certificate, documentation confirming your NI number or your right to work in the UK and certification of qualifications.

Shortlisted Applicants should be aware that references will be requested as part of the interview process.

King's Ely is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure & Barring Service.

Thank you for completing your application and your interest in King's Ely.



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www.kingsely.org