



St Mary's School

Gerrards Cross



Application Pack

Job Role: PERI Dance Teacher – 1 Day per Week

Start Date: ASAP

Closing Date: Friday 2nd January 2026

Interview Date: Wednesday 14th January 2026



Welcome from Head

St Mary's is a truly special place to work — from the moment you step through our doors, you experience the warmth of the community and the clear sense that each individual student is at the heart of all that we do. Every member of staff plays a vital role in helping our girls flourish and achieve her dreams and ambitions.

Our motto, *Embrace – Empower – Excel*, reflects not only our approach to educating girls, but also the professional culture we foster. We value individuality, encourage ambition, and create space for both students and staff to grow and excel.

Working at St Mary's means joining a team where collaboration, kindness, and high expectations go hand in hand. We offer opportunities for professional development, leadership and innovation, and we welcome applications from those who are excited to contribute to the life of a forward-thinking, dynamic school.

If you are looking to make a meaningful impact in a school that is dedicated to developing our girls and young women, then we want to hear from you.

Lars Fox, Head

About St Mary's School



St Mary's is an independent day school for girls aged 3-18 in the heart of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire.

Founded in Paddington in 1872, the school moved to its present site in 1942. Class sizes average 16-18 and academic outcomes are excellent.

St Mary's School is a warm friendly community where parents, staff, students, and governors work together to ensure that every student exceeds her potential whilst having the time of her life, making memories, and building skills to equip her to be successful through her future years.

Our students leave with the resilience to take on the next challenge, the ambition to follow their dreams and the confidence in themselves to go from success to success in their future careers. Through the pastoral and classroom support she has received at St Mary's, she knows her worth, who she is as an individual, and what she wants to go on to do.

Well-being and happiness of staff and students alike is at the heart of our success – a happy school is a successful school!

Joining St Mary's staff community, you would be welcomed into a supportive, close-knit community who can regularly be found spending lunch times in the Senior or Prep staff room, enjoying social time outside of school, competing in the teacher's relay, performing in the school orchestra or at an open mic event, and can even be caught on a space hopper on the lawn on the last day of term!





St Mary's School Values

St Mary's is committed to providing an excellent education in a caring, happy environment, where each girl develops self-confidence and exceeds her potential.

Staff and students, alike, are encouraged to find their own SMS Spirit by exploring our huge range of Co-Curricular activities to try new skills and meet new people, explore different learning or teaching techniques in small classes and make friends from Nursery right through to Sixth Form through our House System and whole school opportunities that brings.

Staff are supported in their roles through Department Heads, and SLT links, with wellbeing at the heart of staff satisfaction and the positive morale which we pride ourselves on. A comprehensive CPD programme allows for staff members to grow personally and professionally and broaden their skills in their specialist areas finding their very own SMS Spirit in their own individual ways.

Our whole school community operates under our Take Care acronym which ensures each individual reaches his or her potential in a supportive and challenging environment.



T – Team Work – we work together to ensure we achieve the best outcomes for our students, pastorally and academically, and that as a staff community we work in a supportive, collaborative caring team who have each other's backs.

A – Ambition – we go above and beyond in everything we do. We look for the WOW factor at every opportunity.

K – Kindness – through our ethos runs the theme of kindness. Everything our staff and students do should consider kindness first.

E – Enthusiasm – staff and students alike bring the energy and desire to succeed.

C – Curiosity – we always ask why.

A – Adventure – work should be exciting, satisfying and thrilling – we are spending time doing what we feel passionately about.

R – Resilience – we carry on in the face of challenge, and come out stronger and wiser.

E – Excellence – aim for the highest quality in all that we do.



Why Work at St Mary's?

- Competitive Salary
- Support staff pension scheme
- Fee Remission at St Mary's
- Subsidised staff socials
- Annual pay review



- Hot daily meal
- Use of fitness suite
- On-site parking if available
- Free annual flu vaccine
- Electric Car purchase Scheme
- Cycle to work Scheme

- Full staff induction in Term 1
- Staff buddy system
- Full training and development program
- Equal opportunities for all
- Well-being committee to share ideas



All staff share responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of our pupils and must adhere to, and comply with, the school's safeguarding and Child Protection Policy at all times.



The Role – PERI Dance Teacher

St Mary's School is seeking to recruit a skilled and enthusiastic Peripatetic Dance Teacher to deliver high-quality dance tuition to pupils across Key Stages 3 to 5 including preparing and entering students for graded dance examinations (e.g., RAD, ISTD, IDTA, iPATH or equivalent), where appropriate.

Applications are invited from enthusiastic dance teachers who have a passion for teaching children of all ages. Dance is a growing subject at the school and is also taught within the curriculum at GCSE. The successful candidate will provide individual and small group lessons in a range of dance styles, with the ability to prepare students for graded examinations being highly desirable. The role may also involve supporting the school's wider performing arts provision, including choreography, performance preparation, and contributing to extra-curricular clubs, rehearsals, and productions.

There is a biennial Gym and Dance Show and the peripatetic teacher will also be responsible for preparing some choreography for this show with the students they teach. The successful applicant will initially teach approximately one day per week on a Friday.

The post holder will be directly responsible to the Teacher in Charge of Dance.





Main Duties

- Carry out teaching duties in line with the professional standards of the school and the teaching profession;
- Prepare and enter students for graded dance examinations (e.g., RAD, ISTD, IDTA, iPATH or equivalent), where appropriate;
- Be committed to the safeguarding and promoting of students' welfare;
- Read and adhere to the policies of the school as expressed, for instance, in its handbook with regard to induction, health and safety, staff conduct, equality and child protection;
- Take responsibility for own professional development including subject specific inset days and participate in staff training when provided by the school;
- Deliver engaging and progressive dance lessons to pupils of varying ages and abilities;
- Liaise with parents, as required;
- Support and contribute to school performances, showcases, and extracurricular dance activities;
- Promote a positive and inclusive learning environment that inspires confidence, creativity, and discipline;
- Take account of students' prior level of achievement and use this to set targets for future attainment;
- Uphold and maintain effective systems of communication regarding student progress and discipline;
- Set high expectations for student behaviour by establishing a purposeful working atmosphere in lessons;
- Set appropriate and demanding expectations for student learning, motivation and presentation of work;
- Complete high quality, formal reports to parents in line with policy and as specified in the published school's calendar;



Candidate Specification

Qualifications	Recognised teaching qualification in dance (e.g., RAD, ISTD, IDTA or equivalent) is desirable.
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Knowledge and Skills	Experience of preparing pupils for graded examinations.
	Strong background in Contemporary and at least one other dance style.
	Strong communication and organisational skills.
	Enthusiasm for working with young people and a commitment to supporting their artistic and personal development.
	Flexibility to contribute to rehearsals, performances, and extra-curricular opportunities as required.

Attributes	An interest and commitment to work with young people in a school environment.
	Ability to build rapport with adults and young people.
	Ability to work effectively and constructively as part of a team, supporting others.
	Ability to work independently, use own initiative and be proactive.
	Flexibility to contribute to rehearsals, performances, and extra-curricular opportunities as required.
	Ability to deliver to given timelines and target deadline.
	Ability to adapt quickly and effectively to changing circumstances/situations.
	Committed to personal and professional development.
	A willingness to work flexibly and assist others when requested.



Safeguarding

St Mary's School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in its recruitment and selection of job applicants. The school expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment and be willing to undergo checks with the Disclosure and Barring Service.



How to Apply

Please complete an application form which can be obtained from the HR Administrator at hadmin@stmarysgx.co.uk or from our website www.stmarysschool.co.uk

Early applications are advised as the school reserves the right to appoint at any stage during the application process. Completed application forms and cover letters must be addressed to the Head and emailed to applications@stmarysgx.co.uk

Interviews will take approximately three hours and will be held at the school. As part of the process, you will be given a tour of the school and attend a panel interview. You will also be asked to provide documentation confirming your identity and qualifications and a search of an online social media presence may also be conducted as part of due diligence checks.

There is no need to visit St Mary's before applying, as the school website contains plenty of information, photos and all the school's policies. All applications will be acknowledged and interview dates are provided below. References will be requested for all those invited to interview.

Closing date for applications: 2nd January 2026

Interview date: Wednesday 14th January 2026

Hours: One day per week. Must be available to work on a Friday.