

JOB TITLE: **TEACHER OF ART**

## REIGATE GRAMMAR SCHOOL INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Role commences: **September 2026**

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## REIGATE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Alderman Henry Smith founded Reigate Grammar School in 1675. For over 345 years, young people have been educated on the same site, in the heart of Reigate, an historic market town in the east of Surrey at the foothills of the North Downs in an area of outstanding natural beauty.

RGS is a leading HMC independent co-educational day school. It is a highly successful, happy and exciting school, which aims to provide a broad and balanced education to boys and girls that will prepare them for the modern world. The school song, *To Be a Pilgrim*, reminds our students that they are on a journey of noble purpose, to have an impact and to make the world a better place. We aim to educate the whole child and offer a broad range of experiences for all. We are an inclusive school and, built upon the vision of our founder, are committed to social mobility and the provision of bursaries through wider access and a supportive Reigatian community.

### “Happy Kids Great Results” Good Schools Guide 2019

Reigate Grammar School caters for over 1050 students aged 11 to 18. Another 600 students are educated at Reigate St Mary's Preparatory and Choir School and Chinthurst School, RGS's junior and nursery schools – both recently shortlisted for UK Independent Prep School of the Year. RGS offers the very best academic education with equal prominence placed on the arts, sport and a rich extra-curricular programme. RGS has a distinctive educational philosophy and a strong ethos of pastoral care underpinning a well-rounded education. The House system has some clearly defined aims: for everyone to feel part of a team; to allow leadership to be nurtured; talent to shine; confidence to surge; teamwork to flourish; and competitive spirit to develop. In the school's academic culture of intellectual freedom, the structure of the curriculum means that students receive a strong grounding in core subjects but can elect to pursue any area of interest. In the elective curriculum, one student may learn to trade stocks while another deepens their understanding of French literature. It is a challenging and balanced education, equipping students for the opportunities and demands of their future lives and allowing them to explore their personal passions.

The first line of the school's most recent ISI report asserts that 'the quality of the students' achievements and learning is exceptional': the first co-ed day school to achieve this rare accolade. RGS' approach to teaching and learning melds expert teaching knowledge with a modern, innovative approach to pedagogy with a judicious use of technology. Inspirational and personalised teaching and learning is at the centre of the vision and requires expert teachers. The school is one of a small number of world-class schools to have been a global pioneer in High Performance Learning, focusing on the development of global citizens, advanced performers and enterprising learners.

Outcomes at RGS are world-class, with 90% of GCSE entries graded 9–7 in 2025. A Level results remain outstanding, with 95% of entries awarded A\*–B. This year, 98% of applicants received offers from top universities, including Oxbridge, Russell Group institutions, and leading medical schools.

Reigate Grammar School has been named The Sunday Times' Independent Secondary School of the Year 2025, following on from being awarded Independent School of the Year 2024 by Education Today. We are also featured in the Tatler School Guide 2025 as one of the top schools in the UK, and were again recognised in the Sunday Times Parent Power league tables as the best co-educational day school in the Southeast.

In addition to academic success, our broader educational impact has been widely acknowledged. In 2025 alone, we were finalists in national awards for Mind & Mental Health, Charitable Work, Diversity, Equality, Inclusion & Justice, and Headteacher of the Year. We were also shortlisted for Independent School of the Year by the TES School Awards 2025.

In 2024, we were proud winners of the Private Education Award for Most Nurturing School, and finalists for Contribution to Social Mobility, Best Learning Support, and Innovation in Education.

Shaun Fenton, Headmaster, recognised as one of the UK's outstanding educational leaders, was elected Chairman of HMC in 2018–2019 and was awarded an OBE by Her Majesty the Queen for Services to Education.





## ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY

The Art and Photography department at Reigate Grammar School has a strong reputation for the quality of its work and for the broad range of disciplines it offers; painting and drawing, printmaking, 3D, photography and textiles. The department believes in the notion of independent learning. The students at RGS explore new possibilities, push their ideas forward and take risks within a safe, supportive and positive environment.

The department benefits from purpose-built accommodation, which consists of four main studio areas, a darkroom and photographic studio. Students' work is displayed around the school, all corridors and the Wright Gallery. Opportunities are often taken up to exhibit work outside school, for example at locally organised exhibitions or competitions. There is an annual Art exhibition where students from all year groups exhibit their work. This a wonderful celebration of all RGS students' achievements in Art, not just the exam groups.

There are currently six colleagues teaching in the department on a full-time or part-time basis with two part-time technicians.

In the Lower School, Years 7 and 8 (Key Stage 3), pupils experience a broad range of materials, techniques and processes and schemes of work are inspired by a variety of artists and movements. Groups are taught by one teacher in each academic year, who enables students to develop skills and build a strong foundation and knowledge of Art.

After this foundation period, students may choose to continue with their studies in Art & Design (Fine Art) or Photography at GCSE level and subsequently at A Level, with the additional option of Textiles A level. The department follows the Eduqas exam board for Art & Design specifications for both GCSE and A Level.

Approximately 40 students per year (around one third of the year group) opt for Art & Design (Fine Art) GCSE and approximately 20 choose the GCSE Photography endorsement. The GCSE is run as a linear course and groups stay with one teacher throughout. Over the GCSE period students are given briefs designed by the department to which to respond and are encouraged to develop their own artist voice. Up to fifteen students go on each year to take Art and we have small groups in Photography and Textiles at A Level, and the department consistently achieves outstanding results.

Clubs and after school activities are an intrinsic part of the departments' wider contribution to school life. These range from life drawing classes for Sixth Form students to the lunchtime and afterschool art clubs for all year groups. We see this as an open house policy with a variety of students working alongside each other whether on coursework or just trying something new.

Health and Safety is an integral and important part of the daily functioning of the department, and all staff are actively involved in maintaining high standards in their studio practise and in following departmental policy. Risk assessment is a shared responsibility for all departmental staff.





## THE POST

We are seeking a highly motivated, inspirational teacher to teach Art to a range of year groups. The ability to teach Photography, alongside other endorsements such as Textiles, is highly desirable.

The successful candidate will hold a relevant degree from a good university and be able to demonstrate a high level of subject expertise, the highest academic standards and the ability to enthuse students of all ages. He or she must be comfortable with both the academic and the practical demands of the post. A teaching qualification and experience of the UK education system are desirable, and candidates should be able to demonstrate sympathy with the ethos of independent education. The post would suit an early careers teacher or a more experienced teacher where there could be an opportunity for the right candidate to assist in the leadership of the department. Full induction is provided.

The successful candidate will teach highly motivated, curious and enthusiastic students who value creativity and respond positively to both intellectual and practical challenge. Art is a popular and well-regarded subject at Reigate Grammar School, with students who enjoy exploring ideas visually, developing technical skills, and engaging thoughtfully with artistic processes, contexts and concepts.

RGS students are ambitious but grounded, and benefit from teachers who combine high artistic and academic standards with warmth, encouragement and high expectations, enabling pupils to take creative risks, refine their work and develop confidence as young artists.

### PERSON SPECIFICATION

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate:

- A passion for Art, Photography and/or Textiles, with the ability to inspire creativity, curiosity, independence and a willingness to experiment
- High standards of teaching and learning, underpinned by a reflective and thoughtful approach to classroom and studio practice
- The ability to plan and deliver well-structured, engaging lessons that balance creative freedom with technical rigour and support students of differing abilities
- Confidence in supporting students through practical, coursework-based and analytical elements of the subject, as appropriate to age and qualification
- Strong communication skills and the ability to build positive, professional relationships with pupils, colleagues and parents
- A willingness to contribute to enrichment within the department e.g. exhibitions, trips and workshops

All staff are actively involved in the co-curricular life of the school, and we encourage staff to share their passions with our pupils. Applications are especially welcome from staff who can support with one of our key areas: Outdoor Education (including DofE, CCF and Adventure Sports), Sports, or MUN, Public Speaking and Debating. We also welcome applications showing a commitment to lead and contribute to other specific areas of our extensive co-curricular programme, or to introduce new activities.



## FURTHER INFORMATION

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Reigate Grammar School has its own salary scale which is substantially above the national scales.
- All teaching staff are automatically members of the pension scheme run by the Teachers' Pensions Agency which is transferable between all UK schools.
- Children of teaching staff may be educated at Reigate Grammar School, Reigate St Mary's Preparatory and Choir School, Chinthurst School or Micklefield School at substantially reduced rates. Candidates are invited to enquire about this at interview.
- Lunch is provided free of charge during term time.
- All staff have access to the school swimming pool and fitness room at designated times, free of charge.
- Successful applicants will be required to make an enhanced disclosure by the Disclosure and Barring Services and to complete an online Pre-Placement Medical Questionnaire.
- All shortlisted candidates will be required to complete a 'Suitability to work with children: self-declaration form'. This form must be completed, signed and returned to HR prior to the interview taking place.

### SAFEGUARDING

This role will involve contact with children. Reigate Grammar School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. All applicants should read the school's safeguarding policy (available on our website) and are required to declare any criminal convictions, cautions or disciplinary proceedings related to young people. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Services. Full details are given on the application form.

### EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Reigate Grammar School is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from appropriately qualified persons from all backgrounds. We are dedicated to creating

and sustaining an environment that values individuality and difference and celebrates the diversity of both staff and pupils by fostering perseverance, tolerance and integrity. We believe in equal opportunity for everyone, irrespective of age, disability, gender, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation or socio-economic background. Candidates will be assessed against relevant criteria only (i.e. skills, qualifications, abilities, experience) in selection and recruitment. We know that more diverse teams are stronger teams, and that the more inclusive we are, the more our staff and pupils will feel a sense of belonging and will thrive.

### APPLICATIONS

Applicants are asked to complete the Teaching Application Form and Supplementary Form (which are also available on our website) and send them with a supporting statement addressed to the Headmaster as soon as possible and by **Friday 13 March 2026, 9.00am at the latest**. Please do not send a separate curriculum vitae. Applications will be considered in the order in which they are received, and the school reserves the right to make an appointment prior to the closing date. Shortlisted candidates will be invited for interview.

Within your application letter we would be grateful if you could indicate where you saw this position, whether it was from the TES or another source.

Applications should be addressed to The Headmaster and sent (by letter or by email) to the address below.

Mrs Dawn Holmes  
Head of Human Resources  
Reigate Grammar School  
Reigate Road, Reigate, RH2 0QS

01737 222231

[hr@reigategrammar.org](mailto:hr@reigategrammar.org) | [reigategrammar.org](https://www.reigategrammar.org)

The post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and the School is therefore permitted to ask job applicants to declare all convictions and cautions (including those which are "spent" unless they are "protected" under the DBS filtering rules) in order to assess their suitability to work with children.



## SCHOOL LOCATION AND DIRECTIONS

The RGS campus is on its original 1675 site in the historic market town of Reigate within an area of outstanding natural beauty. Adjacent to junction 8 of the M25, the school is also easily accessible from central London by train.

The school benefits from excellent facilities, including:

- A new £8m Sixth Form and Learning Resource Centre at the heart of the campus
- Drama studios and Music school
- Swimming pool
- 32 acres of sports ground with two floodlit all-weather hockey pitches, rugby, cricket and football pitches

The school is currently within the planning phase for the construction and development of a state-of-the-art sports centre on the town centre campus.

### DIRECTIONS:

#### By Road

Reigate Grammar School and Reigate St Mary's Preparatory and Choir School are situated on the south side of the A25 about a quarter of a mile east of Reigate town centre, between Reigate and Redhill.

RGS postcode                   RH2 0QS  
RSM postcode                   RH2 7RN

#### By rail

The school is approximately ten minutes' walk from Reigate station which is well served by direct trains from London Victoria, East Croydon, Guildford and Dorking. Frequent connections to Redhill station (about one mile away) allow access to Crawley, Horsham and towns to the south along with Nutfield, Godstone and Tonbridge to the east.

### WHAT3WORDS

**Main Reception:** cabin.fire.brave

