

Position of
**HEAD OF MODERN
FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

Yarm School,
North Yorkshire



YARM SCHOOL

EDUCATING FOR LIFE

Co-educational | Day School | Ages 3-18 | HMC



WWW.YARMSCHOOL.ORG



HEAD OF MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Applications are invited for the post of Head of Modern Foreign Languages from September 2022. The successful candidate will also assume the Head of French position as well as the overarching responsibility for the Modern Foreign Languages Faculty. We anticipate that the appointed candidate would want to review and develop the existing whole model for teaching modern foreign languages at KS3/4.

If you have any further queries about the role, please raise them in the first instance with the Deputy Head (Academic), Mr Darren Morton (dkm@yarmschool.org)

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES AT YARM

The Modern Foreign Languages Faculty currently consists of six full-time and four part-time teachers. As part of the school's redevelopment, the Modern Languages Faculty relocated into five new purpose-built language teaching rooms, each with state of the art audio-visual facilities. The rooms are adjacent to the river and each has a stunning

view over beautiful countryside.

All pupils study French as their core language to GCSE level and many also opt for German from Second Year (Year 8) and/or Spanish from Third Year (Year 9). A significant number of our most able linguists therefore study two - or even three - languages to GCSE. We use the Edexcel IGCSE specification and Edexcel at A level. In summer 2019, the last year where examinations took place as normal, over a quarter of all GCSE language entries achieved a coveted grade 9 – well above the national average – and just under half of all GCSE language grades were 9/8. The department employs Language Assistants who work closely with classes in Fifth Year (Year 11) and Sixth Form. In the Sixth Form, there will typically be one German, one Spanish and one or two French sets through to A level. In the last year where examinations took place as normal, 50% of all A level language grades were A*/A. Every year, pupils go on from Yarm School to continue their study of languages at university and the department has a strong record of success with Oxbridge applicants: indeed, there have been five successful Oxbridge linguists in the last six years.

Every member of the department is fully committed to the wide range of extra-curricular activities we consider to

be an integral and essential part of learning a language. In normal times, each year we run language and culture trips for pupils from Third (Year 9) to Upper Sixth Years to France, Germany and Spain. Every two years, fifty or so pupils in First and Second Year (Years 7 and 8) go on a four-day Christmas market visit to Aachen and Cologne in Germany. There is an annual language & culture trip to Spain that has enabled pupils to experience Barcelona, Madrid, Valencia and Sevilla. Beyond the classroom, learning is supported through cultural visits (for example, to Tyneside Cinema study days and Linguacast Days at Newcastle University). Other extra-curricular activities offered over the last few years have included Russian and Italian, theatre visits, study days, debating competitions, an evening of European culture and a production Sartre's *Huis Clos* (in French).

THE CANDIDATE

We seek to appoint a well-qualified full-time Head of Modern Foreign Languages who can teach across the full 11-18 age range. The successful candidate will offer French and at least one other language from Spanish/German, and it is expected that they would also become the Head of French. At a wider faculty level, as the Head of Modern Foreign Languages, the candidate appointed will work closely with the Head of German and the Head of Spanish to ensure the alignment and strategic development of the school's languages provision.

Applications are invited from suitably experienced and dynamic languages teachers with the vision, energy and skills to make an excellent Head of Modern Foreign Languages. The successful candidate will be joining a highly regarded, mutually supportive languages faculty. They should be an inspirational teacher and must be exemplary in carrying out their professional responsibilities. They will want to work collaboratively in ensuring that pupils have an engaging experience learning languages, provoking intellectual curiosity and developing academic rigour. Aside from a passion for teaching languages, applicants should be keen to contribute to the broader life of the school through cultural, sporting or other extra-curricular activities.

THE SCHOOL

Yarm School was founded in 1978. Growing quickly since that time, it is now firmly established amongst the country's leading co-educational day schools, with a superb academic reputation as well as a firm commitment to extra-curricular activities and trips. In addition to the Senior School, there is a Preparatory School, and a Pre-Prep which includes a Nursery. In total, there are over 1,100 pupils between the ages of 3 and 18.

There is an impressive array of facilities and accommodation at the Senior School, including a large classroom wing on the banks of the Tees which enjoys beautiful views, a dance studio, extensive sport and drama facilities, underground changing rooms and a bar serving the award-winning Princess Alexandra Auditorium.

The Pre-Prep and Preparatory Schools have their own self-contained accommodation on a safe and equally delightful site. The Pre-Prep is housed in a modern purpose-built development, whilst the Preparatory School is located on the site of the original Yarm Grammar School founded in 1590.

The School has ample outdoor space, sporting facilities, a boat house and friendly communal areas. A timber yurt provides space for the outdoor education and eco school curriculum.

LOCATION

Yarm is a beautiful market town on the edge of the Teesside conurbation which enjoys easy access to both town and countryside, including the nearby North York Moors, Yorkshire Dales and stunning coastline. Opportunities for outdoor pursuits and exploration of all kinds are many and varied. Similarly, the cities of Newcastle, York and Leeds are within close range and provide much in the way of arts and culture. With superb rail network links in the town itself and nearby, London is also only 2.5 hours away by direct train.

The school is very much a part of the town, with pupils, staff and parents enjoying all that the buzzing High Street has to offer by means of shops and cafes.



ETHOS

Yarm has a strong commitment to educating the whole child – ‘educating for life’. We offer an extensive range of extra-curricular opportunities, both within and outside lessons, which help to foster inter-personal skills, confidence and build relationships. A Yarm education is about far more than just academic achievement.

Each pupil is strongly encouraged to take part in extra-curricular activities. There is a huge range of clubs and societies which meet either during the two timetabled Activity lessons, at lunch-time or after school on a regular basis. Over 50 activities take place each week, as diverse as canoeing and chess, community action and gardening.

Sport plays an important role in the life of the school, not just through the generous time provision for PE and Games lessons, but through the many opportunities to represent school teams in a diverse range of sports and at all ages. Facilities are superb and cater impressively for rugby, hockey, netball, rowing, tennis, cricket, rounders, athletics and general fitness.

At weekends and during the holidays there are frequent trips and expeditions, many of them adventurous. Outdoor education is a major part of life at Yarm, and pupils can explore caves, climb mountains or traverse entire countries in canoes! We have two full time, highly qualified members of staff whose sole remit is to provide these fantastic opportunities.

The school life of Yarm pupils is varied, exciting, and fast-paced. There is never a dull moment as we embody our philosophy of ‘educating for life’. Our teachers embrace the extra-curricular programme and enjoy the opportunity it affords them to pursue areas that interest them or indeed learn new skills themselves.

The performing arts are thriving at Yarm. Music enhances the everyday life of the School. With outstanding facilities, such as the 750 seat Princess Alexandra Auditorium, the Studio Theatre, Dance Studio, Recital Room and the superb Music School we offer an extremely vibrant programme of concerts, recitals, plays, dance shows and musicals. Many cultural events which take place in the stunning Princess Alexandra Auditorium are open to the wider community and regularly attract audiences in the many hundreds.



PASTORAL CARE

There is a strong sense of community at Yarm. We aim to provide a caring and safe environment in which each pupil is able to realise his or her full academic, social, cultural and sporting potential. Our values are based on respect for every member of the community, on thoughtfulness and on courtesy.

Every pupil has the right to look for happiness and security at school and we believe that it should combine high personal and social standards with a friendly atmosphere and mutual tolerance in which pupils of all ethnic and cultural backgrounds, of all religious persuasions and of various levels of ability are welcome and supported.

We recognise that our pupils have various talents and differing rates of development and therefore attach great value to every achievement, however modest, which stems from their efforts. Therefore, we positively encourage an appreciation of, and respect for, the work of every member of our community.

The Schools each operate a 'house system' to promote friendships between pupils of different year groups, to offer opportunities for working as a team and to develop an even greater sense of belonging. A spirit of friendly rivalry exists between the Houses, rivalry which is given ample opportunity to manifest itself in a wide range of inter-house competitions. Students are encouraged to develop a sense of pride in their House, working not just for themselves but for others. Charity fundraising activities and trips out are also organised by the houses.

BENEFITS OF TEACHING AT YARM

We have a staff of highly qualified and enthusiastic teachers who first and foremost nurture the development of each child in our care.

The teaching staff comprises 63 full-time and 18 part-time staff in the Senior School; there are a further 24 full-time and 7 part-time teachers in the Preparatory School. In total, the School employs some 240 individuals, many of whom have important specialist, professional and technical skills and experience to facilitate the smooth-running of the School.

The Headmaster, Dr Huw Williams, is a member of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference (HMC). The Head of the Preparatory School is a member of IAPS and also represents the School at HMC Junior Heads' meetings.

Yarm has an exceptionally well-qualified and dedicated staff. Teaching groups are considerably smaller than in the maintained sector, with classes typically being of around 20 pupils in years 7-11 and lower still at Sixth Form. The facilities, resources and positive ethos make for a particularly happy working and learning environment and teaching staff receive a generous discount on school fees. Employees are offered a generous staff benefits scheme which provides discounted shopping, days out, restaurants, gym membership and more. Yarm and the surrounding area are wonderful places to live.

Yarm School has its own competitive pay scale which exceeds the National teachers' scale. School holidays are longer by about 3 weeks than those in the state sector. Free school meals during term-time are offered to teachers and are very popular and staff rooms have complimentary coffee/tea biscuits.

Many staff make use of the School's fitness suite and sports facilities.

There is ample free parking on site.

CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK

Yarm School is required to seek a Disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) in respect of successful applicants for all posts at the School where staff may come into contact with children. A criminal record will not necessarily be a bar to working in the School. Applicants who are invited to interview will be asked to submit a self-declaration form before attending the interview in which they will answer a number of targeted questions about any criminal history or information that would make them unsuitable to work with children. More information about this can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dbs-filtering-guidance/dbs-filtering-guide>.

A copy of the School's policy on Vetting and Suitability Checks and the DBS Code of Practice may be obtained from the School Manager. Before an appointment is made routine checks will be undertaken to confirm identity and qualifications etc.

This post is a pupil-facing role and is therefore exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. This means that you will be required to confirm that you are not on the DBS Children's Barred List or disqualified from working with children, and further to declare any convictions, cautions, reprimands or final warnings that are not "protected" as defined by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (as amended in 2013 and 2020) or other Orders of the Courts made against you, even if they would otherwise be regarded as 'spent' under this Act.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Yarm School is committed to ensuring that all job applicants and members of staff are treated equally, without discrimination because of any protected characteristics as defined in law. We welcome applications from anyone who considers that they meet the requirements of the job advertised.

APPOINTMENT PROCEDURE

Applications will only be accepted on the application form provided by the School. This should be completed electronically. All questions must be answered. The candidate may also submit a Curriculum Vitae if he / she wishes but this is not a requirement. Applications should be submitted by email with a covering letter explaining why the candidate and post are mutually suited.

APPLY

The application form is available on the [Yarm School website](#).

Deadline: as soon as possible and no later than midday on Thursday 3rd March.

head@yarmschool.org

Headmaster, Dr Huw Williams
Yarm School
The Friarage
TS15 9EJ
01642 786023

