



BRIGHTON  
COLLEGE

BRIGHTON COLLEGE CANDIDATE BRIEF

# Teacher of Russian

## THE SCHOOL

Brighton is one of England's leading schools and the oldest public school in Sussex. The College comprises the Senior School, educating 1,000 pupils aged 13–18, and the Lower School, educating 100 pupils aged 11–13.

The Brighton College family of schools also includes Brighton College Prep School, St Christopher's and Handcross Park, educating a further 1,150 children aged 3 to 13. Overseas, the College has opened Brighton College Abu Dhabi, Brighton College Al Ain and Brighton College Dubai in the UAE, and Brighton College Bangkok in Thailand.

Examination results are strong and the College is among the highest performing schools in England at GCSE and A-level. In 2018, 90.3% of grades at GCSE were at 9, 8 or 7 (equivalent to the old A\* and A), whilst 98.7% of grades at A-level were at A\*, A or B. The last five years have also been the best five for Oxbridge success in the 168-year history of the College, with 39 pupils securing offers in 2018.

The Sunday Times awarded Brighton College the title of UK Independent School of the Year 2011-12. Tatler magazine awarded Richard Cairns the title of Head Master of the Year 2012-13. And Brighton College was named the United Kingdom Independent School of the Year 2013-14 (Independent Schools Awards). In 2014 The Week magazine named Brighton College the "Most Forward Looking School in Britain". In 2015, there was a full ISI inspection in which the College was awarded the top grade in every single category, including an 'Exceptional' for Teaching and Learning.

There has also been major investment in new facilities over the last ten years. This has seen the construction of five major buildings on the main site, a new cricket pavilion and a major sports hub on our Jubilee Ground site. Brighton has also purchased the former site of Roedean Junior School, allowing for the relocation of the Pre-Prep School, and the expansion of the College on the main site. A new boarding house opened in September 2013 in the Main Quad which, together with a new Entrance Tower completed in December 2014, completes the original Thomas Jackson designs of the 1880s. A new Music School opened in January 2016, and a new teaching block (including 22 classrooms for Maths, History, Economics, Politics and EAL, alongside an innovative Creative Learning Centre) opened in September 2017. A new Centre for Sport and Science is under construction (due for completion in September 2019); it will include eighteen state-of-the-art laboratories, alongside a new sports hall, 25-metre swimming pool, fitness centre and roof-top running track.

Above all, Brighton is a very happy place. We pride ourselves on being a warm, inclusive and respectful community, where our staff are delightful and positive and our pupils are intellectually curious and charming.



## THE CITY

The College enjoys its location in Brighton, one of Britain's youngest cities and one of the most vibrant in Europe.

In 2017, a national survey identified Brighton as the "happiest" city in the UK. It is close to the beautiful South Downs, within easy travelling distance of London (about 50 minutes by train), and about 30 minutes from Gatwick Airport. Portsmouth, Newhaven and the Channel Tunnel provide accessible links with the Continent.

Brighton is also a university city, and the College has good links with both the University of Sussex and Brighton University.



## THE ROLE

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# The College is seeking to appoint a Teacher of Russian with effect from August 2019.

### THE DEPARTMENT

The department consists of 3 members of staff comprising the Head of Russian, Teacher of Russian and Russian Assistant. The subject is taught throughout Years 7, 8 and 9 in classes which generally range in size between 5 and 15. There are currently 69 learners of Russian, 10 pupils taking the subject at GCSE, and 5 preparing to take the Cambridge Pre-U. Native speakers are not included in pupil numbers and are prepared for examinations separately. At present we follow the Edexcel syllabus for GCSE and the Cambridge Pre-U for Sixth Form learners.

The results in recent years have been excellent, achieving 100% A\*-B at GCSE and 100% Distinction at Pre-U. The department also has a budding Oxbridge programme for pupils with specialist interest. This year 4 pupils intend to study Russian at degree level, three of whom are Oxbridge applicants.

This is an exciting opportunity to be part of a young department, helping to promote an unusual language option that has been steadily growing in popularity over time, but needs passionate and dynamic teachers to promote it. Teaching Russian at Brighton College is a varied and rewarding experience, from helping pupils take their first steps with the Cyrillic alphabet, to teaching advanced cultural and linguistic topics to small groups of highly motivated Sixth Form pupils. The department offers a six day trip to Moscow and St Petersburg for GCSE students in October, and a two week trip to St Petersburg for those studying Russian in the Sixth Form at Easter.

### ROLE SPECIFICATION

The successful candidate will be expected to teach Russian across the curriculum, from Year 7 to A-level. An ability to contribute towards the department's extension programme, including a willingness to support pupils with applications to leading universities (including Oxford and Cambridge), will be a distinct advantage. All teachers within the Department are expected to assist in the development of Schemes of Work, through the creation of teaching resources and the compilation of content for our virtual learning centre. It is an expectation that a Teacher of Russian would be present on at least one of the two annual trips.

All teachers at Brighton College are expected to contribute to the school's pastoral system, generally as a tutor in one of our 13 houses (of which five are boarding houses and eight are day). There is also an expectation that all teachers will contribute to the co-curricular life of the school, through the extensive Games programme, and/or through the leadership of one of almost 100 school societies. Candidates are encouraged to point to interests and enthusiasms as part of their application.

All teachers joining Brighton will have the benefit of guidance by an experienced mentor, whose role it will be to provide support during their probationary period. Thereafter, all teachers are expected and supported to participate in continuous professional development, throughout their time at the College.

## PERSON SPECIFICATION

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Brighton College is an exciting place to work, and it is our staff who make our community such a vibrant and stimulating environment.

The academic success of Brighton is due to excellent, innovative and well-planned teaching. Above all, therefore, we are looking for individuals who foster a passion for learning and who demonstrate an ability and genuine desire to develop pupils to their fullest potential.

Many teachers joining the College have a proven track record of effective teaching, having obtained excellent public examination results with previous classes. However, we are also equally happy to appoint candidates who are currently on a PGCE, or candidates have no formal teaching qualification whatsoever. Several members of our teaching staff have pursued different career paths in years gone by, and have made the move to teaching at a later point. We view this diversity a strength.

More importantly, in the application process, we will look for candidates who demonstrate the ability to thrive within an environment that staff describe as both invigorating and refreshing. The ability to inspire children, and the willingness to support the ambition, values and breadth of College life, will be of central importance. Successful candidates will be self-reliant, resilient and adaptable.

Beyond this, candidates should have a strong academic record, including a good degree in a relevant subject. Those without teaching experience must be able to demonstrate a genuine interest in young people and teaching. We will look for evidence of the capacity to contribute to the broader life of the College, and for evidence of passion and enthusiasm for the relevant subject.

## THE APPLICATION PROCESS

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Candidates should complete an online application which is available at <https://bcollege.careers.eteach.com/> by **midday on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019, though applications will be considered on a rolling basis and early application is therefore encouraged.** This should be submitted together with a CV and covering letter of application addressed to the Head Master. Any enquires about the application procedure should be emailed to [teachingrecruitment@brightoncollege.net](mailto:teachingrecruitment@brightoncollege.net) or by calling the HR Department on 01273 704386.

We anticipate holding interviews on a rolling basis from early January onwards. Candidates invited to interview will be asked to teach an observed lesson as part of the process. Further information on the observed lesson and the written task will be provided in advance of interview.

### REMUNERATION

Brighton College has its own pay scale, well above the maintained sector. There is also an excellent and flexible benefits package, the contents of which can be controlled by individual teachers themselves.

### SAFEGUARDING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Brighton College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment will be subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure, the receipt of satisfactory references, the College's pre-employment medical questionnaire, relevant original ID documentation and examination certificates. The College understands that a robust, fair and transparent recruitment and selection policy plays a central role in achieving this aim.

The College is committed to ensuring that the recruitment and selection of staff is conducted in a manner that is systematic, efficient and effective and promotes equality of opportunity. Our full equal opportunities policy is available on the 'Vacancies' link on our website.