



King's College

TAUNTON

Gardening Operative

Closing Date: Friday 3 May 2024





Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the role of Gardening Operative at King's.

King's College and King's College Prep are thriving, co-educational, independent boarding and day schools for children from 2 to 18 years. Located on two sites, both schools provide inspired teaching and superb facilities to create an environment in which young people achieve great things.

The Gardening Operative will provide a professional gardening and grounds maintenance service that provides the upkeep and high-quality appearance of the gardens and grounds. This role will work at both King's College and King's College Prep.

We look forward to hearing from you and considering your application.

MICHAEL SLOAN
Headmaster



“ In their everyday lives around the school, our pupils show the confidence to succeed, and the determination to give their very best. ”

About the Schools

King's provides continuous day and boarding education for girls and boys aged 2 to 18 years. It comprises King's College Prep which has approximately 300 children from 2 to 13 and a senior school with approximately 450 pupils from 13 to 18.

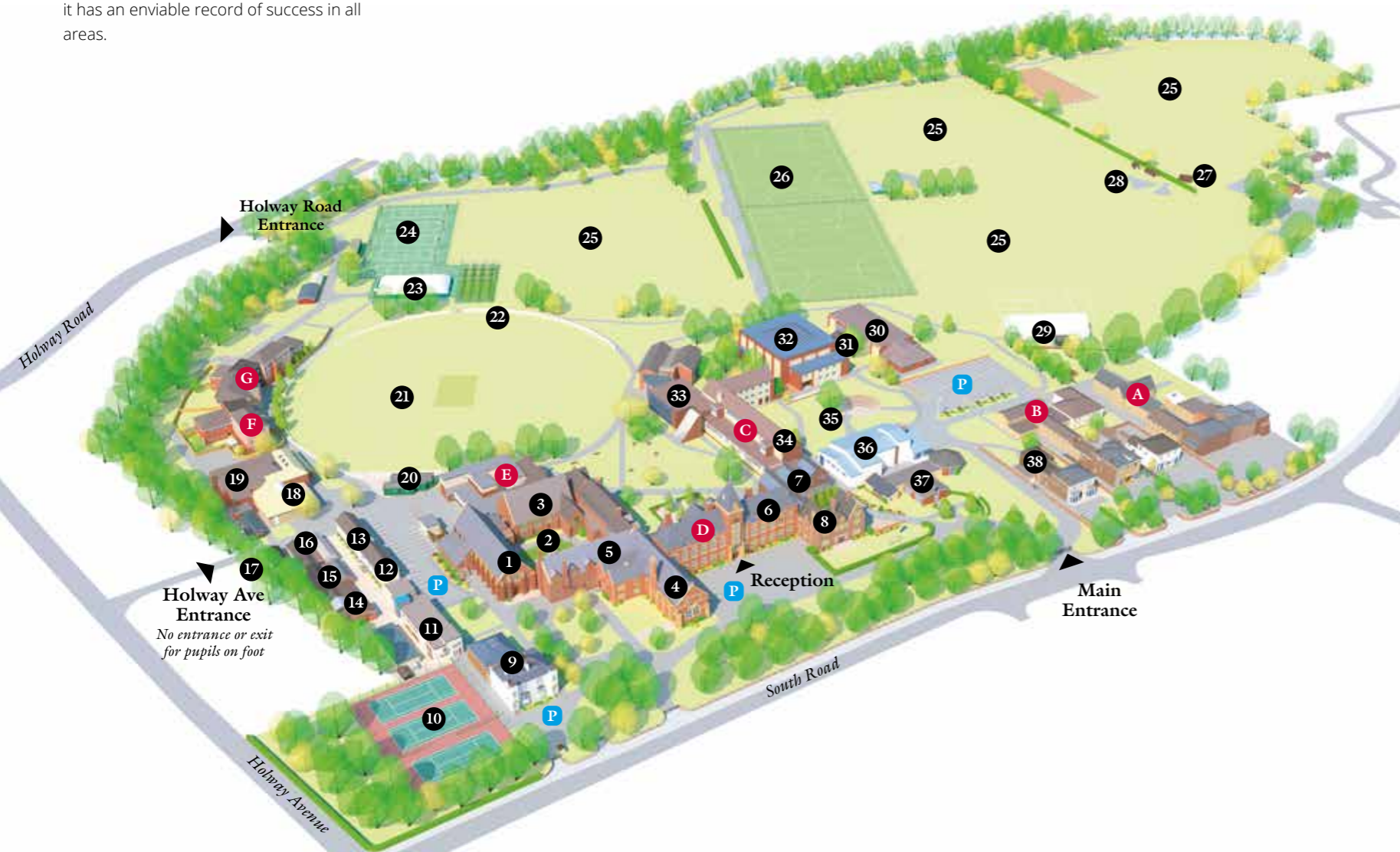
The schools are situated on separate sites in the south west of England and combine traditional values with state-of-the-art facilities. Both schools are run by one governing body, with many functions (marketing, strategy and finance for example) undertaken jointly.

King's College has a rich and welcoming family and community ethos. Just over 60% of the pupils board. For a relatively small school, it has an enviable record of success in all areas.

The school has regularly topped GCSE and A-level league tables for Somerset. A broad range of co-curricular activities is offered, and the school is renowned for its success in sport, music, performing arts, fine art, design technology and outdoor pursuits. In many of these activities our pupils have achieved success at national and even international levels.

Good discipline is encouraged in a firm and positive way within a supportive pastoral framework. King's College is strong on manners and social skills. Pupils go on to thrive at good universities and in their professional careers.

In short, King's is a purposeful, outward-looking, down-to-earth, highly successful school.



King's College

South Road, Taunton TA1 3LA

Main School Building	14 Laundry	33 Science Centre
1 The Chapel	15 Shooting Range	Biology
2 The Quad	16 CCF and Outdoor Pursuits	Chemistry
3 Dining Hall	Stores	Physics
4 Woodard Room	Chindits	History
5 Latin	Army/Navy/Marines	34 Geography Centre
English	17 Finance Office	35 The Amphitheatre
Philosophy of Religious & Ethics	18 Design Technology Centre	36 The Theatre
Modern Foreign Languages - <i>upstairs</i>	19 Squash Courts	Black Box
6 Main School Corridor	20 First Team Cricket Pavillion	Auditorium
Headmaster's Office	21 First Team Cricket Pitch	37 Music School
PA to the Headmaster's Office	22 Buttler's Ramp	The Octagon
Examination Office	23 Tennis and Netball Dome	Music Technology
Admissions Office	24 Tennis and Netball Courts	Practice Rooms
Careers Office	25 Sports pitches (rugby/cricket/athletics/football)	38 Medical Centre
Maths		
7 Philip Richards Building	26 All-weather Hockey Pitch	A Bishop Fox House
Library - <i>upstairs</i>	27 Cricket Pavillion	<i>Boys</i>
IT Helpdesk	28 Athletics Cabin	B Carpenter House
Visitor toilets	29 Sports Performance & Cricket Centre	<i>Girls</i>
8 Headmaster's House		C Meynell House
9 Silvermead Studio and Arts House	30 Swimming Pool	<i>Girls</i>
10 Briar Lee Tennis Courts	31 Changing Cabins	D King Alfred House
11 Sixth Form Centre	32 Sports Hall	<i>Boys</i>
Head of Sixth Form Office	Climbing Wall	E Taylor House
Development Office	Gym	<i>Girls</i>
12 School Uniform Shop	PE Classrooms	F Woodard House
13 Cookery School		<i>Boys</i>
		G Tuckwell House
		<i>Boys</i>

A Rural County of Rolling Hills

Taunton is surrounded by natural beauty, with the Blackdowns, Mendips and Quantock Hills on the doorstep, plus Exmoor National Park, the Somerset Levels and Dartmoor are a short drive away.

Somerset is renowned for its cheddar cheese and cider. A wealth of apple orchards once made Somerset the cider capital of the UK, whilst the Cheddar Gorge caves are still used to mature cheese today.

Taunton is the county town of Somerset, in the South West of England. It is a busy market town located between junction 25 and 26 on the M5.

A growing commercial and residential centre, Taunton has a splendid small theatre, the County Cricket Ground, a successful rugby club, a delightful museum, the usual shopping outlets and restaurants, and a regular farmers' market.

If you love the great outdoors, you can be on the beach in 40 minutes and the Quantocks are just 15 minutes away. For those who prefer city lights, the fast West Country train service reaches Paddington in under two hours. By car, Exeter is 25 minutes south, Bristol 35 minutes north and you can reach Bath in about an hour.



The Role

Post Gardening Operative
Responsible to Grounds & Gardens Manager
Hours of work Monday to Friday, 8.00am to 4.30pm (with 30 mins for lunch).
 These times will be subject to variation as the needs of the Schools arise.

Job summary Under the direction of the Grounds & Gardens Manager or Lead Gardener (depending upon task), to provide a professional gardening and grounds maintenance service that provides the upkeep and high-quality appearance of the gardens and grounds. Working at both King's College and King's College Prep.

Duties and Responsibilities

- To work as part of the grounds and gardens team, in order to achieve a high standard gardens and grounds maintenance service.
- To undertake a broad range of duties including: -
 - Horticultural tasks such as, seed propagation, grass cutting, planting, weed control, applying fertilisers, hedging and leaf clearing.
 - Minor landscaping projects.
 - Maintaining the school gardens and flower beds to a high standard.
 - Operating a variety of machinery and powered hand tools, ensuring equipment is regularly maintained.
 - Applying salt in icy conditions and clearing snow when required.
 - To occasionally assist in the upkeep of the sports pitches/surfaces.

This is a broad summary of tasks and responsibilities to be carried out within this role. The post holder may be asked to carry out duties of a similar nature bearing in mind their capabilities. The Post Holder must undertake any reasonable task requested of them by the Grounds & Gardens Manager, Lead Gardener or a senior member of the School staff.

Training

- To be responsible for your own continuing self-development and maintain and update knowledge by attending training courses/programmes annually or as and when required.

- Provide training, induction and mentoring of staff new employees as and when requested.

General

- Promote and safeguard the welfare of children and young persons with whom you come into contact.
- Undertake any other duties as required by your manager in order to meet the changing needs and demands of the Schools.
- Conduct yourself with professionalism, tact and diplomacy at all times as a representative of King's Schools Taunton.



Person Specification

	Essential Criteria	Desirable Criteria
Qualifications	Maths GCSE	NVQ level 2 in Horticulture or related subject or equivalent.
	English GCSE	
Skills and experience	Previous experience as a gardener	Extensive gardening/horticultural experience
	Basic plant identification	Detailed plant identification
	Basic horticultural knowledge	Extensive horticultural knowledge
	Ability to work on own initiative or under pressure	Grounds maintenance
	Ability to use IT systems	
Personal qualities & abilities	Self-motivated, dedicated and enthusiastic	
	Ability to communicate with staff, parents, visitors, pupils and members of the public	
	Willingness to be adaptable and work well within a small team	

The qualities and experience outlined in the person specification will be assessed by the following methods:

- Sight of original qualifications
- King's College application form
- Interview
- References from current employer and other chosen professionals

Appointment Process



Candidates are expected to have read the enclosed appointment policy and agreed to the terms within.

King's College has its own pay scale and there are discounts at both King's College Prep and King's College for staff children.

Please apply by completing the appropriate King's College application form (we are unable to accept CVs without our application form).

Please write a brief letter of application, addressed to the HR Manager and send by email or post to:

Mr Craig Sweet/Mrs Sarah Matthews
c/o HR Department
King's College, Taunton, Somerset TA1 3LA

CSweet@kings-taunton.co.uk
SLMatthews@kings-taunton.co.uk
01823 328105/328231

The closing date for applications is Friday 3 May 2024.





King's College

TAUNTON

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01823 328200 | reception@kings-taunton.co.uk

www.kings-taunton.co.uk