



# King's College

TAUNTON

## Houseparent (Boys' Boarding House)

*Closing Date: Friday 31 January 2025*







# Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the role of Houseparent of Tuckwell House.

The Houseparent position is a vital and highly rewarding role within our school community. As Houseparent, you will have the opportunity to make a real and lasting impact on the lives of our pupils, overseeing their welfare, happiness, and academic progress. You will play a central role in ensuring that Tuckwell House remains a nurturing, respectful, and inclusive environment, where each pupil is valued and supported.

At King's College, our boarding houses are at the heart of school life, and we are proud of the unique blend of boarders and day pupils that creates a dynamic, integrated community. The role of Houseparent offers a fulfilling balance of pastoral care, leadership, and academic oversight, allowing you to shape the culture and character of the house, while also working closely with our wider school team.

This is an exciting time to join King's College, as we recently published our ambitious five-year plan and strategic vision. These plans lay the groundwork for an even brighter future for the school, and the Houseparent of Tuckwell House will play a key part in delivering these goals, particularly in nurturing the wellbeing and academic progress of our pupils. By joining us, you will have the opportunity to contribute to the development of this vision, ensuring that Tuckwell House continues to thrive as an integral part of our dynamic school community.

As Houseparent, you will be part of a committed and collaborative team, supported by both experienced colleagues and a dedicated leadership team. Your work will be central to the continued success of our boarding community and the broader school ethos.

We are looking for an individual with strong leadership qualities, a genuine passion for supporting young people, and a commitment to the values and aims of King's College. If you are someone who enjoys working with young people in a dynamic and enriching environment, and who can bring creativity, care, and vision to the role, we would be delighted to receive your application.

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

Michael Sloan  
Executive Headmaster



# About the Schools

King's provides continuous day and boarding education for girls and boys aged two to 18 years. It comprises King's College Prep which has approximately 300 children from two to 13 and a senior school with approximately 400 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. About half of the pupils are full time boarders. 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

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

Taunton is surrounded by natural beauty, with the Blackdown, Mendip and Quantock Hills on the doorstep, plus Exmoor National Park, the Somerset Levels and Dartmoor 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 off junction 25 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

<b>Post</b>	Houseparent of a boys' boarding house (Tuckwell House)
<b>Responsible to</b>	The Headmaster
<b>Remuneration</b>	King's College has its own pay scale. The post comes with a large family home and private garden; utilities and other associated costs are paid for by the school. Generous fee remission is also available for dependent children at both the Prep School or College, subject to a place being offered. All of our teachers are enrolled into the Royal London Pension Scheme, which has a range of flexible benefits.
<b>The Role</b>	The Tuckwell Houseparent works alongside a full-time residential deputy houseparent. They are supported by a team of tutors who assist with evening duties, and a House Matron who supports the house during the school day.

## About Tuckwell House

Tuckwell House is one of six boarding houses at King's College and one of three boys' houses. The house accommodates around 80 pupils, with a 50/50 mix of full-time boarders and day pupils who occasionally board. At King's, the integration of boarders and day pupils is a key feature that contributes to the vibrant community spirit within the school.

The boarding houses are central to school life, providing a supportive and caring environment where every pupil is valued. The role of the houseparent is crucial in creating and maintaining this environment, ensuring that the house remains a safe, nurturing, and inclusive community.

## A Brief History of the House

Tuckwell House was established in 1965, when the rapidly increasing number of pupils necessitated the creation of another house. It was named after the Reverend William Tuckwell, who built the first school on our site. He was a strong advocate for the teaching of 'the unfashionable cause of science'.

In 1977, Tuckwell House was relocated to the Convent site, where other boarding houses were also situated. Then, in 2002, the house moved to its current location on the main school site. The new building, an impressive structure rendered in earthy pink tones to reflect the hues of the local soil, offers stunning views over the 1st XI cricket outfield.

## Key responsibilities

- Oversee the welfare, happiness, and academic progress of all pupils in Tuckwell House, offering the same level of care and attention as a good parent, and acting in loco parentis during term time.
- Maintain an overview of pupils' pastoral, academic, and co-curricular progress, ensuring they reach their full potential.
- Take a specific interest in key areas such as GCSE and A-level choices, and university admissions.
- Ensure good discipline and dress within the house in collaboration with the Deputy Head (Pastoral).
- Liaise with parents on all academic, pastoral, and disciplinary matters as appropriate.
- Support the work of the Chaplaincy and attend services that pupils are required to attend.
- Find effective and innovative ways to celebrate pupil achievement through house assemblies, newsletters, fundraising initiatives, and social events.
- Manage the performance of the Deputy Houseparent, House tutor team, and Matron, in conjunction with the Deputy Head (Pastoral) and Head of Boarding.
- Manage the House budget and liaise with the Bursary on health and safety, maintenance, and security matters, taking action as necessary.
- Attend Houseparents' meetings, chair House tutor meetings, and run weekly house assemblies.
- Support pupil involvement in broader College activities by attending events as appropriate.
- Teach approximately two-thirds of a timetable in any academic discipline offered by the College.



# Person Specification

	Essential Criteria	Desirable Criteria
Qualifications	Degree level qualification PGCE or equivalent teaching experience	BSA training or qualifications, or equivalent pastoral leadership qualifications (we will provide access to equivalent training if required)
Knowledge and Experience	Experience of working in a boarding school Understanding of the pastoral (emotional, social and educational) issues affecting adolescent boys Understanding of academic and career options for the boys Understanding of the safeguarding issues experienced as a boarding houseparent	Understanding of health and safety issues and requirements in an educational setting Experience of social media and its use by young people Experience of working within a fixed budget Experience of managing and developing a staff team Experience of working in the independent sector
Skills	Proven leadership skills Proven ability to communicate effectively with parents, pupils, and staff members Able to form and maintain appropriate relationships with the pupils in your care Ability to promote the qualities of boarding to prospective pupils and their parents Efficient and effective administration and organisational skills	Good IT skills Educational marketing skills
Personal Qualities and Abilities	Personable, with a sense of humour Patience, kindness, resilience, and the ability to be firm but fair Highly organised, calm under pressure, and resourceful when faced with a problem Diplomatic and discreet	Strong interest in extracurricular activities and school events Experience working with a diverse group of young people Empathy and understanding of adolescent development Strong public speaking and presentation skills Commitment to personal and professional development Ability to work collaboratively in a team environment Flexibility and adaptability in a dynamic and changing environment A proactive and solution-focused attitude Passion for mentoring and guiding young people Experience of managing conflict and handling sensitive situations Ability to foster a positive and inclusive school culture

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, including a verbal presentation on a topic of our choosing
- References from current employer and other, chosen, professionals

*King's College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the safe welfare of children and young people, and expect all staff to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check.*

# Appointment Process



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

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 Kirsty Eady**  
c/o HR Department  
King's College, Taunton, Somerset TA1 3LA

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

**The closing date for applications is 9.00am Friday 31 January 2025.**

**Interviews will take place on Wednesday 5 and Thursday 6 February 2025.**







# King's College

TAUNTON

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