



# King's College

TAUNTON

## Teacher of Learning Strategies (full-time)

*Closing Date: Monday 28 October 2024*





# Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the role of Teacher of Learning Strategies at King's College.

We require an enthusiastic and well-qualified teacher to join our learning strategies team from January 2025 or soon after.

We are looking for a teacher who can share their expertise and love of education, teach lessons which inspire and that pupils enjoy, and play a significant part in the management of the department.

The Learning Strategies department currently supports pupils with a range of learning needs, and as in most schools, numbers of those being referred to the department are growing. Ideally we are looking for a candidate with experience of assessing individual exam access arrangements.

King's College has a lively and friendly Common Room of over 50 full-time teachers, all of whom contribute to the school's outstanding co-curricular programme of sport, music and many other activities. The ability to contribute to this programme would be an advantage. All teachers also tutor a small number of pupils and undertake an evening duty in one of our boarding houses, the Sixth Form Centre or the library.

King's College is an exciting, forward-looking and rewarding school to work in. We support all staff to develop their teaching and pastoral skills, providing frequent access to high quality professional development, utilising the skills and experience of colleagues through our peer-coaching programme and tailoring professional development to each individual and their aspirations. We believe that investing in the development our staff is a key element in ensuring excellent teaching, learning and pastoral care. We are keen to embrace new ideas and technologies to ensure that teachers at King's are at the forefront of teaching and learning innovation, and are rightly proud of the quality of pedagogy displayed daily around the school. Two members of the SMT are directly responsible for the wellbeing (Assistant Head Common Room) and professional development (Assistant Head Teaching and Learning) of all staff at King's. Newly qualified teachers will be supported in completing their ECT years at King's by the Head of Staff Induction, who has vast experience in guiding and training ECTs.

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 two to 18 years. It comprises King's College Prep which has approximately 300 children from 2 to 13 and a senior school with approximately 400 pupils from 13 to 18.

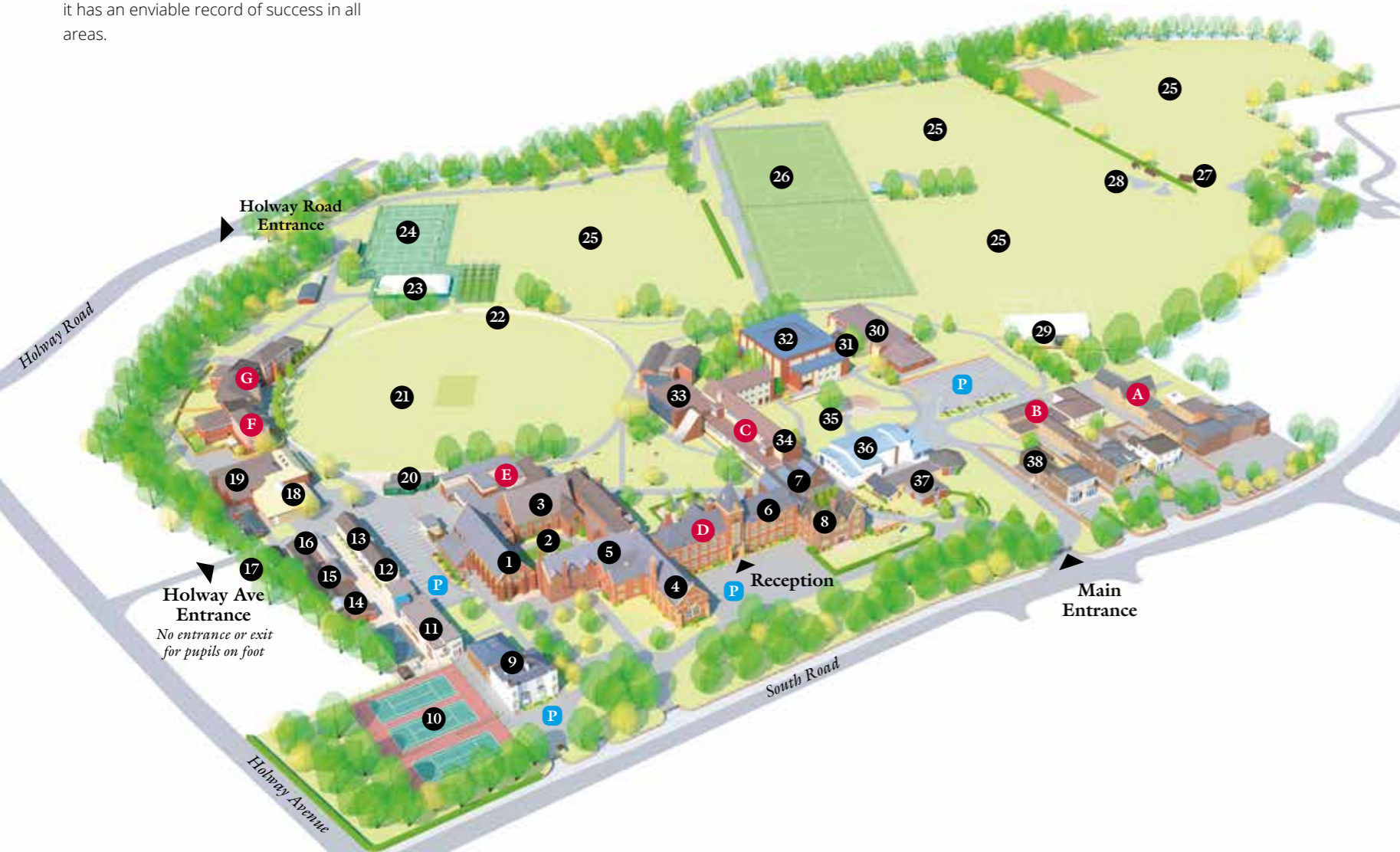
The schools are situated on separate sites in the south west of England and combine traditional values with state-of-the-art facilities. Both schools are run by one governing body, with many functions (marketing, strategy and finance for example) undertaken jointly.

King's College has a rich and welcoming family and community ethos. 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

<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 Pavilion</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><i>Boys</i></p> <p>B <b>Carpenter House</b></p> <p><i>Girls</i></p> <p>C <b>Meynell House</b></p> <p><i>Girls</i></p> <p>D <b>King Alfred House</b></p> <p><i>Boys</i></p> <p>E <b>Taylor House</b></p> <p><i>Girls</i></p> <p>F <b>Woodard House</b></p> <p><i>Boys</i></p> <p>G <b>Tuckwell House</b></p> <p><i>Boys</i></p>
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## 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

The Learning Strategies department enjoys a high profile among both pupils and staff, supporting the learning of over 100 pupils. This support is mainly undertaken in small dedicated groups or alongside classroom teachers. A few pupils have individual LS sessions, in addition to those in groups. The department is a busy and purposeful environment in which to work, and close links are forged with all teachers and departments.

Within the Learning Strategies department there are nine specialist members of staff: two full-time and four part-time teachers, two TAs and our LS administrator. The advertised post is being created to augment the teaching provision in the department and also to work closely with the Head of Learning Strategies in assessing the learning needs of the pupils. Therefore, experience in conducting assessments with individuals to ascertain their learning needs would be a distinct advantage. For the right candidate, this could be the central focus of your role.

The Learning Strategies department works closely with the exams team to ensure that every child is catered for in the best manner when it comes to public exams. The department is very well-resourced: there are three individual teaching rooms and two classrooms for working with groups. There is a staff workroom and the Head of Department has a separate office where all the key documentation is held.

### WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

The post would suit a well-qualified teacher who would enjoy the challenge of joining a dynamic and successful department. We require a creative and enthusiastic teacher who can share their expertise and love of education, teach lessons which inspire and that pupils enjoy, and play a significant part in the management of the department, especially the assessment of individual exam requirements. Ideally, the appointed teacher will offer specialism in one or both of literacy and numeracy, as well as knowledge and understanding of broader learning strategies teaching. The Learning Strategies department currently supports pupils with a range of learning needs, and as in most schools, numbers of those being referred to the department are growing.

In addition, the successful applicant will be required to assist in the identification of pupils with SEN or additional learning requirements, communicate with, and advise, staff and parents of pupils with SEN, and assist in the maintenance of departmental records relating to the pupils the department works with. This role would suit someone with the ambition to one day step up to lead their own department, or who has fulfilled that position in the past. Applications from ECT teachers with suitable drive and ambition will also be welcomed.

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# Person Specification

	Essential Criteria	Desirable Criteria
Qualifications	Degree level qualification PGCE or equivalent teaching experience Subject specific training courses	Level 5 qualification in SPLD dyslexia and / or dyscalculia  Level 7 qualification with the ability to carry out standardised testing
Knowledge & experience	Delivering (or supporting) maths and/or English to GCSE level  Understanding of how to ensure all pupils thrive and develop a love for their subjects  Subject specific skills and/or experience relevant to the subject  Reflective about your own pedagogy and willing to share best practice with others	Experience of working with pupils in secondary and Sixth Form age groups  Experience of giving guidance to pupils and parents on subject choices and career prospects in a balanced, knowledgeable manner, based on their specific learning needs
Skills	Able to form and maintain appropriate relationships with the pupils in your care  Efficient and effective administration and organisational skills  Willingness and ability to contribute to the co-curricular programme at King's (in particular cricket, hockey, netball and/or rugby coaching)	Good IT skills  The ability to coach one or more of the major sports offered at King's to a good level, and the desire to develop your coaching qualifications and experience through further training
Personal qualities & abilities	Personable, with a sense of humour  Patience, kindness, resilience and the ability to be firm but fair	

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 teaching a lesson
- 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.

King's 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), plus a brief letter of application including a breakdown of your current remuneration package.

Please address to the Headmaster 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 12.00pm on Monday 28 October**

**Interviews will be held later in the week beginning Monday 4 November**





# King's College

TAUNTON

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[www.kings-taunton.co.uk](http://www.kings-taunton.co.uk)