



Merchant Taylors’ School

Ambition | Character | Excellence

Merchant Taylors’ School, Liverpool

Appointment of

Head of Computer Science – Full-time from 1st January 2026 or sooner.

Candidate Brief and Information for Applicants

Merchant Taylors’ School
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Crosby
Liverpool
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www.merchanttaylors.com

About Merchant Taylors' School

In 2020 our historic independent school in Crosby, Liverpool celebrated its 400th anniversary. We are widely recognised as one of the finest schools in the North West of England with a rich heritage of educating girls and boys aged 4 to 18.

We occupy three sites in Crosby and each School is within close walking distance;

Stanfield Preparatory School - Coeducational Reception to Year 6

Merchant Taylors' Boys' School – Single Sex Years 7 – 13 (some joint teaching in the Sixth Form)

Merchant Taylors' Girls' School – Single Sex Years 7 – 13 (some joint teaching in the Sixth Form)

Alongside a rigorous academic curriculum, we offer an abundance of other opportunities, including a vibrant range of clubs and sporting activities designed to inspire and develop the talents of each pupil. Whether it's on the stage, in the concert hall, on the sports field or working in the community, our pupils will have the chance to grow in areas outside the classroom.

Our inspiring teachers seek to nurture a spirit of inquiry and curiosity in all our pupils, helping them to develop to their fullest potential. We also have a committed and highly professional team of support staff who are an integral part of the School which help to create a caring and supportive learning environment. Learn more about us and why we are proud to be investing in potential by viewing our 5-year strategy 2022- 2027:

<https://www.merchanttaylors.com/strategy/>

A Single Co-education School From September 2025

From September 2025 Merchant Taylors' Girls' will join Merchant Taylors' Boys' to create a single, co-educational senior school. The newly created school will be co-educational for all pupils aged 4-18, creating one school, one community, with one vision.

This strategic development allows us to broaden and strengthen our academic provision, while developing new opportunities and ensuring that access to those opportunities is the same for every pupil at Merchant Taylors'. The single, co-educational school will be based at the current Boys' School, which will be known as the Harrison Site.

Re-modelling our structure to become co-educational will provide greater operational and financial efficiency and will allow the School to help ensure that every pound generated in fee income from parents is invested to support the pupil experience. Uniting the Senior Schools on one site will mean that we can invest in one estate, refurbishing and developing it to meet, and indeed exceed, the requirements of all our community.

Merchant Taylors' School has a remarkable history, with every right to be proud of its achievements over the last 400 years. However, there is no room for complacency. The world is changing fast and we need to move with it whilst staying true to our founding purpose 'for the

teaching, educating, and instructing of youth'. The core of our strategy is the creation of a more outward-looking school which reflects modern society, generous in its commitments to partnerships and service to others, inclusive and diverse in its outlook, forward thinking and digitally acute, operating with the advice of, and in partnership with those at the cutting edge of change and with the schools around us. Society continues to evolve and it is our firm intention that the School adapts accordingly with agility and integrity.

In undertaking this change, the Governors are determined to retain all that is good from both the Girls' and Boys' Schools. This will ensure that both the new co-educational Senior School, and indeed Merchant Taylors' as a whole, becomes the best future-facing version of itself, understanding and serving the needs of its community as it has done for the last 400 years.

The Vacancy

We are seeking to recruit an inspirational, enthusiastic and self-reflective Head of Computer Science to commence January 2026 or sooner if possible. The role would suit an experienced teacher. The role involves being the subject lead and teaching Computer Science up to A Level.

Competent IT skills are necessary since members of staff are each furnished with a Microsoft Surface Pro for use within and away from school and these can be used with smartboards in classrooms.

There is an expectation that you will participate in and contribute to the co-curricular life of the School as a whole. In return, the School is committed to helping you develop further as a teacher by supporting you with appropriate professional development.

The Department

One of the youngest departments in the school, Computer Science is agile, reflective and dynamic. We have developed a culture of excellence, creativity and ambition through the delivery of a challenging and stimulating curriculum which considers the most significant innovations in computing from the past, present and future.

Pupil uptake is ever increasing amongst boys and girls with new opportunities for growth and development arising continually. We partake in national computational thinking and cryptography competitions as well as the international Vex Robotics competition. Pupils are enthused, excited and passionate about their Computer Science studies and the possibilities to engage with it outside of the classroom.

Local partnerships with The Manufacturing Technology Centre and The University of Liverpool ensure that we are in touch with the latest developments within the subject and give our pupils an insight into where their studies can take them.

Listen to us talk more about how we teach this subject by visiting:

<https://www.merchanttaylors.com/senior-boys/departments-curriculum/computing-ict/>

Computer Science in the Lower School

The School follows its own discrete Computer Science course which is closely aligned with the National Curriculum for Key Stage 3 but is also one which is continually refined and reinvigorated. Pupils experience Computer Science in depth from an early stage, programming in blocks initially right the way through to learning significant concepts in Python. Pupils gain hands on experience of physical computing using Raspberry Pi and BBC Microbit together with a host of third-party addons to bring their programming to life. The department also plays a key role in educating pupils about the safe and responsible use of the World Wide Web and Social Media, together with the schools' comprehensive PSHE programme.

Computer Science at GCSE

The school follows the OCR GCSE Computer Science course and has done so since 2015. The course affords its pupils a great deal of time to hone their Python programming skills which are continually refreshed and assessed throughout the two-year course. Most pupils are also graduates of the Year 9 discrete Computer Science course which equips them with a great foundation for success at GCSE. Pupils perform significantly better than the national average. Last year boys 72% of pupils obtained grades 9-7 at GCSE with 18% obtaining a grade 9.

Computer Science at A Level

The school also follows the OCR A Level Computer Science course which has been delivered 2017 and is now a fully co-educational cohort. Pupils learn C# using Visual Studio to develop and test their program code. Most will complete their second year NEA programming project in C# but some may choose to create projects independently in Unity or Xcode for the iOS platform. The course also features a significant examined theoretical element comprising of a great deal of mathematics, logical problem solving and algorithmic thinking. Pupils perform significantly better than the national average here and drive standards ever higher, last year 100% of pupils obtained grades A*-A.

Computer Science outside of the classroom

Outside of the classroom there is a comprehensive programme of co-curricular competitions, clubs, and trips to enthuse and stimulate pupils' interests.

All pupils in year 7 and upwards can compete in the Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge which may result in an invite into Oxford University Computing Challenge. Pupils also compete in the Alan Turing Cryptography Competition through the University of Manchester.

Highly able pupils in year 10 and above can take part in the Vex Robotics Competition, working together as a student led team to build and program a robot to solve problems in a timed,

competitive environment. This demands high standards and a great deal of effort from our pupils to build a competitive machine.

Every year pupils in year 10 visit the National Museum of Computing at Bletchley Park, The University of Liverpool's Computer Science Department and for the first time this year pupils visit the Manufacturing Technology Centre to study AI and Robotics applications within manufacturing.

We are a hardworking and cohesive department, committed to offering the very best teaching and learning experience to the students under our tutelage.

Safeguarding

The safeguarding responsibilities of the post include:

- The provision of a safe environment in which children and young people feel heard
- Being aware of the indicators of abuse and neglect
- Ensuring vigilance in recognising changes in behaviour or mood
- Reporting safeguarding concerns in line with the School's Safeguarding Children and Child Protection Policy
- Attending Safeguarding training and updates as requested by the School

The duties of this role meet the definition of regulated activity relevant to children and an enhanced DBS check with children's barred list is appropriate.

Terms and Conditions

The successful candidate will be rewarded on the Merchant Taylors' teachers pay scale with a salary commensurate with their experience and skills. Management roles will be rewarded though the additional payment of a management allowance.

This a full-time position on a permanent basis.

The role will be subject to a probationary period of three academic terms.

Benefits

The successful candidate will be able to take advantage of a number of benefits which include:

- Working as part of a committed and talented team of professionals
- Extended holiday periods
- Membership of the APTIS Pension Scheme [Aviva Pension Trust for Independent Schools]

- Life insurance benefit as part of pension scheme membership
- Discounted School fees for your children attending the School after completion of probationary period
- Access to our on-site fitness suite
- Access to our employee assistance programme providing a 24-hour counselling and advice line
- Borrow books from our school library
- Support for your continuous professional development

Safeguarding Statement

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Applicants will be required to undergo safeguarding checks appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). The post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and the School is therefore permitted to ask job applicants to declare all convictions and cautions (including those which are "spent" unless they are "protected" under the DBS filtering rules) in order to assess their suitability to work with children.

Applications

For more information about Merchant Taylors' School, Liverpool why not visit our website <https://www.merchanttaylor.com/>

If you would like to apply for this very rewarding role please go to

<https://www.merchanttaylor.com/join-our-team/teaching-vacancies/>

Closing date: Friday 13th June at midday however, we reserve the right to close the vacancy early so you are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. Completed application forms should be returned to recruitment@merchanttaylor.com

Interviews are currently scheduled to take place on Week commencing 16th June