



NORTHWOOD  
COLLEGE

FOR GIRLS

GDST

# CANDIDATE INFORMATION PACK

## Head of Computer Science





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## GDST

Dear Candidate,

I am delighted that you are considering applying for a position at Northwood College for Girls GDST.

We are a dynamic and purposeful community of teachers and professional staff who are absolutely committed to ensuring that every single student here is able to unfurl her wings and soar. There are no limits placed on our students' achievements, no individual is permitted to fly under the radar and all are known; their strengths, talents, dreams and areas for development understood by their teachers. They go on to success in all fields, taking on university degrees and degree apprenticeships in areas as varied as Art History and Economics, Marine Biology and Architecture, Medicine and Music.



We recognise that at Northwood, we are empowering and enabling young people to go out and change the world. Academic success and opportunities for leadership therefore sit alongside a deep commitment to social justice, global citizenship, technological and digital expertise and sustainability awareness. Our students are encouraged to be unashamedly ambitious and to shine their light brightly, but never to overshadow; always mindful of our sense of collective endeavour and the fact that we rise by lifting others.

We believe and invest in staff development and seek to support all staff members in developing their pedagogy and professional practice, providing in-school and external training to support all colleagues to fulfil their potential and enjoy their roles. We know that for our school to thrive, we depend on having diverse talent, with a range of backgrounds, skills and capabilities. Inclusion and being your authentic self is at the heart of so much of what we do at Northwood and we value each unique contribution to our community. This was reflected in our 2021 Excellent ISI report, which stated that 'Pupils understand the impact an individual can have on a community as well as the strength that can be derived from unity.' It is also wonderful to be part of the pioneering vision of The Girls' Day School Trust, the family of 25 girls schools to which we belong. The GDST is at the forefront of educational research and training and is a real voice in national education debates.

If you are excited by our vision and eager to shape the future of girls' education, I would love to hear from you. We welcome pre-application contact and endeavour to make the recruitment process as positive and collaborative as we can.

In anticipation,

Rebecca Brown  
Head





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## ABOUT NORTHWOOD COLLEGE FOR GIRLS

Northwood College for Girls is an independent, academically selective day school for approximately 880 girls aged 3-18. The original School was founded in 1878 in central London and subsequently moved to its present site in a residential part of Northwood in 1893. This year, the school celebrates 130 years on the site on Maxwell Road, Northwood and is proud to be a school with a rich and deep heritage but also a vibrant and dynamic approach to education.

At NWC, we value character and academic rigour equally. Our curriculum ignites intellectual curiosity and fosters emotional intelligence, building resilience through challenge. An NWC education enables every girl to lead a purposeful life and feel successful in their learning.

Both pupils and staff are encouraged to find and develop their passions and talents, through clubs, societies and an extensive programme of CPD. All members of the NWC community are expected to act with compassion and integrity, with respect for others and the environment and an awareness of global responsibility.

Everyone is equally valued in our NWC family and our dynamic young women are proud of their school. Looking after one another and rejoicing in one another's successes comes second nature to a NWC girl as does her 'can-do' attitude and drive.

NWC is at an exhilarating moment in its evolution, with a dynamic and ambitious Senior Leadership Team and a range of new developments (including a Sixth Form Centre, the Alvarium science building and unique Makerspace). The successful candidate will be similarly ambitious for the school and ready to make an impact in our vibrant learning community.





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COLLEGE**

FOR GIRLS

GDST

[To read our latest 'excellent' ISI report, click here](#)

Northwood College for Girls has been part of the GDST family of 23 independent schools and two academies across the UK since 2013. Membership of the GDST affords students and staff opportunities for collaboration and training and also a seat at the table in national discussions about the future of education and female empowerment.

### **ABOUT THE COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

This is an exciting time to join as a leader of our Computer Science Department. We have two recently refurbished Computing Labs, one with a traditional desktop set up and the latest computers, the other with an open plan layout to allow more creative use of space.

The Computer Science Department aims to ensure that students are equipped with a full range of digital literacy skills, in addition to being taught how to use various multimedia applications including sound editing, web design and game making software. Students gain computer programming skills and are shown how to think logically about problems. All students in Years 7-9 have dedicated curriculum lessons in Computer Science. Throughout the school, digital technology is well embedded, with students using one-to-one Chromebook devices in lessons.

In September 2022, we opened our new Science building (The Alvarium) at the heart of our school, with state-of-the-art labs and facilities, offering a cutting-edge teaching and learning environment. The Computer Science Department work closely with Science, Mathematics and Art & Design on our school STEAM provision, and our goal is to help girls awaken their inner scientists, so that no matter what they decide to pursue as a career, they can ask questions, develop creative solutions, think critically about data, draw conclusions and be scientifically literate members of society. All students from Year 5 to Year 9 have a dedicated timetabled STEAM enrichment lesson to help develop their investigative skills and we are extending this further to develop links between the Junior and Senior School. We have a dedicated Maker Space Lab, which includes 3D Printers and a Laser Cutter.





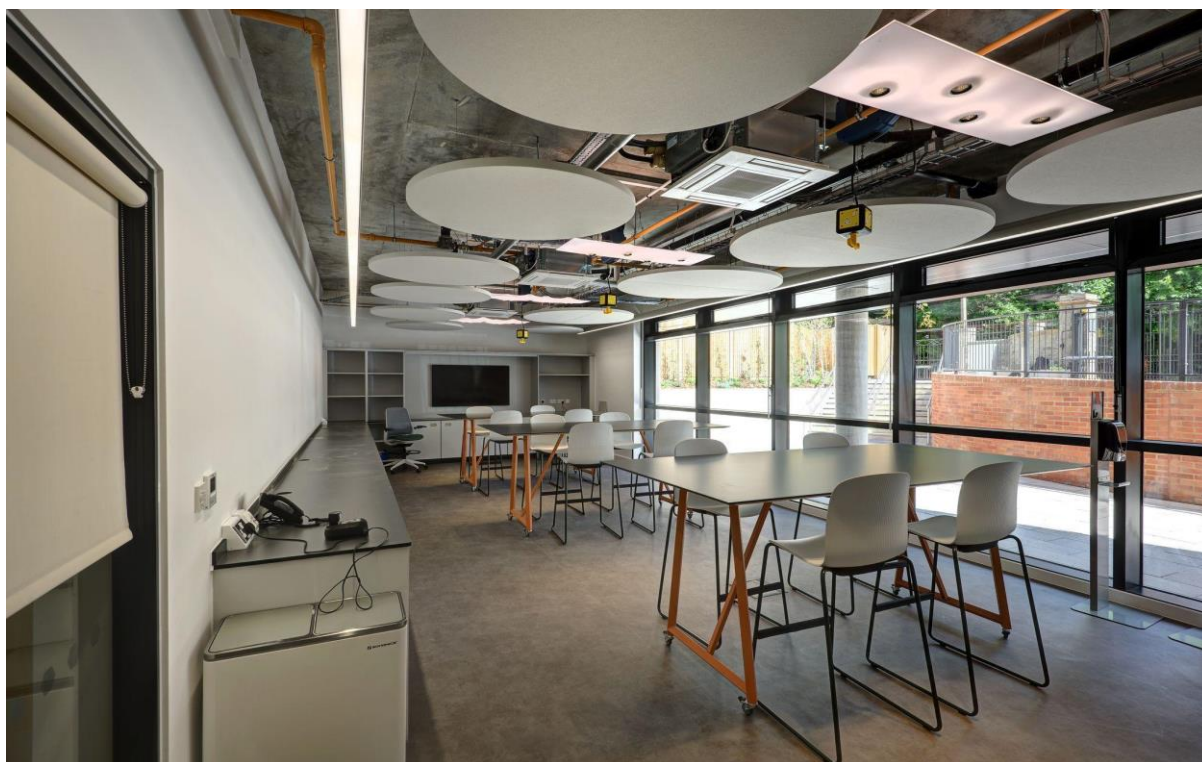
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Computer Science is a popular subject at GCSE. We follow the OCR syllabus and regularly have two classes each year. We have a number of academic and driven students continuing through to A Level, and an increasing number who go on to pursue Computer Science degrees at leading universities.

Professional development and life-long learning are essential to our department, where all teachers have an opportunity to teach across the year groups and courses, ensuring variety, motivation and CPD opportunities. We value collaboration and work well as a team to provide the very best Science education to our students as possible.



## The role:

Northwood College for Girls seeks a talented, knowledgeable, and enthusiastic teacher to lead our Computer Science Department into the future. This is a significant role which includes line management of other department members and overall responsibility for Computer Science teaching and learning across the whole school. The successful candidate will be able to communicate their enjoyment of the subject to students, strive to maintain the highest academic standards, and promote a genuine passion for science and its place in today's world. There is also the opportunity to teach STEAM enrichment classes throughout the school and opportunities for leadership within this area, for the right candidate.





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FOR GIRLS

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The successful candidate will teach throughout the age range from Year 7 to A Level. Our students follow the OCR GCSE and A Level specifications for Computer Science. At KS3 we deliver dynamic lessons on using Python and HTML, data storage and representation, and use of Raspberry Pi and MicroBits. There may also be opportunities to offer sessions in our Junior School, as well as contribute to our Sixth Form 'Enrich & Extend' programme to develop student skills beyond the curriculum and in advance of university.

All teachers at Northwood College are involved in the delivery of pastoral care as form tutors and are expected to make contributions to both the co- and extra- curricular life of the school.

We thank you for considering Northwood College and we look forward to receiving your application.

For further details and an application form please visit the school's website.

**Applications must be received by 9am on Thursday 25 January 2024**

**Interviews will take place w/c Monday 29 January 2024**

The GDST is committed to Diversity, Inclusion and Real Change. [Click here to read the GDST Charter for Action.](#)





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