

AMDG



STONYHURST

LEADER OF CO-CURRICULAR DRAMA

Candidate Information



# AN INTRODUCTION TO STONYHURST

Stonyhurst College is the UK's leading Catholic co-educational boarding and day school for pupils aged 3-18. Boarding is from the age of 7.

At the College, there are approximately 470 pupils aged 13-18, two thirds of whom are boarders. At Stonyhurst St Mary's Hall, the adjacent dedicated preparatory school, there are around 300 pupils aged 3-13. Stonyhurst is set in stunning countryside, near the Ribble and Hodder rivers and the beautiful Trough of Bowland. Manchester is only about an hour away by road or rail. The market town of Clitheroe is four miles away, and we are 12 miles from the city of Preston. The Lake District can be reached in about an hour, and the Yorkshire Dales are even closer.

Stonyhurst has a fascinating heritage, being the oldest continuously active Jesuit school in the world. It was founded in St Omer, Northern France (then the Spanish Netherlands), in 1593, and moved to its present site in Lancashire's beautiful Ribble Valley in 1794. Throughout the years of religious persecution in England, Stonyhurst educated the boys of the English Catholic aristocracy and gentry.

The College's Jesuit mission and identity, and its sense of family, set Stonyhurst apart from other schools. Pupils are urged to do as much as they can (*Quant Je Puis*) for other people following the example of Jesus Christ and following in the spirit and charism of the Jesuits. The College prepares young people to change the world for others.

Stonyhurst is a family where heritage and innovation are fused to inspire young people to be agents of change in the world.



# THE DEPARTMENT

The Drama Department is a growing department that forms a busy and exciting area of school. Our GCSE and A Level and examination results are consistently strong. Students of the department go on to study in a wide variety of fields within theatre, production, film & television, journalism, media, law and education. Recent ex-students have trained at RADA, Central, ALRA, Drama Studio London and the Drama Centre, with many going on to forge successful careers with companies including the RSC. Many pupils also join the National Youth Theatre and the successful candidate is likely to coach pupils for auditions.

The following courses are offered: AQA GCSE Drama, AQA A-Level Drama and Theatre Studies. Whether studied as a subject in its own right, or used as a learning medium across and outside the curriculum, drama makes an important contribution to the spiritual and intellectual progress of pupils at the college.

The Drama Department is well-resourced, the Academy Room provides a spacious practical area in which to host academic drama lessons and rehearsals. Fitted with a proscenium arch stage, rigged seating and new sound & lighting desk it is an excellent space for performance. There is also a large backstage area and green room, costume shed, plus two dedicated drama classrooms which include interactive whiteboards/electronic screens. The department works closely with the English department and SEN department to deliver a comprehensive drama programme and to offer cultural experiences for our students. We invite a theatre company and/or practitioner into school every year to run a whole-day workshop for our drama students. We aim to give our drama students the regular opportunity to visit the theatre. We frequent the theatres in Manchester and Liverpool 4 or 5 times a year, to see performances by The National Theatre, RSC and other world-renowned, touring companies.

Typically, the department stages two major productions a year (the most significant production being a musical in the Christmas term), with a range of smaller presentations over the course of the year. We are keen to run drama activities and clubs after school as our students are eager to get involved in practical drama work at every opportunity! In recent years we have staged *Guys and Dolls*, *The Mobile Phone Show*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Tempest*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Lord of the Flies* and most recently *Little Shop of Horrors*.







## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Our Leader of Co-curricular Drama would be responsible for:

All production elements relating to co-curricular performances;

- Planning a rehearsal schedule, running auditions, casting and leading rehearsals for the school shows
- Marketing of the shows, communication with students, parents, teachers and boarding staff
- Working closely with the sound & lights team on technical elements of the production
- Research and hiring of costume and set, where provisions cannot be found/made on site
- Planning and delivery of extra-curricular drama workshops and clubs
- Individual and small group tuition for auditions for the National Youth Theatre
- Working with the drama department on GCSE / A-Level practical work throughout the year



## PERSON SPECIFICATION

The successful candidate will be enthusiastic and hard-working with a high level of emotional intelligence. He/she will have strong communication skills and the ability to build good relationships with our pupils. A passion for drama is a must! He/she will have a strong commitment to the College's mission and identity as set out in the College Mission Statement, and they are also likely to demonstrate all of the following:

- Be in sympathy with the ethos of Stonyhurst as set out in our Mission Statement.
- Be an outstanding drama practitioner, with the ability to lead the co-curricular area of Drama to the required level.
- Be a hard-working person with drive and determination.
- Be an effective team member.
- Be able meet deadlines and work under pressure.
- Have an interest in theatre, music and dance.

Experience of directing musicals and plays, working on musical theatre and LAMDA teaching would be desirable.

In addition, the successful candidate must:

- Be entitled to work and reside in the UK
- Be in good health
- Have an excellent employment record
- Have excellent references
- Be committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people



# TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

Stonyhurst seeks to appoint exceptional teachers and practitioners who will inspire a love of learning in our pupils. The salary offered will be commensurate with the qualifications and experience of the successful candidate and in addition the College offers the following benefits:

## **Working environment**

- A beautiful working environment set in historic surroundings;
- Small class sizes with delightful pupils;
- Outstanding professional development and progression opportunities;
- A supportive team culture;
- All meals and refreshments during the working day provided free of charge;
- Use of our wide range of sporting facilities: free access to the swimming pool, tennis courts and 9 hole golf course, and subsidised gym membership.
- Approximately 19 weeks holiday per year.

## **Weekly Commitment**

This is a part-time position within a busy boarding school and lessons are timetabled over six days, Monday to Saturday. Wednesday teaching finishes at lunchtime and Saturday classes run until 11am. Since this role will be focussed on the co-curricular, rehearsals will mostly run after-school and on a Wednesday afternoon and during the run up to a show over weekends.

## **Appointment date**

September 2021.

## **Pension Scheme**

The School operates a money purchase pension scheme to which the employer contributes up to a maximum of 6% (matched to employee contributions).

## **Safeguarding**

All staff share responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of the pupils and must adhere to, and comply with, the School's Child Protection Policy at all times.

## **Pre-employment checks**

The appointment is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring check. The notice period will be one full term, following an initial probationary period.







## APPLICATION PROCESS

To arrange a confidential discussion about the role, please contact:

Nicholas Grigsby ([n.grigsby@stonyhurst.ac.uk](mailto:n.grigsby@stonyhurst.ac.uk))

The deadline for receipt of applications is **18<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 12 noon.**

Interviews will take place at the school on **w/c 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021.**

To apply, candidates should complete the application via TES online.

Any queries regarding the recruitment and application process may be directed to [recruitment@Stonyhurst.ac.uk](mailto:recruitment@Stonyhurst.ac.uk)



