

## **The Royal School Dungannon**

**Head of Girls' Physical Education – 3 days per week as part of a job share  
Permanent from September 2023  
(2 Teaching Allowances pro rata)**

### **General Information**

Founded by Royal Charter in 1608, the Royal School Dungannon (RSD) is one of Ireland's oldest schools. RSD is a co-educational voluntary grammar and boarding school which has 680 pupils, of whom 56 are boarders, many from overseas. The School is situated in its own spacious grounds in a quiet residential area of the market town of Dungannon, enjoying excellent road links to Belfast and other towns, and also to the Province's main airports. A recent rebuilding and renovation programme has provided the School with excellent facilities across all subjects as well as superb sporting facilities, including a sports hall and floodlit Astroturf hockey pitch. The curriculum at RSD is a blend of traditional and contemporary subjects and the School returns excellent public examination results each year, with around 90% of pupils entering universities throughout the UK and Ireland.

### **The Physical Education Department**

The Physical Education Department aims to provide young people with an appreciation of the value of regular physical exercise and the resulting health and fitness benefits. There is an emphasis on team sports, within a competitive framework, where teamwork, leadership and friendly rivalry are promoted and where the lessons of how to win and to lose well are valued. Pupils are encouraged to develop a life-long interest in sport.

There are three specialist Physical Education teachers (two for Girls' Physical Education as a job share and one for Boys' Physical Education) and they are assisted in the Games programme by a large number of non-specialist staff from other Departments. The Northern Ireland Curriculum is followed and all pupils in Years 8-12 are timetabled for Physical Education. There are Games lessons for all pupils, from Year 8 to Year 14. Physical Education is studied at GCSE, AS and A Level and is a popular options choice for pupils, with a number progressing to sports-related courses at university. The Department uses the CCEA specification for GCSE and the WJEC specification for AS and A Level. Each teacher is provided with an iPad and Pencil and the Department has its own Apple Macs and access to Apple TV.

Hockey is the main sport for girls with Saturday fixtures for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> XI teams plus U13 and U14 A and B teams. The school has a brand-new Astroturf pitch with floodlights for hockey, with excellent facilities for changing and parking, plus a shale hockey pitch and four tennis courts. There are strong links with Dungannon Ladies' Hockey Club who use the school facilities as their home ground. Other sports are also promoted for girls, including: athletics, netball, football, rugby, swimming, cross country, tennis, table tennis and fitness/dance.

In addition, the school has four rugby and two cricket pitches, indoor cricket and shooting areas, cricket/golf nets, and a Sports Hall and Gymnasium with adjacent PE teaching room, all of which provide excellent facilities for pupils across a range of sports. There is also a newly refurbished fitness suite which is used both by staff and pupils.

### **Main Responsibilities**

The School wishes to appoint a Head of Girls' Physical Education who can lead the PE Department (in collaboration with their job share partner and the Head of Boys' PE) and contribute to the teaching of PE up to and including at Advanced Level.

- To be responsible to the Headmaster, as Head of Department, for effective teaching and learning in PE at all levels up to and including Advanced Level and in line with School policies.
- To ensure that Schemes of Work are produced, reviewed and updated; that appropriate targets are set for all pupils; that both formative and summative assessment are utilised; and that appropriate internal examinations are set and marked.
- To promote the subject(s) taught within the Department; to organise Department meetings and to represent the Department when required; to manage the Department's budget; to manage all aspects of the learning environment within the Department; and to lead Departmental self-evaluation.
- To ensure that staff are deployed effectively within the Department, including non-specialist staff; to be responsible for the induction of new staff; and to monitor the quality of teaching and learning in the Department.
- To ensure that the School's extra-curricular programme for girls' sports is planned, organised and delivered and that sport is promoted to all pupils and within the community.
- To act as a house teacher and to carry out duties in accordance with School policies and practice.

The duties outlined above are not a comprehensive definition of the post but are indicative of the general role played by all Heads of Department in addition to the normal duties of a Teacher. A full Description of Duties for Head of Department and the Job Description for a Teacher are available on the School website as part of the Application Pack for this post.

## **Qualifications and Experience**

### **Essential Criteria – Applicants must (as at 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023)**

- Have a good honours degree (2:2 or above) in which PE is a major component or an equivalent qualification
- Be a qualified teacher recognised by the Department of Education for Northern Ireland and the GTCNI
- Have the ability to teach PE to GCSE and Advanced Level
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the curricular requirements in PE as part of the Northern Ireland Curriculum
- Demonstrate well-developed and effective planning and organisational skills in the following areas: time management; chairing meetings; managing resources; communication skills; and promoting a stimulating learning environment
- Demonstrate an understanding of the ways in which children learn and how individual needs may be assessed and met; and experience of setting targets, evaluating pupils' progress and reporting on pupils' progress so as to effect improvement
- Have the ability to lead and motivate others, working collaboratively with colleagues to develop resources and Schemes of Work, valuing their contributions and managing sensitive matters effectively
- Have experience, knowledge and understanding of the process of Departmental self-evaluation and implementing action plans
- Have the ability to lead and coordinate the School's sports programme for girls, including: coaching teams; organising and leading team practices; managing non specialist staff; encouraging 'sport for all'; preparing pupils for elite level performance; and promoting sport in the broader community
- Have a recognised hockey coaching qualification and/or 1 year of experience coaching hockey (aged 11-18 years)
- Have a commitment to participating in the extra-curricular life of the school, especially coaching hockey and being involved in Saturday sport
- Have the ability to act as a house teacher and to carry out duties in accordance with School policies and practice

- Be able to offer an additional subject for teaching at Key Stage 3
- Demonstrate a good record of attendance and health

### **Desirable Criteria**

#### **Preference may be given to applicants who (at 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023)**

- Have a 2:1 honours degree or higher, or a higher degree in which PE is a major component or an equivalent qualification
- Have experience of leading all or part of a school's sports programme for girls including: coaching teams; organising and leading team practices; managing non specialist staff; encouraging 'sport for all'; preparing pupils for elite level performance; and promoting sport in the broader community
- Are willing to make a commitment to play a role in the Boarding Department
- Have experience of teaching able children
- Have experience of using ICT to enhance teaching and learning
- Have experience of the role of a house teacher or equivalent pastoral experience

The Board of governors reserves the right to enhance the above criteria for shortlisting purposes.

### **Applications**

The completed Application Form should be returned **by first post on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023** addressed to: The Headmaster, The Royal School Dungannon, 2 Ranfurly Road, Dungannon, County Tyrone, BT71 6EG and clearly marked "HODPE23". Application Forms received after the closing time will not be considered.

E-mail submission of Application Forms before that time will be accepted but in that case a signed, paper copy must be received in the School by the closing time stated above.

Applicants should state clearly on their Application Form how they meet the criteria. Those applicants who are shortlisted will be invited for interview during the week beginning **20<sup>th</sup> March 2023**. Specific details about the interview format and structure will be supplied to all shortlisted applicants by **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023**. Applicants who have not received notification of interview by this date will have been unsuccessful on this occasion.

In order to comply with DENI guidelines on Child Protection, shortlisted applicants should bring an original birth certificate and/or marriage certificate (if appropriate) plus a means of photographic identification, such as a passport or driving licence, to the interview.