

Thomas Bennett Community College



Appointment of

for

Information about Thomas Bennett Community College [designated a Sports College from September 2003]

Location

Crawley is an established and lively 'new town', thirty miles south of London. There are good road and rail systems and Crawley is adjacent to the M23 and Gatwick airport. In 1950 the original new town nucleus- the villages of Crawley, Three Bridges and Ifield- had a combined population of approximately 9,500 and this has grown since to nearly 100,000. Industrial development in the area is varied and is thriving.

Currently, the town is divided into thirteen main residential areas each having its own shopping centre, church, primary school, community centre and doctors' surgeries. A new neighbourhood has been built in recent years – Maidenbower - in response to the growing need.

With the growth in the population and the increasingly diverse needs of the community, considerable development is planned for Crawley and in particular Crawley schools. We were part of an ambitious PFI scheme that is now complete. Construction of the new, one-site College began in 2004 and was completed in August 2005.

The College

The original Thomas Bennett CC opened in 1958. It was a split-site comprehensive college and at one time was the largest comprehensive in Europe. Since September 2005 we now occupy the one-site College and the adjacent K2 Crawley Leisure centre [to which we have dual-use access].

At present we have 1320 students on roll and that roll is set to remain at about this level over the next few years.

The College mainly serves four Crawley neighbourhoods: Broadfield, Southgate, Tilgate and Furnace Green although we do have students coming to us from other areas as well. We are a culturally diverse community and we celebrate and are enriched by the range of students within the college.



The College was successful in its application to become a Specialist Sports College, with effect from September 2003. Since September 2004, we are also the School Sport Coordinator centre for all Crawley schools. These exciting developments sit well with the development of the new school and the relocation of massive leisure facilities [including a 50m indoor swimming pool, all weather pitches and track, a number of MUGAs, dance and fitness areas, climbing walls, and much more] for the whole of Crawley on the new site as part of the new building programme.

Structure and Organisation

Students are separated into four houses: Roberts, Hepburn, Parker and Wallis. The Sixth Form does not belong to the house system. In addition, we have a special facility for up to 18 autistic students.

We also have a thriving adult education programme, which makes extensive use of the site during the day as well as for evening sessions. In all that we do we try to emphasise the importance of community and the college's place within it.

Equal Value

We adhere to a well-rehearsed philosophy of education that is entitled Equal Value. Essentially this means that we as a community work hard to give practical effect to the principle that all human beings are of equal value and therefore equally deserving of our respect, support and efforts. The individual student's personal and educational development lies at the heart of our work.

We share the belief that no-one should receive less favourable treatment on the grounds of: race, gender, disability, sexuality, age, income, religion, colour ethnic or national, origin, marital status, nationality.



Her Majesty The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh on her visit to the school

Our overarching aim is to provide a secure and happy environment in which all our students can enjoy working and learning, and in which all our students can develop their potential to the fullest extent.

We are committed to the safeguarding and welfare of our students. The successful applicant to this post will be required to undertake a criminal record check via the CRB.

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

- Our main concern will always be the young person's safety.
- We will listen and take seriously what the young person says.
- We will work together with other agencies.
- We will work as closely as possible with parents/guardians for the well being and protection of the young person.
- We will be involved in the least intrusive intervention that protects the young person.
- Staff with responsibility for protecting children will be afforded appropriate support and training.

Staffing

There are at present 106 full time equivalent teaching staff and 28 support staff.

The current Leadership Team consists of:

Headteacher	Yasmin Maskatiya
Deputy Headteacher	Julian Grant
Deputy Headteacher	Marcus Priestley
Assistant Headteacher, Year 7	Pauline Findlay
Assistant Headteacher, Year 8	Louise Clarke
Assistant Headteacher, Year 9	Pauline Montalto
Assistant Headteacher, Year 10	Mark Sheridan
Assistant Headteacher, Year 11	Gill Beeney
Assistant Headteacher, Year 12/3	Shouvik Ghosh

Students

	2008-9
Year 7	203
Year 8	195
Year 9	210
Year 10	269
Year 11	230
Post-16	200

Our intake is a comprehensive mixed ability intake with the majority of students average or below average ability – the percentage of students with SEN is above average. There is a significant minority of students who come from disadvantaged backgrounds.

16% of our students are eligible for Free School Meals.

We have approximately 11% of students from the various ethnic communities in Crawley, the majority of them are Asian.

Curriculum

Our curriculum has recently been reshaped at Key Stage 4 and at post-16 as a result of the recent changes to A-Level and BTEC. We are increasingly seeing 14-19 as a continuum in our curriculum planning and guidance for students.

In outline our curriculum offers the following:

Year Group	Curriculum coverage
Years 7, 8 & 9	All National Curriculum Subjects Drama and Food Studies Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Information Technology Think time – integrated cross curricular course [Y7 only]
Years 10 & 11	Our Entitlement Curriculum which comprises: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ All National Curriculum subjects ⇒ A humanities course ⇒ An extended option choice ⇒ BTEC and vocational GCSE courses ⇒ Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education ⇒ Vocational guidance and work experience
Years 12, 13 & 14	A range of AS Levels and A2 Levels A range of BTEC courses Sport, leisure & recreation courses, including BTEC and leadership courses General Studies Programme

The curriculum is coordinated by the Leadership Team, mainly through the work of the Deputy Headteacher in charge of teaching and learning but also by the Assistant Headteacher, Director of Studies post. A subject leader and his/her deputy lead the subject teams.

In addition to the taught curriculum, we have a wide range of extra-curricular activities. Our yearly calendar gives a good picture of the business of our college year.

Learning Support and Development is a key part of our work. We have carried out the process of expanding the impact of LSD. A central aspect for consideration in this expansion has been the range of social inclusion strategies we can develop and employ.

APPLICATIONS

Application forms will be used to enable all potential applicants to provide a common set of core data.

All posts are exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, requiring a signed statement that the individual is not on List 99, disqualified from work with children or subject to sanctions imposed by a regulatory body.

All members of staff will be given an induction programme which will clearly identify the school policies and procedure, including child protection, and make clear the expectations and codes of conduct which will govern how staff carry out their roles.

TBCC recognises that safer recruitment and selection is not just about the start of employment, but should be part of a larger policy framework for all staff. We will therefore provide ongoing training and support for all staff, as identified through performance management.

Your Application

Please write a letter of no more than two sides of A4 detailing your experience to date.

Applications should consist of this letter and a completed application form to be returned to:

Yasmin Maskatiya
Headteacher
Thomas Bennett Community College
Ashdown Drive
Tilgate
Crawley
West Sussex RH10 5AD

The closing date is:

