



MERCHANT TAYLORS'
Prep

Information for candidates

Head of History

September 2026

For boys 3-11



Welcome from the Head

Thank you for expressing an interest in joining us here at Merchant Taylors' Prep.

MTP is a warm and welcoming boys 3-11 prep school in Moor Park, Rickmansworth. We are a school committed to maintaining a strong academic tradition whilst preserving a balance between the academic, spiritual, emotional and physical needs of our pupils. We seek to develop the boys' character through promoting values and dispositions, high quality teaching and an extensive range of extra-curricular activities.

Since joining the Merchant Taylors' family of schools in 2015 we have been collaborating with the senior school to create, for the first time in Northwood, a 'through school' experience for boys from 3 to 18. This has been a very exciting development conceived with the aim of creating a cohesive and seamless curriculum and making the process of transfer from the prep school to the senior school simpler.

The admissions system for our pupils to Merchant Taylors' School is based on on-going assessment at school and not dependent on one external examination (i.e. 11+ or 13+). This has freed significant time in our curriculum, which we have been devoting to 'intellectual curiosity' and the development of higher order thinking skills.

Prior to 2015, we were known as Northwood Prep, with a very successful history since 1910, when the school was founded by Francis Terry. Throughout more recent developments, Francis Terry's original vision of the school has been maintained. A Christian, caring environment has been established where each pupil is valued as an individual and given a full range of opportunities, and all concerned - pupils, staff and governors - strive for excellence.

Mr Miles Chester
Head



The School

History

Merchant Taylors' Prep, originally founded in 1910 as Northwood Prep by Francis Terry, has a long history of excellence in education. The school moved to its current site at Moor Farm in 1982, where it has since flourished. In 2015, the school became Merchant Taylors' Prep, aligning with the broader Merchant Taylors' educational family.

Set on a beautiful 15-acre site, the school combines Grade II listed farm buildings with modern facilities such as the Pre-Prep and Sports Hall. This unique setting provides a stimulating environment where pupils can learn, grow, and thrive. The grounds are rich in history. They are the site of Cardinal Wolsey's home the Manor of the More, later owned by Henry VIII and lived in by Catherine of Aragon, the site of the Treaty of the More in 1525. This heritage is an integral part of the school's character, providing a sense of continuity and inspiration.

Academic Excellence

We provide an exceptional academic experience within a selective setting, designed to challenge and inspire our pupils. Admission is competitive at each entry point, 3+, 4+, and 7+, ensuring we admit boys who will thrive in our supportive, dynamic, and intellectually stimulating environment. Our broad and balanced curriculum is tailored to meet the needs of each individual, fostering intellectual curiosity and a love of learning.

Through a combination of excellent teaching and strong pastoral care, we aim to develop well-rounded, confident learners. Our pupils consistently achieve excellent results and make successful transitions to senior school, with the majority progressing to Merchant Taylors' Senior School. Many boys are also awarded scholarships for their academic achievements and talents in sports, music, and the performing arts.



Head of History

A talented and inspiring Head of History is required for September 2026. They will deliver engaging and high-quality History lessons within our thriving Prep School across Years 1–6, fostering curiosity, critical thinking, and a love of learning among pupils.

The postholder ensures a coherent, ambitious and enquiry-driven History curriculum that reflects the School's academic ethos, overseeing curriculum design, progression and assessment to maintain high standards of scholarship and intellectual challenge. They promote pupils' historical curiosity, disciplinary thinking and capacity to evaluate evidence with precision and clarity. Where appropriate, they identify opportunities for enrichment and experiential learning that deepen historical understanding.

The Head of History teaches History in Years 3–6 and contributes fully to the pastoral life of the School as a Form Teacher.

The above position provides a wonderful opportunity to work in a high achieving school with very well motivated pupils, small classes and supportive parents.

**Closing date for applications:
w/c 16 March 2026, 8AM**

**Interviews to be held from 17
March 2026**

Head of History - Job Description

Line Management: Assistant Head (Curriculum Innovation)

Key Responsibilities

Strategic Leadership of History

- Provide a clear academic direction for History aligned with whole-school priorities.
- Maintain high standards of scholarship, rigour and intellectual challenge.
- Promote enquiry-based pedagogy and disciplinary thinking across the department.
- Contribute to whole-school academic dialogue and curriculum development.

Curriculum & Assessment

- Lead the design and review of a coherently sequenced History curriculum (Years 1-6).
- Ensure progression in both substantive knowledge and disciplinary concepts.
- Oversee assessment systems and monitor standards across the department.
- Use assessment information to inform planning, challenge and intervention.
- Identify purposeful opportunities for outdoor learning, the School's historic environment or enrichment to enhance understanding.
- Ensure diversity, accuracy and breadth in curriculum content.

Leadership of the History Department

- Lead and, where applicable, line manage members of the History department.
- Monitor teaching quality, pupil outcomes and curriculum implementation.
- Maintain consistency in expectations, marking and feedback.
- Oversee departmental development planning and ensure alignment with whole-school priorities.
- Build links with Merchant Taylors' School and, where appropriate, with local historical institutions.

Teaching & Learning

- Teach History in Years 3-6 to a high standard, modelling excellent classroom practice.
- Develop pupils' ability to analyse evidence, evaluate interpretations and construct reasoned arguments.
- Promote extended historical writing and precise disciplinary vocabulary.
- Foster intellectual curiosity and enthusiasm for the subject.

Enrichment, Visits & Wider Learning

- Develop a programme of visits and enrichment experiences that enhance historical understanding.
- Arrange visiting speakers, workshops or museum engagement where appropriate.
- Promote opportunities for pupils to engage with historical artefacts, environments and local heritage.
- Act as the public face of History; communicate effectively with parents regarding curriculum and academic progress.
- Act as a Form Teacher, fulfilling pastoral and academic tracking responsibilities.
- Support the implementation of the School's Behaviour Policy.
- Contribute to the wider intellectual and co-curricular life of the School.



History Teacher -Person Specification

	Essential	Desirable	Method of Assessment
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualified Teacher Status • Degree in History or closely related discipline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further training in assessment, curriculum design or leadership. 	Applicant's Certificates
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience teaching History within a prep or primary setting • Contribution to curriculum planning and implementation • Effective use of assessment to inform teaching and pupil progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience leading a subject area, department or whole-school initiative • Coordination of progression across year groups • Organisation of enrichment activities or educational visits 	Application Form Interview Professional References
Safeguarding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong commitment to safeguarding and child protection, including knowledge of child protection policies and procedures 		

History Teacher -Person Specification

	Essential	Desirable	Method of Assessment
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to inspire high academic standards and intellectual curiosity. • Strong organisational and communication skills • Ability to analyse pupil performance and use data to inform decision-making • Ability to lead, influence and maintain high expectations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience mentoring or developing colleagues • Confidence presenting curriculum vision to parents or external partners 	Applicant's Certificates
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong subject knowledge in History. • Clear grasp of progression in historical knowledge and disciplinary thinking • Application of enquiry-based approaches to History teaching in the prep context • Understanding of curriculum sequencing and cumulative knowledge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution to curriculum review or redesign • Creative but disciplined approach to enrichment and outdoor learning • Awareness of research-informed practice or current curriculum developments • Recognition of History's contribution to literacy and critical thinking 	Application Form Interview Professional References
Personal Competencies and Qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warm, credible and collaborative professional presence. • High levels of integrity and professionalism • Reflective and intellectually curious • Ability to build strong relationships with pupils, colleagues and parents • Calm, organised and resilient • Commitment to the School's ethos and values 		



History Department

Prep

The Prep Department at Merchant Taylors' Prep provides a dynamic, stimulating, and supportive environment where pupils in Years 3, 4, 5, and 6 continue to develop academically and personally. Based on the main Prep site, our department offers a smooth progression through these important middle years, building on earlier foundations while preparing pupils with the knowledge, skills, and confidence they need for future success.

Our curriculum is designed to spark curiosity, encourage creativity, and help children build important skills for life. We focus on each child as an individual, mixing teacher-led lessons with chances for children to explore their own ideas. This helps every child develop and maintain a love of learning.

History

The History Department at Merchant Taylors' Prep plays a vital role in nurturing pupils' curiosity about the past and developing their skills as young historians. Situated on a site rich in historical significance, pupils explore British and world history from the Roman era through to modern times, learning to ask insightful questions, analyse sources, and construct informed arguments.

Through a thoughtfully planned curriculum delivered by passionate teachers, students build not only subject knowledge but also key skills such as evaluation, communication and perspective.



Benefits

Professional Development Opportunities

The School offers an extensive induction programme for all new staff and encourages ongoing development through generous INSET provision. Funding for essential training and career progression is provided to help you excel in your role.

Generous Pension & Financial Support

The School offers membership to a Defined Contribution (DC) pension scheme through the Aviva Pension Trust for Independent Schools (APTIS). Additional financial support for scheme members includes life assurance, offering four times your salary in the event of death, and income protection for long-term illness or injury.

Health & Wellbeing

Your wellbeing is a priority, with access to on-site School Nurse, and counselling services/Employee Assistance Program (EAP). We also offer free access to our extensive leisure and sporting facilities, including a gym, swimming pool, and parkland.

Work-Life Balance & Family Benefits

Enjoy longer holidays than the maintained sector, along with free lunch and refreshments during term time. Fee concessions are available for the children of members of our teaching departments subject to entry requirements. Additional lifestyle perks include cycle schemes, parking, and discounts.



Applications

Please apply by downloading our application form from the school's website www.mtpn.org.uk and either email to recruitment@mtpn.org.uk or send by post to:

Mr Miles Chester, Head
Merchant Taylors' Prep
Moor Farm
Sandy Lodge Road
Rickmansworth
Hertfordshire
WD3 1LW

Closing date for applications: w/c 16 March 2026, 8AM

Interviews to be held from 17 March 2026

Suitable candidates may be interviewed before the closing date and Merchant Taylors' Prep reserves the right to withdraw the position if an early appointment is made. Applicants are therefore encouraged to apply early.

Merchant Taylors' School is an equal opportunities employer and committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. As this role will bring you into contact with children you are expected to share this commitment. This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. Applicants will be required to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).



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www.mtpn.org.uk

How we use your information

We will use the information which you provided, and which we collect from other sources (such as from references and from the Disclosure and Barring Service) for the following purposes: to assess your suitability for the role for which you have applied, to assess your suitability to work with children and to enable us to comply with our legal obligations (including safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children).

Further information on how the School uses personal data is set out in the School's Transparency Notice, which can be found on the Policies page of the School Website