

Stanborough



Information Pack for Candidates

Finance Officer

July 2024

Grow and Succeed

High Expectations | Mutual Respect | Quality Learning | Success for All



Welcome

July 2024

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in the role of Finance Officer at Stanborough School. We are delighted that you see Stanborough as a school where you can make an impact. This position will offer an exciting opportunity for the successful applicant to work with us as we continue to develop our thriving and dynamic over-subscribed school.

It has been a privilege to lead Stanborough School since September 2018. My team share an educational philosophy which promotes the highest expectations and consistent pastoral care. Our core aim is to nurture enquiring minds and to inspire our youngsters to pursue their dreams, leaving our school ready to excel in a future which has limitless possibilities. I am delighted that all of the hard work by staff and students has been recognised by Ofsted and that following an inspection in January 2023 we have been awarded a 'Good' grade. Details of this are given later in this pack.

Our aim is simple, we want to be a truly outstanding school in every sense of the word and we want to be confident that our students get the best possible education that is ambitious, varied and stimulating. At the heart of everything we do is a desire to ensure that our students receive the highest standards of teaching and learning. Our curriculum is broad and academically challenging in order to prepare students for the rigours of further study or work.

At Stanborough, we care passionately about the development of each student's character, their personality and social skills, the way they treat others and the contribution they make to society. We place strong emphasis on outstanding behaviour. Excellent learning is underpinned by excellent behaviour. We expect our students to show respect when interacting with other members of our school community and to uphold the reputation of the school in the local area.

In September 2019 we became an 8 form entry school. Raising our intake number is a reflection of the success and popularity of Stanborough School in the local area.

If you are passionate about education and really feel you can make a positive difference to the school then we look forward to receiving your application to join us at Stanborough.



Mrs M John
Headteacher





Ofsted Report – March 2023

The school was delighted to be awarded an Ofsted 'Good' grade following an inspection held in January 2023.

The report emphasised the hard work of staff and students over the past four years since the last inspection. The full report is available at <https://stanborough.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/2023-OFSTED-Report.pdf>. Below are some highlights from the report.

'Pupils behave well at Stanborough'

- 'Pupils behave well. They know and understand what leaders expect of them'
- 'Leaders set clear and high expectations for behaviour. Pupils are clear that disruption or discriminatory behaviour will not be tolerated'
- 'Pupils know staff will help if they have a worry or issue. They benefit from a range of effective support services such as counselling and well-being support'

'Leaders have redesigned the curriculum so that it is academically ambitious'

- 'Pupils study a broad and balanced curriculum which enables them to pursue their talents and interests'
- 'Leaders have ensured that in many subjects, the curriculum is planned well to build pupils' knowledge over time'
- 'Teachers present subject matter clearly, promoting appropriate discussion about what is being taught'

'Leaders ensure there is a wide range of opportunities for positive personal development'

- 'Pupils learn values such as mutual respect and tolerance through a well-planned programme of life skills, assemblies and tutor time'

'Leaders have taken clear and effective action to ensure the school has improved since the last inspection'

- 'Staff feel that leaders listen to them with regard to workload and well-being'

We are proud of the above comments and we would encourage all prospective candidates to read the [full report](#).

Stanborough School

[Stanborough School](#) is an 11-18 co-educational Academy that sits on the southern fringe of Welwyn Garden City. The school currently has 1250 students. Due to parental demand for places at the school, from September 2019 the school expanded to 8 form entry. This has required a substantial amount of new premises work to be completed which includes a new teaching block as well as a drama and music block.

We pride ourselves in being a fully inclusive school that serves our local community and on being a school that does its best for each individual student so they can achieve their potential during their time at Stanborough.

Stanborough is proud of its community involvement. We work closely with the four other local Secondary Schools as part of the Welwyn-Hatfield 16-19 Consortium. We also take a leading role in hosting and developing a number of other key community developments such as the Handside Schools Partnership with a local special school and primary school.

The school boasts excellent facilities including our first-rate IT resources, a legacy of our Specialist Computing Status. With a dedicated Art, Design and Technology block, Sixth Form Centre and the recently constructed MFL and Humanities and Music and Drama teaching blocks the students enjoy some outstanding facilities. The exceptional sporting facilities include 9 netball courts and 5 football pitches as well as a purpose built sports hall. Our excellent resources in all curriculum areas also show our commitment to giving students a wide variety of curricular opportunities including technology, the performing arts and computing. All students in Years 7 and 8 now bring their own devices and this is being rolled out across the whole school.

Our greatest asset at the school is our staff. We want the best educators for our students and through exceptional retention and support we have a stable staff with very low turn-over. A number of staff who started at the school as NQTs and ECTs now find themselves in senior positions at the school. We have a strong support team and many staff have remained with the school for several years.

With the appointment of a new Headteacher from September 2018, this is an exciting time to join the school and become part of an ambitious and hard-working team dedicated to moving the school forward. We are looking for support staff and teachers who will embody our four principles of High Expectations; Mutual Respect; Quality Learning and Success for All.



Welwyn Garden City

Welwyn Garden City is a town in Hertfordshire with a population of just under 50,000 people. Welwyn Garden City was the second Garden City to be built, founded in 1920 and it exemplifies the physical, cultural, social and planning ideals of the time it was built.

Location and Transport Links

Welwyn Garden City enjoys superb communication links. Stanborough School sits five minutes from the A1(M) and approximately 10 minutes from the M25. The M1 is only a 30 minute drive away. The train station in Welwyn Garden City is on the main East Coast Line linking Scotland to London and Kings Cross station is a 30 minutes train journey.

Luton Airport is less than 30 minutes away and both Heathrow and Stansted Airports are less than an hour's drive away. The town is also a central hub for local bus services which link it to the rest of Hertfordshire.

Facilities and Amenities

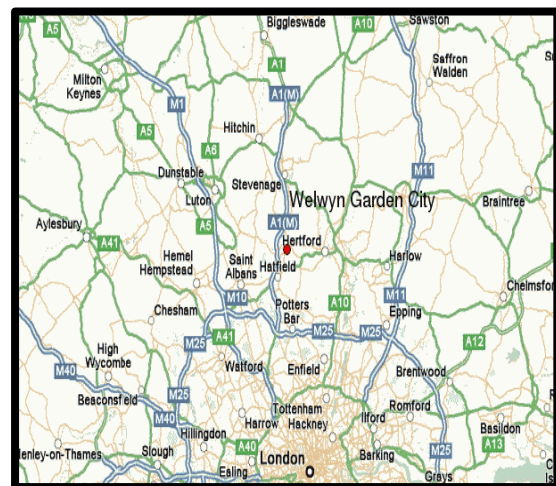
Stanborough School is a two minute walk from the Gosling Sports Park and is only a short car/bus journey to the University of Hertfordshire Sports Village in Hatfield. A range of shops, bars, restaurants and cafes can be found in the Town Centre as well as in the local Galleria shopping centre. St Albans, Hitchin and Hertford are all around 30 minutes away and all offer a range of retail and leisure experiences.

The town also has the QEII Hospital, a theatre, cinema and numerous other cultural and leisure facilities. Stanborough School lies at the southern edge of the town and the school grounds back onto the Stanborough Lakes Country Park.

Housing and Accommodation

A range of accommodation options are available in the local area and there is a thriving rental market. The excellent transport links allow many staff at the school to live in other parts of Hertfordshire as well as North London.

Help and advice can be given by the school if accommodation is required.



What can we offer you at Stanborough?

- The chance to work in a thriving and developing school that puts the student at the heart of everything it does.
- The chance to work with amazing staff who are passionate about developing the young people in their care.
- Personally tailored training and CPD.
- An expanding school with great facilities including a new teaching block with 17 classrooms as well as a new Music and Drama block.
- An opportunity to be involved in the 16 – 19 Welwyn Hatfield Consortium, one of the oldest and well-established of its kind in the UK. This involves close links and collaboration with four local schools and offers our Post 16 students access to over 50 Level 3 qualifications.
- Great resources for staff, including free parking on site, good rail and road links to the school and an attractive edge of town location next to Stanborough Lakes and Gosling Sports Park.
- Staff can benefit from the school's children of staff admission rule.



FINANCE OFFICER



JOB DESCRIPTION

Grade: H4 to H5 (depending on experience)

Responsible to: Finance Manager

Job context and working arrangements:

You will be based in the Finance office and will work closely with the Finance Manager who will be your line manager, providing support, monitoring and discussion of important issues.

Purpose of your job:

To assist the school Finance Manager in the day-to-day financial administration.

Main responsibilities:

- Tasks to include, but not limited to:
 - Administration and reconciliation of financial records for school visits, FSM and all other student income
 - Raising invoices, reconciling payments received and ensuring recovery of outstanding invoices
 - Raising and issuing purchase orders, negotiating with suppliers and comparison of suppliers to ensure best value
 - Checking and processing payment of invoices and investigating discrepancies
 - Checking, processing and reconciling petty cash
 - Maintain various spreadsheets to record items of expenditure and income
 - Managing income received on online payment platform
 - Counting and preparing cash/cheques for banking
 - To support staff, parents and students

In addition to the main functions of the job, there is an expectation that any finance office jobs will be undertaken when required, at the request of the School Business Manager

Knowledge, experience and training

- The ability to work with initiative and common sense
- Good inter-personal skills
- Good time management and prioritisation skills
- Accuracy and checking of work for quality
- Experience on finance systems
- Confidence in Microsoft Word and Excel
- Knowledge of accounting procedures not necessarily required but work needs to be methodical and accurate
- The position requires contact with students, staff and parents therefore a firm but fair approach and a sense of humour are essential qualities

Full training will be provided as necessary in line with the requirements of the post and changes in technology.

Additional Information:

All staff at Stanborough School have a comprehensive package of support, training and performance management, giving scope for personal and professional development. Stanborough values all of its employees as part of a team.

It is a requirement of all staff that they sign the IT Acceptable Use Policy and attend Safeguarding and Prevent training.

Whilst every effort has been made to explain the main responsibilities and duties of the post, each individual task to be undertaken will not be identified. Employees will be expected to comply with any reasonable request from a manager to undertake work of a similar level that is not specified in this job description. The job description is current to the date shown but, in consultation with you, it may be changed by the Headteacher to reflect or anticipate changes in the job commensurate with the grade and job title.

July 2024

Finance Officer – Person Specification



Qualifications

Essential	Desirable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working on finance systems • Willingness and desire to undertake further professional development and training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working in an education setting • Continuous on-going Professional Development

Knowledge and skills

Essential	Desirable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accuracy and checking of work for quality • Experience working in a finance office • Confidence in Microsoft Word and Excel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of sales ledger, purchase ledger, procurement and credit control • Experience of the administration of financial records in schools • Experience of Access Education • Knowledge of accounting procedures

Professional Attributes:

Essential	Desirable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to work with initiative and common sense • Good inter-personal skills • Good time management and prioritisation skills • Able to work independently and take responsibility for own tasks • Methodical and accurate • Holding positive values and attitudes and adopting high standards of behaviour in a professional role • Team worker – able to support/communicate • A willingness to participate actively in the life and work of the school to support its ethos and culture 	

Personal skills:

Essential	Desirable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highly effective communication skills with both young people and adults • Firm but fair approach and a sense of humour • Effective time management skills and an ability to meet deadlines and work under sustained pressure • Commitment to implementing whole school policies relating to the safeguarding of children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proven track record of successful teamwork

The above will be evidenced by a variety of means including:
 Application Form - Letter of application - References - Interview process

How to apply and the Selection Process

9th July to 6th August 2024

Application Window

For an informal discussion about the post prior to application please contact Karen Ashley, School Business Manager, on 01707 321755 or email kashley@stanborough.herts.sch.uk

6th August 2024 (9 a.m.)

Deadline for applications

Applications should be made via the MyNewTerm portal

<https://www.mynewterm.com/school/Stanborough-School/137847>

Week commencing 12th August

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend a formal interview at the school

Prospective candidates are encouraged to apply as soon as possible as we reserve the right to call candidates for interview and appoint before the closing date

