



pipers corner SCHOOL

An independent day school for girls aged 4-18

Recruitment Pack

Lead Academic and Research Librarian





The School

Pipers Corner is a Girls' School Association (GSA) and Heads' Conference Association (HMC) Independent School for girls aged 4-18. Set in 96 acres of beautiful Chiltern countryside, the School is four miles north of High Wycombe and two miles from Great Missenden. In its most recent ISI inspection (March 2023) the School was graded as "excellent" in all categories.

Founded in 1930, the School was established on its current site in 1945. The School comprises approximately 620 students, employs more than 170 staff, and has a total income approaching £15m. Demand for a place at Pipers has increased in recent years, and we remain full.

Our site has incredible facilities to inspire the next generation, we have a 280 seat theatre, fully equipped for our student technical team, with plenty of performances for our aspiring performers. Our Pipers Radio studio broadcasts live every lunchtime.

Sporting facilities include the swimming pool, fitness suite, astro pitch and gymnasium. Forest School is conducted in our on-site woodland, and to encourage environmental awareness we have two outdoor eco-classrooms with wind turbines and water butts. Students of all ages benefit from outdoor lessons in our wildflower meadow.





Welcome from the Head

At Pipers, there is no such thing as a typical 'Pipers' girl. All members of staff support the students to fulfil their academic and personal potential, enabling them to emerge as mature, confident and independent young adults. Investment in talented and inspirational teaching staff and professional support staff is at the heart of our success, and our recent academic results and overall performance bear testament to this.

Every member of the Pipers community, both academic and support staff, play a vital role in maintaining the excellent standard of education we provide. Underpinning everything that we do is a team of enthusiastic and determined staff, with a willingness to think outside of the box.

Personal development is always encouraged and supported, and well-being is at the forefront for staff as much as students.

I am incredibly proud of the Pipers community and it is a privilege to work alongside such talented staff and positive students.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Helen Ness-Gifford".

Mrs Helen Ness-Gifford





Why work at Pipers?

We have a strong community and pride ourselves on being a warm and supportive workplace. Visitors to the School often comment on the positive atmosphere. Benefits for teaching and support staff include:

- Competitive salaries and excellent pension schemes
- Annual professional review and commitment to CPD for all
- On-site car parking and the possibility of on-site single accommodation
- Free lunch provided in term time, with numerous hot and cold options
- Staffroom with free tea, coffee and fruit
- Use of the fitness suite and swimming pool
- Staff clubs such as yoga, running and football
- Cycle to work scheme
- Access to a counselling service

The School is less than an hour from Central London and has excellent rail links and motorway connections. It is four miles north from High Wycombe, which has a large shopping centre, two multiplex cinemas, a sports centre and several out of town shopping areas.





Testimonials

"The students at Pipers Corner understand the importance of their own, and each other's development, making the classroom culture supportive and nurturing. But what makes Pipers special to work in is that they appreciate this environment, as well as the staff, allowing them to grow as individuals and make progress."

"Since joining Pipers I have been impressed by the strong sense of community between colleagues and the amount of trust and support shown by the parents."

"Pipers Corner School is a great place to work. It has encouraged me to push myself to be the best teacher I can be, allowing me to experiment with my teaching style and get to know pupils in a fun and engaging way. The School has excellent facilities and is focused on helping students reach their highest potential."

"Pipers has a warm working environment, with friendly staff who will do all they can to support your development and positive spirit."

"I enjoy working at Pipers because of the great relationship between staff and students. Lessons have a fun but productive atmosphere and classes of all ages are keen to learn."



Job Advert

Lead Academic and Research Librarian

Full-time

Required September 2025

Pipers Corner has a state-of-the-art library located at the heart of the School, directly by the Sixth Form Centre. We are looking to recruit a Lead Librarian to lead the team in this inspirational hub of intellectual curiosity and learning. The Lead Librarian will also be responsible for providing the students at Pipers with the skills, tools and resources they need to develop a love of reading and literature, while also improving their independent learning and, most importantly, critical thinking skills as they carry out research, exchange ideas and interact with their peers and teachers. The successful applicant will be a degree holder, or have a similar qualification, preferably with previous experience of working in a library or in a learning resource centre within a school setting. You will be able to animate classes and groups of students of all ages, demonstrate strong IT and communication skills, and a sense of teamwork.

An application form can be obtained from the HR Department, email hr@piperscorner.co.uk, or downloaded from our website www.piperscorner.co.uk

Completed application forms and a covering letter should be addressed to the Headmistress and returned to HR via the email address above.

Closing date | Monday 3 March 2025

Interview date | Tbc

Suitable candidates may be interviewed before the closing date and Pipers Corner School reserves the right to withdraw the position if an early appointment is made.

Pipers Corner School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to an Enhanced DBS check.

Registered Charity No. 310635



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| <p>Job Title</p> <p>Lead Academic and Research Librarian</p> | <p>Salary</p> <p>Competitive, dependent on experience</p> | <p>Working hours</p> <p>Full-time</p> |
| <p>Line managing (direct)</p> <p>Assistant Librarian Library Assistant</p> | <p>Reporting to</p> <p>Deputy Head Academic</p> | |
| <p>Remuneration</p> <p>Pipers Corner School has its own generous pay scale and the financial package offered will be commensurate with the responsibilities of the post and the experience of the person appointed.</p> <p>All new staff appointments are subject to verification of medical fitness, receipt of two satisfactory references and clearance from the Disclosure and Barring Service at Enhanced level.</p> | | |
| <p>Our ideal candidate will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professionally qualified with experience as a Librarian with a desire to apply this knowledge and skill within a school environment, but we are open to candidates with alternative experience but relevant skills and passion • Inspirational in the fields of research and love of reading • Dedicated to the fostering of curiosity through reading and research to students of all ages • Able to lead with the interpersonal skills necessary to support pupils and collaborate with colleagues • Highly organised with good IT skills, valuing the ever-growing role of technology including online resources, platforms, publications and AI in research; experienced with and knowledgeable about competing library management systems • Able to evidence a desire to seize the wonderful opportunity of this library to be central in the education and experience of the lives of 500+ students and as an inspiration and support to colleagues • Willing to seize the opportunities to lead and develop initiatives, as with the upcoming Pipers Literary Festival, and embrace relative free rein | | |



| Specific Responsibilities | |
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| Principal | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the library is further developed as a vibrant learning environment leading on independent learning and critical thinking both within the library and the School • To maintain the library as integral to the development of a whole school Literacy Policy; Be enthusiastic about leading/supporting both fiction and non-fiction research classes with set library classes in Years 7 and 8 and older years by arrangement leading up to VI Form EPQ projects • Encourage a high level of interest from students and staff by maintaining the profile of the library by working with departments towards whole school approaches to reading and research, and leading on new initiatives, promotions and events, including the Pipers Literary Festival • Manage the daily functions of the library and its contribution to the strategic leadership of teaching and learning (including managing a small team of librarians and the departmental budget) • Maintain and develop the library resources so that they support the curriculum while also extending and inspiring students' learning beyond their school subjects • Encourage, promote and manage the students' and staff use of the library and its resources not only for formal study but also as a leisure activity • Ensure the library space and its physical resources are well presented and inspiring and supporting external events' use of the library such as Debating and other activities • Attend Head of Subject meetings in order to engage with strategic initiatives on departmental and whole-school level • Promote and safeguard the welfare of children and young persons for whom you are responsible and with whom you come into contact |
| Additional (Depending on experience) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with departments to enhance their provision of extended learning opportunities to students • Embrace recent developments in the library in the coherent development of critical thinking and independent learning within Pipers and lead in moving further • Develop opportunities for cross-curricular projects and events |
| <p><i>February 2025</i></p> <p><i>This job description will be reviewed annually and may be subject to amendment or modification at any time after consultation with the post holder. It is not a comprehensive statement of procedures and tasks but sets out the main expectations of the School in relation to the post holder's professional responsibilities and duties</i></p> | |



Person Specification

- Qualifications and experience relevant to the role
- A passion for working with young people
- Ideally a minimum 3 years' experience as librarian, preferably within a school environment
- Track record of academic research and developing reading programmes
- Enthusiasm for leading a team and developing colleagues' careers and experiences and achieving their best
- A knowledge of the current education framework
- A knowledge of literature from KS3 and above including YA
- A knowledge of research platforms and sites and programmes
- Experience of and enthusiasm for delivering and supporting library Classes
- Strategic planning skills to support the writing and implementation of the library's policy
- Financial management skills for management of library budget
- A leading interest in information technology
- Behaviour management skills

