

THE ROLE

The Sports Coach (Lacrosse Specialism) will support the curricular and extra-curricular programme; including the school's schedule of fixtures and activities during the week and at weekends. Whilst the individual appointed would not be expected to run a squad training session on their own, they must be prepared to plan, lead and deliver group activities within the training sessions they are assisting.

This is a fixed-term position, offered on a self-employed, part-time basis (17 hours per week), required from Monday 3 February to Friday 14 March 2025 (excluding half term which is from 17 to 21 February). The current working hours will be Monday, Tuesday 4pm-5.30pm, Wednesday 10.30am-5.30pm, Thursday 2pm-4pm and Saturday 8am-1pm.

This position involves contact with children and will amount to regulated activity as defined by Keeping Children Safe In Education (KCSIE) for safeguarding children and safer recruitment.



THE DEPARTMENT

The Physical Education & Sports department at St Albans High School for Girls upholds an aspirational and inclusive vision of sport and physical activity. Our objective is to provide an environment that enables every student to be physically active and understand the value of having a healthy active lifestyle. We aim to support our students in developing a strong habit of exercise and an appreciation of its value, which is instilled through the delivery of a modern and engaging curriculum. Students are provided with a high standard of experience which does not favour one area of the programme at the expense of another, this is delivered through the Active STAHS & Team STAHS co-curricular programmes. Both programmes enable students to develop confidence, character and resilience and as a result, aim to reduce stress and anxiety whilst improving determination and motivation.

Recreational physical activity and competitive sport are valued equally and we strive to ensure that every individual's experience of competitive sport is both aspirational and inclusive. STAHS has a tradition of producing sportswomen who perform at both National and International level in a variety of different sports and those competing at this level are supported through the Elite Athlete Support Programme. Individuals who are aspiring to represent their county or region in their respective sports have the opportunity to opt into the Aspiring Athlete Support Programme.

Working to deliver the department's strategic vision is a highly talented and experienced team of PE teachers and coaches. The department operates a full, six-day sporting programme and enjoys an enviable record of sporting excellence at county, regional and national level in Netball, Lacrosse, Aesthetics (Gymnastics, Trampolining and Dance), Swimming, Athletics, Tennis and Skiing. Sport Scholarships are available in Year 7 and the Sixth Form. The Physical Education department is heavily involved in the organisation and running of major sporting trips and tours. In recent years, students have had the opportunity to experience sporting culture in California and Sri Lanka, alongside a skiing trip to La Molina, Spain.

STAHS has excellent sporting facilities, on-site our sports complex boasts a full size sports hall, 25m indoor swimming pool, dance studio and gym as well as an outdoor netball court and astro turf. Our off-site sports facilities include two lacrosse pitches, seven floodlit tennis courts and five floodlit netball courts. In addition, we utilise a number of local sports facilities including a 400m athletics track, floodlit astro turf and full size cricket pitch. These facilities enable us to deliver a dynamic programme of co-curricular sport and physical activity, alongside a diverse and modern curriculum of core PE and Games. Year 11-13 participate in a weekly programme of physical activity that allows them the independence and flexibility to choose what they do. A number of students go off-site to rock climb or spinning, whilst others remain on-site and participate in activities such as yoga, pilates, swimming, indoor games and dance with specialist instructors. In addition to core PE and games lessons, we offer academic PE at GCSE & A level and achieve excellent results in both.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The key responsibilities for this post are detailed below;

- Plan and prepare warm ups and session plans for games lessons and co-curricular clubs.
- Support the department in record keeping and administrative tasks.
- Work positively and co-operatively as a member of a team, to include liaising and working with colleagues.
- Share in pastoral responsibility for all pupils in school and especially for those in their tutor or teaching groups, liaising where appropriate with pastoral staff.
- Maintain good order and discipline among pupils, safeguarding their health and safety at all times when they are the responsibility of the school. You must be familiar with the school and departmental policies on discipline and health and safety.
- Share in supervisory and general duties; uphold good standards of behaviour and punctuality among pupils.
- Attend departmental meetings as required.
- Attend, as often as is reasonable, school functions, playing an active part in wider aspects of school life including extra-curricular activities.
- Promote and support sports activities and events throughout the school year.
- Fully participate in the provision of co-curricular activities during and after school and at weekends.
- Take supporting coach role with lacrosse, football and/or netball.
- Take care of equipment and resources and report any damage to the Maintenance Team and the Director of Sport.
- Promote developments within PE and Sport using recognised departmental channels, such as Twitter.
- Adhere to School policies.

In addition to the above, the post holder will carry out any other professional duties as reasonably required by the Head or Bursar.

The High School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Applicants will be required to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

STAHS is a vibrant school supported by a diverse and enthusiastic community of staff, pupils, parents, alumni and friends. It is important that our staff reflect the diversity of our community, and we therefore welcome and encourage applications from people of all genders and sexual orientation, those from Black, Asian and other minority ethnic backgrounds, and those with disabilities.

The successful candidate will be required to fulfil all of the duties, as outlined in the job description. In addition to this, the candidate should possess the following competencies which are essential to this position:

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

- Proven record of sporting ability.
- Knowledge and application of best practice in Teaching and Learning.
- Clear evidence of coaching Lacrosse

The following qualifications and skills are desirable, but not essential:

- Coaching and Umpiring Qualifications.
- First Aid and Lifesaving Qualification.
- Experience of coaching football or netball.
- Strong individual academic record.
- Experience in a school setting.
- Involvement in sporting activity outside the school environment.

SKILLS

- Excellent time management.
- Proven organisational ability.
- Ability to prioritise workload.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Ability to work effectively as part of a hardworking department
- Ability to multi-task.
- Ability to inspire pupils with a love of sport and enthusiasm for learning.

PERSONAL QUALITIES

- Flexible and able to accommodate changes in work priorities with good humour.
- High professional standards of oneself and pupils.
- Ability to think creatively and demonstrate initiative.
- Commitment to the School's extra-curricular programme.

(Continued...)

PERSON SPECIFICATION (continued)

PHILOSOPHY AND ETHOS

- A commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and to follow the child protection procedures detailed in the School's safeguarding policy.
- Ability to form and maintain appropriate relationships and personal boundaries with children.
- Contribute positively to the overall ethos, objectives and aims of the School.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Support health and Safety training initiatives and to actively participate in this area.

