



Robert
May's
School



*Thinking of
becoming
a teacher?*



Are you? ...

- *A team player?*
- *Willing to take the lead?*
- *A good communicator?*
- *A quick-thinker and effective problem solver?*
- *Are you flexible and adaptable to change?*
- *Empathetic?*

**These are exactly the skills that YOU
need to become a teacher**

Welcome from the Head of CPD

Robert May's School would like to support you in the next steps in your career. We are committed to ensuring that people who are interested in a career in education are given the correct advice, guidance and experience to ensure that they can apply for education courses with your eyes wide open ready to flourish in your new career.

Teaching is a very challenging but rewarding career where no two days are the same and we want to ensure that we give you the support that you need to become an excellent practitioner.

Jenny Robinson *jenny.robinson@rmays.com*



How can we help?

Changing careers can be a daunting experience and at RMS we want to ensure that you have all the support you need to make the best decisions about your career change.

To help you to make a decision about whether teaching is the career for you we will provide:

- *An opportunity to meet the staff here at RMS and find out what teaching is all about.*
- *An opportunity to hear from a range of training bodies so that you can find a course and training route which suits you and your family.*
- *An opportunity to spend a day shadowing a student at RMS*
- *An opportunity to spend a day shadowing a teacher in your chosen subject area*
- *A coach to help support you in your application writing and gaining further school experience.*

How did you train to be a teacher?

Through School Direct with the Winchester Alliance and Southampton University. I had worked as a Youth and Education Coordinator for an Arts Centre which meant being based in schools quite a lot, working with teachers and students. When I started to consider changing paths, I worked as an LSA first to get more relevant experience. Because of this I was able to apply for a salaried training position, which made things much easier.

Ellie Trumble, English Teacher



How do I find out what teaching is like?

On 10th January 2017 at 6.30pm we would like to welcome you to the Robert Mays Library for a drinks reception and an opportunity to meet some of our teaching staff.

During this evening you will have an opportunity to listen a brief seminar which will include:

- *A welcome and introduction (Joanna West- Head Teacher)*
- *An introduction to modern day teaching (Jonathan Searle- Deputy Head Teacher)*
- *A day in the life of a teacher (Jenny Robinson)*
- *Routes to train to be a teacher (James Dovey)*
- *What is it like to train to be a teacher (Trainee currently at RMS)*
- *You will be invited to stay and talk to a range of our colleagues with different specialisms and gain insight into the world of education.*

If you are interested in attending this evening please contact us at jenny.robinson@rmays.com

What is the best thing about teaching?

The best thing about teaching are the colleagues you work with who inspire you, support you and make every day a pleasure and the students who also inspire you, have an unending thirst for understanding and knowledge, they test you and have the ability to cheer you up when you are having one of those days! The negatives are the hours of work that are needed to do the job well and that it can feel like there is always something else to do and that the political landscape has huge impacts on children's lives which can make you frustrated by the unfairness of life at time

Claire Blud, Head of Geography and Head of Careers.

What is the best thing about teaching?

Every day is different. I laugh all the time. Working with young people is rewarding in a way it is difficult to explain to anyone who hasn't been a teacher. A student saying 'thank you' as they leave your classroom can make your day and a student choosing to study your subject at A Level makes you feel like you've won an award. The team spirit amongst your colleagues is unrivalled - everyone supports and everyone understands.

Liz Webb, English Teacher



Why did you come into teaching?

It was a huge change in direction for me to come into teaching; I wanted something which would mean making a difference, something which would provide variety and something I would get up in the morning and look forward to doing. Teaching has provided me with all of these things.

Liz Webb, English Teacher

How can I experience a day in the life of a teacher?

When you are considering a career in education the most valuable thing you can do is to come and see a school in action.

We would welcome you to come and visit RMS on a working day. You can either choose to:

Shadow a pupil for a day

This will give you an insight into the experience a student has going from lesson to lesson. It will also allow you to see the range of subjects and the style of teaching in a range of different subjects.

Shadow a teacher for a day

This will give you the opportunity to shadow one teacher for a whole day and see the range of challenges that teachers face within the school day. You will see the adaptations that teachers make to lessons and teaching style in order to meet the needs of the students that are in their classes.

If you would like to spend a work day here at RMS then please contact jenny.robinson@rmays.com

How can my career progress in teaching?

Within schools there are loads of professional opportunities to enhance your careers. At RMS there are two main routes; the departmental route where you work with a Head of Department to improve your subject area or the pastoral route where you work with a Head of Year to improve the experience for students on a day to day basis. You can then go onto lead these areas and once you have experience at this you may be promoted to the senior leadership team in a school. Robert Mays School also recognises that we need quality first teaching within the classrooms and so it rewards teacher's decisions to remain in the classroom with good pay incentives for outstanding practitioners.

What are the next steps?

On June 17th 2017 we would like to offer you the chance to visit the Robert Mays Library in order to hear from a range of training providers. These training providers will explain to you the routes into teaching and give you an insight into the services that they can provide.

The training providers we work most closely with at RMS are:

- **Reading University**
- **Chichester University**
- **LEARN Alliance - Thorndon School**

How has your career progressed?

I have gone from volunteering in schools, to working with schools, to assisting learning in the classroom, to now leading the learning as the class teacher. Now, I want to be the best teacher I possibly can be! That's something I'll never stop trying to do.

Ellie Trumble, English Teacher

How did you train to be a teacher?

I completed a PGCE after my Biology degree. I had a placement in one school from Oct-Dec then in a second school from Jan-May.

**Steff Turnbull, Science teacher,
Assistant Head of Year and
NQT co-ordinator**

How did you train to be a teacher?

I started with a Physics degree, but decided to switch to a Maths with Teaching degree when I realised that I was enjoying the Mathematics modules more than the Physics.

Harriet England, Maths teacher and Head of Key Stage 4 Maths

What is the best thing about teaching?

It really is never the same. In 8 years of teaching I have NEVER been bored once, not even for a moment. It is a great feeling when a student has a "break-through" moment due to your teaching and when a student does really well in exams and thanks you for the input you have had. It teaches you so many skills all in one job; IT skills, management skills, presentation skills, creative/innovation skills, team work and patience (lots!!).

Steff Turnbull, Science teacher, Assistant Head of Year and NQT co-ordinator

What happens if i need extra help?

At RMS we have team of 20 specialist trained coaches who would love to discuss with you your next steps.

They can offer a range of services from a sounding board to someone who can practically help you to decide which course you would like to study on or your application. The coaches are trained to not give advice but will ask you questions which will help you to come up with the answers that are right for you.

If you would like further support from one of our coaching team then please contact jenny.robinson@rmays.com

Where can I find out more?

- <https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/>
- <http://www.reading.ac.uk/education/pg-taught/ioe-pgtcourses.aspx>
- <http://www.chi.ac.uk/institute-education/degrees-qts>
- <http://www.learnalliance.org.uk/>



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