



# WORKING AT CANFORD





## BENEFITS OF WORKING AT CANFORD

- Access to over 250 acres of beautiful parkland
- Ability to join the Canford Staff Club and enjoy social events and use of the stunning new staff facility 'The Nash Building'.
- Eligibility to join the contributory pension scheme.
- Generous holiday allowance.
- Membership of the Canford Sports Centre at discounted staff rates.
- Membership of the Canford Golf Course at discounted staff rates.
- Staff discounted rates to the Layard Theatre productions.
- Healthy lunch provided.
- Free on site parking.



# ■ TEACHING STAFF



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## Dr Clare Ives

HOUSEMISTRESS (BEAUFORT),  
HISTORY TEACHER, OLD CANFORDIAN

I joined Canford ten years ago without a formal teaching qualification, though I had taught History at University. My colleagues were very welcoming, and that was especially true of my department, who were so helpful in sharing teaching resources and expertise. Having worked previously in government I particularly enjoyed moving on site as it cut my commute from 2 hours to 2 minutes each way! I feel very lucky to work in such a beautiful environment and with pupils who are engaging, courteous and involved. I enjoy coaching sport as it develops really strong relationships with the children, which has a real correlation in the classroom. I also play in the Orchestra alongside pupils and have run academic enrichment programmes, both of which are great fun and, again, help to form really firm working relationships.

As a Head of Department it was rewarding being able to help steer academic life in the school and make decisions on the syllabus for the History department. Now I'm loving my role as Beaufort Housemistress. Working with 60 girls is challenging, intellectually stimulating, and, on occasion, heart-rending, but it is always a privilege. It certainly means there is never a dull moment!



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## James Ladd Gibbon

TEACHER OF BUSINESS STUDIES  
& ECONOMICS, HOCKEY COACH

I am in my third year at Canford after joining the school as a Graduate Assistant in September 2015. Subsequently I was appointed Teaching and Coaching Assistant before taking up my current role as Teacher of Business Studies. Alongside teaching full time, I continue to coach hockey and cricket up to the 1st XI teams, whilst also being resident tutor in a boarding house and widely involved in a host of school activities.

Canford is a terrific place to work and live. Colleagues and senior staff are always very supportive but especially so in the first year.

The school is dedicated to excellence in and out of the classroom, making it a very satisfying experience for both students and staff. I certainly have no regrets about joining Canford.



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## Gary Shaw

HEAD OF CHEMISTRY

One of the major reasons that I chose to teach at Canford is the expectation that all staff will provide extensive co-curricular involvement. As a county rugby player, athlete, club hockey player and golfer, I am able to coach, referee or umpire and pass on my expertise in all these sports.

As Head of Chemistry, I really enjoy consulting with my colleagues and technician and feel that we are very supportive of each other and one's ideas. This is equally true when interacting with colleagues in other departments. This camaraderie and friendship is rare in schools and it makes the job so enjoyable. I have been fortunate enough to go on many Partnership visits to India during which I spend two weeks with the local community in Tamil Nadu. I found it really easy to fit in when I first joined Canford. There are always people around to help and ensure you are happy. There are many Canford Staff Club social events at evenings and weekends to keep you busy and give you the chance to get to know people in the first few weeks.

*“ This camaraderie and friendship is rare in schools and it makes the job so enjoyable. ”*



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## Laura Blake

DIRECTOR OF DRAMA

I joined Canford in 2011 following a BA (Hons) in Drama, Applied Theatre and Education and a PGCE at The Central School of Speech and Drama. I think almost all teachers will tell you that the students and the relationships formed with them are the highlight of their job. The same is certainly true here, and the fact that the site is a warm and welcoming home as well as a school enables a level of trust and partnership between students and staff to emerge. The aspect of working at Canford, and in the drama department's fully equipped Layard Theatre, that is more unique to our environment is the level of expertise, creativity and support provided by the staff that I work alongside.

When I direct a production I can rely on our Theatre Manager, Kevin Wilkins, to design and produce an innovative and ambitious set that will inspire our students and delight our audiences. I am frequently supported by industry professionals, such as our choreographer and wardrobe mistress Claire Camble-Hutchins, whose attention to detail and never-ending energy creates a finish on our productions that my aspirations alone could not achieve. I am part of a team here, which allows me to offer the focused skills that I possess whilst relying upon and learning from the wealth of complimentary expertise around me. I sometimes wonder why such incredible talents are working in a school, but I think it comes straight back to those students and the level of joy, potential and openness that they bring to the creative process.





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## Sindre Vandvik

HOUSEMASTER (COURT) ENGLISH TEACHER

It is the eclectic nature of daily life here at Canford that makes it so stimulating. Looking after 60-odd boys brings a variety of challenges – and a never-ending supply of surprises – but the life and joy they bring to everything they do energises middle aged men too. Life in and around a boarding house is remarkably rich, and working in a place that values breadth in education also allows me to indulge in personal and professional passions such as football coaching and newspaper editing. Living at Court, I am blessed with a ten minute walk through stunning parkland as I walk to my classroom in the morning, and it is a privilege to encounter deer in the mist or scurrying badgers at dusk – on my 'commute.' However beautiful the setting, it is ultimately the people who make the place – and Canfordians are marvellously enthusiastic, positive and engaging.



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## Rory Christopher

GRADUATE ASSISTANT (RUGBY/BIOLOGY)

I feel as though the balance and relationship between academic responsibilities and co-curricular commitments is a real strength of Canford. The all-encompassing nature of Canford with a range of facilities, both sporting and leisure, on your doorstep, is a real luxury. To be able to enjoy the golf course, gym, squash courts, swimming pool and of course the staff bar in your down time adds a very enjoyable and positive aspect to the job. As a new member of staff, I felt welcomed and accepted into the 'Canford community' as soon as I started, which makes settling in a relatively stress free process. Finally, the simple fact that Canford is a boarding school makes working here enjoyable for me. Having the pupils around from breakfast at 7:45am till the end of duty at 11pm ultimately enhances the enjoyment and satisfaction of the job.





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## Sascha Deblander

HOUSEMISTRESS (DE LACY), GEOGRAPHY  
TEACHER

Having lived overseas for many years I was worried that life would become monotonous but soon found this not to be the case as I integrated quickly into Canford. In the classroom we are lucky to have students who know it's "okay" to want to do well and their curiosity and questions work to keep us on our toes. The various departments all have their strategies to share information and keep up to date in their subject. The staff all take part in some form of co-curricular activity and I enjoy the balance of offering a creative activity on some afternoons and taking care of a team on the sports pitch on others. As Housemistress a busy day is extended but I find the house a welcoming environment that actually gives you energy and allows you to appreciate different sides of the pupils you see.

In the Canford Staff Club we have a variety of people, from a range of backgrounds of all ages so lots of minds to dip into for ideas or sometimes lean on as you set up a talk or society to run in the school. Both senior management and the students are keen to make extra opportunities for students to interact both with each other and the wider environment, making us think beyond the Canford bubble. I have been fortunate to attend several school trips taking me skiing in the Alps or to an orphanage in India. You have the opportunity to make a difference.



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## Will Moreland

MATHS TEACHER, ROWING COACH

I joined Canford as a Graduate Assistant. I could not have asked for a greater support network. Whether it be a friendly Head of Department or simply another member of the teaching staff, there is always someone willing to give advice and to listen to your ideas. The Common Room, known as the Canford Staff Club, is welcoming and close knit with many events taking place throughout the year.

Canford School life is busy and teachers are involved in many different aspects and expected to fill a variety of roles. Being able to interact with the pupils as not just a classroom teacher but as a rowing coach, house tutor, CCF officer and more, is incredibly fulfilling. There can be no doubt that you are having a major impact on the pupils lives as you do not just teach them a subject, but also leadership skills and many other qualities necessary in their life after education.

Combine all the above with Canford's idyllic location and immaculate grounds and you are left with an enviable work environment. There are periods of hard work, as in any job, but the rewards are unparalleled.



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## Nicola Will

HEAD OF ART

I joined Canford after fifteen years at The Arts University Bournemouth where I was proud to have played a small part in young artists' progression to Higher Education and in their success in a broad range of exciting and creative careers. Taking the position as Head of Art has offered an interesting and exciting change. Canford Art has a strong reputation and it is both challenging and an honour to be given the opportunity to shape a department which has such an interesting history.



# ■ SUPPORT STAFF



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Anna McEvoy  
ADMISSIONS ASSISTANT

I have been at Canford for 3 years, in Admissions. I welcome prospective parents to Canford, oversee their visits and explain what the admissions process will look like for them. My career before Canford has been varied, from hospitality to finance.

I had my sights set on Canford a couple of years before I applied and was delighted when a position became available at exactly the right time. Not only because term time would work so well for my family, or because the location is perfect for me, but also because I enjoy working in places that are at the top of their game, where the staff are all striving for the same goal.

Working at Canford has yet to disappoint. The beauty of the surroundings take my breath away on a daily basis, the little pocket of staff I work with every day have become good friends and of course being able to spend the school holidays with my children is priceless.



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Glen Elie  
HEAD CHEF

I first visited Canford for a sporting occasion and its beauty blew me away. As Head Chef at the RNLI, when Canford advertised for a Head Chef it appealed as I felt it would give me the chance of a better work/life balance in the career I had chosen at the age of 15. That has become a reality - working at Canford has changed my life. I have now been at Canford for 3½ years and I am still amazed every day by the beautiful surroundings, rain or shine. Working at Canford I really feel I have the chance to make a difference, the people I work with have a great sense of humour making it a fun environment to work in and there is a real sense of community providing an outlook of "anything's possible".

*“The beauty of the surroundings take my breath away on a daily basis.”*



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## Kerry Mapp

GROUNDS AND GARDENS MANAGER

I joined Canford in June 2008, previously working at another school in Hampshire as Grounds Manager and Farm Manager. That school's estate totalled 1200 acres. Although Canford's estate is smaller at 250 acres, my grounds role is more diverse to include overall responsibility for all sports surfaces, a 9 hole golf course with public membership, the management of over three thousand diverse trees and parkland, approximately a mile of the Stour river used for rowing and other activities along with formal lawns and gardens. I would think it's one of the most diverse estates of any school in the country, well known for its impressive setting.

Canford is focused on being a centre of excellence. This is across all areas and makes it a challenging and rewarding environment to work in. School wide, everyone is supportive of each other.



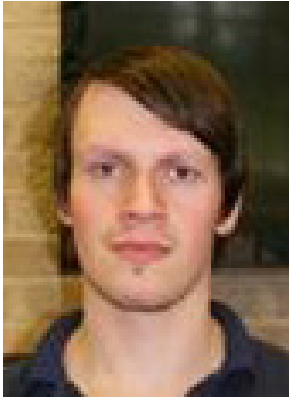
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## Charlotte Banyard

BOARDING HOUSE MATRON

I am in my fourth year as a Boarding House Matron at Canford although I previously did a year here as a part time Matron. I worked at another school in between but missed Canford so was delighted to have the opportunity to return when a full time vacancy came up. I previously worked as a childminder and felt the move to Matron was a natural progression and the Matron role at Canford has been made bigger making it even more enjoyable. The people, the surroundings and facilities at Canford (not to mention the food) make it a great place to work and I really feel part of a community where ideas are listened to and our opinions count.





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## Martin Dunn

TEAM LEADER AND FITNESS INSTRUCTOR,  
CANFORD SPORTS CENTRE

I work in the Sports Centre as a Team Leader and Fitness Instructor. I initially started working here nearly four years ago as a casual employee. Six months later I took up the role of Recreational Assistant on a full time basis and was subsequently promoted to the role of Team Leader. In addition I work as Fitness Instructor running Abs and Circuits classes.

Prior to working at Canford I was doing bar work whilst competing at a national level in Modern Pentathlon. I used to train in the Sports Centre and had always had sport surrounding my life so I knew it would be a good place to start my career in the sports industry so was keen to work here. It is a great place to work as the day to day routine varies so much – I might be assisting with school set-ups, the School's PE department or running fitness classes. I get to meet new people from both the Sports Centre membership and the School. It's a great working environment and the people I meet always have time for me.



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## Rachel Turner

BURSARY APPRENTICE

My current and first role at Canford School is a Bursary Administrator Apprentice and have been here for six months. My role allows me to experience different departments giving me knowledge for my apprenticeship. Before joining I worked for a year as a waitress and then a seasonal elf. When I finished my A levels I wanted an apprenticeship within school administration and Canford School has been ideal as they have provided me with many opportunities for further studies. The staff are very friendly and the school is set in a lovely location. The school treats everyone fairly, offering development opportunities and makes me feel valued.

*“ The progressive approach to projects and the and the community atmosphere make the job very rewarding. ”*



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Kathryn Robson  
HEALTH CENTRE NURSE

I have worked as a school nurse at Canford for two years and the time has flown by. I am part of a small team of eight Nurses, Healthcare Assistants, Physiotherapist and Counsellor. We work closely together and with the wider school community. In previous lives I have worked in surgical units, practice nursing, A & E, scuba instructor and proudly at home as a mum. I value the fact that I build up real relationships with the pupils, supporting them as they mature, in good times and bad – make use of my varied nursing and “mummy” skills.

I love the variety – every day is different and the students and staff never fail to come up with new ways to keep us busy and entertained! I really appreciate working in such a positive, enthusiastic environment where all staff are part of the team, working together to do our best for the pupils and each other. Working in such beautiful surroundings is of course a bonus, as is the backing given to increase my knowledge base through in-house and external training, which is actively encouraged and supported.



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Jacky Snow  
DOMESTIC ASSISTANT

My current role at Canford is in Housekeeping. I work in School House which is an old part of the school and is a boys boarding house. I have worked here for 18 months. Prior to this I worked as a Team Leader at Sainsbury's on the clothing department for 12 years. I wanted a complete change from retail and living a short distance away always kept an eye open for job vacancies at Canford.

When I arrived I was made very welcome and settled in very quickly; the staff and colleagues are friendly and helpful. I am recognised for doing a good job which keeps me motivated. I enjoy the grounds at Canford which are kept looking beautiful. I intend working here for many years to come and would recommend Canford as a great place to work.

*“ I really appreciate working in such a positive, enthusiastic environment where all staff are part of the team ”*



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## Michael Morris

SENIOR MAINTENANCE TRADESMAN

I have worked at Canford School for 19 years. I started as a Carpenter and my current role is Senior Maintenance Tradesman. Prior to joining Canford I was a self-employed carpenter. I had friends that worked here who seemed enthralled by the work they did and I have found that working with the mix of old and new buildings very fulfilling. The progressive approach to projects and the and the community atmosphere make the job very rewarding. I have been on lots of courses and have the opportunity to keep up to date with the latest regulations, new thinking and new ways of working. The people are great and the hours are favourable making it a thoroughly enjoyable job.



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## Julie James

HOUSEKEEPER

My current role at Canford is Housekeeper. I have worked here for nine years starting as a Domestic Assistant covering boarding houses and teaching blocks. I was promoted to Supervisor in 2012 before taking on the role of Housekeeper in March 2017.

I previously worked as a sales assistant in a small, family run boutique. Unfortunately, I was made redundant and was recommended by a family member to call the housekeeping department at Canford. I did and haven't looked back since!!

What I most enjoy about working at Canford are the people, the place and the spirit. All in all, a thoroughly great place to work!





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## Niven Bray

SHIFT SUPERVISOR (CATERING)

My name is Niven Bray and I am currently undertaking a Hospitality apprenticeship in the Catering Department at Canford School. I started at Canford as a Hospitality Assistant in November 2016 whilst still at college doing Business Studies. I gradually increased my hours in the Catering department and then Canford enabled me to start my apprenticeship in November 2017; I have taken on responsibilities as a Shift Supervisor / Hospitality Supervisor as part of my apprenticeship. Before joining the Canford team I worked in a café in Wimborne part time every Saturday.

Canford School is a good place to work. I have been given lots of opportunities to progress my skills, the other staff around the school are great to work with and there is lots of support.

*“ I have been given lots of opportunities to progress my skills, the other staff around the school are great to work with and there is lots of support. ”*



HR DEPARTMENT

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