



Sport at The Leys

As part of the core curriculum, games are played on three days each week. The team sports undertaken are hockey, rugby, netball, tennis, cricket, rowing and swimming. Competitive fixtures are normally held on a weekly basis which, over the course of the academic year, involve most pupils. From Year 10, pupils not involved in these sports can undertake other individual sports within the “Games Options” programme, such as athletics, fitness training, dance, squash and badminton. Almost all pupils undertake three games activities on their games afternoons, each week. Among the late afternoon activities between 16:30 and 18:20, a large number of sports are available such as badminton, basketball, squash and volleyball. These can be played competitively against local opposition including the Cambridge University Colleges. In more individual sports such as trampolining, athletics and cross country, pupils have the opportunity to participate in district and county competitions.

The main sports complex includes a large sports hall, an up-to-date fitness centre, a projectile range with indoor cricket nets, three squash courts and an aerobics area. A full size floodlit Astro turf pitch on site and a full size Astro turf pitch at our Latham Road ground provide the base for hockey throughout the Autumn and Lent terms. They convert to twenty-one tennis courts for summer games.

A 25-metre heated indoor swimming pool is available throughout the year, while we share a well-equipped and modern boathouse with three Cambridge colleges that enables pupils to pursue rowing. The main field at School has the 1st XV pitch and 1st XI cricket square. It also has three tennis/netball Courts. The School’s second playing field at Latham Road - just ten minutes’ walk from the School grounds - has approximately 20 acres of grass fields, a six-lane cricket net facility and three hard netball/tennis courts. The ground is jointly used with our Foundation partner prep school, St Faiths.

The quality of our coaching is excellent, with competitive sport played to a high standard and pupils achieving District, Divisional and National representation. The proximity of Cambridge and its University enables the School to enlist the help of a host of peripatetic coaching staff specialising in particular fields. Professional coaches are employed in a number of areas such as rugby, swimming, rowing, tennis and cricket, linking with The Leys Sports Academy. The Head of the Strength and Conditioning/Sports Academy runs a programme to support the most gifted pupils in setting fitness and performance goals under the guidance of mentors who also act as a link with appropriate clubs and county associations.

The Games Department is currently made up of five full-time members of staff (The Director of Sport, Head of Rugby, Head of Hockey, Head of Tennis and Games Professional Coach), eight part-time department staff (Head of Netball, Head of Cricket, Head of Rowing, Head of Swimming, Head of Dance, Sports Professional Coaches, Head of Strength and Conditioning/Academy) and two Sports Graduates. The games programme is then supported by a large number of coaches from the teaching staff and a number of external coaches. The department is administered by the Director of Sport.

Hockey

In Hockey at The Leys we aim to foster a sense of enjoyment in all those who participate, to offer quality coaching for players of all ages and abilities, and to organise competitive fixtures against schools in the local area and further afield. At present, the School runs twelve girls' teams and sixteen boys' sides, from Year 7 to the Sixth Form. We also aim to stretch our top Hockey players and help them progress to the highest representational honours. There is a strong fixture list including Framlingham, Felsted, Bishop's Stortford and The Perse. In recent years our U16 boys have reached the last 4 (2022) and last 8 (2023) of the HA Cup, while the U14 side have reached the finals of the East Cup (2022 and 2023). In Girls hockey, the U16 side reached the national finals in 2017 and 2018 and the U18 team achieved the same level in 2020. A significant number of pupils are involved in England pathway programmes.

The Appointment

The post holder will be required to provide Hockey coaching for Year 9 (Tuesday and Thursday mornings 10.50 am – 12.30 pm) as well as senior games on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. The post holder will also be required to take Hockey fixtures (both home and away) on Saturday afternoons. The precise hours for this coaching will be agreed between you and the Director of Sport, in liaison with the Head of Hockey.

The Hockey Coach receives free meals during term time, membership of the School Sport Complex and parking available onsite.

The salary for this role will depend on the experience of the candidate and the hours agreed.

Ms Carla Rudd, the Director of Sport, would welcome informal contact with interested parties by email (cer@theleys.net) or by telephone (01223 518523).

Role Profile

The applicant will be required to coach pupils of all ages and abilities during games time. This will include taking a team as well as helping to support the coaching of other sides. He or she will offer advice to assist selection decisions made by team coaches, using their knowledge of the individuals within the squads.

You may also be required to coach hockey activities that take place after school. There will also be the opportunity to help with the summer term games programme.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Assisting with the coaching of junior and senior squads through the games programme, working closely with the Head of Hockey
- To use SOCS to take registers, upload team sheets and write match reports
- When required, use technology and video analysis to enhance pupil's technical and tactical performance

Coaching, Teaching & Learning

- To manage pupil learning through effective teaching and coaching of Hockey
- To ensure continuity, progression and cohesiveness in coaching of all ages and abilities
- To use a variety of methods and approaches to match the range of pupil needs, and ensure equal opportunity for all pupils.
- To work effectively as a member of the Games Department to improve the quality of teaching, coaching and learning.
- To set high expectations for all pupils, to deepen their knowledge and understanding as well as maximise their achievement.
- To develop and maintain effective methods of communication with the Director of Sport, other staff, pupils and parents.
- To teach/coach/lead and manage School hockey teams as directed by the Head of Hockey.
- There may also be opportunities for involvement in the school's wider pastoral programme, if required. (This would be separately remunerated)
- To have an input in the strategic development for the school's Hockey programme

Subject Knowledge & Understanding

- To have a thorough, up-to-date knowledge and understanding of hockey coaching.
- To undertake relevant professional development, via the School's Inset system where appropriate

Professional Standards

- To be a role model to pupils, through personal presentation and professional conduct.
- To host opposing school pupils, staff and parents for fixtures. (Including: meeting and greeting, supervising pupils, officiating, and hosting opposing teams, staff and pupils for post-match teas.)
- To liaise effectively with parent / guardians where necessary
- To promote sport amongst the pupil body and set the highest sporting standards
- To insist upon high levels of behaviour and respect for others in sport

General Tasks

- To refer to and adhere to all Health and Safety procedures and policies as appropriate and other legislative requirements as required, carrying out duties by working in a safe and organised manner.
- To ensure that a safe / secure environment exists for pupils / staff and customers and meet requirements under the Health & Safety at work Act 1974 and C.O.S.H.H.
- To uphold the provisions of data protection legislation, the School's Data Protection Policy, and other related policies.
- Understand and be mindful of the School Acceptable Use Policy and Staff ICT & Social Media Guidelines.
- To adhere to and maintain School Policies and Procedures and work with regard to the ethics of the School.
- To observe / implement all relevant legislative requirements, maintain and update own knowledge as appropriate for the role.
- To work flexibly as necessary to meet the needs of the role and the School.
- To undertake any other reasonable associated request from the Director Pastoral Care, Headmaster/Bursar, or other senior member of SMT as appropriate.

To refer to and adhere to all Health and Safety procedures and policies as appropriate and other legislative requirements as required, carrying out duties by working in a safe and organised manner.

Person Specification

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications Knowledge Experience	Ability to coach Hockey to a very high level	Degree level qualification or equivalent Coaching qualifications in Hockey Played/playing Hockey to a high level
Skills Abilities	Capacity to motivate, inspire and manage a group of staff Demonstrate effective communication and interpersonal skills for dealing with parents, pupils, teachers and support staff Strong organisational abilities Excellent teaching/coaching skills Ability to motivate and manage students Good working knowledge of IT	Ability to work on own or as part of a team
Personal Qualities	Capacity to be efficient, flexible, adaptable, organised, energetic and self-directed. Ability to prioritise effectively Ability to work in a busy environment and meet deadlines Suitability to work with children and enjoy doing so Demonstrate an interest in children's wellbeing and education	A good sense of humour Ambition
Personal Commitment	Candidates should be willing and able to commit themselves actively to support the ethos of the school	

These attributes will be identified from your application form, references and interviews.