



MAESTEG SCHOOL

**TEACHER OF WELSH 2ND LANGUAGE
OPEN UNIVERSITY / PGCE ROUTE – FULLY FUNDED**

APPLICATION PACK



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Required for September 2023

TEACHER OF WELSH 2ND LANGUAGE OPEN UNIVERSITY / PGCE ROUTE – FULLY FUNDED

Pay Grade: Unqualified Teacher Scale Point 1
(2022-2023 = £19,412)

This is an excellent opportunity to train to become a teacher of Welsh (2nd Language) in a supportive and innovative school which is fully committed to the Welsh Government's drive to increase the number of Welsh speakers in Wales.

The Governors wish to appoint a dedicated, enthusiastic, and committed individual who wishes to train within the school and through the Open University to become a teacher of Welsh (2nd Language) over a two-year period within the school. The school has already established a partnership with the Open University route into teaching having successfully supported two teachers who will complete this programme this Summer. The school is now excited to be in a position to continue this partnership in endorsing a fully funded PGCE course (2 years). The successful candidate will train to teach Welsh as a second language within a small but effective, positive and welcoming department.

The programme is aimed at graduates or those who currently work (or have experience) in an environment with children and young people. This may include teaching assistants and learning coaches who wish to progress their career as well as laboratory technicians, school librarians and youth officers. Applications from candidates who are in their final year of University are also welcomed.

The PGCE pathway is for 2 years and training will involve a blend of University and school-based opportunities, including a range of teaching experiences. Applicants must meet the usual PGCE entry requirements. This post is also subject to an enhanced DBS check.

We are thrilled as a school to extend our partnership work with the Open University in this way and to offer this opportunity for someone to join our profession in such an important role.

Maesteg School is a thriving 11-18 community comprehensive school, situated in pleasant surroundings and within easy reach of the M4. We operate as a Lead Partner school for Swansea University as well as supporting PGCE students from Cardiff Metropolitan University, Trinity St David's and – at times – as far afield as Bath Spa University. We offer an extensive and well received school-based programme of support for all Initial Teacher Training students.

Information via: **Email:** admin@maestegschool.bridgend.cymru

*Application pack (including application form) are in Word format and will be forwarded to applicant via email; this application form should **please be returned by email by the deadline date and time below.***

Closing date for applications: Friday, 23rd June 2023



Dear Candidate

I am delighted to welcome you to Maesteg School. We are a vibrant, popular school in the Llynfi Valley committed to providing an outstanding education for all our students. The school is in a pleasant rural setting conveniently situated just off the M4 between Swansea and Cardiff in the borough of Bridgend. The school is a community-focused school and enjoys close relationships with our 6 partner primary schools and benefits from a supportive close-knit community. We are a co-educational 11-18 schools with almost 1200 pupils, 200 of those in the 6th form. Fundamental to the way we work here is in removing barriers to learning. To that end we look to recruit staff who have a strong moral purpose and passion for education who understand that excellent pupil/teacher relationships are at the heart of everything we do to ensure success for our young people.

We want the very best for the children in our care to provide a learning environment where every child has the opportunity to succeed and thrive as an individual. Our simple motto is 'Motivated to Strive'. This means that we place significant emphasis on creating a disciplined learning environment where everyone is expected to work hard and make a contribution to Maesteg School Life. We expect our students to work hard at school and at home. We want them to acquire a love of learning, deep knowledge and skills that will equip them to survive and succeed in 'life after school.' We expect our students to explore ideas, to question concepts and debate opinions. We want to develop students who are confident communicators who can speak in front of others and write competently for a range of audiences and purposes. Our students will aspire to be resilient problem solvers who will accept that failure is an essential part of the learning process. They will be numerate and digitally competent, and they will celebrate cultural diversity alongside their Welsh identity.

We are currently in the privileged position of being described as a school with very good prospects for continued improvement. In recognition of the work we have done to improve standards by developing an innovative curriculum and an excellent staff development programme, we have become a Lead Partner School with Swansea University and as a result of our work as a 'Pioneer School', we have adopted the new Curriculum for Wales for September 2022 with our current Year 7 cohort.

Our curriculum ensures that every student is offered a wide range of subjects and opportunities to succeed. Although we value academic achievements, equally important to us are the wider aspects of school life such as sport, music, drama, and creative arts. All our students are encouraged to participate in our extensive after school programme which encourages them to explore and make the most of their talents. To this end, we particularly welcome applications from staff who can contribute to and continue to develop our extra-curricular programme.

Maesteg School is a highly inclusive school where we pride ourselves on knowing each and every child as an individual. Our House structure and superb pastoral systems, ensure that every child is valued, and that Wellbeing is at the heart of everything we do. Our school is a warm, caring community with excellent relationships between students and staff. We aim to develop ambitious, optimistic young people who leave our establishment proud of their achievements, proud of their community and proud of themselves.

Our 6th form is highly successful with students pursuing Higher education courses, apprenticeships and careers which include medicine, law, journalism, computing, and engineering. Those students who aspire to Oxbridge are supported through the rigorous selection process via a bespoke support programme to ensure that they are thoroughly prepared for the challenges ahead.

Our teachers are ambitious for success in terms of pupil outcomes and their own professional development. Continued Professional Development is carefully planned for and developed as career progression is both expected and encouraged at Maesteg School. We have a thorough induction programme and developed a bespoke training package for our NQTs.



I feel honoured and privileged to lead Maesteg School and I am proud of the many and varied achievements of our staff and students. I am confident that should you choose to apply for a position in our school, you too will want to become a part of our happy, ambitious, and successful school.

Thank you for taking an interest in our school. I look forward to hearing from you. Good luck!

Mrs H. Jones (Headteacher)



Motivated to Strive - Ysgogi i Ymdrechu MAESTEG SCHOOL – DEPARTMENT OF WELSH

A welcome from Mrs Sian Melbourne, Head of Welsh at Maesteg School

I'd like to start by thanking you for the interest you have shown in this exciting new post within our department. We are incredibly committed to promoting the Welsh language and culture and regard this as another important step in our journey.

As a department we fully embrace the school motto of 'Motivate to Strive', particularly when it comes to the learning of the Welsh language. We are also fully involved in the school's commitment to develop a strong sense of 'cynefin' as a school in Wales. Our department has improved results year-on-year since the full return to school after the pandemic. We challenge and nurture our pupils with exceptional resources, a suite of designated teaching rooms within the school and a real 'can-do' attitude (in staff and pupils!).

We are a department of four Welsh specialist teachers. We offer fantastic extra-curricular activities such as trips to Llangranog, Glan Llyn, Cardiff Urdd centre and even to Paris Disneyland to explore the theme of Wales and the world. We are in the process of achieving the Campus Bronze award and have a dedicated group of Criw Cymraeg as well as whole school staff who will help us achieve this.

We teach Welsh within the Curriculum as a specialist subject across all year groups. We are excited about the opportunities afforded to our subject by the new Curriculum and our work within the Language, Literacy and Communication Area of Learning and Experience. In Year 7, for example, recent units of work have included 'Welsh storytelling' and 'Welsh myths and Legends', through which we develop and refine the pupils' use of the Welsh language. We enter all Year 11s for the full GCSE in 'Welsh (2nd Language)' and offer Welsh A-level as an option in Year 12. Such is our commitment to the delivery of Welsh that we have recently taken part in an innovative project exploring the teaching of Welsh at A-level across two schools through the use of technology.

We are a department looking for someone who can see the best in our pupils and are ambitious about what can be achieved through the Welsh language. In return, we can offer you exceptional departmental support with your Open University course as well as your lessons in school. You will also be assigned an experienced and dedicated mentor to support you not only in your progression towards becoming a teacher but also your wellbeing.

Both our pupils and our department are loyal, caring and want to do well.

Please apply for this amazing role!





MAESTEG SCHOOL - PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

Entry requirements for the Open University fully-funded PGCE route into teaching

Candidates are required to hold the following as a minimum:

- A standard equivalent to GCSE Grade C or above in Mathematics or Mathematics-Numeracy
- A standard equivalent to GCSE Grade C or above in either English Language or Welsh First Language
- A full UK honours degree (or equivalent). You must hold a degree with at least 50% relevance to the subject if you want to teach to become a secondary school teacher (learners aged 12-16). For those applicants applying to Secondary Welsh (2nd Language), your degree does not necessarily have to be in this area if you can demonstrate that you are a fluent language user, as consideration may be given dependent on depth of knowledge.
- Candidates need to be available to commit to a full-time contract (not term-time only) until the end of the programme in July 2025 and will be required to be based in school Monday-Friday.

For any questions or further information about the programme please email Ceri Hadler at ceri.hadler@open.ac.uk or go to [PGCE | Postgraduate Certificate in Education in Wales | K36 \(open.ac.uk\)](#)

Entry requirements for training to be a teacher at Maesteg School:

Personal qualities:

- A conviction that all young people can be successful and effective learners, especially when they form positive relationships with adults
- A capacity for hard work and resilience
- Excellent organisational skills, including those of time management and meeting deadlines
- A genuine desire to be always better as a practitioner, including responding positively to feedback and engaging fully in professional learning opportunities
- A high level of professionalism as part of being a positive role model for young people
- An enjoyment of being part of and learning from a team ethos

If you require any further information regarding this post, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Sian-Elin Melbourne on: semelbourne@maestegschool.co.uk