



THE ORATORY



BRIEF FOR THE POST OF INDEPENDENT LISTENER

INDEPENDENT BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS & BOYS AGED 11-18



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THE SCHOOL

The Oratory is an HMC independent school for students aged 11 to 18, providing an all-round education of quality and purpose.

We offer small class sizes and outstanding facilities on a wonderful South Oxfordshire country estate and yet we are within easy travelling distance of London, major motorways, railways and airports.

The Oratory School has high academic standards; however, we believe that an education is about more than statistics. We have a clear vision to ensure that each student flourishes and fulfils their maximum potential both in and far beyond the classroom. To this end, a wide variety of co-curricular activities enrich the students' learning and all students get the opportunity to develop their specific talents to the full.

The Oratory is not a large school, and this enables each and every student to be known, valued and stretched as an individual within our nurturing community.

Founded in 1859 by Saint John Henry Newman - we are a Catholic school which welcomes students of all faiths or none. Visitors often comment on the inclusive community atmosphere of our school, which we believe nurtures confidence, self-expression and a desire to learn and grow.





THE ROLE

We are looking for an Independent Listener to support our boarders. The Independent Listener is a person outside the staff and those responsible to the leadership and governance of the school, who boarders may contact directly about personal problems or concerns at school (Ref: NMS 2.3). This is a voluntary role.

Role Purpose

Promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young persons for who you come into contact.

Main Duties

- The Independent Listener will be required to note the following:
- Take into account the School's views on the student's needs, as well as the student's wishes and views;
- If contacted by a student, they should provide an opportunity for them to talk through problems and issues in a safe and non-discriminatory manner;
- Encourage the students to participate in decisions affecting them;
- Keep accurate and confidential records bearing in mind some students wish to remain anonymous;
- Safeguarding and child protection issues arising from conversations with students should be reported immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).
- Work in a child centered manner, being clear about confidentiality and where boundaries lie.
- Proactively be alert to indicators of potential safeguarding issues and report these immediately in accordance with the Schools procedure.





SALARY

This is a voluntary position.

SAFEGUARDING

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

The following duties will be deemed to be included in the duties which you may be required to perform:

- child protection, discipline, health and safety.
- promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young persons for whom you are responsible.



THE PERSON

The Independent Listener should have qualities, skills, experience and/or qualifications in other settings that enable them to undertake work in a professional capacity with children.

These may include:

An understanding of Good Care Practice and Principles'	Essential
The ability to work flexibly with a variety of adults and children	Essential
An understanding and appreciation of the difficulties caused by living away from home	Essential
An understanding and empathy of the needs of school age children and adolescents	Essential
Qualifications/experience in counselling or other relevant disciplines.	Desirable
An appreciation of the Children Act 1989, the Children Act 2004 and the National Minimum Standards and other relevant legislation	Desirable







HOW TO APPLY

Applicants should complete the school's application form and send together with a covering letter in PDF format to recruitment@oratory.co.uk

Early applications are encouraged.

The interview process will include:

- Interviews with the DSL/HR.
- Tour of the school.

We reserve the right to close this advertisement early if we receive a high volume of suitable applications or if we find a suitable candidate from early applications.

Please send postal applications together with a covering letter to:

Human Resources Department
The Oratory School
Woodcote
Oxfordshire RG8 0PJ

For any queries, please email recruitment@oratory.co.uk.

The Oratory Schools Association Registered Charity No. 309112 is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Applicants must be willing to undergo checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service. This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and the amendments to the Exception Order 1975, 2013, 2020.





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1859

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