



# CLEANER

*Candidate Information*





# INTRODUCTION

## *One of the first schools to take girls' education seriously.*

*Durham High School is a leading Independent Day School for girls aged 3 - 18. We were one of the first schools in the North East of England to take girls' education seriously and we are proud to continue that tradition today; we seek to develop the potential of every girl in all areas of life.*

*The school was founded in 1884 by the Church Schools' Company and in 1910 the school's governing body took over and formed an independent school. In the 1960s, Durham High School moved to its first purpose-built premises on the edge of the city adjacent to the new Durham University colleges. This began a period of building and expansion which continues to the present day.*

*Recent developments include a wonderful Nursery, a Science, ICT and Library block and most recently a new building incorporating classrooms for Mathematics and Geography with a purpose-built Performing Arts Suite and Music practice rooms.*

### **Reputation and results**

*Durham High School is consistently the best in County Durham for academic results and pastoral support. Classes are small and the pastoral care of pupils is given a very high priority. Our pupils consistently achieve some of the best results in the area at both GCSE and A Level.*

*In 2023, 71% of pupils achieved grades A\*-B at A Level, which was significantly higher than national average of 52.7%. A third of all grades were A\*-A, which is higher than both the North East average of 22% and the national average of 26.5%.*

*At GCSE, the proportion of top grades (9-7) was 59%, which is significantly higher than regional and national averages.*

### **Scholarships and bursaries**

*We are keen to widen access as much as possible, with means-tested bursaries, including some free places, to enable as many girls as possible to attend the school from a wide area.*

*There are also academic scholarships available at 11+ and 16+ together with scholarships in Music, Performing Arts and Sport.*

*Durham High School creates opportunities, recognises that glass ceilings do still exist but does its level best to support girls to find their own path through.*

**Good Schools Guide**



### **Extra Curricular**

*There is a tremendous extra-curricular programme, with huge enthusiasm for a wide-ranging number of sports including hockey, netball and tennis, as well as aerobics and cricket. Our teams regularly compete, and succeed, at the highest levels of sport.*

*The musical life of the school is also extensive and of a very high standard. A large proportion of girls take lessons in an instrument and/or voice. There are four choirs, orchestras, a number of bands and an outstanding Drama Department, which stages a number of plays every year. This includes the School's annual production which is performed at Durham's Gala Theatre.*

*The opportunity to serve both the immediate and wider community is an important part of school life. Other extra-curricular activities include: a Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme with large numbers of girls taking part, including achieving Gold Awards; Young Enterprise; Debating; Art and Photography; and numerous trips and visits abroad.*

### **Covid and beyond**

*Durham High School continued to thrive throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite two periods of school closure, our staff and pupils embarked on an extraordinary journey, adapting to new technology and a new way of learning very quickly, which has meant our pupils have received a full curriculum offering and no need for any catch up.*

*In addition, with thanks to the virtues of the virtual, from House events to School Council meetings, art exhibitions to sporting challenges, Leavers Service to Sixth Form Bake Off, from assemblies to virtual concerts: Even though for large parts of the last two and a half years our community has been physically apart, we truly believe we have never been closer.*

### **Christian Ethos**

*We expect all staff to be sympathetic to and supportive of the Christian ethos of the school and to model Christian values. Our school is inclusive and we welcome girls of all faiths and none. Religious faiths are valued and respected and we have a significant number of pupils who practise faiths other than Christian.*

*The girls at Durham High School were amongst the most enthusiastic and motivated we have met.*

**Good Schools Guide**





# ISI INSPECTION REPORT

*Durham High School was judged 'Excellent' across all areas by the latest inspection carried out by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) in October 2022.*

*The school succeeded in fulfilling every standard examined during the Regulatory Compliance Inspection, where each standard is simply 'met' or 'not met': there is no evaluative judgement in the report beyond this.*

*This inspection includes the standards of the quality of education; the suitability of staff and those in contact with our pupils; the welfare of our young people and their moral, social and cultural development. We also met every requirement relating to the premises and the provision of information.*

*The key findings in the Educational Quality Inspection were:*

***The quality of the pupils' academic and other achievements is excellent.***

- Pupils make excellent progress and achieve highly in both academic and other areas.*
- Pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding are excellent across all areas of learning.*
- Pupils of all ages are excellent communicators who listen well and express themselves articulately both orally and in writing.*

- Pupils demonstrate excellent study skills. Their attitudes to learning are outstanding and underpin the high levels of achievement throughout the school.*

***The quality of the pupils' personal development is excellent.***

- Pupils display an extremely strong moral awareness and have a clear understanding of right and wrong.*
- Pupils show outstanding levels of respect; they value diversity and demonstrate sensitivity and tolerance towards others.*
- Pupils' social development is excellent; they collaborate extremely well in lessons and extracurricular activities.*
- Pupils make an excellent contribution to the life of the school, the local community and the world beyond.*

*The Pupils at Durham High School are enthusiastic and ambitious learners, with a genuine desire to succeed..*

**ISI Inspection Report, October 2022**





# THE ROLE

*We are seeking a hardworking and dedicated Cleaner to join our support staff team.*

*The Facilities Manager have overall responsibility for and line manages the Facilities Management Technician Team and cleaning staff.*

*Cleaning duties include:*

*A requirement to undertake general cleaning duties in the following areas:*

- *Classrooms*
- *Toilets*
- *Public areas*
- *Any area as required*

*Duties include vacuuming, polishing, dusting, emptying bins and other related tasks as required. May involve some heavy lifting.*

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**Good Schools Guide**



# THE ROLE OF CLEANER

Ideally, the successful candidate will have the following:

## Qualifications and skills

- educated to appropriate level
- willingness to participate in ongoing training
- understanding of Health & Safety and COSHH issues
- previous cleaning experience is essential, ideally in a school environment
- Physical capability to undertake the role

## Personal Qualities

- good timekeeping
- excellent communication skills
- flexible approach
- ability to lift and carry items
- ability to work independently and as part of a team
- politeness and respect for others
- loyalty and commitment

Some existing knowledge about the demands of a school would be an advantage, but this is not essential.

All school staff are required to maintain strict confidentiality in all areas of their work.

*Pupils flourish and develop high levels of self-confidence through the positive encouragement they receive from class teachers and other staff who provide individual support”*

**ISI Inspection Report, October 2022**



# APPLICATION PROCESS

Please complete the application form, available from the School's website, and submit this with a covering letter outlining your reasons for applying and what you feel you can bring to the post. This should be addressed for the attention of the Headmistress and sent by email to [enquiries@dhsfg.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@dhsfg.org.uk).

**Closing date for applications:**  
**Thursday 15 August**

**Interviews will be held shortly after this date.**

We hope the successful candidate is able to take up the appointment as soon as possible.

Durham High School  
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Durham  
DH1 3TB

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[www.dhsfg.org.uk](http://www.dhsfg.org.uk)

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## **Terms and Conditions**

### Hours

The core cleaning hours of work are Monday to Thursday 3.15pm to 6.30pm and Friday 3.15pm to 6.15pm (term time only – 36 weeks plus pro-rata holiday pay).

Additionally, during school holiday periods there is a requirement that cleaning staff work 6 of these weeks, which are to be determined by the line manager. The hours relating to this may be flexible but must meet the needs of the school and be agreed by the line manager.

### Salary

The basic cleaning hourly rate will be £12.28 for weekday hours. Annualised hours will be paid monthly in arrears i.e. twelve equal payments over the year.

### DBS and searches

Durham High School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. The successful applicant will be subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure.

In addition, as part of the shortlisting process, Durham High School will carry out an online search on the shortlisted candidates as part of its due diligence.