

28th November 2017

Dear applicant

**RE: Teacher of Geography**

Thank you for your interest in the above post. We are looking for an enthusiastic and dynamic Teacher of geography to join our team from September 2018. NQTs will be considered favourably.

The geography team consists of 2 specialists who work within the wider Humanities Faculty. Geography has a well-resourced suit of rooms in which the majority of the subject teaching takes place; the department has its own staff base. Geography is a very popular and successful subject with high numbers opting at GCSE and A level with excellent results.

Geography at Kings Norton Girls’ School aims to foster an enjoyment and passion for students’ local and wider environment and the dynamic world around us. It also enables students to better understand why our human and physical environments and landscapes appear as they are, how they form and operate, and the differences and inequality within the human world, along with the importance of and role of global interdependence.

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**Key Stage 3**

In Year 7 students study Geography within the 7UP programme. This means that they study History, Geography and Religious Education in termly blocks, allowing for depth of study. With 6 hours of lessons a week on a rotation, they develop their understanding of scale and base skills such as map enquiry, through topics such as amazing Africa, global development and fair trade and weather and climate. They also investigate their local areas conducting fieldwork.

In Year 8 students study Geography on a rotation with other humanities subjects, there are 4 hours of humanities lessons a week. Within their module on comparing countries, students contrast human and physical differences between 3 fascinating countries; Nepal, Brazil and Japan. They also study the growth, development and future sustainability of mega cities. Within natural hazards, students study a range of tectonic hazards such as volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis and meteorological hazards such as flooding, droughts and hurricanes. This enables plenty of opportunity to link their learning to current and topical real world events.

In Year 9 students deepen their skills base in preparation for options and as a foundation for GCSE, studying world biomes, global futures which includes climate change and world epidemics; tourism and rivers. Geography is taught in six, one hour periods over a fortnight.

**Key Stage 4**

GCSE Geography is a popular option; with three GCSE classes currently. We study the new Edexcel B GCSE. There are 3 exams all assessed at the end of year 11 by examination. Students study global Geographical Issues, including hazardous earth, development dynamics and challenges of an urbanising world in paper 1. UK geographical Issues including the UK’s evolving physical landscape, human landscape and geographical investigations are covered in paper 2. In Year 10 students spend a day conducting human fieldwork in Birmingham and a day conducting rivers fieldwork in Carding Mill Valley. Finally they make geographical decisions in Paper 3; through the study of people and the biosphere, forests under threat and energy resources.

**A Level Edexcel Geography**

Geography is a popular A level option and we currently have 19 students studying at this level. In Key Stage 5 students have 5 hours of teaching a week in Y12 and Y13. The A Level specification consists of three externally examined papers and one coursework component.

Paper 1 allows students to study tectonic processes and hazards, *coastal landscapes and change* and the water and carbon cycle linking to world issues of water and energy security. Paper 2 enables students to develop and understand globalisation, regenerating places, superpowers and migration, identity and sovereignty.

Skills of synopticity are assessed in the final written examination paper 3.

Throughout the two years students have the opportunity to study their wider environment and develop fieldwork skills. A residential fieldtrip is organised to collect data for their independent investigation. Students are expected to produce a 3000-4000 word report, based on their chosen title. Additionally, every year, geography students visit the University of Birmingham for a master class on a topical issue to support their studies.

**Extra-Curricular and Enrichment Opportunities**

Along side field work opportunities and university links, the Geography department also arranges extra-curricular activities that can deepen students’ understanding and interest in the subject. For instance, the department’s ambassadors lead school wide events to raise awareness on current issues such as climate change, food and energy and the impacts of economic change on places and communities.

We are seeking someone who is equally passionate and excited by their subject to join our team. We offer a wide range of career development opportunities both within school and our extensive external networks so that whatever stage you are at in your career, or whatever your ambitions, we can support your growth. We have good links with local training organisations and are members of NATRE.

If you feel you could make a difference to our young people and you are intrigued by what you have read about us, we would love to hear from you.

Please find enclosed:

* Job Description
* Person Specification
* About the process
* Application form

To apply, please complete the application form and return with a covering letter supporting your application to Mrs Denise Wilson, my PA via email [dwilson@kngs.co.uk](mailto:dwilson@kngs.co.uk). The closing date is 12 noon on **Wednesday 17th January 2018**. Please note we do not accept CVs and only applications completed on the school’s application form will be considered. An application pack can be downloaded from the vacancies page of our school website [www.kngs.co.uk](http://www.kngs.co.uk).

If you would like to visit the school, we are holding an open event **on Wednesday 10th January**, 4.30 – 5.30 pm, this is an opportunity to meet with Sarah Warwood, Head of Department, please contact Sarah on 0121 675 1305 to confirm your attendance at the open event, Mrs Warwood can also be contacted via email [sarahtaylor@kngs.co.uk](mailto:sarahtaylor@kngs.co.uk).

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely



Ms G Fox, Headteacher