



**Appointment of a Part-time  
Teacher of Religious Studies  
January 2018**



**THE KING'S SCHOOL** is a leading independent co-educational boarding school, situated in the heart of the historic cathedral city of Canterbury in Kent.

The precincts of Canterbury Cathedral are part of a world heritage site, a centre of pilgrimage and study, and host to over 1 million visitors each year from many different cultures. This international dimension deeply influences the life of the city and the school.

The origins of King's date back to the arrival of St Augustine in 597 AD and the school's Christian tradition remains at its heart although pupils and staff subscribe to many different faiths and beliefs and none. Embracing this diversity, there is a desire to foster fairness, tolerance, courage, perseverance, mutual respect and understanding. The Benedictine tradition of developing mind, body and spirit within a community given to hospitality still influences the life of the Cathedral and the school lives out its life in that context. Thus, academic excellence and scholarship take their place alongside the school's commitment to physical and cultural endeavour. Sport is strong, with a number of boys' and girls' teams at national level. Music and drama are outstanding, both having the finest traditions and producing performances of the highest standards. King's Week, the school's own Festival of Creative and Performing Arts, attracts thousands of visitors each summer.



The curriculum at King's is based upon strong academic roots. It emphasises and relies upon what is best in traditional school education: scholarly excellence supported by a caring pastoral and tutorial system, and a wide-ranging co-curricular programme. The curriculum is continually adapting and reacting to the changing demands of modern education: new subjects are added, new teaching techniques adopted, and there is an increasing awareness of the need to provide programmes of study that match individual needs and skills. The school does not gauge its success by exam results alone but by broader measures of educational attainment and personal development, helping pupils to achieve their potential and equipping them to play an active and responsible role in society as young adults.

Our family of schools comprises The King's School, Canterbury (KSC), The Junior King's School and, from September 2018, the International College. At KSC there are currently 826 pupils at the school, 452 boys and 374 girls, of whom about 80% are boarders. There are six boys' boarding houses, seven girls' boarding houses and three mixed day houses. Junior King's occupies a fine rural site on the banks of the River Stour, in Sturry, two miles from Canterbury. There are currently over 375 pupils at Junior King's of whom around 20% are boarders.

The King's School occupies various sites around the Cathedral and its precincts. Many teaching departments and the majority of houses are in the beautiful ancient buildings around Green Court on the north side of the Cathedral. To the east of the Cathedral the St Augustine's site is home to five boarding houses, a medieval refectory, and the magnificent school library. There are two major sites for sport: Birley's, and the Recreation Centre, both within walking distance of the school, with rowing at Westbere Lakes in Sturry.

[www.kings-school.co.uk](http://www.kings-school.co.uk)





## THE ROLE

We seek applications from well qualified graduates to teach Religious Studies part-time to the Lower School, initially Years 9 and 10 (and there may be the opportunity to teach some Lower School English in addition). Further duties such as tutoring in a boarding or day house, running an activity, coaching a sport, contributing to DofE, academic enrichment, and so on are possible to build into the role and will be discussed at interview. The purely teaching aspect is envisaged as 0.15-0.25 FTE.

A PGCE or equivalent is desirable but not essential, and no teaching experience is necessary: we welcome applications from experienced teachers as well as recent graduates and those making a change of career.

### Religious Studies and Philosophy at King's

The Religious Studies and Philosophy Department at King's comprises four full-time classroom teachers, supplemented by four teachers who combine their classroom teaching with pastoral and senior management roles.

The Department is friendly and varied. We have within our number the Deputy Head (Pastoral), the Head of Critical Thinking & Extended Projects, the Registrar, a Housemistress, and the Senior and Assistant Chaplains. Members of the department are heavily involved in school sport, other co-curricular activities and the pastoral care system. Some teach both Philosophy and Religious Studies. Religious Studies is taught as an academic subject in the Lower School alongside the other humanities.

Religious Studies is an IGCSE option at King's with about a third of the year-group choosing to take the subject. Remove (Year 10) and Fifth Form (Year 11) pupils study for Edexcel IGCSE. Classes are of mixed-ability (there is no setting) and class sizes vary between 12 and 18. As a general rule, each class will have the same teacher for both years of the IGCSE course. Results are excellent with about half gaining A\* in their IGCSE exams each summer.

Sixth Form Religious Studies students take the OCR A level course. Classes are taught by two teachers, one to teach Ethics and one to teach Developments in Religious Thought, with the Philosophy of Religion topics split between both teachers. Classes are of mixed ability and the size of the class usually varies between 8 and 14. Our exam results have been strong and we currently have former pupils studying Theology at Oxbridge. Those taking Philosophy in the Sixth Form study the Pre-U course, taking the Epistemology and Philosophy of Mind topics. Philosophy is growing in popularity at King's with increasing numbers of pupils applying for Philosophy, PPE, and related courses at university. All pupils are introduced to Philosophy in the Fifth form as part of a programme of lessons designed to introduce them to subjects available at Sixth Form.

Our Shell (Year 9) syllabus is tailor-made to give pupils the chance to explore a wide range of Religious and Philosophical issues from a variety of perspectives. Pupils will encounter all the major world religions through a series of half-termly questions. Pupils in the Shells are set in broad ability bands; individual teachers are encouraged to adapt the Shell syllabus to suit both the abilities of their class and their own personal style of teaching and interests.

This post is suitable for a man or a woman who is a fine communicator and who combines academic excellence, energy, enthusiasm and experience with good humour and patience. S/he will have the opportunity to add creatively to the RS & Philosophy Department, even though part-time, and we would welcome a confident person with new ideas. A willingness to participate to some extent in the department's co-curricular provision will be viewed favourably, as well as contributing to the wider life of the school through the pastoral and co-curricular programmes, by negotiation – hence the Full Time Equivalent is variable for this post depending on the participation of the successful applicant.

## APPLICATIONS

Applications should be submitted online through the King's School website ([www.kings-school.co.uk](http://www.kings-school.co.uk) – Staff Vacancies), and should include a personal statement for the Headmaster and a CV by **9am on Wednesday 25 October 2017**. If you have any difficulties accessing the internet please contact the School Office: [reception@kings-school.co.uk](mailto:reception@kings-school.co.uk); 01227 595501.

*Those considering applying but requiring more information are welcome to contact the Head of RS & Philosophy, Tanya Lee, for an informal discussion: [tl@kings-school.co.uk](mailto:tl@kings-school.co.uk).*