



James Allen's Girls' School 4–18

jags



CANDIDATE PACK FOR HEAD OF HISTORY AND POLITICS

James Allen's Girls' School 144 East Dulwich Grove London SE22 8TE

www.jags.org.uk



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JAMES ALLEN'S GIRLS' SCHOOL

JAGS has been inspiring and educating pupils for over 270 years. It is the oldest girls' independent school in London. While we are proud of our history – it's made us who we are – we are very much a school of the present and the future. We celebrate the best of the old while embracing the latest innovations and technology.

Our day school pupils are drawn from a dynamic variety of cultural, social and economic backgrounds, with 50 languages spoken at home. We currently have 126 pupils on our own bursaries, with 51 of them on free places and an average of 89% fee subsidy paid. Diversity is our strength, but we share a common purpose: to help all our pupils fulfil their potential. We know we are lucky and that we gain from sharing what we have. 'Good Neighbours' has been our policy for many years. We look outwards and draw people in. We are part of the world around us.



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In a changing educational world, my core values remain intact. As an Oxford graduate, and student of literature, I want pupils to love learning for its own sake and to strive for excellence.

But true education always comes back to people. To supporting the young on individual journeys so they are ready to lead purposeful, happy adult lives. As soon as I set foot in JAGS, I knew that this was at the heart of the school's ethos too. Known for its academic excellence, JAGS is so much more. It is a school with heart and conscience and one which reaches out beyond its own community.

I also believe firmly that schools have responsibility for the whole person. Sport, arts and leadership are part of that - but the less measurable qualities of social responsibility and empathy are just as important.

Jill Anne Hargreaves



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WORKING AT JAGS

Working at JAGS is more than just about working. JAGS is a community and a family that strives to create a warm and supportive environment for both the girls that come to learn here, but also for the staff that come to work here.

From your first day at JAGS you will have access to some of the best facilities in the country and will be encouraged to take part in the many activities here.

JAGS works hard to attract the best staff and therefore the benefit package at JAGS is very generous. We have our own pay scale which is above the national average and we also offer all staff a discount on school fees. You will have access to our multi purpose sports centre which includes tennis courts, a 25m swimming pool, spin studio and a rock climbing centre. You will receive free lunches as well as free parking and free access to the Dulwich Picture Gallery.



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HEAD OF HISTORY AND POLITICS

The post holder is responsible for overseeing the strategic development of the History and Politics department, including curriculum planning, trips and day to day administration. The role requires regular communication with pupils, parents and staff throughout the school.

As a member of the teaching staff the post holder will be expected to involve themselves in school life, and to participate in residential trips where appropriate



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HEAD OF HISTORY AND POLITICS PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential

- A good degree in History or History and Politics, preferably with QTS.
- Excellent communication skills. Be able to demonstrate an appreciation of a range of literature and be skilful and accurate in their own communication, both written and oral.
- Excellent subject knowledge and experience in teaching History at KS3, KS4 and KS5. Ideally additional experience in teaching Politics at KS5
- An excellent teacher with demonstrable enthusiasm for History and Politics.
- Knowledge and understanding of effective teaching and learning styles and of monitoring, assessment, recording and reporting of pupils' progress.
- Demonstrate empathy, patience and commitment.
- The ability to develop good personal relationships within a team.
- Have excellent IT skills including Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint.
- Demonstrate a high degree of organisation and have the ability to meet deadlines.
- The ability to promote the school's aims positively.
- An awareness of the statutory requirements concerning Equal Opportunities, LDD & SEN, Child Protection and particularly of Health and Safety in science.

Desirable

- Management experience, preferably within a History or History and Politics department.
- Experience of teaching academically able students.
- Experience of using IT to engage pupils in learning and in record keeping, including pupil tracking.
- Knowledge of National Curriculum requirements at all Key Stages is desirable.
- Enthusiasm for sharing knowledge of best practice.
- Experience of mentoring and coaching.
- Experience of supporting students in preparing UCAS applications.

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HISTORY AND POLITICS

The History & Politics Department at JAGS has a long tradition of academic success at both GCSE, where about three quarters of the year group take History and the overwhelming majority of candidates achieve A* or A grades, and at A Level where we currently have three teaching groups in each year, most of whom attain A*, A or B grades in their final examinations. Similar success is achieved by the girls taking Government & Politics in the Sixth Form. A significant number of girls go on each year to read History or Politics or related subjects, at many different universities.

In the broadest sense, our objective is to promote history in all its aspects and to stimulate in our pupils an enthusiasm for the subject and a curiosity about the past that will last long beyond their schooldays and so give them the increased understanding of themselves and of our world that comes through an awareness of its history. Our concern, therefore, is not just to further the aspirations of high-fliers but also to respond sensitively to the individual needs of all our pupils.

At the moment there are seven members of the department, five full-time and two part-time, each with their own specialisms and enthusiasms and each with their own teaching style, which we regard as one of our strengths since it creates a stimulating and rewarding environment for pupils and staff alike. We hold weekly department meetings which provide a forum for debate as well as the opportunity to co-ordinate policy and teaching materials.

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