

SIDMOUTH COLLEGE
Teacher of Geography

believe • inspire • succeed



Dear Applicant

Thank you for your interest in the post of Teacher of Geography at Sidmouth College. The College currently has 741 students on roll of whom 114 are in the Sixth Form. The majority of our students are drawn from four local feeder schools, in Sidmouth, Sidbury, Newton Poppleford and Branscombe. The College is in a beautiful setting within the Sid Valley and the East Devon area of outstanding natural beauty.

Our vision is for vibrant and inspirational teaching that raises aspirations; challenges and engages, and prepares every student for lifelong learning. At Sidmouth College learners *believe* they can *succeed*, staff that they can *inspire* and everyone strives to be the best that they can be.

The College buildings sit within an attractive 13 acre campus and staff take every opportunity to make use of the natural environment on our doorstep to support students' learning and creativity. We are about to embark on a very exciting programme of redevelopment under the Priority Schools Building Programme with building works starting in January 2019. This will see the vast majority of our 1960s buildings replaced with modern, state of the art facilities, including seven new Science laboratories and preparation facilities to create, without doubt, a fantastic modern learning environment.

We were delighted to be again judged as Good in the most recent Ofsted report in 2016, which recognised our continuous improvement in achieving positive outcomes for all students.

The enclosed job description outlines the responsibilities of the role but put simply the successful candidate must:

- have a clear, well communicated understanding of good, successful teaching and learning
- possess the skills and determination to make a significant difference to the lives of our students
- be relentless in building students' self-esteem and encouraging students to aspire in Geography

If you have any questions please contact the Leadership Team Assistant, Mrs Jo Liddle, on 01395 514823 or jliddle@sidmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk

Yours faithfully

Jim Ingham-Hill
Co-Principal

Martyn Dudley
Co-Principal

Introduction



Sidmouth College is a thriving 11-18 community college located in the Devon countryside.

At Sidmouth College the individual is right at the heart of what we do. Students achieve academic success, develop their creativity, excel on the sports field and encounter a multitude of new experiences in a safe and enjoyable environment, encouraged by a team of dedicated and highly experienced professionals. At Sidmouth College we believe that the vibrant learning community, coupled with a culture of high standards and expectations, brings out the very best in every student and establishes abundant possibilities for their future.

Our Ethos—Believe, Inspire, Succeed

- Every learner believes and succeeds in fulfilling their potential and is inspired to lead a happy, healthy and successful life within a challenging and rapidly changing world.
- All learners have access to inspirational teaching that leads to outstanding learning and achievements which continues beyond the classroom.
- All learners have access to a high quality, relevant and appropriate curriculum that fully meets their needs and supports an engaging and inspiring learning experience.
- We inspire learners to believe in the contribution they can make to their learning, the College and the wider community. Learners take responsibility and develop resilience throughout their learning journey with clear support and guidance.
- All levels of leadership are focused on providing a vision, direction and culture in which all are inspired to believe and succeed.

A caring and supportive community

Care, guidance and support are strengths of the College. Students are organised in vertical tutor groups led by a tutor who monitors academic progress, student well-being and student development. Each tutor group is in one of four Houses - Drake, Grenville, Raleigh and Scott. The tutor group meets at the beginning of each day for registration, support and guidance and on a Friday to deliver Personal Development (PHSE).

The team of tutors is led by a Head of House who maintains a close overview of the work and wellbeing of the students. In addition, the School Counsellor and the Student Support/ pastoral team make a valuable contribution.

A stimulating and exciting learning journey

Learning is an adventure to be enjoyed; a journey that stretches, challenges and opens minds. Our stimulating and engaging curriculum delivers exciting opportunities in the classroom and beyond. Our overarching aim is to provide our young people with the skills and qualifications they need to become happy, successful adults with a passion for lifelong learning. Our Key Stage 3 programme aims to raise the ambitions of all students; developing knowledge, skills and understanding and promoting confidence in their abilities. At Key Stage 3 we ensure students experience learning in a wide range of subjects, including the Arts, Technology, Computer Science and Modern Foreign Languages.

In Key Stage 4 students have the opportunity to study a range of personalised pathways, designed to support their individual talents and interests and maximise their achievement and success. At Key Stage 4 all students study a core curriculum of English Language and English Literature, Maths, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, PE and RE in addition to three option subjects.

At Key Stage 5 we offer a wide range of A Level qualifications and the vast majority of students choose three linear subjects, with some choosing to study four.





Appointment Information

This is an exciting opportunity for a well qualified, ambitious and inspirational teacher to take on a teaching role within Sidmouth College. If you are a highly committed and motivated teacher who can demonstrate a real passion for Geography with a commitment to make a difference to the lives of our students by raising standards, achievements and expectations, then we would welcome your application.

The successful candidate will have a high standard of teaching and learning and have the ability to think creatively and strategically.

Excellent curriculum knowledge is essential and the ability to develop the existing GCSE and A Level specifications will be desirable. The successful candidate will be expected to teach Geography to GCSE and the ability to teach to A Level is desirable. They must possess the ability to enthuse and inspire students by sharing their passion for Geography.

The post would suit an experienced Teacher of Geography or a NQT. It will be 0.8FTE for an experienced teacher and 1.0FTE for a NQT.

At Sidmouth College, we are always keen to invest in potential and this post would suit someone who is committed to their own and other continuous professional development, and has aspirations of further progression.

The Humanities Faculty

The Humanities faculty is a large department of five full-time and three part-time experienced teaching staff, including the successful applicant. The team work together in classrooms situated along one corridor and support each other in planning schemes of work.

Cross-curricular work and visits take place on a regular basis, giving students the opportunity to broaden their horizons. The faculty is involved in running a range of extra-curricular activities.

All three Humanities subjects are popular and are at the centre of the curriculum offer at the College.

The Curriculum

Geography is studied by all students in Key Stage 3 for three hours per fortnight, five hours per fortnight at Key Stage 4, and nine hours per fortnight at A Level. In their lessons, students develop a range of skills in both physical and human geography including research, investigation, map work and decision-making. Classes are mixed ability in all Key Stages therefore the ability to differentiate is essential.

At Key Stage 3 students are introduced to the key elements of Geography such as weather systems, rivers, coasts, habitats and migration. Students learn in a variety of ways including group work, individual study and field work.

At Key Stage 4 students follow the OCR B syllabus and the option is very popular. The GCSE involves several opportunities for field work.

A Level Geography follows the Edexcel specification and is a popular choice for A Level at the College and also involves a number of opportunities for field work locally.

The successful candidate will be required to assist in the organisation and delivery of field work for both GCSE and A Level.

Application Process

The closing date for applications is **Monday 18th June 2018 at 12.00noon**

Interviews will be held in the **week commencing 18th June**

Completed applications should be submitted to vacancies@sidmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk

We are committed to safeguarding the welfare of our students and, if successful, you will be required to undertake an enhanced Disclosure & Barring check.



Teacher of Geography

Post: **Teacher of Geography - 0.8FTE Permanent from September 2018 or 1.0FTE for a NQT**

Scale: **TPS**

Responsible to: **Head of Department**

This job description is not a comprehensive definition of the post. Discussions will take place on a regular basis to clarify individual responsibilities within the general framework and character of the post as identified below. The conditions of employment of teachers in the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions of Service Document apply to this post, whose holder is expected to carry out the professional duties of a teacher as circumstances may require, under the reasonable direction of the Principal.

Core purpose of a class teacher

To be an effective teacher (and tutor) who supports and challenges all students to achieve their full potential. To secure high levels of expectation and attainment, and promote high levels of participation in both the formal and informal curriculum of the College.

Accountabilities

- To maintain a thorough and up-to-date knowledge of the teaching of your subject and take account of wider curriculum developments which are relevant to your work.
- To plan lessons/activities/tutorials and sequences of lessons to meet students' individual learning needs.
- To use a range of appropriate strategies and follow College policies for teaching/tutoring, behaviour management and classroom management.
- To do all that you can to ensure that you safeguard and promote the welfare of students in the College.
- To set well-grounded expectations for students in your teaching and tutorial groups using information about prior attainment.
- To assess, monitor and record the progress of students in your teaching (and tutorial groups) and give them clear and constructive feedback.
- To do all you can to ensure that, as a result of your teaching (and tutoring), your students achieve well relative to their prior attainment, making progress as good as or better than similar students nationally and in the College.
- To take responsibility for your own professional development and use the outcomes to improve your teaching (and tutoring) and your students' learning.
- To make an active contribution to the policies, aspirations and plans of your year group, of your curriculum team and of the College.
- The teacher will play a critical role in the life of the College. They will provide a role model for teaching and learning, make a distinctive contribution to the raising of students' standards and contribute effectively to the work of the wider team. They will take advantage of the appropriate opportunities for professional development and use outcomes effectively to improve students' learning.

Performance Appraisal

Your annual performance review is based on this overall job description and with particular emphasis on your individual annual targets. These are set in discussion with your line manager and grouped under the headings: Professional Development; Departmental Improvement Plan; Student Progress.





Person Specification

Requirement	Essential	Desirable
Holds a DfE recognised teaching qualification together with Qualified Teacher Status	√	
Geography Degree or equivalent qualification	√	
Evidence of continuing professional development	√	
Ability to use assessment, tracking and student level data to raise standards of achievement.	√	
Evidence of successful teaching across the 11-16 range and ability range	√	
Ability to teach Geography to Key Stage 3 & 4	√	
Ability to teach Geography to A Level		√
Demonstrate a sound understanding of the qualities of good teaching and effective learning and how these can be applied to raise student attainment	√	
Demonstrate an understanding of the effective planning and delivery of a balanced curriculum.	√	
Ability to demonstrate excellent subject knowledge and proven experience of teaching across the key stages.	√	
Has a clear vision and strong commitment to inclusion and how this can be achieved for students.	√	
Has the ability and strong commitment to working in partnership with staff and parents.	√	
Can set, maintain and actively promote high standards of student behaviour.	√	
Enthusiasm, determination and an insistence on high standards	√	
The ability to envision, enthuse, inspire and motivate students, staff and parents.	√	
Good decision making skills; the ability to identify and implement solutions to problems.	√	
Good self-management skills, including the ability to plan one's time effectively	√	
Enjoys working in new and challenging situations with the capacity to work under pressure	√	
A high level of personal integrity	√	
A willingness to learn new skills and approaches, and share good practice and experiences with others	√	
Excellent attendance, punctuality and a sense of commitment	√	