

Christ's College, Guildford – Perseverance Resilience Optimism



**Teacher of Religious Studies (Maternity Cover – One year in the first instance)
To start in September 2018
Information booklet for prospective applicants**

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Dear Applicant

Thank you for your interest in the role of Teacher of Religious Studies (Maternity Cover) at Christ's College.

Christ's College is an exciting place to work with dedicated staff, positive students and supportive parents. At our OFSTED inspection in 2013 we were rated as Good and have seen many improvements since that inspection. In 2010 and 2016 we received letters from the Department for Education recognising the improvements we have made. We are looking for colleagues to join us in working to make Christ's College even better in the future.

In recent years we have seen a significant rise in GCSE and A Level results. In 2017 our percentage achieving 4+ in the new English and Maths was 72% for each subject. We are currently seeking to appoint a Religious Studies teacher for a maternity leave, who will help us to consistently reach high standards.

Alongside this rise in academic results, we have also seen a rise in the popularity of the College. In 2014 we increased our intake numbers from 125 to 156. In the last three years we have been significantly oversubscribed and are on track to be oversubscribed again in 2018.

Christ's College has a small, but growing Sixth Form. Many staff appreciate the opportunity to teach A Level alongside their KS3 and 4 teaching. We are dedicated to improving all aspects of our Sixth Form provision.

We have a proven track record of excellent professional development opportunities. There are many members of staff who have been given the opportunity of internal promotion and a significant majority of staff who have left us in recent years have gained external promotion.

For all the reasons explained above, I hope you would be interested in finding out more about Christ's College. I would be pleased to talk to you on the phone or give you a tour of the College if this would help you to find out more about our ethos and vision.

I look forward to receiving an application from you.

Yours sincerely



Steve Knight
Principal

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About Christ's College

Christ's College is a thriving 11-18 school serving the non-Christian and Christian community of Guildford, Woking and the surrounding areas. We are proud of our Church heritage and hope that this has helped us to create an environment that is inclusive and supportive of all. Our aim for the children at Christ's College is that they should develop the character traits of perseverance, resilience and optimism. We know that success only comes through hard work and **perseverance**; life can be difficult and therefore we all need **resilience**; but we need to work with **optimism** and believe that our hard work will open up great opportunities for us.

Over the last few years Christ's College has been on a journey of sustained improvement. We have seen a significant rise in the percentage of children gaining 5 or more A*-C grades including English and Maths. We are determined to maintain our high standards and ensure that the students at Christ's College make higher levels of progress than the national average. At our OFSTED inspection (February 2013) the College moved to being rated as Good in all aspects. OFSTED said of Christ's College:

“Students make good progress from relatively low starting points. They achieve well and enjoy school and the opportunities it presents.”

“The ethos of the school promotes learning. Students feel safe and relationships at all levels in the school are warm and supportive. Students conduct themselves well around the school.”

In our most recent inspection (January 2018) we remained Good. Alongside the improvement in examination results, the popularity of the College has risen sharply. In 2014, the Governors decided to increase the intake number from 125 to 156. In the last three years the College has been significantly oversubscribed and is likely to be oversubscribed in September 2018. The plan is that Christ's College will grow from its present size of 750 students to approximately 950 students by 2020. This increase in size will require an increase in the capacity of both the main building and also the new Sixth Form Centre.

The Faculty System

Christ's College is split into five Faculties which drive the school forward. To increase the sense of collegiality and collaboration each Faculty is located in an area of the College with dedicated teaching rooms, a Faculty office, workroom with PCs and a break-out area for mentoring.

Religious Studies is part of the Humanities Faculty. We offer History, Geography and Religious Studies at GCSE and A Level as well as Psychology and Sociology at A Level.

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Advantages of working at Christ's College

- There is a real sense of belonging, camaraderie and mutual respect amongst the whole community
- The parents and Governors are very supportive of the College and appreciative of the work we are doing
- The children want to do their best and will work hard as they respect their teachers' knowledge and commitment
- The staff are dedicated, skilful and hard-working
- There are good opportunities for internal promotion in a growing school which has a tradition of acknowledging and rewarding hard work
- There are excellent opportunities for external promotion
- As a relatively small school which offers a full suite of extra-curricular activities, it is easy to be involved in a wide range of enrichment activities in Sport, Performing Arts and elsewhere.

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The job profile for Teacher of Religious Studies (Maternity Cover)

JOB TITLE:	Teacher of Religious Studies (Maternity Cover)
DURATION / HOURS:	One Year Contract in the first instance with effect from September 2018
PAY:	Surrey Teachers' pay scale.
ELIGIBLE TO APPLY:	All teachers with suitable skills and experience
RESPONSIBLE TO:	The Faculty Leader for Humanities
SELECTION PROCESS:	Method: Please complete the application form found on our website. Deadline: 12.00 noon on Monday, 21 May 2018 Interview date: Week beginning 21 May 2018

PURPOSE OF THE POST:

- To teach Religious Studies to the full range of abilities from Years 7 to 11 and possibly Post 16.
- To ensure appropriate differentiation for students.
- To ensure high levels of attainment and progress in Religious Studies.
- To assist the Faculty Leader in challenging under-achievement with a particular focus on those who are disadvantaged.
- To promote the Christ's College Sixth Form through excellent GCSE and A Level teaching.
- To carry out any other specific duty assigned by the Principal or his appointed representative.

AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY:

To work with the Head of Religious Studies and Faculty Leader for Humanities in the following areas:

1. Plan engaging lessons which motivate and inspire individual students and groups of students to achieve beyond what they thought possible;
2. To establish and then maintain the highest expectations about what the students are capable of achieving;
3. To arrange, wherever appropriate, Religious Studies enrichment activities;
4. To set regular and meaningful homework which fosters independent learning skills amongst the students in Religious Studies;
5. To assess work regularly and provide oral and written feedback on an on-going basis so that students can make progress;
6. Maintain up-to-date records about the students' achievements including what grade they are at and what they need to do to progress to the next grade;
7. Keep parents and other members of staff informed of the progress that is being made by the students in Religious Studies;
8. Seize every opportunity for professional development both within the Religious Studies curriculum and general pedagogy so that the subject and the school stay abreast of the latest educational initiatives within Religious Studies Education;
9. Implement a process of self-evaluation which informs future practice;
10. Promote educational inclusion with a wide range of teaching and behaviour strategies;
11. Encourage and listen to the "student voice" about learning within the subject;
12. Maintain the highest standards of behaviour.

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Person Specification – Teacher of Religious Studies (Maternity Cover)

		Essential	Desirable
1	Qualifications	Qualified Teacher Status Honours Degree in Religious Studies or related course	Further professional study
2	Experience	Experience of teaching Religious Studies to a range of Key Stages Experience of teaching Religious Studies to a range of abilities Excellent track record of attendance	Experience of teaching post 16
3	Knowledge/Skills	Up to date knowledge of examination specifications for GCSE Religious Studies Knowledge of effective strategies for meeting the needs of SEND and EAL students in Religious Studies Knowledge of effective strategies for meeting the needs of the most able in Religious Studies	
4	Personal Qualities	Resilience, determination and enthusiasm High expectations of self and students Ability to work as part of a team Excellent written and oral communication skills A desire to keep skills and knowledge up to date	A desire for further professional development and promotion A willingness to contribute to the extra-curricular life of the school