



# **Westholme Senior School**

**Wilmar Lodge, Meins Road  
Blackburn BB2 6QU  
Tel: 01254 506070  
[www.westholmeschool.com](http://www.westholmeschool.com)**

**Required for January 2019  
Full-time, temporary post until July 2019 (Maternity cover)**

## **Teacher of Ethics, Philosophy and Religion**

Westholme School, established in 1923, is a successful, co-educational, independent school located on the rural outskirts of Blackburn. The school is based across 3 sites, providing a first class education to around 800 pupils, aged 3 months - 18 years.

The School is well resourced and facilities across the entire campus are extensive and stimulating, as a result of the Governors' wise investment plan. Over the last decade over £10M has been spent on capital projects and our students benefit from the all-encompassing provision.

At Westholme we pride ourselves on our holistic approach to education where boys and girls are encouraged to fulfil their potential in all aspects of the curriculum and beyond. Hard work and endeavour are recognised and valued as highly as attainment and our positive approach to teaching and learning is underpinned by a supportive pastoral system. A fully rounded education is endorsed at all ages and staff give their time generously to provide an extensive range of activities, clubs, societies and trips which enriches provision for every pupil. Academic achievement is well above the national average at GCSE and A Level and the curriculum is broad and diverse. The website provides a comprehensive insight into our diverse choice of extracurricular opportunities and multiple achievements.

### **The Post**

We seek a well-qualified, dedicated and highly-motivated teacher to join our Ethics, Philosophy and Religion (EPR) Department. The successful candidate will ideally be able to teach throughout the school from Year 7 to A Level.

### **Introduction to the Department**

The ethos of the EPR Department is to develop inquiring, articulate and respectful students, who understand shared human values and appreciate diversity in the community. The subject is taught in mixed ability classes at Key Stage 3 and 4. In Years 7 and 8, students investigate and explore the origins of belief in ancient civilisations and the complexity of identity in contemporary society. In Year 9 they learn to engage with a range of ethical issues and begin the GCSE course. The subject is a popular option at GCSE and A Level. GCSE students study the Eduqas Route A specification for Religious Studies, and the two religions covered in depth are Buddhism and Christianity. The A Level Edexcel course in Religious Studies covers three modules which focus on the areas of Ethics and Religion, Philosophy of Religion and New Testament Studies.

The department aims to provide students with valuable opportunities to enhance their understanding of the subject by seeking out ways to bring it to life through trips, extracurricular events and engagement with faith practitioners. For example, a Year 10 charity team annually hosts a themed movie night for Year 7 students, and Sixth Form students can apply to be leaders of an Amnesty Human Rights Group.

The EPR Department, alongside History and Geography, is also part of a Humanities Faculty. There are three members of staff and two dedicated teaching rooms for the EPR Department.

## **Job Description**

**Reports to:** Head of Humanities Faculty

**Accountable to:** Principal

**Salary:** Westholme scale (at the corresponding mainscale point).

In addition to the requirements of a class teacher, the **main activities and responsibilities** for this post are:

- To support the department's aim of increasing extracurricular opportunities for students, including leading or partaking in trips and other visits
- To have an enthusiasm for the subject, which motivates and supports students and encourages a shared understanding of the contribution the subject can make to all aspects of the students' lives
- To use relevant school, local and national data to inform targets for development and further improvement of individuals and groups of students that you teach
- To attend meetings as directed
- To maintain efficient and effective management and organisation of learning resources including ICT
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	<b>ESSENTIAL</b>	<b>DESIRABLE</b>
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Degree (honours) in Religious Studies or related subject.</li> <li>• Qualified teacher status.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further qualifications.</li> <li>• Recent training relating to subject teaching.</li> </ul>
KNOWLEDGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An up-to-date knowledge of GCSE Religious Studies specifications.</li> <li>• An up-to-date knowledge of A Level Religious Studies specifications.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of Eduqas GCSE specification.</li> <li>• Knowledge of the Edexcel A Level specification.</li> </ul>
TEACHING AND LEARNING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recent experience of teaching Religious Studies in KS3 and either KS4 or A Level.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience of teaching across all Key Stages.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ability to monitor, evaluate and improve learning in the classroom.</li> <li>• Up-to-date knowledge of teaching methodology.</li> </ul>	
SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A high level of commitment and enthusiasm for the department.</li> <li>• Effective time management and personal organisational skills.</li> <li>• To be involved in extracurricular activities.</li> <li>• A willingness to contribute to schemes of work.</li> <li>• A willingness to promote EPR in school life.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Well-developed ICT skills for the classroom.</li> </ul>

## Employment Conditions and Remuneration

Westholme salaries equate to the National Scales and staff join it at a point relevant to their length of service or recognised experience elsewhere. The School is part of the Teachers' Pension Scheme. We expect that the professional responsibilities of all teaching staff here include the following:

- i) Quality preparation and marking necessary to maintain really high academic standards
- ii) Involvement in regular co-curricular activities, including those which take place out of normal school hours and at weekends (eg. open days)
- iii) Usual supervision /cover duties
- iv) A commitment to upholding the general ethos of the school

The Governors provide all lunches (tea, coffee etc) and other amenities free of charge.

Applications using the school form should be sent to the Principal no later than **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at noon**. Interviews will be held after half term during week commencing 5<sup>th</sup> November. Applicants who have heard nothing by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2018 should assume they have been unsuccessful.

Applicants who may wish for further details can telephone the Deputy Head (Academic), Miss Francine Smith, on the school number for an informal discussion. For applicants who have recently qualified, the School has an experienced mentor and NQT accreditation can be completed.

Westholme School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and all staff must share this commitment – please refer to our Safer Recruitment and Safeguarding policies on the website.

Westholme School is committed to equality of opportunity in all areas of its work. All individuals will be treated in a fair and equal manner and in accordance with the law regardless of gender, marital status, race, religion, colour, age, disability or sexual orientation.