

January 2018

Dear Sir/Madam

Teacher of Religious Studies

Thank you for enquiring about the one year fixed term post of Teacher of Religious Studies (maternity cover).

The post is temporary and will commence in September 2018. It involves teaching RS throughout the age range, up to GCSE and A-level. There is no requirement to teach any other subject but if you wish to teach a subsidiary subject please let us know.

The post is likely to include Form Tutor responsibilities. The Form Tutor is a key figure within School; he/she has primary responsibility for the pastoral and academic oversight and monitoring of the pupils in his/her Form.

We are seeking to appoint a person with excellent subject knowledge, enthusiasm and the capacity for hard work. If you wish to be considered, please complete the application form and send it to me with a separate letter of application explaining your suitability for the post. The inclusion of your CV would be welcome. The closing date for applications is 9.00 am on Tuesday, 23 January 2018.

Thank you for your interest in this vacancy.

Yours faithfully



Matthew Morgan
HEADMASTER

THE RELIGIOUS STUDIES DEPARTMENT

The Religious Studies Department is well established and continually evolving. We are committed to delivering an enjoyable yet challenging curriculum with a focus on academic excellence. Our GCSE results for both short and full course students are outstanding with 81% of last year's cohort achieving A-A*. At A-level, 77% of students achieved A*-B, with over half achieving A*-A.

The Department currently comprises two full-time teachers as well as having the enthusiastic support of the Headmaster who contributes to the short course programme. Our curriculum is frequently reviewed and we have recently introduced a new unit at KS3, based on Sue Phillips' Island, to stimulate pupils' interest and to encourage enquiry.

The Head of Department is chair of the local SACRE, responsible for introducing the new locally agreed syllabus which has now been implemented in the School. We have seized opportunities to enable pupils to have encounters with members of faith communities and this has recently included multi faith Peace Days as well as guided meditation with a Buddhist monk and a workshop on Islamic Art. Our sixth form students regularly attend the Philosophy and Ethics Conference at Cheltenham Ladies' College, which broadens their understanding of the syllabus and helps to prepare them for university style lectures.

The School's role as a Teaching School is evidenced in the Department by the Head of Department's role as Subject Leader for ITT with the GITEP SCITT. We have welcomed a number of trainees into the Department which has benefitted from their innovation and enthusiasm. Departmental meetings are frequent but informal and are seen as opportunities to share best practice and to develop upon existing schemes of work.

Students have a positive approach to their work in the subject. They are keen to participate in debate and to offer their own reasoned judgements in response to the material covered. We currently have 50 students at KS4 who have opted to take a full GCSE in RS with the others taking a short course qualification at the end of Y10. We begin to teach common material in Y9 so that pupils are fully prepared whichever route they choose to take. At GCSE we follow AQA syllabus A with a focus on Christianity and Islam.

At A-level, students are prepared for OCR H573 with papers in Philosophy, Ethics and Developments in Christian Thought. Groups are usually made up of around 20 students and retention through to Y13 is good.

We are looking for a colleague who is prepared to work hard and to contribute to the Department and to the ongoing success of the School. Expectations are high, and both students and teachers need to have a commitment to succeed. Our students are stimulating and challenging learners who respond positively to enthusiastic and engaging teachers who strive to make the study of religion interesting and relevant to all ages and levels of ability within the school.

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