



Hope Valley College

Nurture - Enrich - Achieve

**Post: F/T permanent teacher of
geography & humanities**

Candidate Information Pack

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1. Welcome

Dear Applicant,

Hope Valley College is a comprehensive converter academy of 570 students, set in the heart of the Peak District within easy reach of Sheffield. We became an 11-18 school in September 2014, but we are essentially an 11-16 school with a small Enhanced Resource Post 16 facility.

Our GCSE examination results are well above the national average for attainment and progress (not all national performance table information reflects this, see our website for more details). In 2016, 76% of our students achieved at least a grade C in both English and maths (compared with 59.3% nationally and 62.4% average in Derbyshire). In July 2014, the College was rated by Ofsted as "good". Our improvement aims include ensuring our teaching and learning become "outstanding".

GCSE results in geography are frequently some of the best in the school. Last year, 92% of students achieved grades A*-C (nearly half of all Year 11 students choose to take geography for GCSE, it is always the most popular option subject), 89% of students achieved 3+ levels of progress, 62% achieved 4+ levels of progress – "outstanding"!

We are looking for an exceptional candidate who can teach geography at GCSE and help maintain our outstanding results. The successful candidate will also be required to teach "humanities" in Year 7, 8 and 9 which includes geography, history and ethics and philosophy.

This post is particularly suitable for a talented and enthusiastic newly qualified teacher who is looking to receive excellent support and development in their first teaching post. We are a member of the Sheffield Teaching School Alliance operating out of Silverdale School. Consequently our staff are skilled at training and mentoring teachers new to the profession. We also maximise our links with various Teaching School Alliances to provide the CPD to our staff. Our ideal candidate for this vacancy will have the passion to want to maximise teaching geography in our inspirational setting within the Peak National Park and just 30 minutes from England's fourth biggest city.

Our teachers pride themselves on their expert subject knowledge and excellent relationships with students. We welcome applications from candidates who can offer not only passion for their subject but can also contribute to the wider school community. Our staff currently help to support a range of trips, many are overseas and a staggering range of extra-curricular activities including climbing (with have our own climbing wall), mountain biking (we have our own mountain bike track and fleet of mountain bikes) and fencing on top of the usual range of school sports, over half of all students complete Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award by the time they leave College, we have many bands, choirs and other musical and drama productions. After five years at Hope Valley College, our students are invariably happy, successful and confident to tackle the next stage of their academic career. Hope Valley College students are highly sought after by Post 16 colleges and sixth forms.

We look forward to receiving your application with covering letter. Interviews will include a requirement to teach a lesson which will be observed by a senior member of staff.

Yours sincerely



Mr D. Willis



2. Hope Valley College

Hope Valley College is a successful 11-16 comprehensive College, which has expanded to an 11–18 with the addition of a Specialist Post-16 Centre, known as Hope Valley College Pathways. The College opened in 1959 as a Community College. We converted to a single academy trust in 2011. Governors are currently exploring joining the Silverdale Multi-Academy Trust (but no sooner than September 2018). The College is a key member of the Peak 11 'Soft' Learning Federation which is a collaboration with ten other secondary Colleges across the High Peak and Derbyshire Dales. We are an active member of the Sheffield Teaching School Alliance operating out of Silverdale School. We are also active with Escafeld Teaching School Alliance (King Ecgbert and Tapton schools in Sheffield).

College Aims

At Hope Valley College...

We want our students to be:

- Happy, confident with high expectations
- Resilient, independent and resourceful
- Caring, friendly and compassionate
- Open-minded and adventurous with broad horizons
- Ambitious, successful leaders and team players, ready for future challenges

In a school that:

- Provides excellent teaching and a wide range of challenging learning opportunities – academically, physically and emotionally
- Values every student as an individual and is ambitious for every student regardless of their background, previous achievements, talents or individual barriers to learning
- Is nurturing, caring and welcoming
- Is reflective and always striving to improve
- Develops student and adult leadership and participation at every level
- Is a community that students, staff and parents are proud of

Parents

Great value is placed on the relationship between home and College. Parents are frequently kept informed of events, activities and progress. They actively contribute to consultations and are frequent and keen attenders at Parents/Carer progress evenings. The Parents Teachers and Friends Association meets frequently with an Assistant Principal. It supports the College in many ways and typically raises £10,000 per year, organizing some innovative events such as an Adventure Film Festival and a Mountain Bike Challenge for nominated College projects identified through a grant application system open to all staff. Recently the association has funded the provision of extensive AV resources for the gym, fitness suite and changing rooms. In addition, the Technology department has benefitted from funding which has enabled it to purchase 3D printing functionality.



Post 16 Pathways

The Post 16 Pathways Provision is an area-wide Enhanced Resource comprising mainly foundation learning programmes (incorporating work experience and life skills) to students with specific learning difficulties or special educational needs. A key element of the provision is that it is based on a 'student-centred' approach to learning, a consequence of which is that student programmes of study are bespoke.

The building, which includes three teaching spaces - a kitchen, a work space and a base room that will support the teaching of social skills - was opened in September 2014.

Enrichment Opportunities

There are many opportunities for students to develop their full potential, whether it is in academic work, sports, or on one of the many extra-curricular activities that take place. We are proud of our reputation for excellence in sporting and cultural activities.

"Academy leaders go out of their way to provide a rich and personalised curriculum for students, for example arranging tuition after school in subjects for students with particular interests, and providing opportunities that will allow students with particular needs and disabilities to develop. Students are grateful for the wide variety of extra-curricular opportunities available. Large numbers take part in the Duke of Edinburgh scheme and in residential programmes." Ofsted

Number of Students on Roll

We are a smaller than average secondary school with 570 students including 21 students in Post 16 Pathways.

Pastoral System

We run a vertical House system where every student is a member of a cross age tutor group (approximately 5 students each from Years 7 through to Year 11).

The Pastoral system comprises the Senior Team, Senior House Tutors and Pastoral Officers. Each of the three Houses has a Senior House Tutor and a Pastoral Officer who are responsible for all issues concerning student behavior, attendance, punctuality and wellbeing.

Each year group is further supported by a team of Tutors who are the first port of call when dealing with students and their parents.



3. The Humanities team – part of the Global Studies Faculty

Hope Valley College students love humanities, are highly aspirational and have excellent relationships with staff.

We currently have one specialist geography teacher (who is also a Senior House Tutor – a pastoral middle leader), one specialist history teacher (who is also the Head of Global Studies Faculty). All other “Humanities” teaching in Year 7 and Year 8 has this year been taught by a range of non-specialists following the retirement of our main Humanities teacher in July 2016. This vacancy has arisen because growing pupil numbers now allows us to recruit a specialist, in particular to assist in teaching GCSE geography. In September 2016, a middle leadership restructure resulted in all language and humanities teachers being line-managed by a new Head of Global Studies Faculty.

We currently teach geography in the Eduqas board (spec B) under the old and new 9-1 grades specification. Students at the end of Year 8 can choose to specialise in geography as their humanities subject and start following a bespoke course designed to prepare them for GCSE study. Students can then choose to do geography GCSE at the end of Year 9 and may study a one-year path way in Year 10 or Year 11 or a two year option (it is that popular).

In Year 7 and 8 we teach geography within “Humanities” lessons which includes learning on history, philosophy & ethics (RE). All our Global Studies teachers are fully involved in the life of the College, working closely together to improve pedagogy, sharing ideas and supporting one another every day. In addition, Faculty teachers meet formally every week to discuss new developments, to share good practice and to focus on students’ progress.

Geography GCSE is taught in its own specialist room in the main building, with Year 7 and 8 teaching of humanities being taught in various rooms, all of whom have a digital data projector and Smart boards. All classes are mixed ability.

Outside the classroom, we run many trips and visits to enhance humanities and geography teaching and learning. Some are on our doorstep....naturally, other visits are further afield, for example we recently took a group of students to Italy to explore volcanos, the Romans and Catholic traditions.

New teaching staff will find on offer high quality professional development, including collaborative learning within the local Peak 11 group of Derbyshire schools opportunities and those running out of Sheffield and Escapad Teaching School Alliances. We will support you in making sure *all* of your students make progress.

We are seeking a creative professional who is passionate about geography and humanities, is innovative and inspiring but who also knows how to prepare students effectively for the demands of external assessment.



4. Job Description: Teacher of languages

Grade:	MPS
Post:	Permanent teacher of geography and humanities
Terms and Conditions	Although the College is a converter academy it was decided on conversion to maintain pay and conditions in-line with national agreements. Subsequently there have been a number of minor variations agreed at a school level with teaching colleagues. Where changes are proposed in future they will be discussed openly with colleagues.

Principal responsibilities:

- To be accountable for the progress and attainment of students in given classes, including GCSE geography, Year 9 geography and Year 7 and 8 humanities (including geography, history and RE)
- To contribute to the development of teaching and learning in Hope Valley College.
- To contribute to the development of appropriate syllabuses, materials and schemes of work, methods of monitoring, assessing and recording students' progress.

Teaching

- To teach students according to their educational needs, including the setting and marking of work to be carried out by the student in College and elsewhere.
- To assess, record and report on the attendance, progress, development and attainment of students and to keep such records as are required.
- To provide, or contribute to, oral and written assessments, reports and references relating to individual students and groups of students.
- To ensure a high quality learning experience for students that meets internal and external quality standards.
- To prepare and update subject materials.
- To use a variety of delivery methods that will stimulate learning appropriate to students needs and demands of the syllabus.
- To maintain a positive learning environment.
- To undertake assessment of students as requested by external examination bodies, Departmental and College procedures.
- To mark, grade and give written/verbal and diagnostic feedback in line with College policy.
- To ensure that all students can access learning and make progress.
- To meet the requirements of the Teachers' Standards, and maintain your professional portfolio.
- To contribute to the teaching of other relevant programmes where applicable.

Additional Responsibilities

- To be Tutor of an assigned Tutor group and to carry out related duties in accordance with the general job description of House Tutor.
- Make a professional contribution to meetings and CPD opportunities.
- To carry out a share of supervisory duties in accordance with published rosters.
- To comply with all College Policies including the College's Health and Safety Policy and undertake risk assessments as appropriate.
- To participate in appropriate meetings with colleagues and parents relative to the above duties.
- To play a full part in the life of the College community, to support its aims, its ethos and to encourage staff and students to follow this example.
- You are required to carry out such particular duties which the Principal may reasonably direct from time to time

Note: The job description may be reviewed at the end of the Academic year or earlier if necessary. In addition it may be amended at any time after consultation with you.



5. Person Specification: Teacher of languages

Essential	Desirable	How Tested
QUALIFICATIONS A good relevant degree and a teaching qualification in geography The ability to teach geography at GCSE level.	Commitment to CPD and evidence of recent, relevant participation in leadership programmes The ability to teach geography at A' level.	Application form/copy of all certificates Application form/references
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE & KNOWLEDGE		
Excellent understanding of effective teaching and learning and how to promote them	Proven ability to add value in terms of student achievement	Application form / Recruitment day
Familiar with current trends in subject and more widely in education		Application form/ Interview / Recruitment day
A sound knowledge of the changing GCSE 1-9 specification	Can teach history and RE	Application form Interview / Recruitment day
A consistent record of at least 'good' judgements for lesson delivery	Evidence of securing 'outstanding' progress in lesson delivery	Application form/ References/ Recruitment day lesson observation
Willing to embed ICT effectively in all lesson delivery	Experience of using ICT applications to enhance teaching	Application form / Interview
To contribute to the pastoral system through their role as a tutor		Interview
Capacity for hard work		Interview/ References
The ability to develop a good working relationship with students		Recruitment day/ References
Willingness and ability to contribute fully to the College's Curriculum and Curriculum Enrichment programme, which could involve work outside your subject area.	Willingness to contribute to the wider life of the school	Application form / Interview



PERSONAL QUALITIES		
Personable, ability to inspire children to achieve beyond their own expectations	A keen sense of humour	Interview / Recruitment day
Flexible, open minded (excellent use of AfL)		Interview / Recruitment day
Inspiring, innovative and creative		Interview / Recruitment day
LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES		
Ability to work as part of a team and alone		Interview / References
<i>VISION</i>		
Personal belief in the value of inclusive and holistic education.		Application/Interview



6. How to apply and recruitment timetable

Applications

Candidates should submit applications on a Hope Valley College Application Form. These are available on the College website.

Your application should include a supporting statement letter (addressed to Mr. D. Willis, Principal) concentrating on how your skills, experience, and personal qualities match the requirements of the Job Description and Personal Specification. The letter should be no longer than 1500 words (please include word count). *CVs should not be attached.*

All applications should be sent to Mr Jake Ward, PA to the Principal at the College or emailed to jward@hopevalley.derbyshire.sch.uk. Should you want to visit the school in advance or require any further information on this vacancy please contact Jake Ward at the College – 01433 620555

References

Please supply full details of two professional references: one from your existing employer and one other professional reference of your choice. References from family members or people writing solely in the capacity of friends will not be accepted.

Recruitment Timetable

Closing date for the receipt of applications: **4.00pm on Thursday 23rd March 2017**

Recruitment day

Intended recruitment date: **Monday 27th March 2017**

Candidates selected for our recruitment and selection day will be notified by telephone in the first instance, followed by an email on Friday 24th March. Candidates will have a tour of the College in the morning along with a student panel and will be required to teach an observed lesson. Candidates may be further shortlisted at lunch time and those successful candidates will be interviewed in the afternoon.

Shortlisted candidates will be required to bring with them 3 forms of identification (e.g. passport, photo card driving license, utility bill or bank statement). Copies of identification for unsuccessful candidates will be securely disposed of immediately.

If you have not been contacted within seven days of the proposed recruitment day you should assume that, on this occasion, you have not been successful.

Hope Valley College follows a safer recruitment process. The appointment to this post will be subject to suitable references and DBS check. The college is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.





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