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**JOB DESCRIPTION**

**Teacher of Religious Education**

**Post Information**

**We require two teachers to work in our highly successful department, one post will be full time permanent and the second post will be to cover a maternity leave (consideration would be given to applicants for the maternity cover post who would be interested in working part time). Please indicate on your application which post you are interested in applying for.**

**Religious Studies Department**

Religious Studies at Saddleworth School is a very popular and successful subject. The department coordinates the local RE network and always seeks to deliver innovative lessons. Schemes of work focus on developing enthusiasm and a deep understanding of religious, philosophical and ethical issues. The RS team consists of the Curriculum Leader and four teachers of Religious Studies. Most of the departments lessons are taught in the RS classrooms and teachers have access to the shared ICT suite.

All students (approximately 217 in each year group) take RS as an option at GCSE. Growth Mindset and strong teaching and learning underpin all schemes of work, making RS very popular. GCSE is taught from the end of Year 9 through to Year 11. Students will study the new AQA Religious Studies A specification (8062) focusing on Christianity and Islam. The GCSE is taught in two double lessons and one single lesson per fortnight, with most groups being mixed ability. The double lessons are one hour and fifty minutes and allow students a deeper level of learning. The department have worked collaboratively to plan high quality lessons and teachers are then encouraged to personalise these for their classes and individual teaching style. Student voice is positive and depicts a department of teachers who care about them as individuals, provide engaging learning activities and constructive guidance regarding their success. As a result over recent years GCSE results have been very strong.

The KS3 schemes of work are designed to develop students’ thinking skills and help students to explore deep questions and connect them to their own lives. Year 7 and 8 students do not study RS as a discrete subject but study it within the ‘English and Philosophy’ curriculum. Students are taught by English specialists and some RS specialists over a course of six doubles per fortnight. The course is established to encompass English, Religious Studies and Drama with the strands being delivered through jointly planned schemes of work. Students are encouraged to relate their learning to ethical issues such as wealth and poverty, immigration and war. The desire to teach English and Philosophy at Year 7 or Year 8 would be an advantage. In Year 9 students are taught RE in the equivalent of two double lessons per fortnight, although some are single lessons. They study a range of topics including ‘Hinduism in the modern world’ and ‘Religion in the media’.

The Religious Studies department takes a lead on the promotion of SMSC and aims to encourage students to develop strong moral values and respectful attitudes. The RS department seeks to promote growth mindsets in all students; fostering strong self-belief and independent learning techniques. The department values the opportunity to break down stereotypes about religions and foster understanding, empathetic and tolerant students. This is a forward thinking and innovative department committed to upholding high standards in teaching and learning, using research to decide what works with students. The successful candidate will be joining a hard-working, dedicated and supportive department that over the last four years has had outstanding results. It is hoped that the colleague who joins us will share our enthusiasm for the subject and inspire us with new ideas and initiatives.

For more information please contact R.Sunderland@saddleworthschool.org