



Information for candidates

Teacher of Geography September 2019

Salary Range
MPS1 - UPS
£23,720 - £39,406

Ralph Thoresby School
Holtdale Approach
Leeds
LS16 7RX

Telephone: 0113 3979911
Email: headteacher@ralphthoresby.com

Headteacher: Mr Will Carr





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April 2019

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for expressing an interest in applying for the post of Geography teacher at Ralph Thoresby School.

This is an exciting time to be joining Ralph Thoresby School. The school has recently been judged GOOD by Ofsted once again, consolidating the significant improvements made in recent years. Educational outcomes are consistently strong at all levels. Students make good progress because, 'the working atmosphere in classrooms is positive' and 'pupils take pride in their work' (OFSTED, October 2018).

The School is a mixed comprehensive community school with approximately 1,000 students on role. 30% of our students come from ethnic minority backgrounds and we have a resource provision for physically and visually impaired students which really adds to the positive and harmonious atmosphere around school. Our superb, modern school building further enhances the atmosphere and supports students' learning. 'This is a school where staff and pupils celebrate diversity and promote values of tolerance, mutual respect and care for others' (OFSTED, October 2018).

We have an excellent 6th form partnership arrangement with Lawnswood School (another GOOD local school) and together we offer post-16 provision to rival the best in the city – 'The quality of provision for post-16 students remains good. Students make consistently good progress over time' (OFSTED, October 2018). We are a Trust school in partnership with several of our local partner Primary schools. We are also part of the successful and highly regarded Red Kite Alliance teaching school and work closely with the Red Kite Learning Trust. 'Partnership working is strong' (Ofsted).

Our school motto is 'ambition and achievement for all'. We firmly believe in giving all students the opportunity to achieve their very best regardless of the circumstances in which they find themselves.

We are excited about the future here at Ralph Thoresby and, having read the information included in this pack, I hope you feel you can play an important part and submit an application. Please also ensure that you visit our website which will give you an insight into the work of the school. I look forward to welcoming you to the school as a candidate in the near future.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Will Carr (Headteacher)



THE SELECTION PROCESS

How to Apply

Thank you for taking time to read and digest our information. If you wish to apply for the post of Teacher of Geography at Ralph Thoresby School then you should:

- Complete fully the enclosed application form, ensuring all details are accurate and all declarations are signed. Please ensure you enclose two professional referees with one being your current employer (with email addresses if possible). Do not enclose additional CVs.
- Write a letter of application which:

Details how your teaching career (including initial teacher training, if appropriate) to date fits you to the Qualifications and Experience, Skills & Knowledge and Personal Qualities and Skills sections of the Personnel Specification.

Please use a font with a point size of 12 – 2 sides of A4 MAXIMUM.

- Submit your letter and application to be received by 12noon on Friday 10th May 2019. To be received by the school reception no later than 9am on this date.

Please address all return mail to;
Mrs D Maw
PA to the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team
Ralph Thoresby School
Holtdale Approach
Leeds
LS16 7RX

Timetable for the selection process

- Post advertised: Friday 26th April 2019
- Closing date for applications: Friday 10th May 2019 at 12noon
- Short listing: Monday 13th May 2019
- Invitation to interview by telephone: Monday 13th May 2019
- Confirmation by email: Monday 13th May 2019
- Reference requested: Monday 13th May 2019
- Selection day scheduled: Week commencing 13th May 2019



Information for Candidates – Teacher of Geography

The Geography Department consists of 2 full time specialists, including the Head of Geography, and a small team of humanities teachers who teach within Key Stage 3.

Recently, we have experienced a significant increase in the uptake of Geography at Key Stage 4 and we expect to see this grow further due to option changes in line with implementation of the English Baccalaureate performance indicator and the heightened profile of the subject.

We teach primarily in 3 well-appointed designated classrooms, each equipped with an interactive whiteboard.

Our Vision

We want our students to enjoy Geography, to understand its significance to them and see it as a link to engaging with their world in a rich and meaningful manner. We seek to develop lively, enquiring minds with an ability to question, analyse and discuss rationally and effectively.

We want students to understand the relevance of Geography outside of the classroom by encouraging them to engage with their local and global environment. We aim to offer students a rich and diverse learning environment so that we can inspire them in different ways.

Key Stage 3

Geography is taught in sets throughout Key Stage 3. We have shared schemes of work, which are well resourced. These are constantly being reviewed, rewritten and improved and we seek to employ staff who wish to take an active role in the leadership of this essential aspect of our development.

Key Stage 4

Key Stage 4 Geography has traditionally been taught in mixed ability option groups, although we do teach in sets where the timetable allows. Students currently have 6 lessons of Geography per fortnight. We currently follow AQA A and Edexcel A as our GCSE exam specifications.

Key Stage 5

We offer AQA Geography at A Level and have a good uptake amongst our 6th form students. We try to ensure that all Geography specialists who wish to teach at A Level have that opportunity.

The successful applicant will have the opportunity to lead the department into the new 2016 GCSE and A level Geography specifications.



Ralph Thoresby School

Person Specification

Job Title: Teacher of Geography

	Essential	Desirable	Evidence
Qualifications & Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and good Honours degree relevant to Geography (NB: All original certification will be checked on the selection day, including proof of passing the DfE Professional Skills tests [Numeracy & Literacy] if appropriate) • Outstanding classroom practice that inspires students and adds value to their progress • Proven track record of having impact on students' outcomes in current post/teaching practice school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further formal Professional Development 	Application form, letter & references
Skills & Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substantial knowledge and understanding of developments in the teaching and learning of Geography across the 11-19 age range • Ability to relate to teaching staff, other professionals, parents, students and Governors. • Experience of new technologies to support teaching and learning. • Ability to use data effectively to monitor student progress • Ability to work as a member of a team and /or independently 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to support other school staff in their classroom practice development 	Letter, references & selection process
Personal qualities and skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enthusiastic, sensitive, flexible, hard working with a sense of humour and ability to remain calm • High level skills of communication, time management and prioritisation • Ability to keep confidences • Excellent interpersonal skills and organisational skills • Ability to support and challenge • Ability to inspire, motivate and influence others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to ask for help if required • Concern for the welfare of all members of the school community 	Letter, references & selection process
Special Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent punctuality and attendance record • Willingness to participate in the extra curricular life of the school 		References & selection process



Ralph Thoresby School

Job Description

Job Title: Teacher of Geography

This job description will be reviewed annually and may be subject to amendment or modification at any time after consultation with the post holder. It is not a comprehensive statement of procedures and tasks, but sets out the main expectations of the School in relation to the post holder's professional responsibilities and duties, including the provision of high quality teaching and learning across the School and the pastoral care of the students in their charge.

Elements of this job description and changes to it may be negotiated at the request of either the Headteacher or the incumbent of the post.

Accountable to:	Area Leader	Line Managing:	N/A
Post type:	Permanent – Full time	Salary/Grade:	MPS
Liaising with:	Parents/Carers.		

Safer Recruitment Statement:

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post requires Enhanced Disclosure (CRB).

Every member of staff is required to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work towards and promote the vision, beliefs, aims and expectations outlined in the School Improvement Plan ▪ Support and contribute to the achievement of every child's outcomes ▪ Support and contribute to the safeguarding of all students ▪ Undertake professional development activities to enhance personal development and performance ▪ Maintain high personal professional standards of attendance, punctuality, appearance, conduct and positive relations with students, parents and staff.

All teaching staff are required to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan, develop and deliver high quality lessons and courses within the broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated subject curriculum using a variety of approaches, to continuously enhance teaching and learning. • Monitor student progress, keeping records that include assessment outcomes and targets set at regular intervals in line with school policy, to enable all students to achieve their full potential. • Work consistently at and beyond the professional standards set out in the 'School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Documents' for the level at which you are employed i.e. Core, Post Threshold or Excellent. • Implement relevant policies, procedures and improvement plans. • Fully participate, as requested, in the processes of self-evaluation and improvement planning.



- Fully implement all policies in relation to effective learning, student rewards and managing behaviour to ensure there is a well ordered and disciplined teaching and learning environment within their own specific learning space and across the whole school
- Contribute to the safeguarding and promotion of the welfare and personal care of all students with regard to the Safeguarding and Child Protection Procedures.

Teaching and Learning

1. Manage student learning through effective teaching in accordance with the Department's schemes of work.
2. Ensure continuity, progression and cohesiveness in all teaching.
3. Use a variety of methods and approaches (including differentiation) to match the needs of each student to ensure that all students are able to access the curriculum and make at least their expected progress
4. Set homework regularly (in accordance with the School homework policy) to consolidate and extend learning and encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning.
5. Work with EAL/SEN staff and support staff (including prior discussion and joint planning) in order to benefit from their specialist knowledge and to maximise their effectiveness within lessons.
6. Support individual learning, including more able students, by planning work with appropriate challenge and monitoring and reviewing student outcomes regularly.
7. Set clear and precise learning objectives and define criteria for success for each lesson.
8. Work effectively as a member of the Department team to improve the quality of teaching and learning by contributing to the Department Improvement Plan and implementing and monitoring change.
9. Implement new initiatives at school, local or national level by adapting classroom procedures accordingly, monitoring progress and reflecting on pedagogical outcomes.
10. Set high expectations for all students to deepen their knowledge and understanding and to maximise their achievement.
11. Use positive management of behaviour in an environment of mutual respect that allows students to feel safe and secure and promotes their self-esteem.

Monitoring, Assessment, Recording, Reporting, and Accountability

1. Be responsible for the processes of assessment, recording and reporting for the students in their charge.
2. Track student progress effectively, monitoring achievement against targets set and taking appropriate action to improve student outcomes.
3. Assess students' work systematically and use the results to inform future planning, teaching and curriculum development.
4. Contribute towards the implementation of IEPs as detailed in the current Code of Practice particularly the planning and recording of appropriate actions and outcomes related to set targets.
5. Be familiar with statutory assessment and reporting procedures and present informative, helpful and accurate reports to parents.
6. Keep an accurate register of students for each lesson. Unexplained absences or patterns of absence should be reported immediately in accordance with the School policy.

Subject Knowledge and Understanding

1. Have a thorough and up-to-date knowledge and understanding of the National Curriculum programmes of study, level descriptors and specifications for examination courses.
2. Keep up-to-date with research and developments in pedagogy in the relevant subject area.
3. Contribute to the effective use of subject resources, including evaluation of new materials and equipment.
4. Use up-to-date technology to enhance delivery of, and student access to, the subject.

Professional Standards and Development

1. Work in accordance with the 2012 *Teachers' Standards*
2. Be a role model to students through personal presentation and professional conduct.
3. Arrive in class, on or before the start of the lesson, and begin and end lessons on time.
4. Be familiar with the School and Department handbooks and Departmental Portfolio contents and support all the School's policies, e.g. those on Health and Safety, Citizenship, Literacy, Numeracy and ICT.



5. Establish effective working relationships with professional colleagues and associate staff.
6. Be courteous at all times to all colleagues and students and visitors to the school.
7. Be involved in extra-curricular activities such as making a contribution to after-school clubs and visits.
8. Maintain a working knowledge and understanding of teachers' professional duties as set out in the *School Teachers' Pay and Conditions* document, and teachers' legal liabilities and responsibilities relating to all current legislation.
9. Liaise effectively with parents/carers and other agencies with responsibility for students' education and welfare.
10. Be aware of the role of the Governing Body of the School and support it in performing its duties.
11. Be familiar with and implement the current SEN Code of Practice, DDA and Access to Work. Consider the needs of all students within lessons (and implement specialist advice) especially those who: have SEN; are more able; are not yet fluent in English.

Continuing Professional development

1. Take responsibility for personal professional development, keeping up-to-date with research and developments in teaching pedagogy and changes in the School Curriculum.
2. Undertake any necessary professional development as identified in the School Improvement Plan taking full advantage of any relevant training and development available.
3. Maintain a professional learning portfolio of evidence to support the Appraisal process including the incorporation of targets related to leadership, evaluating and improving own practice.
4. Effectively manage own time when dealing with the wide range of day-to-day and long term demands of the post.

Additional Duties

- Contribute to the life of the Ralph Thoresby School community, and to support its ethos and policies.
- Undertake any other duties as reasonably required by the Headteacher.

Compiled by:

W Carr

Date:

April 2019



Beliefs, aims and expectations

At Ralph Thoresby School we BELIEVE in:

- High expectations for all.
- Excellence in all we do.
- Determination and resilience.
- Respect and tolerance.
- Creativity and independent learning.

At Ralph Thoresby School we AIM to:

- Achieve success in all areas of school life.
- Ensure that all students enjoy school and are fully engaged in learning.
- Create an inspiring place to learn where all students are safe and well supported.
- Be fully inclusive and committed to opportunity for all.
- Prepare students for life through strong links with local businesses and excellent career development.
- Build strong community links, including with parents and carers.
- Develop confident, articulate and responsible young citizens.
- Create an ethos of mutual support and encouragement amongst our students.
- Promote values of tolerance and respect.

Our EXPECTATIONS are:

For Students:

- To arrive at school and lessons on time every day, correctly dressed, fully equipped and ready to learn
- Calm, polite and considerate behaviour towards all others.
- To aim high, be committed and make the most of your ability.
- To take responsibility for your learning – be an active learner.
- To always uphold school values, aims and expectations.

For Staff and Governors:

- To be positive, professional role models in promoting school values, aims and expectations.
- To be committed to student achievement and demand the best from our students.
- To develop an engaging curriculum and deliver consistently excellent lessons.
- To demonstrate and encourage independence and leadership.
- To treat everyone with dignity, building relationships rooted in mutual respect.

For Parents / Carers:

- To support your children in achieving their goals.
- To fully support school staff, policies and initiatives.
- To encourage students to achieve their potential.
- To take an active role in your child's learning, attending school events wherever possible.
- To ensure that your child attends school and arrives on time every day, fully equipped and ready to learn.