

Teacher of Geography (Maternity Cover) for two terms starting January 2020 until the end of June 2020

Additional Information for Candidates

The Geography Department

Our busy, innovative department focuses on active teaching and learning of which a practical, enquiry based approach is adopted. Our aim is for pupils to be geographers, rather than discover the subject second hand. To fulfil this target we have been active in developing our own syllabuses and taking advantage of the opportunities presented both at IGCSE, A Level and at IB.

Geography has a firm place within the whole school curriculum. The majority of pupils follow Geography to IGCSE. Take up beyond IGCSE is also very high, with 140 students currently studying Geography in the Upper School.

Courses and Classes

In the Lower School (Forms 1 and 2) pupils follow internally developed syllabi designed to foster practical skills and a 'sense of place' based on the IB MYP.

In the Middle School (Forms 3, 4, 5) there are normally six sets in each year group. Form 3 classes have two periods and one prep per week; in Forms 4 and 5, each class has three lessons and two preps per week. Presently we study the CIE IGCSE syllabus. Field trips take place in each of these year groups. We also run foreign trips for middle school geographers, the next one going to Iceland at Easter 2019.

In the Upper School (Forms 6 and 7) there are currently seven sets taking geography in the sixth form, the majority of which carry on to the seventh form. There are two sets in each IB year. The A Level syllabus we study is CIE A Level. Each A Level class has six periods per week, while each IB class has five periods per week. Field courses are run in February to Cranedale, North Yorkshire for the sixth form students. There are numerous other field days and study visits for each year group. Recent trips abroad have included the USA and Italy, with 25 upper school geographers visiting Morocco in October 2018.

Examination results

Results at IGCSE, IB and A2 have been consistently good. For the last five years, the department averages have been as follows: A Level 75% (A*-B), IB 78% (7/6) and IGCSE 70% (A*/A). Last year the department gained 14 A* at A Level.

University

For each of the past five years, around ten pupils have gone on to study Geography or something Geography related at university. The department has also had recent success with Oxbridge applications.

Staff

The department team consist of eight full time geographers.

Classrooms

Lessons for Form 1 occur in the Lower School block; otherwise, Geography teaching is centralised in the New Merton building

The department is very lucky in that it has a new building, which opened in September 2015. Within this, we have eight dedicated Geography classrooms. Each classroom is equipped with a computer, interactive whiteboard and Data Projector. There is also a large departmental office and separate resource room.

General Job Description for a Teaching post

Teachers are appointed to contribute to the academic, pastoral and extra-curricular life of a seven day-a-week boarding school.

This job description is not necessarily a comprehensive definition of the post and should be read in conjunction with the teacher's contract, letter of appointment, Staff Handbook and the staff "Code of Conduct".

A teacher should seek to perform those duties reasonably demanded by the Headmaster, to whom he or she is ultimately responsible for all aspects of their work at Oakham School. The teacher's operational line manager is the relevant academic Head of Department, although in a school which places great emphasis on the "Total Curriculum" a teacher will have additional line managers for their work outside academic teaching, e.g. the relevant Housemaster for their work as a tutor. On a day-to-day basis, the Head of Department has a duty of care to ensure SLT are made aware of any concerns, particularly regarding the overburdening of staff.

Responsibilities

1 Academic [Line Manager: Head of Department]

Under the direction of the relevant Head of Department to:

- Contribute to the teaching of the department as set out in the timetable;
- Prepare lessons taking account of the pupils' abilities within each teaching group/set;
- Identify, encourage and help to realise each pupil's academic potential;
- Employ good subject knowledge, become fully acquainted with the appropriate specifications and schemes of work and carry out the requirements thereof;
- Be a good ambassador for the subject;
- Attend departmental meetings, subject meetings and INSET courses as appropriate;
- Take a proportional share of responsibilities for departmental activities (e.g. fieldtrips, societies, lectures) and new initiatives (such as ICT);
- Manage the classroom environment in a way conducive to successful learning and the maintenance of good pupil discipline, making use of sanctions and rewards in line with school policies;
- Check the attendance of, and keep necessary academic records for groups taught and apply the School's assessment framework;
- Maintain an up-to-date knowledge of pupils with special needs by becoming fully familiar with the relevant IEPs;

- Set and mark a proportional share of the internal examinations, mark coursework, write reports and PR grades according to School Policy;
- Set and mark work regularly for all pupils, in accordance with departmental guidelines;
- As appropriate, be aware of all departmental and school health and safety requirements including relevant risk assessments.

Other academic responsibilities:

- To attend Parent/Teacher meetings;
- When occasion demands, to communicate politely, helpfully and effectively with parents and guardians;
- To cover staff absence when asked by the Head of Department or Deputy Head;
- To attend staff meetings, In-Service Training and a limited number of whole school events as identified by the Headmaster;
- To participate in the School's scheme of staff appraisal and engage in CPD and Mutual Observation.

Sections 2 to 4 below refer to the wider role that all teachers at Oakham fulfil and are couched in the most general terms. Each, of course, is a significant aspect of a teacher's role and fuller explanation may be found in the guidelines we publish concerning tutoring and total curriculum activities.

2 Pastoral [Line manager: relevant Housemaster/Housemistress]

- To work as a tutor in either the Lower, Middle or Upper School.
- To fulfil the duties and expectations of a tutor as published in the Staff Handbook.

3 Extra-curricular [Line Manager(s): Head(s) of relevant activity(ies)]

- To participate in the school's total curriculum programme. This means assisting on a minimum of 3 afternoons or equivalent per week, as agreed with the Headmaster, Deputy Head or Second Deputy;
- Participate fully in the school's Service Weekend programme as agreed with the Headmaster, Deputy Head or Second Deputy;

4 General

- Contribute to the collective work of the teaching staff in providing daily duty teams as per the Second Deputy's schedule. Some teachers may not take part in duties owing to alternative work at duty times in Houses etc. – these staff are identified by the Second Deputy;
- Contribute to the collective work of the teaching staff in providing supervisors for weekly detentions;
- Take a proportional share of examination invigilation;
- Exercise a duty of care to promote the safeguarding and wellbeing of pupils and contribute to the maintenance of a safe and secure school environment.
- Behave at all times with an awareness of the ambassadorial role that teaching at Oakham entails. Participate as appropriate in whole school marketing events, such as open days and activities days.

Expectations for staff at Oakham School

Academic

Each member of staff is expected to fulfil his/her teaching commitments. A full-time teacher is expected to prepare and teach twenty 50-minute lessons. The marking, reporting and follow up which inevitably follow from these lessons is also part and parcel of this expectation. Teachers who are under this allocation should expect to be used for library supervision and lesson cover. Staff are expected to assist with the invigilation of internal examinations and on occasion assist with public exams also.

There is priority departmental time once a week on a Wednesday at 5.00pm. Occasionally, there will be a one hour professional development slot on a Tuesday. It is expected that a member of staff will attend both these departmental sessions as well as the Inset at half terms and the beginnings of term and parents evenings.

A full time teacher contributes to the general running of their department including for example lesson cover, curriculum development, school trips, coursework, exam marking and supported study sessions. When absent, staff must communicate the need for cover when required and must set appropriate work for the cover lesson.

Tutoring

A full time teacher will also be required to:

- prepare and deliver a 45 minute tutorial to his/her tutor group
- attend his/her tutees' year group assembly
- attend a weekly House tutor period (a Review meeting)
- attend a weekly House meeting
- Complete PRs and end of term reports for his/her tutor group

A tutor will also have House duties that will vary depending on the House that the staff member is assigned to. These duties may include evenings and will normally be approximately three hours in length. In addition, tutors are expected to offer to help over the course of one weekend each half term for example accompanying a House outing.

Extra-Curricular

A full time teacher is expected to contribute to the extra-curricular life of the school by doing three activity or sporting sessions a week. Whole school, year group and House events inevitably depend on staff to assist and there is an expectation that staff will offer their assistance when these events occur, such as Speech Day and Carol Services.

General

Staff also have no more than four duty days a year when they are expected to supervise the road crossings, the lunch queue and walk the campus and town at break and lunchtimes. Staff will be asked to supervise no more than two detentions a year. Given the nature of working in a boarding and day school, staff are expected to demonstrate a certain amount of flexibility depending on the time of year and the pressure points within the academic year.

Application and Interviews

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to spend a day at the school and to meet the Headmaster, Deputy Head (Academic) and Head of Department, as well as members of the

department and other colleagues from the school. Candidates will be asked to teach a lesson as part of the selection process and further details will be forthcoming should you be shortlisted.

Candidates who wish to apply for this post should send their completed application form, covering letter stating where they saw the advertisement and CV giving details of two referees, to:

Mr Henry Price, Headmaster
Oakham School
Chapel Close
Oakham
Rutland, LE15 6DT

Either post your application to the address above or send via email to Jackie Pridmore (Senior Deputy Head's PA) at jp2@oakham.rutland.sch.uk.

Initial enquiries should be directed to Jackie Pridmore, Tel: 01572 758506.

Completing the fillable PDF application form:

If you are sending your application in this format, please complete the application form in Adobe. If you use Preview on a Mac for opening and completing the PDF form, it will corrupt the form and information may be lost. This may result in the school not receiving your complete application.

The closing date for applications is Monday 30th September at noon.

Interviews will be held on Thursday 3rd October.

Under current legislation, we are required to advise applicants that this appointment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure. Oakham School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure & Barring Service. Details of any criminal record (spent or unspent, due to exemption from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974) must be disclosed at interview. Only relevant convictions and other information will be taken into account so disclosure need not necessarily be a bar to obtaining a position at Oakham School. For further details, please visit the Disclosure & Barring website.