



Sheldon School
Chippenham

Candidate Information



Teacher of Girls' Physical Education

Closing Date: 18th March 2019

Interview Date: By end of March 2019

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Cover Letter

March 2019

Dear Colleague,

PART-TIME TEACHER OF HISTORY (Approximately 0.7 FTE)

FIXED TERM

REQUIRED FOR MAY 2019

Thank you for your interest in this part-time, fixed term position which arises due to the maternity leave of the current post holder. We are seeking to appoint a suitably qualified, enthusiastic and committed teacher, who is able and willing to teach History to GCSE as part of a highly successful, organised and supportive faculty team. The ability to offer Government and Politics to A-Level is desirable but not essential. The post is fixed term from May 2019 until approximately the end February 2020.

A high value is placed on Humanities education in the school and resources are excellent. The faculty comprises 14 teachers and is committed to high standards of teaching and learning, with a wide range of teaching resources used. The faculty is well equipped with text books, audio-visual and ICT resources and is based in a newly-refurbished suite of classrooms. The successful candidate will work with us to consolidate our successes and continue our development. You will be joining a very hardworking faculty with a strong collegiate atmosphere. In addition to working as part of the Humanities faculty, the successful candidate is also likely to be a form tutor.

Sheldon is a high-achieving and oversubscribed school with a strong record of success and an outstanding local and national reputation. History is a very successful subject, both at GCSE and A-Level, with large numbers opting to study the subject and results consistently well above national norms.

I believe that Sheldon is a great school. I have worked in six schools in total and am continually impressed by the positivity of the staff and the atmosphere around the school that is overwhelmingly happy and shows our students to be enjoying their learning in a thriving environment. It's simply a pleasure to come to work each day. I think you will find staff will say the same to you were you to ask them.

We are committed to excellence of achievement and try to ensure that pupils reach their full potential, at whatever level they are working. Sheldon's policy, therefore, is always to appoint the most suitable person for the post and applications are welcome from both experienced and newly qualified teachers. We offer a full programme of induction and support to all colleagues who join us and there is a continual focus on staff development and wellbeing, both of which rated very highly in the most recent external survey conducted in the summer of 2017. Staff morale, in what are challenging educational times, is high, born out of there being a real sense of community. We work hard, but the effort is worth it: the students certainly appreciate it and you will have plenty of fulfilment.

Further details concerning the faculty and the school are enclosed from Amy Goldsmith, Head of Humanities, together with an application form. In addition, we have included other information to outline the all-round offer, but please also take the time to look at what happens in the school day-to-day by

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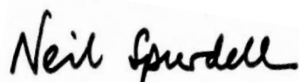
visiting our website. I hope that, having read the information, you will be keen to apply.

The successful candidate will be required to safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils in the school. The posts will be dependent on a successful enhanced DBS check.

Please complete the application form and return it with a supporting letter, (no more than two sides of A4 please), by post or email to hr@sheldonschool.co.uk . Closing date for applications is Monday, 18th March 2019 (12 noon).

We hope to interview by the end of March, so if you have heard nothing by this date, please assume you have been unsuccessful on this occasion. If this proves to be the case, thank you for your interest in Sheldon School and best wishes for future career.

Yours faithfully,



Neil Spurdell
Headteacher

Humanities Faculty

The faculty has the following aims it wishes to achieve:

1. To foster an appreciation of people and the world they have created - past, present and future.
2. To develop communication and intellectual skills.
3. To encourage pupils to take responsibility for their own learning.
4. To develop an awareness of the environment and how we must respect it.
5. To encourage an awareness that we live in a multi-cultural world and that each individual has the right to equal opportunities to live a happy, successful life.

The teaching staff currently consists of 14 - 10 full-time, 2 part-time and two assistant head's. The subject areas which come under the responsibility of the Head of Faculty are:

Geography & History	KS3, GCSE and AS/A-Level
Psychology	AS/A-Level
Sociology	AS/A-Level
Government & Politics	AS/A-Level
Criminology	Level 3

The specifications taught for external examination are:

Geography:	GCSE	AQA
	AS/A-Level	AQA
History:	GCSE	EDEXCEL
	AS/A-Level	AQA
Psychology:	AS/A-Level	AQA
Sociology:	AS/A-Level	AQA
Government & Politics:	AS/A-Level	EDEXCEL
Criminology:	Level 3	WJEC

The teaching accommodation consists of eleven classrooms. Resources are stored separately for the respective subjects. There is also an ICT suite with 10 PCs. We have access to the school's networked computer facilities, including two banks of portable laptops and two banks of iPads, which are stored in our area. There is a range of Humanities software available for use. There is also a library of teaching materials available on DVD, stored in our central resources area and online.

Students are taught in mixed-ability groups at KS3. In the upper school, most students take either Geography or History and are taught in mixed ability groups for each subject. Many students currently study both subjects. This is a reflection of their continued popularity. A variety of teaching strategies are employed, particularly those based on active learning. The faculty teaches using differentiated schemes of work. We fully subscribe to the principles of Assessment for Learning.

The Humanities results at both GCSE and A Level are strong. In 2018, 41% of History students and 35% of Geography students achieved 9-7grades. 12 A Level Humanities students achieved A* grades.

At Sheldon we believe that there are many obvious links between all of the Humanities subjects in terms of philosophy, with human experience at the centre of our studies, and methodology, with emphasis being placed on enquiry and learning through experience.



By acting as a single unit, the faculty can give its component subjects a powerful voice in forums to discuss whole-school issues and more efficient administration and staffing is made possible. Common policies are agreed on a range of issues and the faculty meets regularly to discuss and share ideas. In particular, the faculty has a common system of assessment and recording, which aims to inform pupils, parents and teaching staff and greatly assist the monitoring of an individual student's progress and the process of setting. Consumable resources are shared and many of the team teach both Geography and History in the lower school, though most of a member of staff's teaching commitment will usually be in his/her main specialist area.

Whilst the staff work together as a single unit, Geography, History, Psychology, Government and Politics, Sociology and Criminology enjoy a considerable degree of individual integrity, retaining their autonomy. The teachers of each subject meet on a regular basis and operate as individual teams within the faculty structure.

Amy Goldsmith
Head of Faculty
March 2019



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