

JOB INFORMATION

ACTING HEAD OF GEOGRAPHY (Fixed Term)

RHS is looking to appoint a capable and enthusiastic graduate to a full-time fixed term (maternity) post of Acting Head of Geography with effect from the start of the Summer Term [17 April] 2020.

The Acting Head of Geography will be expected to be a creative and engaging teacher who is passionate about developing a love of the subject in pupils. They will be able to give this excellent department dynamic leadership, building on the excellent work of the current Head of Department. The appointee will be able to teach Geography across the key stages, including A Level. This is an exciting opportunity to lead a thriving and high achieving department which is embracing new developments in the subject and the use of technology to support learning, and is extremely popular amongst pupils. The appointee will be well supported by the team of experienced, engaged and positive geography staff. The Acting Head of Geography reports directly to the Deputy Head (Academic).

Responsibilities of the Head of Geography are included in the generic job descriptions of Heads of Department and of Teachers at The Royal Hospital School and should be read in conjunction with the Head of Department Specification. All three of these are attached to this job description.

THE SCHOOL

The Royal Hospital School (RHS) is an HMC co-educational boarding and day school for approximately 750 pupils aged 11-18. The School occupies a magnificent 200 acre site in the Suffolk countryside just south of Ipswich.

The School selects pupils from a reasonably broad ability range and for this reason we focus on achieving a positive value added for all our pupils. Applications for places at RHS are extremely healthy and this year our pupil numbers are the highest on record.

The Royal Hospital School aims to provide academic excellence with an outstanding range of cultural and sporting opportunities. This is strongly backed up by first-class pastoral care and a commitment to leadership, service and spiritual awareness. We have an outstanding campus which provides a safe and secure environment. We have a talented and dedicated staff who believe in maximising each child's potential, fuelling their aspirations, firing their imagination and encouraging independence of thought. We seek to provide pupils with the skills and confidence to navigate their own lives and to think about where they will be at 25.

Recently the School undertook the development of the internal sporting facilities including a new strength and conditioning room, a fitness suite, dance and martial arts studio and the addition of a climbing wall in a refurbished sports hall. Further development of the School estate and the provision of top quality facilities for the education of our pupils remains a priority. The School has embarked upon a rolling programme of classroom refurbishment and, thanks to the generosity of our trustees, Greenwich Hospital, a £400,000 Wi-Fi programme has facilitated wireless internet access across the whole school campus since 2013. All members of the teaching staff and all pupils have iPads as part of the School's mobile learning initiative.

MISSION AND AIMS

Our Mission is to understand each young person's strengths, to help them to make the right choices at the right time, navigating through their critical, formative years and ensuring their education becomes the foundation for their happiness and success.

Aims

The aims of the Royal Hospital School are:

- to develop intellectual curiosity and academic confidence;
- to enable pupils to grow into the person they wish to become, fulfilling their potential and prepared for life after school;
- to inspire leadership, adventure and self-discovery;
- to foster creativity and imagination;
- to provide a secure and nurturing community which promotes wellbeing, fitness and healthy competition;
- to instill the values of service, loyalty and commitment and uphold the School's unique and rich heritage;
- to cultivate a global outlook and environmental responsibility.

LAST INSPECTION

The School was inspected in January 2015 and received excellent ratings in all nine areas by the Independent Schools Inspectorate. The inspector commented:

"The School has clear aspirations for its pupils. It seeks to promote the attributes of inspiration, challenge and leadership in its pupils. Pupils are encouraged to strive for academic excellence and to endorse the values of service, loyalty and commitments whilst upholding the School's unique and rich heritage. The School encourages leadership and a sense of adventure and self-discovery. A high priority is the promotion of service both within the School and to the wider community. The School aims to foster creativity and imagination within a civilised, caring, Christian community, based on high standards of behaviour, mutual respect, trust and courtesy between staff and pupils. The School cultivates a global outlook and sense of environmental responsibility. It aims to encourage pupils to develop fitness, wellbeing and enter into healthy competition."

Candidates can read the full Report on the School's website at <http://www.royalhospitalschool.org/school-life/overview/#inspection-report>.

The regulatory compliance inspection in January 2018 found that the school was compliant in all areas.

THE GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

The Geography Department is a forward-looking department intent on including as many contemporary geographical themes and topics as possible at all levels. The department has developed its own internal Key Stage 3 course (Years 7-9) to best prepare pupils for GCSE and A Level study. Numbers in the department are strong, and results are consistently excellent. This September, the excellent work of the department was recognised by the Geography Association who awarded the school the 'Secondary Quality Geography Mark award with Centre of Excellence for networking'. The centre of excellence award is made to approximately six schools each year. The department consists of 3 full time and two part time teachers, all of whom are experienced practitioners.

The philosophy of the department is to engage the pupils fully in the learning process by starting with 'wonder' and developing their understanding and knowledge (academic rigour) of geography from this. The department makes full use of mobile technology and seeks to inspire our students through unique and varied teaching methods. The department is extremely well resourced, with three recently renovated classrooms and a 'Geo Hub' which creates an additional teaching space where pupils can collaborate with their peers.

The department runs frequent trips for pupils, including an A Level field trip to Devon, trips to the Suffolk and Norfolk coasts, and local businesses. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the wider academic life of the department, including trips and events such as the Riddle and Studd Society presentations.

APPLICATION PROCESS/APPOINTMENT PROCEDURE

Applications should be made on the *RHS Application Form* enclosed, be accompanied by a letter (no longer than one side of A4) giving reasons for applying for the post, and be sent to Mr. Simon Lockyer, Headmaster, Royal Hospital School, Holbrook, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP9 2RX (Email: recruitment@royalhospitalschool.org). **(*Note that a C.V. will not be accepted in lieu of a fully completed Application Form).**

Further details of the Royal Hospital School can be found on our website: www.royalhospitalschool.org

The closing date for applications: 12noon 12 November
Interviews: 19 / 20 November

RHS is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Employment is subject to satisfactory references and an Enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) check.