

## ALTRINCHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR BOYS



### APPOINTMENT OF HEAD OF HISTORY & POLITICS

#### INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

##### 1. **The School**

Altrincham Grammar School for Boys is a six-form entry 11-18 selective Academy School. It caters for boys who have been selected for grammar school education from a wide area of South Manchester and North Cheshire. Pupils travel to the School from Wilmslow, Knutsford, Lymm, Warrington, Sale, Urmston, Old Trafford and Cheadle Hulme.

The number of boys in the School has been rising steadily in recent years as its popularity has increased. In September 2015 there were 1280 boys in the School, of whom 360 are in the Sixth Form. The School is very popular with parents and in the last year received nearly 1,000 applications for 173 places.

The academic results are outstanding and they place the School in the top 50 maintained schools. Our GCSE results are strong in respect of A\*/A grades and our 'A' level results in respect of A\*/A/B grades. The 2007 Ofsted Report graded the School as 'outstanding'.

An investment of £4M in improved sports facilities has been completed and all School employees benefit from free use of the facilities. The School's new purpose-built building for the teaching of Physics was formally opened in October 2013. There are plans for further expansion which are hoped to be realised over the next few years.

##### 2. **The Locality**

Altrincham Grammar School for Boys is situated a mile from Altrincham town centre within the Parish of Bowdon, which, with the surrounding parishes of Hale, Altrincham & Timperley, is home to many executives and professionals employed by the multi-national companies based in Manchester and also the BBC in Salford Quays.

Ten miles from Manchester city centre and thirty miles from Liverpool and Chester, the area is served by an excellent motorway network and the Manchester Metrolink rail. Manchester International Airport is sited in the east of the School's catchment area, five miles from Altrincham town centre. Wythenshawe Teaching Hospital, a pioneer in advanced surgery, is sited just outside the catchment area to the north. The School has strong connections with Manchester University and Manchester Metropolitan University both through teacher training links and through links with academic departments.

Manchester is a cosmopolitan centre of international commerce, arts, music, theatre, opera, ballet, sports, museums and events. The Bridgewater Hall in Manchester is the home of the Hallé Orchestra, there are numerous venues for major rock concerts, and the city centre theatres regularly host major West End productions. Old Trafford, home of Manchester United Football Club and Lancashire Cricket Club, is within easy reach of Altrincham.

### **3. The History and Politics Department**

The History and Politics Department is one of the most successful in the School with a long-established record of excellent results at GCSE and A level. The Department consists of two full-time teachers who are supported by two part-time staff and the Deputy Head Master.

At KS3 pupils are taught in form groups and the aim is to provide lively and active lessons which present pupils with the essential knowledge and skills of the subject and also introduce something of the academic rigour which will be needed higher up the School. History is a large option subject at GCSE level where the AQA Modern World syllabus has proved very popular. From September 2016 onwards the Year 10 groups will be following the new syllabus which will cover Germany 1890 to 1945; conflict and tension in Asia 1950 to 1975; Britain: migration, empires and the people, c.790 to the present day; Medieval England; the reign of Edward 1, 1272-1307.

At Advanced level the students enjoy a varied diet covering the period 1855 to 1964 in Russian history and 1951 to 2007 in British History. In Politics the Department follows the Edexcel course, studying British Politics in the Lower Sixth and Political Ideologies and Global Issues in the Upper Sixth. Students currently complete a controlled assessment at GCSE and an independent historical enquiry at A level. Under the new syllabus at GCSE there will be no coursework.

In the Sixth Form the size of both History and Politics sets are relatively large due to the popularity of the subjects. In the current Lower Sixth there are 29 students studying History divided into two equally sized sets. In Politics there are 22 students. Many students go on to study History, PPE and Politics at University and this speaks volumes for the knowledgeable and enthusiastic way in which pupils are taught the subject throughout their time at the School.

### **4. The Post**

The person appointed will have a degree in History and/or Politics and experience of teaching History at an 11-18 school. They will possess a good breadth and depth of subject knowledge in History and, preferably, Politics. They will be required to teach up to A level. Ideally, they will be able to enthuse our younger students in the subject whilst also offering a rich diet of interesting and thought-provoking lessons to our very able A level students. Whilst the ability to teach Politics is not immediately essential the person appointed will have a longer term commitment to doing so.

The person appointed will demonstrate a clear vision for the development of the Department during this time of significant syllabus change and the ability to lead and inspire others to share that vision and to work as part of a team. They will wish to promote History and Politics through both curricular and extra-curricular opportunities.

This is an ideal opportunity for a teacher with a few years' experience or a Head of a small department who wishes to broaden their experience in an academic school.

The post will be on TLR 2c (£6,443) and available from September 2016.

### **5. How to Apply**

Further details and an application form are on our website: [www.agsb.co.uk](http://www.agsb.co.uk) or from the School (email: [recruitment@agsb.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@agsb.co.uk) or telephone 0161 928 0858).

Application is by the enclosed form to be accompanied by a supporting letter addressed to the Head Master. Applications need to be returned by Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2016 with interviews taking place during the following week.

Please complete the Equal Opportunities form. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. The successful candidate will require a DBS check.

Head Master: Mr T. J.Gartside MA (Hons). Altrincham Grammar School for Boys, Marlborough Road, Bowdon, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA14 2RS.