

**Teacher of History  
Information Pack  
Alcester Grammar School**

# Welcome from the Principal - Mr Clive Sentence

I am very proud to be the Principal of this wonderful school. We are one of the country's highest performing state schools, and we pride ourselves on being an uplifting place to work and study and a community where everybody is happy and valued.

Teachers who work here have been heard to say it is the best job they have ever had and many choose to remain with us for a long time. If you do join us you will be part of a like minded community who enjoy their teaching, make a huge contribution to extracurricular activities, and obtain a great deal of job satisfaction.

I can safely say that teaching here is a huge amount of fun. There is virtually no poor behaviour or disruption in lessons and the children exhibit a voracious appetite for learning. One of the many joys of working here is that you can focus on your teaching and on bringing your subject to life. You do not need to have had any experience of the selective sector, either as a student yourself or as a teacher. Indeed some of our teachers have joined us having developed their skills in the non-selective sector, and what they find to be different here is simply the overwhelmingly positive attitudes to learning and appetite for hard work amongst the students. This truly is a place where you can do the job you trained to do, with every opportunity to try out new teaching techniques and ideas in lessons.



The Senior Leadership Team are supportive, broad minded and keen to see all staff and students succeed. Our vision is that the school should always be a place for professionals who would like to refine their teaching skills and implement innovative and creative ideas. Central to our philosophy are the key concepts of professionalism, autonomy and consultation, all within a sensible and reasonable framework of accountability. We operate light-touch monitoring, with few graded lesson observations, and you will enjoy the freedom to focus on education rather jumping through hoops to meet the supposed demands of OFSTED.

We are located in a highly convenient location in South Warwickshire, just over half an hour's drive from Birmingham and easily commutable from Worcester, Stratford, Coventry, Warwick or Cheltenham. It is a beautiful part of the country with superb amenities and eminently affordable housing, including plenty of good quality new build developments nearby. Anybody joining us is likely to see not just a significant increase in the quality of their professional life, but a commensurate increase in the quality of life outside of school.

We always want to appoint the best candidates we can, and so we would welcome applications from both newly qualified teachers and more experienced teachers. Prospective candidates are most welcome to visit the school and I am confident that if you do so you will very much want to come and work for us!

I look forward to receiving your application and meeting you soon.

## About Alcester Grammar School

AGS is a forward-looking, selective state school with academy status and an outstanding record of promoting high achievement. Whilst we have achieved outstanding judgements in our last four Ofsted inspections, we regularly analyse our performance and seek new ways to enhance learning opportunities for our students.



It is worth noting that we are selective at 11-16 but we offer wider access to post-16 students. With 1225 students on roll, including almost 500 in the sixth form, we are in a position to offer a wide curriculum; including a choice of two out of three languages in Years 7-9 and a requirement to study a modern language at KS4. In the 6<sup>th</sup> Form we offer a choice of around 25 different A levels.



A major strength of our school is our pastoral support structure. Our students are supported by form tutors and Heads of Year. We also have access to other external support agencies. Behaviour and attendance are excellent at AGS and

our students are highly motivated, keen and enthusiastic. They are warm, welcoming and have a good working relationship with staff, which is built on mutual trust and respect.

AGS is an exciting place to work. Staff have high standards, both of themselves and our students. We have a large number of support staff who work alongside teachers and there are many opportunities to develop their skills and careers through research projects, working with trainee teachers, participation in school development groups and working with staff from other schools, locally, nationally and internationally.



What our current staff say:

“There's a real sense of working as a team, and a great warmth and humour I haven't experienced in any other workplace.”

“AGS has a unique vibe. There is such a positive atmosphere around the school; staff and students respect each other, support each other and demonstrate genuine care.”

“The students are never afraid to ask ‘why?’  
They are vibrant and challenging”

Please do have a look at our website at [www.alcestergs.co.uk](http://www.alcestergs.co.uk) and view our prospectus to find out more about our school.



# AGS History Department

**RESPONSIBLE TO:** Head of Department

**SALARY:** MPS /UPS

## The History Team

Nichola Bowles (Head of Department)

Danny Kendall (Full Time Teacher)

Roger Manvell (Part Time Teacher)

Nicolas Dereza (Part time Teacher)

## The History Post

We are looking to appoint an enthusiastic and well qualified History graduate to join this high achieving department. This post is available from September 2019, due to the expansion of the school.

All members of the department may teach across the age range (11-18 years). We welcome applications from suitably qualified NQTs and more experienced teachers.



## Department facilities

The department currently has two dedicated classrooms where most history teaching takes place. Both classrooms have projectors and interactive whiteboards.

## The History Curriculum

Our KS3 course conforms to the National Curriculum Programme of Study:

**Year 7** (2 hours per week)

Medieval Realms

Islamic Civilisations

**Year 8** (1 hour per week)

Britain c.1500-c.1750

French Revolution

**Year 9** (1 hour per week)

Britain 1750-1900

(plus 1 hour fortnightly rotation)

The 20<sup>th</sup> Century

The GCSE course follows Pearson:

Thematic Study:	Crime and Punishment
Period Study and	The American West and Henry
British Depth Study:	VIII and his Ministers
Modern Depth Study	Weimar and Nazi Germany

History is a popular option at GCSE. Results are outstanding, but we continually seek ways to improve on current practice.

The A level course follows Pearson:

<b>Year 12</b>	Paper 1	Britain Transformed, 1918-1997
	Paper 2	The USA, 1955-1992: conformity and challenge
<b>Year 13</b>	Paper 3	Rebellion and Disorder under the Tudors, 1485-1603
	Paper 4:	Coursework: Historians' interpretations of the Holocaust

A level History is a popular option in the Sixth Form and many of our students choose to continue their studies at university level, including Oxbridge.

The successful candidate would initially be required to teach across Key Stage Three, with the possibility of GCSE and A level teaching in the future.

Participation in and further development of our History Ambassadors programme at Key Stage Three and a willingness to promote the subject across the school will be essential.

The department's aims are always to stimulate and sustain enthusiasm for the subject. We hope that this will develop into a lifelong interest in the past and something that students can also enjoy in their leisure time. Site visits are given high priority in order to bring the past alive and recent trips have included visits to Warwick Castle, the Black Country Museum and Bosworth Field. Each year, two of our Year 12 students take part in a scheme organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust to visit the site of Auschwitz Extermination Camp in Poland. This is an excellent opportunity to work in a positive environment with supportive colleagues and keen, well- motivated students.

# Person Specification

It is expected that the successful applicant will be able to fulfil the following criteria:

Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Qualified Teacher Status</li><li>• Good Honours degree or equivalent in History</li></ul>
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Be able to teach History across the age range of the school and up to A level</li><li>• Awareness of effective teaching and learning strategies</li><li>• Evidence of being a high quality classroom practitioner</li><li>• Evidence of improving and sustaining high outcomes for students</li></ul>
Curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Awareness of the National Curriculum requirements at KS3</li><li>• Familiarity with the requirements of teaching History at GCSE</li><li>• Familiarity with the requirements of teaching History at A level and if required for entry to Oxbridge</li></ul>
Relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ability to inspire and motivate students by creating a stimulating and challenging learning environment</li><li>• Commitment to students as individuals</li><li>• Sensitivity to the requirement to meet the learning needs and challenges of students of all abilities in all key stages</li><li>• Ability to secure the commitment and respect of students, staff and parents</li></ul>
Personal Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enthusiasm for History</li><li>• Adaptable and able to respond to and initiate change</li><li>• Friendly, approachable team member</li><li>• Sensitive and supportive</li><li>• Excellent organisation and an effective communicator</li><li>• Hard-working and flexible</li><li>• Ability to review own performance</li><li>• Willingness to contribute to the success of the school both intra and extra-curricular</li><li>• A good sense of humour and a sense of perspective!</li><li>• A commitment to safeguarding children's well being</li></ul>

## **REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS ACT 1974 Amendment to Exceptions Order (2013)**

The work for which you are applying will have regular contact with children and is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. However, please note that the amendments to the Exceptions Order 1975 (2013) provide that certain spent convictions and cautions are 'protected' and are not subject to disclosure to employers, and cannot be taken into account. Guidance and criteria on the filtering of these cautions and convictions can be found at the Disclosure and Barring Service website. [www.gov.uk/dbs](http://www.gov.uk/dbs)

These details should be enclosed in a separate, sealed envelope marked 'confidential' – for the attention of the Chairperson of the appointing body. The envelope should state clearly the name of the school/establishment and the work for which you are applying, and be returned with your application form.

The information you give will be treated in confidence and will only be taken into account in relation to an application where the exemption applies.

The Governing Body is entitled, under arrangements introduced for the protection of children, to check with the Disclosures and Barring Service for the existence and content of any criminal record of the successful applicant prior to the confirmation of appointment.

Therefore, successful applicants will be required to complete a disclosure form to enable a check to be undertaken. Failure to consent to this could prevent the application being considered further. This check involves details being obtained of convictions, including those considered 'spent' under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, cautions held at national

level and may also include on-conviction information. You will receive the results of the check from the Disclosures and Barring Service, who will also forward a copy to the Authority. Information received from the Disclosures and Barring Service will be kept in strict confidence and will be destroyed in accordance with guidelines laid down by the Disclosures and Barring Service.

The disclosure of a criminal record will not debar you from appointment, unless the Authority considers that the conviction renders you unsuitable for appointment. In making this decision, consideration will be given to the nature of the offence, how long ago and what age you were when it was committed, and any factors which may be relevant.

Failure to declare a conviction, caution or bind-over may, however, disqualify you from appointment, or result in dismissal or disciplinary action if the discrepancy comes to light.

Under the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 it is an offence for an individual who has been disqualified from working with children to knowingly apply for offer to do, or accept or do any work in a 'regulated position', such as the post for which you are applying.

### **Equal Opportunities Policy**

Alcester Grammar School is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

The school's Equal Opportunities Policy states that it will give equal treatment to all persons within its organisation regardless of sex, marital status, race, colour, nationality, national origin, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, disability, age and not allow any individual to be disadvantaged by any other condition which cannot be shown as justifiable.

## Application Procedure

Please complete the application form and provide a supporting statement (**on no more than two sides of A4**). The supporting statement should address your particular strengths and how your experience to date has prepared you for this particular role. Applications may be submitted via email to [j.dyos@alcestergs.com](mailto:j.dyos@alcestergs.com) or by post to Alcester Grammar School, Birmingham Road, Alcester, Warwickshire B49 5ED.

**The closing date is 9am on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019; the interviews will take place shortly after this date.**

*AGS is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. We expect all staff to share this commitment. Appointments made are subject to an Enhanced Disclosures and Barring Disclosure.*



For more information about AGS see our website [www.alcestergs.co.uk](http://www.alcestergs.co.uk)  
or contact the Principal, Clive Sentence on 01789-762494,  
or via [j.dyos@alcestergs.com](mailto:j.dyos@alcestergs.com)

Alcester Grammar School  
Birmingham Road  
Alcester  
Warwickshire  
B49 5ED

Tel: 01789 762494

Fax: 01789 400626