



GIGGLESWICK  
SCHOOL

# Subject Lead for History and Politics

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## Applicant Information Pack





## Overview

Giggleswick School is a co-educational boarding and day school situated in the stunning rural location of the Yorkshire Dales, within walking distance of the popular market town of Settle and just over an hour from both Leeds and Manchester.

The School demonstrates all the characteristics you would expect to find in an excellent independent boarding school. It is exceptionally good at discovering and nurturing individuals' strengths; it is a friendly, supportive community with excellent pastoral care; it provides a breadth of educational opportunities, subjects, and cocurricular activities; and pupils achieve strong academic performance. All of this is delivered by dedicated, high quality teachers and support staff.

## History

Giggleswick's fascinating five centuries of history started in 1512 when Henry VIII was on the throne. Since his son Edward VI granted the school a royal charter 1553 it has enjoyed four campus rebuilds, close links with prestigious academia and the Church, and alumni have contributed to all walks of life. Giggleswick's half-millennium of tradition and evolution has earned it a well respected place at the heart and head of its community and the educational landscape of the country.

What makes Giggleswick distinctive is participation. The school community delights in seeing growth through the experience of trying something new and being surprised at what one can do. Giggleswick's emphasis on wide participation has two other benefits: students not only do the things they excel at, but also learn how to seek and offer support within and between year groups. Participation is also true of the staff in School – they are widely involved in the interests and activities of the pupils, collaborating with them for mutual benefit and enjoyment. The school believes that both factors create the warm respect that exists between pupils up and down the School, and between all staff and pupils.

Over the years, Giggleswick expanded its age range, opened to girls and the curriculum broadened. The landmark School Chapel was built to commemorate Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee and enviable facilities were added, including one of the first heated indoor swimming pools in the country.





# The School

## Location & Facilities

Giggleswick is perfectly located on the edge of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, home to some of Yorkshire's most iconic scenery and attractions. Manchester, Leeds and York are all just an hour away, with the popular towns of Ilkley, Skipton, Kirkby Lonsdale, Clitheroe and Kendal all within the school's day and flexi boarding catchment area.

With spectacular limestone valleys, picture postcard villages and historic castles, it is a place that stirs the emotions and stimulates the senses. The School's idyllic setting gives life at Giggleswick a real sense of adventure and discovery, where children have the space and freedom to grow as individuals and develop a lifelong love of learning.

## Ethos & Values

There is a real sense of community throughout the campus with a happy, relaxed and purposeful atmosphere where pupils are polite and welcoming. The School promotes a real 'can do' philosophy through encouragement and support for pupils to have a go at a range of activities – and the pupils thrive on it. Day pupils are also fully integrated into the life and ethos of the school.

The campus and facilities provide an impressive modern learning environment with the Pre-school, Junior and Senior School sharing the 215 acre site. The Richard Whiteley Theatre hosts a full programme of live productions, music and dance, as well as being used for drama lessons and CAS (Creative, Active, Service) activities. Other on-site facilities include the Chapel, The Glover Art Studio, an observatory, a swimming pool and a mountain bike trail. There is also a state-of-the-art multi-activity sports hall and fitness centre, tennis and squash courts, astro-turf for hockey, cricket, rugby and football pitches and a golf course.

*“How can they bear to tear themselves away from this happy place in the Yorkshire Dales?”*

Tatler, 2019





# The School

## Senior School

With 320 pupils aged 11 to 18, the Senior School is large enough to offer a wide variety of teaching and learning across a six-day week, but small enough to offer close tutorial support, small classes, and opportunities for everyone to get into teams or to take part in music, art, drama, outdoor pursuits and all the other activities we offer. Our academic standards are high across a broad curriculum and we embrace a breadth of ability, supporting each child to achieve their personal best. At Giggleswick, success is not just about grades and academic skills. We put an equal emphasis on personal development, helping young people to build

confidence, resilience and independence, and to take responsibility and initiative.

The School has seven boarding houses, each with Senior House Staff, Matrons, and a full team of Tutors. As a modern boarding and day school we offer a wide range of options tailored to fit the needs, lifestyles and budgets of families based locally, nationally and internationally. Students can choose to be a day pupil, a full boarder, 3 or 5-night flexi boarder or board occasionally if there is an activity in school that's not to be missed.

## The Department

The History and Politics Department at Giggleswick has a proven record of examination success. Recent leavers have gone on to study Human Social and Political Sciences at the University of Cambridge, International Relations and French at Exeter, and War Studies at Kings College, London.

History remains the most popular GCSE option (roughly 70% up-take). Year 7-9 pupils are taught History 3 lessons per 2 week cycle. In years 10 and 11 pupils have 5 lessons per 2 week cycle. AQA specifications are studied for GCSE

and A level. In Politics we follow the Edexcel course for A level. Pupils in the Sixth Form have 11 lessons per 2 week cycle.

The History and Politics Department undertakes a rich extra-curricular programme: Year 9 Battlefields Trip; Sixth Form trip to Rome; MUN club and competitions; Sixth Form Politics trip to Westminster; Lessons from Auschwitz and various University speakers.





## Summary

Giggleswick School is seeking to appoint an inspirational Subject Lead for History and Politics. The successful candidate will be a dynamic teacher with the ability to teach History from KS3 to A Level who will ensure that the History curriculum at all Key Stages is stimulating and engaging and will successfully manage the staff in the department. They will have the passion and expertise to deliver first class teaching which will stimulate pupils of all abilities, ensuring that they make excellent progress.

The senior school has a growing reputation for achieving excellent academic results and

the successful candidate will be expected to continue to build upon this recent success. This vacancy is within a well-established and successful History department. With growing numbers at A Level, the ability to teach A Level Politics would also be advantageous.

Any prospective candidate will be expected to show an active commitment to the values and expectations of our boarding community and to the welfare of the pupils within it. Enthusiasm to assist in a strong co-curriculum is an important quality of all who work at Giggleswick.





## General Responsibilities

### Teaching duties

- A subject lead will teach in the region of 18 x 55 min lessons across a six day week and is expected to make a regular contribution to department clubs, clinics or workshops and the extra-curricular activities programme. A weekly emergency cover period and, where possible, a weekly departmental meeting is also timetabled.
- We have the ability to run a full timetable of the curriculum via the Giggleswick Virtual School for all Senior and Junior School pupils. This requires creative and engaging teaching, along with the necessary proficient digital skills, to smoothly deliver quality live online lessons.
- Teachers make a significant contribution to the coaching of games or sport; the Friday afternoon academic enrichment programme; the Outdoor Pursuits programme; and the Combined Cadet Force. This can include coaching, supervising, leading or training pupils on 3 or 4 afternoons each week, depending on academic teaching commitments.
- All members of staff are expected to attend regular staff meetings, INSET, Parents' Conferences and the monthly Tutor meetings that are held to discuss pupil progress.

### Pastoral duties

- The School day contains a regular pattern of Assemblies, Chapel and Tutor/Form periods which teachers attend.
- All full-time teachers are attached to a boarding house and undertake an evening duty each week.
- The School has a strong personal tutorial system and teachers provide additional pastoral care and academic advice and support for up to 12 tutees.
- Teachers are expected to support all aspects of the boarding life of the school. This can include making a contribution to the weekend activity programme for boarders on Saturday evenings or Sundays; supervising events or activities; attending Sunday Chapel services; by organising and leading trips; or sharing a pastime.
- There is the opportunity for the successful candidate to become Resident Tutor, with accommodation provided.

### Other duties

- Teachers are assigned to a duty team which supervises school duties such as meals and weekend duties (e.g. detention) approximately every six weeks.
- Once a year, teachers take part in an Exeat duty team to provide cover for the boarders who remain at School.
- All teaching staff are expected to follow the Staff Code of Conduct and to follow the guidance laid out in the staff handbook.

### Health & Safety

- You have a legal duty to take reasonable care of your own healthy and safety and that of others and you are expected to be familiar with, and adhere to Giggleswick School's Health and Safety Policy.

### Child protection

- Giggleswick School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. You will be expected to support this approach in the context of your role and to adhere to and ensure compliance with the school's Safeguarding policies and procedures at all times. If in the course of carrying out your duties you becomes aware of any actual or

potential risks to the safety or welfare or children in the school s/he must report any concerns to the school's child protection officer or to the Headmaster.

### School values

- Ensure your work, communication and approach conforms to the brand values and style of the School. Keep up to date, and comply with the Giggleswick School's Rules, Policies and Procedures at all times, as detailed in the School handbook.



# The Person

## Education & qualifications

- Qualified Teacher Status
- History or Politics degree and the ability to teach both to A level

## Knowledge & experience

- A secure knowledge of your subject
- Experience of working with children and young people.

## Skills

- Good interpersonal skills, with the ability to develop positive relationships with young people
- Strong organisational and digital skills
- Able to engage pupils in learning through active teaching strategies
- Ability to teach and inspire via Online learning, as and when required, including Giggleswick Virtual School
- Able to communicate effectively orally and in writing
- Able to demonstrate effective planning and teaching skills

- Able to present confidently to a large group of students.

## Personal qualities

- Commitment to and flexible with the demands of the role
- Demonstrates a fairness and consistency in all dealings with pupils
- Energy and enthusiasm
- Able to demonstrate the positive values, attitudes and behaviour we expect from our pupils
- Reliability and integrity
- Willingness to contribute to the co-curricular life of the School
- A commitment to personal professional development and taking responsibility for it
- A positive motivation to work with children and young people
- Resilience

## Safeguarding

- Evidence of a commitment to promoting the health, welfare and safeguarding of children





# Terms of Appointment

We offer a competitive and desirable package that includes:

- A competitive salary, dependent upon the skills and experience of the candidate
- Eligibility to join the APTIS pension scheme (Aviva Pension Trust for Independent Schools)
- Assistance with accommodation may be available

- High quality working environment
- Where relevant, a generous fee remission to Senior & Junior School aged children of the successful candidate (excludes Pre-school)
- Lunches provided free of charge during term time.
- Free access to on-site facilities, including gym, sports courts and swimming pool

# How to Apply

For further information and an application form, please visit our website [www.giggleswick.org.uk](http://www.giggleswick.org.uk) or contact **Rachel Attack, Human Resources Manager**, on 01729 893016, or by email [hr@giggleswick.org.uk](mailto:hr@giggleswick.org.uk).

If you would like to apply for this post, please complete and send the following information to

**[hr@giggleswick.org.uk](mailto:hr@giggleswick.org.uk)**

- A completed application form (no CV's please)
- A covering letter of not more than two pages summarising your ability related to the information outlined in the role

**The closing date for applications is 9 April 2021.**

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to interview w/c 19 April 2021.

We reserve the right to close this vacancy early, subject to receiving suitable applications. We therefore encourage you to apply at your earliest convenience.

# Equal Opportunities Employer

Giggleswick School is committed to eliminating discrimination and encouraging diversity amongst our workforce. We aim to provide quality and fairness for all job applicants and employees and not to discriminate, or to receive less favourable treatment, on grounds of age, disability, race, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, or is disadvantaged by conditions or requirements which cannot be shown to be justifiable.

Employment decisions will be made on the basis of each applicant's job qualifications, skills, experience, and abilities. Applicants or employees with questions or concerns relating to discrimination for any of the reasons listed above should contact **Rachel Attack, Human Resources Manager**, [reatack@giggleswick.org.uk](mailto:reatack@giggleswick.org.uk).

# Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy

Giggleswick School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment by complying with the School's Child Protection Policy and Staff Code of Conduct at all times. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and The Disclosure and Barring Service.

All school policies can be found on our website, **[www.giggleswick.org.uk](http://www.giggleswick.org.uk)**.





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**SCHOOL**

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