



James Allen's Girls' School 4–18

jags



CANDIDATE PACK FOR
TEACHER OF HISTORY AND POLITICS

James Allen's Girls' School 144 East Dulwich Grove London SE22 8TE

www.jags.org.uk



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JAMES ALLEN'S GIRLS' SCHOOL

JAGS has been inspiring and educating pupils for over 270 years. It is the oldest girls' independent school in London. While we are proud of our history – it's made us who we are – we are very much a school of the present and the future. We celebrate the best of the old while embracing the latest innovations and technology.

Our day school pupils are drawn from a dynamic variety of cultural, social and economic backgrounds, with 50 languages spoken at home. We currently have 126 pupils on our own bursaries, with 51 of them on free places and an average of 89% fee subsidy paid. Diversity is our strength, but we share a common purpose: to help all our pupils fulfil their potential. We know we are lucky and that we gain from sharing what we have. 'Good Neighbours' has been our policy for many years. We look outwards and draw people in. We are part of the world around us.



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JAMES ALLEN'S GIRLS' SCHOOL

In a changing educational world, my core values remain intact. As an Oxford graduate, and student of literature, I want pupils to love learning for its own sake and to strive for excellence.

But true education always comes back to people. To supporting the young on individual journeys so they are ready to lead purposeful, happy adult lives. As soon as I set foot in JAGS, I knew that this was at the heart of the school's ethos too. Known for its academic excellence, JAGS is so much more. It is a school with heart and conscience and one which reaches out beyond its own community.

I also believe firmly that schools have responsibility for the whole person. Sport, arts and leadership are part of that - but the less measurable qualities of social responsibility and empathy are just as important.

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WORKING AT JAGS

Working at JAGS is more than just about working. JAGS is a community and a family that strives to create a warm and supportive environment for both the girls that come to learn here, but also for the staff that come to work here.

From your first day at JAGS you will have access to some of the best facilities in the country and will be encouraged to take part in the many activities here.

JAGS works hard to attract the best staff and therefore the benefit package at JAGS is very generous. We have our own pay scale which is above the national average and we also offer all staff a discount on school fees. You will have access to our multi purpose sports centre which includes tennis courts, a 25m swimming pool, spin studio and a rock climbing centre. You will receive free lunches as well as free parking and free access to the Dulwich Picture Gallery.



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TEACHER OF HISTORY AND POLITICS

As a teacher of History and Politics the post holder will be an outstanding classroom practitioner with excellent subject knowledge and a real passion for History and Politics. They should have knowledge and understanding of effective teaching and learning styles and of monitoring assessment, recording and reporting of pupils' progress.

As a member of the teaching staff the post holder will be expected to involve themselves in school life, and to participate in residential trips where appropriate.



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TEACHER OF HISTORY AND POLITICS PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential

- A good degree in History, or Politics, or an equivalent degree that draws on similar skills, preferably with QTS.
- Excellent subject knowledge.
- Excellent communication and teaching skills.
- Knowledge and understanding of a range of effective teaching and learning styles and of monitoring, assessment, recording and reporting of pupils' progress.
- Experience in teaching across the whole secondary age range and, particularly, in teaching academically able students.
- Ability to use effective strategies to monitor pupils' motivation and morale.
- The skills to create a happy, challenging and effective learning environment.
- Ability to develop good personal relationships within a team and establish valuable and useful relationships with parents.
- Good IT skills.
- Empathy and patience are important personal characteristics as well as a committed, well organized and resourceful approach, and the ability to meet deadlines.
- Enthusiasm for sharing knowledge of best teaching practice.
- Awareness of the statutory requirements concerning Equal Opportunities, LDD & SEN, Child Protection.
- Ability to promote the school's aims positively.

Desirable

- Knowledge and experience of preparation of GCSE and A Level candidates.
- Experience of teaching A Level Politics, including the Globalisation Route
- Evidence of commitment to further professional development.
- Enthusiasm to develop own subject knowledge

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HISTORY AND POLITICS

The History & Politics Department at JAGS has a long record of academic success at both GCSE, where about three quarters of the year group take History and the overwhelming majority of candidates achieve 7-9 grades, and at A Level where we usually have three teaching groups in each year, most of whom attain A*, A or B grades in their final examinations. Similar success is achieved by the girls taking Politics in the Sixth Form. A significant number of girls go on each year to read History or Politics or related subjects, a variety of universities in the UK and abroad.

In the broadest sense, our objective is to promote history in all its aspects and to stimulate in our pupils an enthusiasm for the subject and a curiosity about the past that will last long beyond their schooldays and so give them the increased understanding of themselves and of our world that comes through an awareness of its history. Our aim is to ensure all pupils are filled with passion and skill to further their aspirations and that all can reach their full potential, through a combination of challenge and support catered to the needs of the individual.

At the moment there are six members of the department, five full-time and one part-time, each with their own specialisms and enthusiasms and each with their own teaching style, which we regard as one of our strengths since it creates a stimulating and rewarding environment for pupils and staff alike. We hold weekly department meetings which provide a forum for debate as well as the opportunity to co-ordinate policy and teaching materials, we engage actively with student voice and feedback.

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