



TEACHER OF ENGLISH

MATERNITY COVER

FROM SEPTEMBER 2018

The Portsmouth Grammar School is a leading co-educational school located in the historic heart of Portsmouth. The school is an IB World School and offers the IB Diploma alongside A Level.

The school seeks to appoint a temporary teacher of English from September 2018 to cover maternity leave for two terms in the first instance, although the contract may be extended up to a full year.

This is a full time vacancy but applications from candidates who can only offer a part-time role of at least 0.5 FTE will also be considered. In addition, management responsibility within the Department may be available to a suitably experienced candidate. Please indicate clearly in your application whether you are interested in a full or part-time position. For this appointment it is expected that the majority of teaching will be at KS3 and KS4 and there is not a requirement for candidates to offer experience of teaching at A Level or IB.

The English Department is one of the largest in the school. It consists of nine specialist teachers, of whom seven teach English full-time and two part-time. The department is literary in bias and places great emphasis on the early inculcation of independent and critical thinking. Entrants at all ages are bright, eager and creative, and can absorb challenging material rapidly; they are very willing to be stretched intellectually.

English Literature is a popular choice, taught both as a core subject in the IB Diploma and at A Level. Each A Level and Higher Level IB set is taught by two teachers. Even within the context of a top flight academic school, achievements at A Level have been notable, and 100% of IB students have attained levels 5-7, with the average grade being a 6 (the equivalent of an A).

At Key Stage Four we now follow the specification for Edexcel GCSE English Language and English Literature, having recently moved from the IGCSE. Both here and at A Level the department expects to range well beyond the specification requirements. This year, 88% of our results for English Language were A*-B, (94% in 2016); for English Literature, the A*-B percentage was 83% (91% in 2016).

There is an imaginative and flexible General Studies programme for pupils in the Sixth Form. The English Department offers modules such as Creative Writing and Journalism.

The possibility exists for including new interests, both as part of the General Studies programme and in one of a number of co-curricular activities offered by the department. Pupils are encouraged to aim high and we regularly participate in national competitions such as Poetry By Heart and the Kids' Lit Quiz. Extension trips to Chawton House Library run biannually and our record for attaining university and Oxbridge places is strong. The *Portsmouth Point* Magazine and Blog, and the *Portmuthian* magazine provide opportunities for pupils to write and edit.

The department believes in English as a medium for personal growth and enrichment, rather than as a functional skills-based subject. Every encouragement is given to teachers to work with their classes as they see fit, and to follow their own academic interests, in and out of the classroom. The department enjoys close proximity to the main school Library which offers outstanding facilities for reading and research.

The successful applicant will be expected to contribute fully to the pastoral and co-curricular life of the English department and PGS. The school provides excellent professional development opportunities and has an outstanding reputation for induction of newly qualified teachers.

Benefits

The Portsmouth Grammar School prides itself on being a caring employer and all staff are encouraged to discuss any aspects of their terms and conditions of employment initially with their line manager and, as necessary, with the Bursar who signs all contracts of employment on behalf of the Governing Body.

The school is a strong supporter of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and its INSET programme provides staff with many personal development opportunities. Examples of school support include financial support for further education such as Masters Degrees.

The school has recently developed with the University of Portsmouth two specific accredited part time Masters Short Courses known as the Developing Educational Leadership and Management (DELM) and Human Resource Management in Education. On completion of each unit 30 Masters Credits are awarded.

Governors annually allow up to three staff to take a half term sabbatical on full-pay in the summer term, with most expenses of the sabbatical covered. The aim of sabbaticals is to develop further professional expertise and also to provide an opportunity for staff to reflect on other aspects of their teaching. Sabbaticals are normally based in the UK but may also be overseas.

Key financial benefits of employment at PGS include a generous salary structure supplemented by payment of an additional PGS Allowance. There are many opportunities to take on additional paid responsibilities to assist in the management and operation of the school. The school participates in the Teachers' Pension Scheme.

The school also has a generous fee concession for the children of teaching staff. The school

also supports the Cycle to Work scheme and accepts Government's Child Care Vouchers.

The school may be able to offer subsidised rental accommodation in Old Portsmouth. Please state in your application if this is of interest to you.

All members of staff have free use of the school's sports facilities which include a well-equipped Fitness Centre. A two course lunch is provided to all staff during term time.

The school is always looking for innovative ways to improve the working conditions and remuneration of its employees and welcomes suggestions from all staff.

How to Apply

PGS is committed to safeguarding children and the successful applicant will be subject to an Enhanced DBS check.

Further information is available on the website at www.pgs.org.uk under the About Us section, or can be requested from the school on 023 9236 4288. An electronic application would be preferable, submitted to HR@pgs.org.uk. All applicants should complete an application form, and send a covering letter and full curriculum vitae.

Postal applications should be addressed to The Headmaster, The Portsmouth Grammar School, High Street, Portsmouth, Hants PO1 2LN. Please include email addresses whenever available. All applications should be accompanied by the names, addresses, email and telephone numbers of three referees.

The closing date is noon 31 January 2018 and early applications are encouraged. Interviews will be scheduled w/c 5 February 2018 and shortlisted candidates are asked to allow the whole day for the interview process.

January 2018