GUNNERSBURY CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Teacher of Religious Education Information Booklet

Gunnersbury Catholic School



enabling our students
to achieve to the very highest

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Letter from the Headteacher

Dear Applicant

As Headteacher of Gunnersbury Catholic School I would like to extend a very warm welcome to you.

This is a fantastic time to join Gunnersbury Catholic School. The talents of our leadership, teachers and the superb student body has culminated in our school being ranked once again in the **Top Boys' Comprehensive Schools in the country for GCSE achievement (DfE Performance Tables 2019).** Our 2020 cohort achieved 93% 5 GCSEs at 9-4 *including English and Mathematics* and a 'Progress 8' score of +0.83. Similarly at A-level we enable outstanding outcomes for our students. The appetite for success that our pupils possess, their Catholic values and superb behaviour allied to the supportive colleagues and leaders at Gunnersbury make this a great place to work and take your career on to the next level.

We seek a dedicated, talented and enthusiastic teacher of Religious Education to be a key member within our Religious Education Department. If you have a passion for the subject and a desire to enable students to receive the very best Religious Education teaching then we would like to hear from you. Furthermore if you are ambitious to develop your professionalism then this role at Gunnersbury Catholic School will swiftly and thoroughly prepare you to take responsibility within the department. As a member of the team you will receive training, coaching and development of the highest quality, enabling you to become the very best teacher that you can be. Developing our staff is key to what we do at Gunnersbury Catholic School as we understand that progressing staff ensures great job satisfaction and learning of the highest quality for our pupils.

Within our school we have been able to create a unique setting. Ours is a school within which students take pride in succeeding, where the pupils strive to achieve the very highest and where there is an unrelenting desire to do even better. At Gunnersbury Catholic School successes and achievements in all spheres are proudly celebrated by the boys. We are a busy, thriving and ambitious school. Gunnersbury's academic achievement has been acknowledged by the Fischer Family Trust as being amongst the top 5% in the country. Year after year government schools' ministers have acknowledged our GCSE success as being amongst the top 100 schools nationally. Ofsted and the Diocese of Westminster have both determined that we are an outstanding school. We pride ourselves on our academic success, achievements that provide entry for our students to world leading universities and high quality careers.

There is however even more to a Gunnersbury education. We enable our students to develop in all aspects of their person: spiritual, moral, sporting, artistic and social. Gunnersbury moulds fully rounded individuals ready to take their place in and make a difference to society. More so, Gunnersbury strives to and succeeds in developing young adults equipped to take their place as leaders in an ever-changing world.

If you are someone who seeks to reach for the highest in all that you do, Ad Altiora, then we would like to hear from you.

I look forward to receiving your application.

With kind regards.



Kevin S Burke
Headteacher

The Role

The Religious Education teacher's role is integral to Gunnersbury's provision of superb teaching and achievement within the subject. Working under the direction of the Head of Religious Education the new postholder shall seek to further the learning experience and outcomes of our students. They should wish to establish a love of Religious Education across the key stages, whilst enabling outstanding learning for each child.

Teaching

- Ensure that individual lessons are planned, well prepared and take account of the ability of individual groups. Teachers must demand the highest standards from pupils in all areas, including classwork, homework, behaviour, attitude, organisation and presentation.
- Create an effective learning environment for all pupils, maintaining high standards of behaviour and ensuring that rooms are a pleasant place to study.
- Regularly set and mark appropriate work for pupils in order to assess progress and understanding. When marking and assessing, teachers should follow the agreed departmental policies.
- Keep a record of work and records of assessment as outlined in the school and departmental handbooks. They must be prepared to provide information on individual pupil progress based on school target data at required by the Head of Department, other teaching staff and parents.
- Attend and positively contribute to discussions in departmental meetings and take a full part in the development of departmental policies, schemes of work, assessment programmes and examinations, in consultation with the Head of Department.
- Attend appropriate parents' consultation evenings, well-prepared to discuss pupils' work and to provide assessment of individual pupils as and when required.
- Participate in regular self review and evaluation, attending appropriate training days as part of your ongoing professional development.
- In planning units of work and individual lessons, teachers should keep in mind the requirements of the Exam Boards and department Schemes of work and ensure that the curriculum is accessible to all students.
- Contribute towards extra-curricular activities.
- Attend to all duties as directed by the headteacher.

The above characteristics and details of the role are not exhaustive. Rather they represent a guide to the requirements of the job. Furthermore the job description/requirements are subject to regular review and may change over time.



The Person

Personal Qualities and Attributes

- A passion for Religious Education and the development of pupils faith
- A commitment to providing students with the very best education and life chances.
- The talent and capability to be an outstanding teacher of Religion
- The ability to inspire and motivate pupils
- Excellent communicator and a team player
- Ambitions for self development and future career promotion
- Persistent, energetic and enthusiastic
- Adaptable
- A positive outlook
- Good sense of humour

Qualifications, knowledge and professional skills

- Qualified Teacher Status
- A relevant degree or higher qualification
- An excellent teacher who will enable pupil success pupil success
- Knowledge of the requirements of the Religious Education Curriculum at KS3, KS4 and KS5
- The ability to produce high quality schemes of work
- Understanding of safeguarding and its successful implementation to ensure the safety of children
- Leads by example with high professional standards

Above all else we seek to appoint a superb teacher with a real passion for Religious Education, who is committed to the success of their students and possesses the talent to be an exceptional educator within the school. Potential, dynamism, determination and resolve are key attributes for this role. In particular we are very keen to appoint an individual who wishes to be a leader of Religious Education within a few years. Our excellent school and Religious Education department will provide the experience, training and guidance to enable this ambition to be fulfilled.





The Department

The Religious Education department consists of 5 RE specialist teachers. The department has a strong, supportive team which is keen to share ideas and embrace new ways of teaching and learning, including the use of ICT. The RE department is situated in the centre of the main building, at the heart of the school. The team have 4 designated teaching rooms in the main block and a classroom in the Sixth Form block. As well as the RE office we have a designated chaplaincy office. We are fortunate to have a beautiful Chapel which is open for all members of the school community.

The Religious Education department has a true commitment to ensure that all our students flourish both academically and spiritually. Schemes of work in Years 7 to 9 have been tailored to suit the pupils in our care. We ensure that students are given opportunities to learn about the teachings and traditions of the Catholic faith as well as other world religions. Lessons allow students to thoroughly engage with the various aspects of faith and equip students with skills needed in order to appreciate the importance of faith and practice in their own lives. A real emphasis is placed on challenging students to think spiritually, ethically and theologically.

GCSE Religious Studies builds on Key Stage 3 provision. Edexcel Route A, Roman Catholic Christianity, Philosophy and Ethics and Judaism. This allows students to study the relationship between Roman Catholic Christianity and Christian thought.

At A Level we follow the OCR Philosophy and Ethics syllabus, this is an extremely popular choice for students. All Sixth Form students also follow a General RE course (Living Faith) through lessons and drop down days.

The RE department plays an essential role in shaping and nurturing the Catholic life of the school. Striving for higher things 'Ad Altiora' encompasses the idea that all are created by God and called for a special mission. The department is involved in year group and voluntary Masses as well as charity activities.

The post offers excellent opportunities to develop your teaching career within a team of dedicated, enthusiastic RE teachers.





The School

Gunnersbury is a Voluntary Aided School for Catholic boys. It takes six forms of entry at 11+ and is administered by a Board of Governors acting under the trusteeship of the Archdiocese of Westminster. The annual intake is 184 pupils and the total number of pupils on roll is 1180, including a Sixth Form of 224 boys and 48 girls. We achieved outstanding in all categories of our last Ofsted Inspection in May 2009. The school regularly achieves excellent examination results. In 2020 93% of year 11 pupils gained at least five GCSEs at 9-4, including English and Maths. Our 'Progress 8' score for this cohort was +0.83. As such we are ranked amongst the Top Boys' Comprehensive Schools for GCSE in the country. Similarly we achieve excellent results at A- level. Our last Ofsted (2009) determined our provision to be outstanding.

The school was founded in 1919 by Fr William Roche, became a Voluntary Aided Grammar School in 1932, took its first comprehensive intake in 1972, became Grant Maintained in April 1993 and returned to Voluntary Aided in September 1999. It has been designated a Specialist School in September 2003. Since then we have been awarded a further specialism, Leading Edge, whilst also achieving High Performance Specialist Status.

Although located in the London Borough of Hounslow, Gunnersbury considers itself a Diocesan School and draws from a wide catchment area consisting mainly of the London Boroughs of Hounslow, Ealing and Richmond, but some pupils attend from even further afield coming from Central London, Brent, Hillingdon, Spelthorne and Harrow.

The Catholic character of the school is an essential and important part of school life. It is made explicit not just in the religious education programme and shared values but in the liturgical life of the school. There is a voluntary mass on Fridays and important feast days together with family liturgies, a retreat programme and Morning Prayer in Advent and Lent. The School Chapel is set-aside as a quiet area for prayer and liturgy.

The school is led by a Headteacher supported by two Deputy Heads within a senior staff of 6. Each member of the Senior Leadership Team is responsible for a distinct pastoral, academic, administrative and policy area of the school. Departments are subject based. The school has a well-developed system of pastoral care, overseen by a Year Head and Form Tutor. High standards of behaviour and dress are expected and the pastoral system aims to promote the development of self-discipline and consideration for others. The School Council meets regularly chaired by a member of the Sixth Form.

Gunnersbury is always over-subscribed with first choice applications from Catholic pupils. Our mission is to continue to provide these pupils with the very best Catholic education for their lives ahead.



How to Apply

To assist in this key decision of your career visits to Gunnersbury Catholic School, prior to application, are welcomed. Visits can be arranged through the Headteacher's PA, Mrs Kerans, email:
welcome@gunnersbury.hounslow.sch.uk, telephone no: 020 8232 5002.

In order to apply, please complete the Teacher Application Forms. These may be downloaded from our website www.gunnersbury.com or from the TES website.

Completed applications should be posted to the headteacher's PA at:

Gunnersbury Catholic School
The Ride
Boston Manor Road
Brentford
TW8 9LB

or emailed to:
welcome@gunnersbury.hounslow.sch.uk

The closing date for receipt of applications is: Thursday, 20 May 2021 at 12pm

Applications will be considered immediately upon their receipt

Gunnersbury Catholic School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.



The Advert

Job Details

Employer:	Gunnersbury Catholic School
Location:	London (Brentford)
Salary:	MPS/UPS (an additional TLR payment may be available for a suitable applicant)
Contract type:	Full Time
Contract term:	Permanent
Job start:	1 September 2021 (June/July start available for NQTs)

Gunnersbury Catholic School is seeking to appoint a highly talented and ambitious Teacher of Religious Education at our Outstanding School. This post provides the opportunity for an NQT or current educator of Religious Education to receive the very best coaching, training and experience within their subject. As a school that has consistently enabled extraordinary outcomes for our students, we are uniquely placed to develop and guide a teacher of Religious Education in their career.

The Role

Our teachers are integral to Gunnersbury's success through their provision of superb teaching and its enablement of outstanding achievement. Working under the direction of the Head of Religious Education the new teacher shall seek to further the learning experience and outcomes of our students. They should wish to further the faith of our pupils across the Key Stages whilst enabling fantastic learning for each child.

The Person

Above all else we seek to appoint an enthusiastic teacher with a real passion for religious education, who is committed to the success of their students and is highly motivated to develop the teaching and learning across the department. Potential, dynamism, determination and resolve are key attributes for our new teacher.

The School

Year on year Gunnersbury Catholic School has developed our staff to become fantastic teachers and leaders. In doing so, from one year to the next, we have enabled unparalleled success for our students. Our school is:

- **a Catholic community where care for each other, student ambition, pupil motivation and behaviour are exemplary**
- **committed to providing quality support, guidance and coaching to develop our staff so that they may progress to the highest levels as teachers and leaders**
- **One of the top Boys' Comprehensive Schools in the country for GCSE achievement (DfE performance table 2018)**
- **an environment that enables achievement of the highest order 93% 5 GCSEs at 9-4 *including English and Maths* in 2020, Progress 8 score of +0.83**
- **determined by the Fischer Family Trust as being amongst the top 5% of schools for GCSE achievement**
- **determined 'Outstanding' by Ofsted (2009)**
- **a workplace where staff are a friendly, welcoming and helpful team**


AD ALTIORA



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