Netherhall School

An Ambitious, Caring Community



Netherhall School – RE and Guidance Department

This is an exciting time to join Netherhall School: the school achieved its first ever rating of 'Good' from Ofsted in 2018, was named Cumbrian Secondary School of the Year later the same year, is host to the Cumbrian Secondary School Teacher of the Year and Cumbrian Secondary School Student of the Year. The school has a rapidly rising intake and the sixth form has over doubled in size in recent years.

The RE and Guidance department at Netherhall School is a very popular and successful department, currently employing two specialist staff – this appointment will increase the team to three specialist RE teaching staff. The department is well resourced: each classroom is equipped with a data projector, a desk top computer and has access to the school's IT rooms and class sets of iPad's when required. The department has an extensive range of resources to support a wide range of topics for both RE and Guidance. There are a large number of worksheets and booklets to advance students' learning and the school has recently invested in new class sets of GCSE and A level textbooks. All schemes of work fully meet the requirements of the RSE curriculum.

'Staff and pupils say, without question, the Headteacher has been an inspiration, giving them belief that all can achieve. Throughout his tenure, the Headteacher has demonstrated passion, integrity and highly skilled leadership. This school has been transformed in a remarkably short period of time.' Ofsted, February 2018.

The department has a strong focus on collaboration. We value working as a team to develop curricula that are both relevant and accessible for our students. Differentiated activities are well established in our schemes of work, where we focus on the development of skills, whilst fully challenging and stretching individual students. We are currently revamping the Key Stage 3 curriculum plans for both RE and Guidance to ensure all learning is current, with the aim of ensuring that all students can empathise and relate to a wide range of people, settings and scenarios. The department has a strong focus on the development of extended writing and the promotion of literacy skills and we offer a wide range of enrichment activities, where students receive visits from guest speakers, specialist workshops and careers events.

'Pupils are enthusiastic about learning and teachers are enthusiastic about teaching. Pupils love coming to school.' 'Pupils have considerable respect for their teachers because they believe their teachers are doing a great job.' Ofsted, February 2018.

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Religious Studies has always been a very popular subject at Netherhall School, both at GCSE and A level, with students placing great value in the opportunity to explore the range of beliefs, attitudes and ethical dilemmas that our courses offer. Although the units that our students study are certainly demanding, for many years Netherhall School students have performed well-above the national average; in the summer of 2020, our students secured over 80% of their results at grades 9-4 at GCSE level, while at A level, our students secured 100% of grades between A*-C, 80% of which were graded A*-B. These fantastic outcomes saw the department's results rated at ALPS Grade 2: "Outstanding" and made a significant contribution to the school's overall "Outstanding" ALPS report, placing Netherhall School in the top 3% of academic results for sixth form providers in England.

'Relationships throughout the school are excellent. There is great mutual respect between adults and pupils.' Ofsted, February 2018.

As a department we offer Eduqas at GCSE level, which leads to three final examinations:

Exam 1: Ethics

- Relationships
- Life and Death
- Good and Evil
- Human Rights

Exam 2: Christianity

- Beliefs and Teachings
- Practices

Exam 3: Islam: beliefs, teachings and practices

- Beliefs and Teachings
- Practices

Students follow the OCR specification at A level, which also leads to three final examinations:

Exam 1: Philosophy Exam 2: Ethics

Exam 3: Christian Thought

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'Students are proud of their school and they love coming to school.' Ofsted, February 2018

We pride ourselves on being a department that prepares students extremely well for their post-18 careers, with many students from Netherhall School going on to pursue Religious Studies, Philosophy and Ethics at leading universities; many former students have subsequently gone on to become teachers of RE across the country.

This role would suit a highly motivated and excellent NQT, or an experienced teacher.

Netherhall School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful candidate will be subject to pre-employment checks, including an enhanced DBS (CRB) check.

The application pack for this post is available in the Vacancies section of the school website: www.netherhall.cumbria.sch.uk. Alternatively, please contact Mr David Tromans, Headteacher on 01900 813434 or at d.tromans@netherhall.cumbria.sch.uk

Closing date for applications: Friday 16th April, 2021 at noon.