

Park High School

Teacher of Geography

Outer London pay scale (with possibility of TLR 2A for suitable candidate)

Fixed Term to cover maternity leave

For a May half term or September 2019 start

1. Introduction

Our aspiration is for our students to be excited, engaged and inquisitive about the world in which they live in order to develop an understanding of the complex relationships between humans, physical processes and the environment. Geography is a dynamic department, achieving good results across the key stages.

2. Curriculum

Geography is taught as a specific subject at KS3, KS4 and KS5. The emphasis is placed on providing a demanding and innovative curriculum that is both accessible and challenging for all students. Lessons take place in a calm atmosphere, where the sharing of learning experiences is valued and enquiry led learning is the norm.

Levels of achievement are consistently high at KS3. Students follow programmes of study embedded in both a thinking skills approach to their learning and collaborative work within the classroom. A commitment to enquiry based learning and the relevance of KS3 geography to real-life issues is consistently highlighted as a departmental strength. Currently Year 9 students follow a foundation course before starting the 'official' GCSE course in the summer term.

GCSE geography is a popular option for both boys and girls, and in 2018-2019 we have seventeen classes across our three-year Key Stage 4. GCSE geography is taught in mixed ability classes, with all students following the Eduqas B specification. Emphasis is placed on an appreciation of the world in which we live, through enquiry led learning. A range of assessment activities enable students to successfully access the diverse demands of the exam and combined with a focus on self-awareness, students are well placed to fulfil their potential. The summer examinations of 2018 saw our first successful cohort through the 9-1 GCSE course, with 74.5% achieving 9-4 grades.

Fieldwork is an essential component of the KS4 curriculum. During the Summer Term all Year 10 GCSE geography students visit the Isle of Purbeck, Dorset, to practise the skills and to collect the data required to support their Unit 3 examination. This year we have built skills development and analysis throughout the course.

At A-level, students have started the Edexcel B specification and, as an essential component of the KS5 curriculum, all students will actively engage in residential fieldwork. The skills developed during this time are utilised in their examination paper, to aid them in their geographical appreciation and understanding and to complete their Coursework. The course is currently taught by two teachers in Year 12 and two in Year 13, splitting the physical and human aspects of the course.

3. Resources

There are currently four full-time specialist staff teaching geography. The department is well resourced and located in three specialist rooms.

Extensive schemes of work are constantly developing in KS3, KS4 and KS5. All staff create and develop a variety of resources that are shared centrally and utilised within lessons. Excellence is acquired through a collaborative approach, considering the needs of all learners and ensuring that teaching and learning is both innovative and effective.

4. Staff development

The school takes its commitment to staff development seriously. Staff engage in a wide variety of staff development activities, many of which are organised on-site. The school belongs to two Teaching School Alliances which provide shared professional development opportunities. The school's leading edge professional development programme means that professional development underpins all of our work.

5. Tutor role

All staff are involved in the tutorial system, most as tutors with tutor groups of approximately 29 students. This is an important part of our work and involves the development and delivery of high quality PSHCEe.

6. Person specification

The successful applicant will:

1. Be passionate and committed about the learning and progress of all students.
2. Be able to think creatively and plan and deliver engaging lessons independently and collaborating with the team.
3. Be a skilful and dedicated classroom practitioner, willing and able to communicate clearly about pedagogy and the craft of the classroom with the rest of the geography team.
4. Be someone with high levels of professional organisational skills and the ability to meet deadlines.
5. Have the ability to contribute to the wider work of the school, including our work as tutors and other activities.
6. Be committed to the personal professional development of themselves and of others.
7. Have appropriate academic qualifications (to degree level) and QTS

1	Job purpose – KS3 lead responsibility
1.1	To support the Head of Geography within the curriculum area and all aspects of the school's strategic purposes.
1.2	With the Headteacher and other senior staff, to share in the leadership, development, monitoring and implementation of all whole school policies and procedures relating to our key purposes, primarily within, but also beyond the curriculum area.
2	Accountabilities
2.1	Development of the curriculum area, specifically Years 7&8 and the foundation of Year 9, and lead the day to day management of the KS3 curriculum
	<p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updating the current SOL, ensuring an engaging, challenging, creative and varied curriculum in Years 7&8 and the foundation aspect of Year 9 • Organising the printing of the lesson resources and handing out to staff each half term • Organising and checking the shared resources • Keeping up to date with developments within the subject and with wider professional policy changes and, together with the Head of Geography, to lead on curriculum development within the team, including the quality assurance of schemes of learning within the relevant key stage. • To organise and check on any cover requirements, to set when necessary.
2.2	Impact on the educational progress of students within Years 7&8 and the foundation aspect of year 9
	<p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting a positive and supportive tone, and adopting a problem-solving approach both in the curriculum area and throughout the school. • Monitoring the progress of students at KS3 • Monitoring behaviour and engagement at KS3
3	General
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To assist the Headteacher in carrying out other duties as may be requested from time to time. • This job description should be read in conjunction with the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document, which is updated annually and is available from the Headteacher.

March 2019

Emlyn Lumley
Headteacher