



CHIGWELL SCHOOL
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From the Headmaster
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Head of Psychology (Maternity Cover)-Job Description



Introduction

Chigwell School is seeking a well-qualified, energetic and committed Head of Psychology to join our highly successful school. Psychology, although relatively recently introduced as an A level, has proved very popular and successful. This post is a maternity cover required from January 2020.

Background

Founded in 1629 by Samuel Harsnett, the son of a Colchester baker who went on to become Archbishop of York, Chigwell School stands on its original site with the original school building still in use. However, whilst Chigwell of today is conscious of its long-standing history, it is a forward-looking, ambitious, co-educational independent school of 975 pupils aged four to eighteen. It enjoys excellent facilities, a dedicated staff, bright and hardworking pupils, and a site of 100 acres.

Chigwell School is located in the picturesque village of Chigwell just over ten miles from central London and on the Central Line. The extensive, beautiful grounds are close to the edge of Epping Forest and it is rare for a school to have so much space and yet be so close to the centre of the Capital. Most pupils are day pupils but in the Sixth Form, there is a small community of international boarders, roughly thirty from sixteen countries, and these live in four small boarding houses.



As well as being an academic school, Chigwell has the reputation for providing a rich and full education, with plenty of opportunities for all pupils who are enthusiastic, co-operative and able. Chigwell is a caring and friendly school, with a close sense of community, not least between colleagues. As the Good Schools Guide reports: *Academically, pupils are put through their paces but it all seems to be done in such a civilised and pleasant manner that you are more likely to hear pupils talk about opportunities and prospects than pressure and stress. "Anyone who wants to do well here, will do well" said one student, and I can't think of a nicer place to succeed."*

The School Development Programme

Over recent years, the School's facilities have been extensively developed in order to enhance the educational experience that pupils receive. The development programme has included the following additions:

- 2008 Wilson Building teaching block • 2008 Floodlit AstroTurf pitch
- 2009 Junior School library extension
- 2010 Complete redevelopment of catering facilities
- 2010 Sixth Form coffee shop
- 2010 Harsnett's and Church House converted into boys' boarding houses
- 2012 The Old Chigwellian Club and land was incorporated into the school estate
- 2013 Pre Prep School built and opened
- 2013 Two new science labs created
- 2014 Drama Centre balcony extended to provide additional music and drama rehearsal space
- 2016 The Risham Sarao Sixth Form Centre was completed
- 2017 Extension of Dining Hall
- 2018 Renovation of the Chapel
- 2019 Extension of the Junior School

In the future we plan to:

- Develop the Sports Centre
- Expand our music facilities
- Further expand our provision of bursaries



The School

Some pupils join in Reception and there are two classes in each of the three Pre Prep year groups. A small number of other children join the Junior School at 7+ (Year 3) and there are three classes in each of the KS2 year groups. At 11+ (Year 7), there is a further entry with four classes making up Years 7 to 11. Again, there is a small entry into the Sixth Form. Entry at each stage is selective and although there are three main sections to the School (Pre Prep, Junior School and Senior School) these sections work closely together and there is a common ethos running throughout.

There are over a hundred teachers and together with the support staff, there is a friendly, mutually-supportive atmosphere. All teaching staff contribute to the extra-curricular programme.



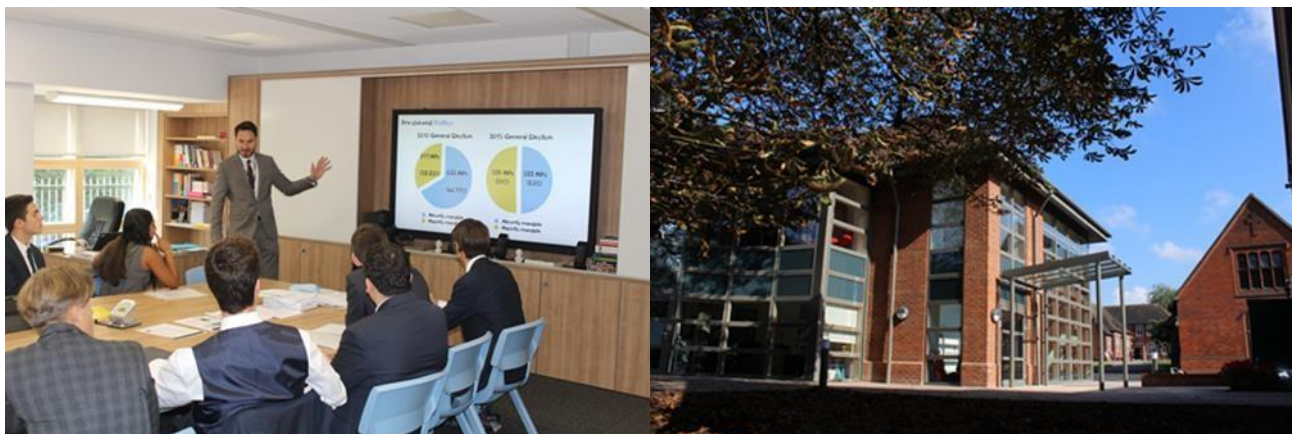


The Role

Psychology A level was introduced at Chigwell in 2013 and has proved to be a thriving and popular subject. Within the department, our aims are to foster an interest and develop enthusiasm for the study of human mind and behaviour. The syllabus and the examination papers are designed to allow students across the grade spectrum to flourish and fulfil their potential and the course encourages students to develop a wide range of skills and not just academic ones.

Currently, forty six students take the subject at A Level. At present, there are two teaching groups in Year 12 and two in Year 13. It is a popular subject with internal students and also with external students who join the school in Year 12, with over twenty students have chosen it from Year 11. In Sept 2019, the Department changed syllabus from Edexcel to AQA. Thus, Year 12 students are learning the AQA specification and Year 13 students are completing the Edexcel specification. The AQA syllabus teaches pupils breadth and depth and contains clear assessment criteria. The syllabus also has a strong focus on research methods, scientific research techniques and statistics. All students sit the A level linear qualification after completing the two year course. There are three papers each designed to target particular skills. In 2019, over 60% of pupils scored A* - B Grades at A Level with 23% scoring A*-A.

The psychology department is based in the purpose-built Risham Sarao Sixth Form Centre which opened in September 2016. The new Centre can be described as a “hub for learning”. It has been specifically designed for A level teaching and learning and provides a stimulating educational environment. It includes a study and social base for students, as well as six classrooms for Sixth Form subjects and space for university and careers advice. The psychology department has its own designated classroom in the Centre well equipped, with an interactive white board and associated equipment. In addition, the department has a large bank of resources including textbooks, journal articles and revision guides. Chigwell School is increasingly using ICT as a teaching, learning and administrative tool. All rooms are networked, they have integrated whiteboards and are fitted with a projector, and all teachers receive a laptop



The person

We are looking for a committed well qualified teacher who can communicate a passion and enthusiasm for the subject, along with the ability to think strategically and creatively. Chigwell students are genuinely eager to learn, and we are seeking a colleague who will encourage ideas and contributions from others whilst having the capacity to be flexible and innovative. The School will support you to achieve the very best for your students.

As Head of Department you will be key to ensuring the high quality of teaching and learning. You will have responsibility for the promotion of your subject, the organisation and teaching of the material, and for ensuring that learning is positive and effective.



Salary: The salary on offer is competitive and based on National Pay Scales with a Chigwell enhancement.

Hours of work: This is a full time position during term time only.

Benefits:

The School provides a very supportive working environment. There is a well-developed programme of professional development, pupils are enthusiastic, co-operative and able, and colleagues get on well together. There is a strong sense of community.

Other benefits of working at Chigwell School include:

- A competitive salary with a Chigwell School enhancement
- Strong commitment to professional development
- Membership to the Teacher's Pension Scheme
- Personal Accident Cover
- Death in Service Cover
- Generous fee remission for each eligible child
- Complimentary lunch and break time refreshments during term time
- Medical Centre on site
- Free use of School's sports facilities outside of the School day
- Employee Assistance Support Programme
- On site free parking and cycle racks
- Use of School Library
- A beautiful working environment- 100 acres site beautifully landscaped with a number of listed buildings
- Good transport links by tube (Central Line), road and local bus routes.
- A supportive community of highly motivated students and staff

Applications

Applicants should complete the teaching staff application form which can be accessed directly from our website: www.chigwell-school.org (Vacancies) and sent to the HR department at: hr@chigwell-school.org.

The Head of Sixth Form, Mr Simon Coppell, will be happy to answer any questions; he can be contacted at the School by telephone 020 8501 5758 or by e-mail to scoppell@chigwell-school.org

Closing date: 18th October 2019- Early applications welcome

Applications will be considered upon receipt. Candidates will be contacted by telephone or email to attend interview if required. The School reserves the right to interview and appoint before the closing date.

Chigwell is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening including checks with past employers, prohibition orders and enhanced DBS.

