



SEDBERGH  
SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1525

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Candidate Information Brochure  
**RELIGIOUS STUDIES TEACHER**

JANUARY 2018

**FULL-TIME/PERMANENT**







# Introduction

Sedbergh School, founded in 1525 by Roger Lupton, Provost of Eton, is an Independent Co-educational Boarding School. The Headmaster is a member of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference. Set in the spectacular Yorkshire Dales National Park, it also benefits from fast motorway and rail access to the rest of the UK.

The School is a vibrant, demanding and supportive community which encourages pupils and staff to be involved in as broad a range of activities and interests as possible. Art, Drama and Music are especially strong, and the School has a national reputation for Sport. Sedbergh has its own Prep School located approximately five miles away at Casterton.





# The Religious Studies Department

Religious Studies is taught at Sedbergh both at GCSE and A Level. It is a popular subject and there are two classes in each Year group for Years 10 to 13. At GCSE, the AQA Specification A is taught and a familiarity with this would be an advantage. At A Level the AQA Specification is taught. Religious Studies is taught to all Year 9 pupils.

The Department includes the Chaplain. This, combined with the nature of the subject, and the Department being located in a central but quiet part of the School campus, creates a strong pastoral aspect to the work of the Department.

The Department consists of three classrooms, all of which have network facilities and data projectors. The successful candidate would have responsibility for their own classroom.

The successful candidate will be expected to be confident teaching the subject up to A Level, as well as having a flexible and collaborative approach. They will enjoy enthusing pupils in the subject and helping them to succeed academically. Genuine flexibility in being keen to teach Ethics or Philosophy of Religion at A Level would be a strong advantage.

Religious Studies A Level results this year were particularly strong: 45% obtained an A and 100% obtained A-C. The Department prides itself on helping not only high achievers, but also those who may not be naturally academically strong but who are prepared to work hard to succeed. These results reflect that approach.

The post is available in January 2018.

## Responsibilities of the Role

The successful applicant will be expected to teach Religious Studies from Year 9 to Year 13. The ability to offer a second subject area would be welcomed, although it should be noted that the majority of teaching will be in Religious Studies.

The following roles are expected:

- To teach from Year 9 up to A Level.
- To support pupils by offering extra help to those who need it.
- To contribute to the running of the Department.
- To fulfil the general roles and responsibilities of a Teacher at Sedbergh School.

The role offers great opportunities for personal and professional development in a School which is entirely committed to the highest standards of Boarding School life. A proactive attitude to INSET training is encouraged and supported by the School.









# Person Specification

## ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS:

- Educated to Degree level or equivalent
- Experience of teaching Religious Studies in a School

## ESSENTIAL CHARACTERISTICS:

- Strong empathic and interpersonal skills coupled with a genuine interest in young people
- Excellent administrative and organisational abilities
- A willingness to share your expertise with colleagues
- A flexible approach and a genuine desire to work in a team
- Supportive of the pastoral aspect to the Department's work

## DESIRABLE CHARACTERISTICS:

- Familiarity with Boarding education
- Able to teach Ethics at A Level

# Beyond Religious Studies

The successful candidate would be expected to contribute to the pastoral life of the School, as a Resident or Non-Resident Tutor in one of the nine Boarding Houses.

There is also a strong expectation that the successful candidate will participate fully in the School's extensive extracurricular activity programme. All talents are most welcome and the ability to coach Sport at a high level would be desirable. The School has a national reputation in Rugby and other Sports. Because of our natural environment, candidates with Outdoor Education experience and qualifications would also be welcome.

In May 2017, the School was graded 'Excellent' in every category of provision by an ISI Inspection; pupils' personal awareness and the provision of extra-curricular opportunities being identified as a particular strength.

# Salary & Accommodation

Sedbergh has its own salary scale. The salary of the successful candidate will reflect age and experience. School accommodation may be available.

# Application and Appointment Process

All applicants must submit an application form giving the names of three referees. A supporting letter and CV will be welcome. Applications may be sent electronically or in hard copy to:

HR Department, The Bursary, Malim Lodge, Sedbergh School, Sedbergh, Cumbria, LA10 5RY  
Email: [hradmin@sedberghschool.org](mailto:hradmin@sedberghschool.org)

Applications will be acknowledged by email.

The closing date for applications is Thursday 28 September 2017 at 12.00 noon.

Interviews will take place on Friday 6 October; candidates will be required to arrive on the evening of Thursday 5 October 2017.

The interview process will include:

- Supper in a Boarding House and overnight stay with a Housemaster/Housemistress
- Assembly
- A tour of the School with pupils
- Lunch in a Boarding House
- Teaching, observed by a member of staff (details to be provided with interview information)
- Time in the Department (details to be provided with interview information)
- Interviews with the Headmaster and other Senior staff
- A compliance meeting with the HR Manager

The successful candidate will be contacted by telephone in the first instance and the appointment will subsequently be confirmed in writing. Unsuccessful candidates will be notified by telephone and by email; we will be willing to provide a debrief on request.

## Roles and Responsibility of all teaching staff at Sedbergh School

Sedbergh School is a boarding School which welcomes Day pupils. The nature of a Sedbergh education is that it is broad and encompasses the full range of human development; Academic, Physical, Aesthetic and Social.

It is a requirement that all teaching staff are directly involved in all areas of School life for four reasons:

1. Teaching staff are role models for the pupils. Pupils have to embrace a broad education and staff must model this behaviour;
2. Pupils live in School and are engaged with School life at all times, they respect staff who demonstrate a similar level of commitment to their own;
3. The School places a high value on teamwork. A shared commitment within the Common Room is essential to the working of the School;
4. The School is operational at all times during Term and staff must be flexible in order to respond to changes of circumstances including boarding arrangements.

The boarding nature of the School means that certain working practices take place which are not found in every School. These affect all teaching staff. Amongst these (but not excluding others) are the following:

1. Teaching on a Saturday morning throughout the year, followed by activities in the afternoon, social duties in the evening and on occasions, until late at night;
2. Teaching lessons or activities until 6pm on weekdays;
3. Administrative meetings which take place in the evening, often starting at 7.30pm after teaching has finished;
4. Provision of Clubs and Societies which may start at 9.00pm after Prep;
5. Activities on Sundays associated with House activities.

This level of commitment is common to major boarding Schools and the staff who work in them do so because they are attracted to the opportunities that such a high degree of vocational commitment conveys. The Common Room is a close community and social involvement within it is a further collegiate expectation and opportunity.

The Job Description that follows is common to all Teaching Staff.

Additional responsibilities do not diminish the commitment expressed in the following Description. Part-time roles or job-sharing may be considered where it meets the needs of the School on an individual basis at the time of application.







# Teacher

## CONTRIBUTE TO THE COLLEGIATE LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

Responsible for: Maintaining the School Ethos and Reputation of the School

Responsible to: Second Master

1. Maintain high standards of personal and professional conduct at all times and thereby act as a role model for pupils.
2. Uphold the School ethos and rules, taking due regard for professional standards and advice from senior staff.
3. Take responsibility for the behaviour of pupils.
4. Help colleagues who may experience difficulties in their role.
5. Take part in duties as may be reasonably directed by the School's management.
6. Contribute to the spiritual life of the School by attending Chapel and Assembly.
7. Attend staff meetings unless apologies are given and accepted.
8. Complete administrative tasks according to deadlines and with due regard for colleagues.
9. Communicate clearly and promptly with parents if requested to do so.
10. Be informed about, and adhere to Safeguarding regulations and policy.
11. Foster your own professional development by participating in appraisal.

## TEACHING

Responsible for: Teaching Subject(s)

Responsible to: Head of Department

1. Be knowledgeable about the subject and its recent development.
2. Be knowledgeable about syllabus content and examination requirements.
3. Foster a spirit of enquiry, a love of knowledge and a delight in the pursuit of excellence.
4. Teach students how to 'think' rather than simply 'know'.
5. Teach in an effective manner taking account of the subject, examinations and pupils' needs.
6. Maintain an effective working atmosphere in class and a stimulating environment in the classroom.
7. Teach the strategies needed to pass exams.
8. Plan lessons to achieve these aims.
9. Set Prep and holiday work in an appropriate manner.
10. Mark accurately and constructively, keep records.
11. Ensure that pupils' efforts are properly rewarded.

## CONTRIBUTE TO THE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

1. Contribute to departmental development and organisation as agreed with the HoD.
2. Share resources ideas and disseminate examples of good practice.
3. Act as an advocate of the Department and advise pupils about option choices at the appropriate times.
4. Provide written reports to contribute to School references.
5. Harbour School and departmental resources so they are used efficiently and stored securely.
6. Contribute to the setting, management, marking and administration of internal and external exams.
7. Contribute to external visits, field-courses etc. that are relevant to the subject.

## ACADEMIC TUTORING

Responsible for: Tutoring pupils

Responsible to: Housemaster / Housemistress

1. Review pupils' academic effort and attainment every week and devise responses as may be required.
2. Co-ordinate additional work if required.



3. Support tutees' wider development by attending plays, concerts, matches, etc in which they appear.
4. Ensure tutees are informed about option choices, education and UCAS opportunities, drawing on colleagues for support and guidance as may be required.

## BOARDING DUTIES

Responsible for: Welfare of Pupils in a Boarding House

Responsible to: Housemaster / Housemistress

1. Be informed about the House and pupils within it, including health, social and family matters.
2. Be familiar with the organisation and routines of the House.
3. Participate in House events and activities that may include (but not exclusively), music, drama, sports, outings.
4. Maintain a high level of involvement and visibility within the House through dining-in and presence at social events.
5. Take responsibility for the House as directed by the Housemaster/ Housemistress. This is likely to be at least one day per week and on occasional weekends.
6. Apply any School sanctions consistently and with due regard for natural justice.
7. Be informed about School and National policies with regard to Boarding Standards and adhere to those policies.

## SPORT AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Responsible for: Coaching and teaching pupils

Responsible to: Director of Sport / Head of Girls Games / Senior Master/Mistress (Extra-Curricular)

1. Take responsibility for the coaching, teaching or development of:
  - a) Sports squads or Teams
  - b) Outdoor Pursuits groups
  - c) Voluntary Service activities
  - d) Musical productions
  - e) Drama productions
2. Organise and support Academic Societies and Clubs.
3. Organise and support extra-curricular visits and events.
4. Undertake all activities according to School and National Governing Body policies and guidelines.







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Sedbergh School is committed to safeguarding & protecting the welfare of children.  
Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post,  
including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Registered Charity No 1080672