



# Walkwood

Church of England  Middle School

Principal: The Reverend Clive Leach M.A., B.Ed., B.Th.  
Deputy Principal: Mrs Rachel Perks B.A., PGCE

May 2019

Thank you for taking time to request information about the appointment of a Teacher of Humanities with Spiritual & Social Education at Walkwood Church of England Middle School.

I consider it a privilege to be the Principal of this school. I look to work with all members of the school community and specifically, in partnership with pupils, parents and carers, to ensure that we realise our aims, aspirations and high expectations of all.

Our aims are to provide an education in which all students are able to fulfil their academic, spiritual, social and cultural potential. This personal development is fostered in a school ethos rooted in strong values, ensuring every pupil is cherished as a unique individual, receiving the support and encouragement that is appropriate to their progress and personal needs. Walkwood is a safe, caring and nurturing community.

The school was subject to an Ofsted inspection in November 2014, which found it to be “Good with many outstanding features”. Indeed, when you read the report you will note just how many areas are close to outstanding, and a short time within the school itself assures you that pupils’ behaviour is firmly in that category. Therefore, the way ahead is one that will be a gentle path toward being fully ‘outstanding’, which will utilise the skills of the talented staff to peer-support and engage in professional constructive dialogues.

Humanities is taught in discreet elements of History and Geography that have connections between them. Within key stage 2, there are four lessons in each two-week timetable cycle. Particular emphasis is on the development of literacy to support the work in English. Literacy skills are essential to all subjects for without fluency in reading and writing, our pupils cannot access their curriculum. Pupils are encouraged to transfer their Literacy skills to their different subjects. For example, through:

- writing instruction texts;
- key subject vocabulary work including giving definitions;
- literacy based mathematical starters;
- explaining and justifying answers;
- word problems, including spelling key words;
- reading for understanding.

In key stage 3, Humanities has six lessons within the two-week timetable, and the aspects of Geography and History are again taught as inter-linked though separate topics wherever possible.

September 2016 saw the establishment of Spiritual and Social Education as a timetabled subject by combining the teaching of RE and PSHE. We believe that the skills that are required by pupils within these two areas are the same if we wish the learners to be fully engaged and have the ability to empathise. We wish pupils to be able to enquire and honour the thinking of people from different beliefs systems, and appreciate how a harmonious society can have both human and spiritual dimensions. We define spirituality as reaching towards God, connecting with each other and the world, in love.

Walkwood teachers support children in developing their understanding of problem solving and reasoning in a broad range of contexts in which they can explore, enjoy, learn, practice and talk about their developing understanding. Children are offered opportunities for these skills to be practiced in order to give them confidence and competence in their use.

Throughout their time at Walkwood, all pupils are encouraged to express themselves creatively and imaginatively, through their reading, writing, speaking and listening. We expose them to a wide range of genres, text types and visual and audio media to stimulate their responses. The Walkwood Learning Roots (all our “Learning Superheroes”: Reflective Learner, Team Worker, Creative Thinker, Independent Thinker, Self-Manager and Effective Participator) help our students to reflect on their own skills as learners and to develop these skills across the curriculum, in an interactive and creative manner.

Should you read the information and consider that you match our criteria, do progress to making an application. Letters of application should be written to the person specification and job description, and should be no more than 2 sides of A4. A standard application form must also be completed. Please send your documents to [recruitment@walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:recruitment@walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk) by 9.00am on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May. Short-listed candidates will be contacted on, or soon after, this date. I regret that feedback to unsuccessful applicants will be limited to those who are called for interview. Tours of the school will be part of the interview day.

If you feel you are ready for a new role, working collaboratively with pupils and staff, then I look forward to receiving your application. In any event, I thank you again for your interest in Walkwood Church of England Middle School.

Yours sincerely,

Rev. Clive Leach  
Principal