



CHIGWELL SCHOOL
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From the Headmaster
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Teacher of Religious Studies (Full time - Maternity cover)



Introduction

An opportunity exists for an enthusiastic, qualified graduate to teach Religious Studies from KS3-KS5 and be part of a school that is not only highly successful academically but also in sport, art, music and drama. The School offers an excellent learning environment providing a broad and balanced education.

The successful applicant will demonstrate a passion for their subject and be committed to developing active learning strategies to challenge and inspire our students. This post is a maternity cover and would be suitable for someone wishing to gain further experience in a very supportive environment or for an NQT.

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 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 Chigwell School 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. We place considerable emphasis on life outside the classroom. Members of staff are expected to involve themselves fully in the life of the School, helping with games and other activities outside the classroom. The Pre-Prep has a rich outdoor curriculum and all pupils have weekly sessions in the school's wooded area.

Chigwell warmly welcomes those of all faiths and no one will be excluded from appointment on religious grounds. Members of staff are expected to attend Chapel services and assemblies on a regular basis.



The Department

Religious studies is a very popular and successful subject at Chigwell, with many students choosing it at GCSE and at A level. It is a genuinely thought-provoking subject. It is not exclusively for those who follow a particular faith and the course that we study does not seek to make the case for any particular religion. Students at Chigwell come from a diversity of faiths or may adhere to none. Our aim in religious studies is to introduce everyone taking part to the many major theological, philosophical, and ethical problems. Different religions, philosophies and ethical systems are found in every culture (and language), and our aim in the study of religions is to support and be part of a student's preparation for entry into the adult world.



The role

A graduate teacher of Religious Studies is required from February 2020 to join a highly effective department. The successful applicant will be expected to teach throughout the Key Stage 3 age ranges and Key Stage 4 GCSE level. The average teaching week consists of about twenty-two periods of fifty minutes each.

Curriculum

Religious Studies A-Level (OCR) Philosophy of Religion, Religion and Ethics, Developments in Religious Thought

Religious Studies IGCSE (EDEXCEL) PT 1. Beliefs and Values; PT 2. Religious Community

From Year 7 through to Year 9 we cover the following topics: Judaism and Christianity, Hinduism and Islam, Prejudice and Discrimination and Arguments for the Existence of God.

At Sixth Form level pupil numbers tend to be in the region of 6-8 in each year, and at GCSE numbers opting for the subject generally stand at around 30-35. In the summer of 2019 20% gained A*A, 80% A*B grades at A Level; and 61% gained Level 9, 97% Level 9-6 grades at GCSE.

Chigwell School is increasingly using ICT as a teaching, learning and administrative tool. All rooms are networked and fitted with at least fixed board projectors. All teachers receive a laptop computer.



The Person

The Teacher of Religious Studies will:

- Work under the direction of the Head of Department.
- Have excellent subject knowledge and a relevant degree and teaching qualification.
- Contribute professionally to the team effort of the department and be supportive of colleagues.
- Have the ability to work to and achieve high standards.
- Have the ability to use a range of teaching methods in the classroom.
- Have good communication skills.
- Be a competent user of ICT and have an interest in using these skills in the classroom.
- Have enthusiasm and sense of purpose in delivery and assessment.
- Be prepared to contribute to departmental extra-curricular activities.
- Have energy and commitment.

- Be expected to take a full and active part in the life of the School as far as this is possible and be happy to contribute to the extra-curricular programme.



Salary:

Competitive.

Benefits:

Chigwell is a very happy place to work, the School provides a supportive working environment and there is a well-developed programme of professional development. Pupils are enthusiastic, well behaved and eager to learn, and colleagues are supportive, dedicated and get on well together. There is a strong sense of community. Benefits of working at Chigwell School include:

- A competitive salary
- Strong commitment to professional development
- Membership of the Pension Scheme
- Generous fee remission for each eligible child
- Death in Service Cover
- Personal Accident Cover
- Employee Assistance Support Programme
- Complimentary lunch and break time refreshments during term time
- Free use of School's sports facilities outside of the School day
- On site free parking and cycle racks
- Medical Centre on site
- 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 route.
- 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.

Mrs Anna Savage, Deputy Head (Staff & Systems), will be happy to answer any questions; she can be contacted by e-mail: asavage@chigwell-school.org

Closing date: 18th October 2019

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.





