



James Allen's Girls' School 4–18

# jags



CANDIDATE PACK FOR  
**TEACHER OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

James Allen's Girls' School 144 East Dulwich Grove London SE22 8TE

[www.jags.org.uk](http://www.jags.org.uk)



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## JAMES ALLEN'S GIRLS' SCHOOL

JAGS has been inspiring and educating pupils for over 270 years. It is the oldest girls' independent school in London. While we are proud of our history – it's made us who we are – we are very much a school of the present and the future. We celebrate the best of the old while embracing the latest innovations and technology.

Our day school pupils are drawn from a dynamic variety of cultural, social and economic backgrounds, with 50 languages spoken at home. We currently have 126 pupils on our own bursaries, with 51 of them on free places and an average of 89% fee subsidy paid. Diversity is our strength, but we share a common purpose: to help all our pupils fulfil their potential. We know we are lucky and that we gain from sharing what we have. 'Good Neighbours' has been our policy for many years. We look outwards and draw people in. We are part of the world around us.



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## JAMES ALLEN'S GIRLS' SCHOOL

In a changing educational world, my core values remain intact. As an Oxford graduate, and student of literature, I want pupils to love learning for its own sake and to strive for excellence.

But true education always comes back to people. To supporting the young on individual journeys so they are ready to lead purposeful, happy adult lives. As soon as I set foot in JAGS, I knew that this was at the heart of the school's ethos too. Known for its academic excellence, JAGS is so much more. It is a school with heart and conscience and one which reaches out beyond its own community.

I also believe firmly that schools have responsibility for the whole person. Sport, arts and leadership are part of that - but the less measurable qualities of social responsibility and empathy are just as important.

*Jill Antone Thayer*



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## WORKING AT JAGS

Working at JAGS is more than just about working. JAGS is a community and a family that strives to create a warm and supportive environment for both the girls that come to learn here, but also for the staff that come to work here.

From your first day at JAGS you will have access to some of the best facilities in the country and will be encouraged to take part in the many activities here.

JAGS works hard to attract the best staff and therefore the benefit package at JAGS is very generous. We have our own pay scale which is above the national average and we also offer all staff a discount on school fees. You will have access to our multi purpose sports centre which includes tennis courts, a 25m swimming pool, spin studio and a rock climbing centre. You will receive free lunches as well as free parking and free access to the Dulwich Picture Gallery.



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## TEACHER OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES

As a teacher of Religious Studies the post holder should be a clear enthusiast, preferably with advanced level teaching experience of Ethics and the Philosophy of Religion and ideally a good knowledge of Christian Theology, yet the willingness to adapt and extend their knowledge base as the need arises. They should be able to convey with a real engagement, the dynamic phenomenon of religious issues in the world and demonstrate familiarity with the major faiths. They should have knowledge and understanding of effective teaching and learning styles and of monitoring, assessing, recording and reporting pupils' progress.



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## TEACHER OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES PERSON SPECIFICATION

### Essential

- A good degree in Theology or Religious Studies, preferably with QTS.
- Experience of teaching Religious Studies.
- The ability to demonstrate effectively the skill of communicating information and concepts with energy, enthusiasm and dynamism.
- The ability to use effective strategies to monitor pupils' motivation and morale.
- The ability to develop good personal relationships within the departmental team and establish valuable and useful relationships with parents.
- The skills to create a happy, challenging and effective learning environment in lessons.
- Good IT skills including Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint.
- The candidate should be enthusiastic and approachable.
- They should be committed to promoting the school's aims positively.
- They should demonstrate empathy and patience as well as a commitment.
- They should demonstrate a high degree of organisation and the resource to meet deadlines.
- They should have an awareness of the statutory requirements concerning Equal Opportunities, LDD & SEN, Child Protection.

### Desirable

- Experience of teaching academically able students, preferably to GCSE and A Level.
- Experience of specialist ICT applications.
- Enthusiasm for sharing knowledge of best practice.
- Experience of supporting students in preparing UCAS applications

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## RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Religious Studies is one of the most exciting and intellectually stimulating subjects in the school curriculum. The subject matter is remarkably diverse, covering the major world religions and encompassing theology, ethics, philosophy, spirituality, sociology and history.

We aim to encourage girls to investigate and evaluate concepts logically and analytically and to respond critically to their own ideas and to those of others, in order to acquire more advanced thinking skills. However, we also want to ignite a spark of personal response and involvement which comes from the realisation that spiritual concepts are relevant to life, even for those with no faith background.

In Years 7, 8 & 9, all girls study a blend of religious phenomena, philosophy and sociology in 2 x 35 minute lessons per week. At KS4, those opting for GCSE, (usually at least two groups), are prepared for AQA syllabus A. The path of the reformed specification that we will be taking includes the study of (1) Judaism and Christianity and (2) four philosophical and/or ethical themes. Girls are taught for 4 x 35 minute lessons per week. Those who opt for A Level will study either Judaism or Christianity, Ethics and the Philosophy of Religion, following the Eduqas specification. Their allocation is 8 x 35 minute lessons per week.

We also offer an exciting range of outings to places of worship, lectures and conferences and residential trips in the UK and abroad.

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