



BRIGHTON  
COLLEGE

BRIGHTON COLLEGE CANDIDATE BRIEF

# Teacher of Geography

## THE SCHOOL

Brighton is one of England's leading schools and the oldest public school in Sussex. The College comprises the Senior School, educating 1,000 pupils aged 13–18, and the Lower School, educating 100 pupils aged 11–13.

The Brighton College family of schools also includes Brighton College Prep School, St Christopher's and Handcross Park, educating a further 1,150 children aged 3 to 13. Overseas, the College has opened Brighton College Abu Dhabi, Brighton College Al Ain and Brighton College Dubai in the UAE, and Brighton College Bangkok in Thailand.

Examination results are strong and the College is among the highest performing schools in England at GCSE and A-level. In 2018, 90.3% of grades at GCSE were at 9, 8 or 7 (equivalent to the old A\* and A), whilst 99% of grades at A-level were at A\*, A or B. The last five years have also been the best five for Oxbridge success in the 168-year history of the College, with 37 pupils securing offers in 2018.

The Sunday Times awarded Brighton College the title of 'England's Independent School of the Year 2018-19', the second time the College has received this prestigious award in recent years. Tatler magazine awarded Richard Cairns the title of 'Head Master of the Year 2012-13'. And Brighton College was named the 'United Kingdom Independent School of the Year 2013-14' (Independent Schools Awards). In 2014 The Week magazine named Brighton College the "Most Forward Looking School in Britain". In 2015, there was a full ISI inspection in which the College was awarded the top grade in every single category, including an 'Exceptional' for Teaching and Learning.

There has also been major investment in new facilities over the last ten years. This has seen the construction of five major buildings on the main site, a new cricket pavilion and a major sports hub on our Jubilee Ground site. Brighton has also purchased the former site of Roedean Junior School, allowing for the relocation of the Pre-Prep School, and the expansion of the College on the main site. A new boarding house opened in September 2013 in the Main Quad which, together with a new Entrance Tower completed in December 2014, completes the original Thomas Jackson designs of the 1880s. A new Music School opened in January 2016, and a new teaching block (including 22 classrooms for Maths, History, Economics, Politics and EAL, alongside an innovative Creative Learning Centre) opened in September 2017. A new Centre for Sport and Science is under construction (due for completion in September 2019): it will include eighteen state-of-the-art laboratories, alongside a new sports hall, 25-metre swimming pool, fitness centre and roof-top running track.

Above all, Brighton is a very happy place. We pride ourselves on being a warm, inclusive and respectful community, where our staff are delightful and positive and our pupils are intellectually curious and charming.



## THE CITY

The College enjoys its location in Brighton, one of Britain's youngest cities and one of the most vibrant in Europe.

In 2017, a national survey identified Brighton as the "happiest" city in the UK. It is close to the beautiful South Downs, within easy travelling distance of London (about 50 minutes by train), and about 30 minutes from Gatwick Airport. Portsmouth, Newhaven and the Channel Tunnel provide accessible links with the Continent.

Brighton is also a university city, and the College has good links with both the University of Sussex and Brighton University.



## THE ROLE

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### THE POST

The successful candidate will be an enthusiastic Geographer with a degree in Geography from a leading university. He or she will be committed to high academic standards, as well as having the ability to communicate to young people a passionate enthusiasm for the subject, extending well beyond the classroom. The Geography department are a collaborative and supportive team and the successful candidate would be expected to actively share ideas and participate in promoting and extending Geography at the College.

### THE DEPARTMENT

The department comprises of six full-time teachers, many of whom teach across the full age range from Lower Third (Year 7) to Upper Sixth (Year 13). The department is located in the heart of the school, with three dedicated classrooms, including one equipped with 24 computers, and a departmental office providing a space for shared planning and discussion of the curriculum.

### THE CURRICULUM

Pupils in the Lower School (Years 7 and 8) study Geography as part of the innovative and unique 'The Story of our Land' programme, which integrates Geography with History and R.S.

In Year 9, pupils study contemporary global issues, including Development, and Conflict before beginning the GCSE course Ecosystems module. At GCSE the Edexcel A syllabus is studied in four periods each week. At present there are 119 pupils in the Lower Fifth (Year 10) and 120 in the Upper Fifth (Year 11); these numbers have risen significantly in recent years. Results at GCSE are consistently outstanding, with 37% attaining a Level 9 and 94% achieving Level 9-7 in August 2018.

At A level the pupils study the AQA specification and Geography has been consistently one of the top performing departments at the College. Here too, numbers taking the subject have been rising, with 37 pupils in the Lower Sixth (Year 12) and 30 in the Upper Sixth (Year 13). Academic results are consistently strong with 50% attaining an A\*, 83%A\*/A at A-Level in August last year.

Numbers of pupils expressing an interest in reading Geography further at university and Oxbridge level remain high and the department is actively committed to providing opportunities for education beyond the classroom for all ages. Our pupils participate in a plethora of Geographical activities ranging from the in house student led "Geography Discussion Group," to sending teams to participate in the Geographical Association's Worldwide Quiz. Our pupils also take part in external competitions and University essay prizes, and the Royal Geographical Society's "Young Geographer of the Year" competition; one of our pupils was awarded Highly Commended this year. We undertake a variety of fieldtrips ranging from local coastal environments including Chichester Harbour, the Sussex coast, and the River Tillingbourne in Surrey. There are also international trips on offer to our pupils including Geneva for the sixth form and biennial trips to Iceland and Morocco.

## PERSON SPECIFICATION

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Brighton College is an exciting place to work, and it is our staff who make our community such a vibrant and stimulating environment.

The academic success of Brighton is due to excellent, innovative and well-planned teaching. Above all, therefore, we are looking for individuals who foster a passion for learning and who demonstrate an ability and genuine desire to develop pupils and staff to their fullest potential.

Many teachers joining the College have a proven track record of effective teaching, having obtained excellent public examination results with previous classes. However, several members of our teaching staff have pursued different career paths in years gone by, and have made the move to teaching at a later point. We view this diversity a strength.

More importantly, in the application process, we will look for candidates who demonstrate the ability to thrive within an environment that staff describe as both invigorating and refreshing. The ability to inspire children and staff, and the willingness to support the ambition, values and breadth of College life, will be of central importance. Successful candidates will be self-reliant, resilient and adaptable.

Beyond this, candidates should have a strong academic record, including a good degree in a relevant subject. We will look for evidence of the capacity to contribute to the broader life of the College, and for evidence of passion and enthusiasm for the relevant subject.

## THE APPLICATION PROCESS

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### APPLICATIONS

Application forms, together with a current CV must be completed and returned **as soon as possible**, but no later than **Midday Friday 28th June 2019**. Applications must be submitted via our recruitment site: [bcsgroup.schoolrecruiter.co.uk](http://bcsgroup.schoolrecruiter.co.uk). Any enquiries about the application procedure should be emailed to [teachingrecruitment@brightoncollege.net](mailto:teachingrecruitment@brightoncollege.net) or by calling the HR Department on 01273 704386.

Interviews are likely to take place **week beginning 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019**, although suitable candidates may also be invited in at an earlier date. Candidates invited to interview will be asked to teach an observed lesson as part of the process. Further information on the observed lesson will be provided in advance of interview.

### REMUNERATION

Brighton College has its own pay scale, well above the maintained sector. There is also an excellent and flexible benefits package, the contents of which can be controlled by individual teachers themselves.

### SAFEGUARDING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Brighton College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment will be subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure, the receipt of satisfactory references, the College's pre-employment medical question, and relevant original ID documentation and examination certificates. The College understands that a robust, fair and transparent recruitment and selection policy plays a central role in achieving this aim.

The College is committed to ensuring that the recruitment and selection of staff is conducted in a manner that is systematic, efficient and effective and promotes equality of opportunity. Our full equal opportunities policy is available on the 'Vacancies' link on our website.