



Dear Colleague

Thank you for your interest in the post of Head of Religious Studies at The Brian Clarke Church of England Academy (www.brian-clarke.org), a new 11-16 Free School which opened its doors to 240 Year 7 pupils in September 2022.

The school is part of the Cranmer Education Trust (<https://www.cranmereducationtrust.com>) which also runs:

- The Blue Coat School, Oldham
- East Crompton St George's CE Primary School, Oldham
- Mayfield Primary School, Oldham
- St Anne's Church of England Academy, Rochdale
- Manchester Nexus SCITT
- East Manchester Teaching School Hub
- A national Languages Hub

The post of Head of Religious Studies at a new school is an opportunity that education professionals dream about, being part of a talented and committed staff that is growing a school from Year 7 up; supporting the development of its ethos and embedding that in the community of the school; having the benefit of a brand new building with all new facilities.

We moved to our beautiful, brand-new, purpose-built building in May 2023, situated on an easily accessible, town centre site on Bloom Street, Oldham. Our patron, Brian Clarke, is donated a large stained-glass window to the school which adorns the entrance hall, reflecting the multi-cultural nature of the school and shining light into and out of the building and into the community. The school reflects the community it serves - multi-cultural, multi-ethnic and multi-faith within a Church of England ethos. There is a balance between a 'faith' intake (which includes equally all Christians and members of the other major 5 world faiths which are members of the Interfaith Network) and non-faith intake from 3 concentric circles of 1,2 and 3 miles around the school.

The key elements of the curriculum include:

- A rich, broad Ebacc curriculum up to GCSE. Our Ebacc target is 80% +
- Compulsory RS within the core curriculum up to GCSE
- MFL (German) to GCSE
- A rich KS3 provision which includes the arts, technology, computing, citizenship, Bronze Duke of Edinburgh (Year 9)
- A sequenced pastoral curriculum for 30 minutes per day consisting of dedicated slot for collective and from worship, reading and CEIAG
- An aspirational co-curricular provision built into period 6. This runs Monday to Thursday 2.40 – 3.30. All pupils are expected to take part in two activities per week
- A facility to support literacy and numeracy catch up (7.45-8.10) each morning

The curriculum is underpinned by a consistent pedagogy that understands how pupils learn and a rigorous approach to reading and literacy, building character and resilience.

Our aim is that all our pupils become good human beings - good friends, neighbours, citizens - people we are proud to know. Their social and emotional development, their self-respect and their ability to self-manage are just as important as their cognitive development. Pupils who are happy and secure in their school learn well and become successful people. High quality pastoral care is at the core of the school.

In brief we are looking for:

- A leader committed to ambition, excellence and community who will work with the senior leadership team to drive the growth and development of the Brian Clarke CE Academy to become an outstanding provider for young people and a school that staff who are committed and ambitious for young people want to work in.



- An inspiring informed educationalist with a clear understanding of what makes outstanding educational provision for all in Art and the ability, understanding and experience to lead, develop and manage a staff team to achieve this as the school grows.
- Someone who will go the extra mile for pupils, not because they are asked to, because they want to; someone who will do their utmost to ensure that all of our pupils progress to the future destinations of their choice.
- Someone who will inspire pupils and the staff they work with and build strong relationships with our parents, carers and community partners.

This is an exciting and challenging role. It is a post for a dedicated, energetic, creative, and strategic professional. The demands will be varied, interesting and developmental, and will put you at the heart of a school where staff and pupils are growing exponentially year on year.

The successful candidate will help shape the totality of the Brian Clarke experience our pupils receive.

The person specification for Head of Religious Studies sets out the key experience, commitment and essential professional skills and qualities that we are looking for.

This is a CE school and the person we appoint must be able, with integrity, to uphold and model Christian values and lead for m reflection which has worship at the heart, supported by the Trust's lay Chaplain and the pattern and resources for worship themes and celebrations which apply across all our schools.

Full details about the post and application form are available from <https://careers.cranmereducationtrust.com/vacancies> but if you would like to discuss the position further please contact Vicky Lawton, PA to Headteacher (vlawton@brian-clarke.org) to arrange a call.

The successful candidate must be available for new staff induction days on **Thursday 29th August and Friday 30th August.**

Applications must be received by **9am Monday 8th January 2024.**

Thank you for your interest. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully



Allison Ash
Headteacher

