



# Appointment of **Teacher of Theology**

# newhallschool.co.uk

New Hall School, The Avenue, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 3HS | 01245 467 588 A Catholic foundation and ethos, welcoming all



## **New Hall School**

New Hall School is a leading HMC boarding and day school for boys and girls aged 3-18 and was awarded the TES 'Overall Independent School of the Year' for 2016-17. Founded in 1642, New Hall School is one of the oldest Catholic schools and the largest Catholic boarding and day school in the UK. New Hall is a strong and thriving community, set in a stunning location on the edge of the city of Chelmsford, just 20 minutes by train from London Stratford and 30 minutes from London Liverpool Street. There are also plans for Network Rail to open a new station at the foot of New Hall's Avenue; this is due to be completed by 2023.

At New Hall we operate the highly successful 'diamond model' structure, i.e. co-education in the Preparatory Division (ages 3-11), single-sex education in the Boys' Division and Girls' Division (11-16) and co-education in the Sixth Form (16-18). In this way, New Hall provides the best of both worlds: the benefits of a co-educational environment together with the advantages of girls and boys being taught separately throughout the 11-16 age range. The provision of single-sex education during the formative years enables students to grow in confidence, whilst enjoying an education that is specifically tailored and recognises the different ways in which boys and girls learn.

There is an exciting School Development Plan, which has the continued strengthening of the school's academic standing as the priority. Following the successful opening of two new junior boarding houses (ages 7-13) and a new Sixth Form Centre, in 2016-19 there will be significant investment in: digital technologies; sport; recreational facilities; 'Forest School' provision; staff accommodation; Chaplaincy; a new Pre-Prep Division facility; expansion of the Preparatory Division to 3-form entry; and planning for a new STEM Centre.

Students aged 7-18 can board in one of six boarding houses. High academic expectations and achievements, together with outstanding pastoral care and exceptional drama, music and sports facilities and provision, together make New Hall a wonderful place to be educated.

At New Hall, the ethos is inspired by the founding Religious Community, the Canonesses of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre. The school welcomes all who support its ethos.

## New Hall's Mission and Ethos

New Hall, a Catholic boarding and day school, provides
the best start in life, enabling students
to meet confidently the challenges of the wider world.
Here academic excellence is achieved in surroundings
where relationships are based on
care, trust and respect.
We welcome students from many traditions,

We **welcome** students from many traditions, building a Christian **community** that has at its heart **prayer** and **service** to others.

# Strategic Aims of the School

In all of these strategic aims, we seek to bear witness to our distinctive Catholic ethos, which is at the heart of everything we do:

- 1. To promote the Catholic life of the school and provide outstanding Religious Education
- 2. To be an outstanding and caring educator of all students
- 3. To recruit, support and develop outstanding staff
- 4. To provide outstanding learning opportunities through the co-curriculum
- 5. To promote New Hall's reputation as a distinctive school of choice
- 6. To share our ethos, grow and innovate
- 7. To ensure the on-going security of the school's financial future, and ensure affordability of fees, while continuing to invest in improving the quality of education

## Accolades for the School

New Hall School was awarded Independent School of the Year for 2016 at the Times Educational Supplement Awards and Financial Initiative of the Year (2016) for our Green Travel and Transport Strategy. New Hall was assessed as outstanding in its 2013 Diocesan and 2014 (Boarding) inspection, and as 'excellent' in all areas (the highest category) in its 2016 ISI inspection. The Principal was shortlisted for the TES Headteacher of the Year, 2015.



# The Theology Department

Theology at New Hall is recognised as a core subject in the school curriculum from Year 7 through to the end of the Sixth Form. It is one of the key departments in the school and consists of 5 full time and 2 part time members of staff. The Department is well resourced with supplementary materials and there is a strong emphasis on establishing links between academic classroom work and the prayer life of the school. Key Stage 3 students follow a specially devised programme exploring the major monotheistic religions. Key Stage 4 students follow the AQA GCSE Religious Studies course involving a study of two units: Component 1: Religion (the beliefs and practices of Christianity and Judaism) and Component 2: Thematic studies (Relationships & Families, Crime & Punishment, and Existence of God & Revelation).

The Theology Department achieves consistently excellent results at GCSE level; in the 2017 examination series 70% students achieved A\*/A, and 95% A\*-B, making the Theology one of the highest performing departments in the school. The Theology Department was given the Good Schools Guide Award in 2015 for being the highest performing English Independent School for boys taking GCSE Religious Studies and was judged as outstanding in the most recent Section 48 Diocesan Inspection. Theology is one of the most popular A Level subjects at New Hall Sixth Form. Sixth Form study Eduqas A Level Religious Studies which includes a study of Christian Theology, Philosophy of Religion and Ethics. Academic results have been excellent and many students go on to study the subject at a higher level, including Oxbridge and Russell Group universities.

The primary role of Theology at New Hall is summarised by the phrase of Anselm: 'fides quaerens intellectum'- faith which seeks to understand itself better. Theology is a subject that is both academically rigorous and spiritually enriching. The department plays a central role in developing spirituality throughout the school and works with the Chaplaincy Department in this respect. This includes preparing students at New Hall for Confirmation, retreat days, school assemblies and other religious events.



# **Teaching at New Hall School**

As a teacher at New Hall School, you will enjoy working in a vibrant community with a strong sense of teamwork. Students are taught Monday to Friday, with the exception of EAL classes, which take place on a Saturday.

All teachers at New Hall School are expected to contribute outside the classroom, by either participating in games or supporting another area within the co-curricular provision. There is also a requirement to contribute to the boarding provision by supporting a boarding event or outing during an evening or weekend (normally once per term). In addition, all teachers contribute to the outstanding pastoral care of students through the tutor system.

New Hall is a busy, fast-paced environment. The hours are long during the week but this is complemented by long school holidays, polite and enthusiastic students, tranquil surroundings, a generous salary scale, and complimentary restaurant-quality lunch each day!

# What Staff Say

"Every child has a right to shine; it is our job to discover that talent and polish it"

"We advocate encouragement rather than pressure"

"At New Hall, children are encouraged to care and to treat others as they would like to be treated"

"We don't have 'colleagues' - at New Hall you're part of a family!"

"At New Hall we work together, sharing the same passion"

"I love working in a place where I can be creative and make a real difference"

# **Person Specification**

This post would suit candidates seeking professional challenge and opportunities for career development in a dynamic and forward thinking school.

The post holder should have a clear understanding of and a commitment to the aims of a Catholic independent school. S/he will be expected to support the values and ethos at the heart of New Hall School as expressed, for example, in the Mission & Ethos Statement of the school.

	Essential	Desirable
Education	University graduate with an ability to teach Theology from Key Stage 3 to A Level	
Experience	Experienced teacher, newly qualified teacher or theology graduate willing to undertake school-based teacher training	
Skills and Aptitudes	Good communication, organisational, IT and management skills	Be able to contribute to the co- curricular life of the school e.g. through teaching Games
Disposition and personal qualities	An understanding of the importance of promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children  Willingness to participate enthusiastically in school life  Common sense and initiative  Ability to relate effectively to students	Be a practising Catholic

Candidates who are able to teach a second subject or offer help with coaching a sports team should state this in their application, giving details of second subjects, sports, and any coaching qualifications/willingness to undertaking coaching training. Ability to coach one of the major team sports of the school may be an advantage.

# Salary & Benefits

## **Salary**

New Hall School has its own salary scale up to a current maximum of £43,122pa (fte). A competitive salary will be offered, together with the generous benefits detailed below. There is the possibility of a Management Allowance for an agreed area of management responsibility (e.g. liaison with the Preparatory Division; KS3 Subject Leader; assistance in Chaplaincy).

## Sports teams

Contributions to the sporting life of the school by leading a team attracts a competitive remuneration package for weekend fixtures.

## Pension

Teaching staff are able to join the national Teachers' Pension Agency (TPA) pension scheme. Pension contribution rates are variable, currently between 7.4% per annum and 11.7% per annum, dependent on salary (employee), and 16.48% (employer).

## **Training**

New Hall is committed to professional development of staff and will support further inservice training as required. There are generous INSET and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) budgets; up to 50% funding for the course fees may be available for teachers studying at post graduate level. New Hall has a strong track record in providing teacher training for graduates.

#### Meals

Staff are provided with complimentary lunch and break time refreshments during term time.

## **Sports Membership**

Staff are entitled to free membership of the school fitness suite which comprises a large range of cardiovascular equipment and free weights. We also offer staff a generously discounted rate of membership to the New Hall Sports Club which includes use of our 25-metre, 6-lane indoor swimming pool & 10 floodlit tennis/netball courts.

#### Laptops

Teaching staff receive a New Hall laptop and iPad.

## Accommodation

There is a possibility of renting school accommodation for the first 2 years of employment (potentially renewable). Single accommodation may be available rent free for an applicant joining as a Resident Tutor, contributing to specific areas of boarding life.

## **School fee remission**

Staff fee remission is granted (pro rata for part time staff) in accordance with the provision at the time of commencing employment at New Hall. If your child is aged 3-11 and joins New Hall Preparatory Divisions, there is a reduction of one third of the day fees net of prompt payment discount. If your child is aged 11-18 and joins New Hall Senior Divisions, there is a reduction of two thirds of the day fees net of prompt payment discount.

Places for staff children are subject to space availability and the normal entry assessments. If the acceptance of a job offer is dependent on your child/children attending New Hall please contact the admissions team on 01245 467 588 to verify whether there is availability within the

year group/s. You will need to complete an application form for fee remission, available from the HR Department. This must be done prior your child starting the school or the remission will only apply from the following term.

# **Your Application**

The school can only accept applications made on the New Hall Application Form. The completed form, along with a letter of application to Mrs Katherine Jeffrey, Principal, and should be sent to:

Email: hr@newhallschool.co.uk

Early applications are encouraged.

Closing Date for applications is: Midday, Friday 2 March 2018

**Interview Date: Thursday 15 March 2018** 

New Hall School 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 appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and an enhanced check with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

Please do not hesitate to contact a member of the HR team should you have any queries.

