



WILLIAM FARR

C of E Comprehensive School

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

CANDIDATE INFORMATION

SCHOOL VISION

William Farr (C of E) Comprehensive School's vision is to provide all members of the school community with the opportunities to engage with 'life in all its fullness' (John 10:10) through the highest quality of education, encouragement and endeavour. We are committed to striving for excellence and ensuring that all students are known, valued and can achieve.

SCHOOL VALUES

Our core values are:

Compassion Friendship Perseverance Respect Responsibility Wisdom

Each value is associated with one of our Houses.

The students consistently attain high standards of grades, and their behaviour in lessons and around the school is exemplary - not only do they respect one another, but they have respectful and excellent relationships with all the staff.

THE GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

The Geography department is a friendly, supportive and forward looking team. A collaborative approach to all schemes of work and lesson planning is a key feature of the department.

All members of the team take responsibility for different aspects of the department's work enabling us to offer our students a wide range of geographical insights and pedagogical approaches. The department currently consists of five full time teachers, all of whom teach across the age and ability range, along with a part time admin support assistant. Geography is led by a head of department and an assistant head of department.

The department is accommodated in a modern, purpose-built environment, together with a departmental office. Each full-time member of staff has their own teaching room and is provided with a laptop, data projector and whiteboard. There are textbooks and associated materials to match the Key Stage 3 curriculum and the specifications in KS4 and KS5. There is also a range of ICT resources and fieldwork equipment. The department has a laptop trolley and the use of a small seminar classroom with a few computers both of which are available on a bookable basis

THE GEOGRAPHY CURRICULUM

The department aims to foster an appreciation of Geography and its value as a subject discipline but also to use it as a vehicle for developing knowledge and skills that have a wider relevance.

Schemes of work, assessments and teaching resources are in place across all key stages with relevant aspects of national initiatives embedded. The schemes of work are designed to provide consistency without uniformity, offering an important equality of opportunity to all students, whilst allowing individual teachers to draw on their individual strengths.

Each key stage is designed to be a discrete and valuable body of knowledge, understanding and skills in its own right, yet also to provide progression for further study.

In KS3 students are taught in mixed ability groups in Y7 and then in sets according to ability for Y8 and Y9. The programme of study, whilst meeting national requirements, is one of our own devising with some unique and varied topics.

Geography is a very popular option at KS4, where pupils follow the AQA specification.

Geography is similarly popular option in the sixth form, again following the AQA specification, with two good

sized groups in each of years 12 and 13. We are proud of the fact that every year a good number of students pursue Geography at university, including some of the foremost universities in the country.

ACHIEVEMENT

Examination results are consistently high in the department.

GCSE results for 2019 / 2020:

79.7 / 91.6 % of students achieved a grade 4 or better

62.7 / 76.5 % of students achieved a grade 5 or better

39.0 / 37.0 % of students achieved a grade 7 or better

These fantastic results are consistent with those achieved since GCSE specifications were changed.

A Level results for 2019 / 2020:

62.2 / 61.9 % A* - B

100 / 100 % A* - E

PSHE

In addition to teaching within the department, the successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the school's Care and Guidance programme, including the delivery of PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) as part of his or her form tutor responsibilities.

“William Farr Church of England Comprehensive School is one of the best schools in the country at outperforming expectations for their pupils and improving their future prospects.

There is plenty that other schools could learn from William Farr Church of England Comprehensive Schools’ success.”

Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of SSAT

William Farr Church of England School

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