



Notre Dame High School, Sheffield

Head of Religious Education (Full-time/Permanent)

Applications will be considered from Teachers wishing to work part time

About the Department

The RE department holds a high profile at the heart of school life. The school believes that Religious Education is essential in developing a religiously literate community—young people who, in line with their age and ability, possess the knowledge, understanding, and skills to think spiritually, ethically, and theologically. They are encouraged to engage with the challenges of religious commitment in everyday life.

We strive for academic excellence for every student while walking with them on their journey of faith. At the core of our approach is the commitment to building strong relationships with students, founded on respect, openness, and justice. We value students' experiences and aim to inspire through our example.

Creating opportunities for open, informed, and stimulating classroom discussion is a key priority. We employ varied and engaging teaching strategies to support high academic standards. Through the work of the school Chaplaincy team, we also offer diverse opportunities for young people to explore and grow in their faith.

About the Role

We are seeking to appoint a suitably qualified specialist teacher, who is highly motivated, well organised, enthusiastic and ambitious, to lead a successful department, rated outstanding in our latest S48 inspection.

The successful applicant will have:

- A degree in Theology/Religious Studies or equivalent
- A commitment to Team work
- Energy, enthusiasm and ideas
- Strong class management skills
- Knowledge and Understanding of the Curriculum Directory
- Knowledge and Understanding of GCSE requirements
- Interest in curriculum, review and development.
- Personal confidence and competence in ICT
- Committed to teaching students with the full range of ability and need

The willingness and ability to actively promote the Catholic ethos of the school is essential.

The Religious Education Department

Years 7 – 9

At KS3, students are currently taught in their Form groups. Schemes of work have been developed based on the Religious Education Curriculum Directory to provide opportunities for varied and innovative teaching and learning, and greater challenge for students. The department have also developed a structure of assessment, which assesses the skills and the knowledge and understanding of students and gives them the opportunity to show what they know, understand and can do.

Years 9 to 11

Support for Key Stage 4 teaching begins in Year 9. All students at KS4 follow the Eduqas Route B GCSE, specialising in Judaism as an alternative world faith.

Students are set within the Option Bands and are taught for 3 hours per week. Staff are expected to teach all ability levels.

A Level

A-Level Theology is an expanding and popular choice for students and we expect to have 60 students studying A Level with us in year 12 & 13 next year. Students follow the Eduqas Religious Studies course, with Christianity as our chosen in-depth study of religion.

Sixth Form Core Religious Education

All students in Years 12 and 13 follow a course developed by the department based on the Curriculum Directory for 1 hour per week.

PSHE

The Religious education Department also nurtures' students' spiritual and personal growth. In addition to delivering a rich RE curriculum, the department also provides one hour of PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, and Economic Education) per fortnight, supporting students' wellbeing and preparing them for life beyond school in line with our Catholic ethos.

The School Chaplaincy Team

We are very fortunate to have an excellent Lay Chaplaincy Co-ordinator in school. The Chaplaincy Team is made up of a cross-section of staff, including members of Senior Management, the RE Department and other staff from across the school. The team plays a central role in the liturgical life of the school, providing opportunities for liturgy (Eucharistic and Non-Eucharistic). Prayer and worship are seen as central to the life of the school. We have a commitment to lively, well planned and varied liturgies for each year group at least once a year, whole school liturgies on Holy days, and services to celebrate important times in the Church's year.

About the school

Notre Dame is a Catholic school with a strong ethos at its heart. All staff are expected to uphold and contribute to the ethos of the school, which is what makes it a special place to work.

The ability and enthusiasm to contribute to extra-curricular activities in school would be an advantage.

Notre Dame High School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

This post has a high level of responsibility for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.

Professional Development

At Notre Dame the ongoing professional development of all staff is a key priority. Our view is that we can always improve, not because we are not good enough but because we can be even better at what we do and that this in turn will ensure the very best outcomes for our students. We also aim to help staff to be ready for their 'next step' in their careers whatever that might be.

In order to achieve these aims we;

- have an ethos of 'learning together' through joint practice development which is conducted in a supportive and developmental way. Staff are encouraged to take risks and use research and evidence-based approaches to improve their classroom practice.
- Encourage staff to be reflective and take the lead in their own professional development so that their individual needs are met
- Assign Teacher Developers to work with all departments to provide bespoke training and development.
- Have a comprehensive and supportive ECT programme to fully support those new to the profession. This involves tailored Professional Studies sessions and opportunities to work collaboratively with peers.
- Provide trainee mentoring programmes for those moving in to new positions for example middle and senior leadership

We will be shortlisting applications as and when they are received until Noon 12th May 2025, followed by interviews during that week or the week after.

Notre Dame High School expects all candidates to familiarise themselves with our Safeguarding Policy which can be found on the school website at <http://www.notredame-high.co.uk/index.php/our-school/item/687-school-policies>

Notre Dame High School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful candidate will be required to complete an Enhanced DBS Check.