



Dinnington High School

Head of Religious Studies & Life

Part of

LEAP

Multi Academy Trust

Post Title: Head of Department – Religious Studies & Life (PSHE) TLR2b

This is an exciting opportunity for an enthusiastic, driven and well-qualified teacher of Religious Studies & Life to re-introduce RE and lead both elements within a very successful and popular faculty of Humanities. Life is our name for PSHE.

The post is full time permanent with a start date of 1st September 2021.

The closing date for applications is Friday 30th April 2021 at 9.00am.

The Humanities Faculty

Thank you for your interest in the role of Head of RE/Life. We are delighted to be re-establishing RE as a discrete subject linked to leading and co-ordinating our Life programme.

The Humanities department at Dinnington is a friendly and welcoming team. We have created a supportive environment where ideas and approaches to teaching and learning are shared in a collaborative manner. We all realise the need to support one another both professionally and personally. We have a large Humanities staff room (our 'base') that is equipped with fridge and kettle! The Humanities Faculty is linked to our MFL department and the line manager for all subjects is the Head of EBACC.

The Humanities corridor is equipped with 7 (well decorated) classrooms and one computer room. The department consists of 6 teachers - 3 History and 3 Geography teachers. However, some Geography teachers also teach some KS3 History and Life. We teach across the age range, from KS3 to KS5 within the department. Currently, each student receives 2 hours of History and 2 hours of Geography in Years 7 and 8. Students choose their GCSE options in Y8 before embarking on their choices at the beginning of Y9. History follows the AQA spec for GCSE and A Level, whereas Geography follow OCR.

Currently students from Y7 to Y11 have a Life lesson each week and Y12 & Y13 have Guidance. From September 2021 we will begin the plan of discrete RE lessons at KS3 and a half termly RE lecture with on-line RE lessons in sixth form. This is a great opportunity to grow RE back to a KS4 and KS5 option as well as ensuring RE and Life lessons provide a critical part of student's personal development. Additional RE & Life learning is provided through Drop Down days. Some lessons will be written by other leaders such as Head of Careers and a sociology teacher. As Head of RE/Life you would be co-ordinating these.

We look forward to hearing from you - good luck with your application.

Job Description

To be an effective professional who demonstrates thorough curriculum knowledge, can teach and assess effectively, take responsibility for professional development and has students who achieve well.

Leadership

- To develop and maintain a culture of high expectations amongst staff and students.
- To liaise with your line manager on the evaluation of performance across your department, identifying and taking action on issues arising, setting deadlines where necessary and reviewing progress on the action taken.
- To liaise with your line manager to lead curriculum development for your department; leading appropriate syllabuses, resources, schemes of learning, assessment and teaching and learning strategies in the department
- To ensure that appropriate procedures, as directed by your line manager, participating, and recording regular learning walks, work scrutiny and lesson observations.
- To have an overview of the day-to-day management, control and operation of course provisions within your department, including effective deployment of staff and physical resources.
- To ensure your department makes a positive contribution to the wider curricula provision for students.
- Ensure all colleagues are aware of and meet internal deadlines by submission of all relevant data, ensuring the accuracy of predictions and assessment data through rigorous QA and standardisation.
- Evaluating own teaching critically to improve effectiveness.
- Manage the assessment and tracking of students, including data analysis as required, and devise and implement appropriate intervention strategies.
- Ensuring policies relating to student rewards and behaviour management are implemented to secure a well-ordered and disciplined environment
- To effectively manage and deploy teaching/support staff, financial and physical resources with the department to support the designated curriculum portfolio.

Teaching, Learning and Curriculum

- To raise standards of student attainment and achievement within the Humanities faculty.
- To be accountable for student progress and development within the department in line with whole school targets and students' target grades
- To actively monitor and intervene to positively support the progress of all students in your department.
- To be accountable for the quality of teaching and learning practice of others.
- To ensure the provision of an appropriately broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum for students studying in the subjects in accordance with the aims of the school and the curricular policies determined by the Trust, Governing Body and Principal of the school.
- To ensure the practices of the department overtly support the progress and attainment of all students.
- Ensure the curriculum is sequential and coherent, and continually assessed and developed
- Monitor schemes of learning in terms of short, medium and long terms plans, focusing on differentiation and assessment.

Staff Development

- Support the Head of Faculty in leading training and development as appropriate.
- Participate in and engage with whole school CPD and contribute to staff coaching as required.
- Support development and training needs for members of the Religious Studies & Life team as required.
- Act as an appraiser and ensure that objectives set are rigorous.
- Review teacher performance through QA, holding colleagues to high account, in line with the trust appraisal policy.

Other Professional Responsibilities

- Work closely with the Head of Faculty to shape the vision for the RE & Life Department and link with other staff to ensure RE & Life contribute to students' personal development.

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- Contribute to the development of, review and evaluation of the department improvement plan.
 - Have a working knowledge of teachers' professional duties, teacher standards and legal liabilities.
 - Operate, at all times, within the stated policies and practices of the academy, in particular safeguarding responsibilities.
 - Know subject(s) or specialism(s) to enable effective teaching.
 - Take account of wider curriculum developments.
 - Establish effective working relationships and set a good example through their presentation and personal and professional conduct.
 - Co-operate with other staff to ensure a sharing and effective usage of resources to the benefit of the academy, department and students.
 - Contribute to the corporate life of the school through effective participation in meetings and systems necessary to coordinate the management of the academy.
 - Take part in marketing and liaison activities such as Open Evenings, Parents Evenings and events with partner schools.
 - Take responsibility for own professional development and duties in relation to academy policies and practices including health & safety policies.
 - Liaise effectively with parents.

Whilst every effort has been made to explain the main duties and responsibilities of the post, each individual task undertaken may not be identified. Employees will be expected to comply with any reasonable request from the leadership team to undertake work of a similar level that is not specified in this job description.

It is understood that areas of responsibility are from time to time subject to review and are negotiable in the light of the needs of the academy and the professional development of the staff.

Person Specification

	Criteria	How assessed *
Qualifications	Degree or equivalent in an appropriate subject	A/C
	Qualified Teacher Status	A/C
Experience	Teaching or teaching practice across a range of age and ability	A/I/R
	Use of a variety of teaching strategies and approaches	A/I
	Effective teaching and learning in the classroom	A/I/R
	Reflecting on and improving practice to increase student achievement	A/I/R
	Commitment to personal development and development of others	A/I
Knowledge	Up to date knowledge of the curriculum area	A/I/R
	Thorough knowledge of the role of literacy, numeracy & ICT	A/I
	Importance of teacher standards	A/I
	Strong understanding of national performance measures	A/I
	Principles that promote positive relationships and an excellent climate for learning	A/I
Skills & Abilities	Excellent classroom teacher or the ability to become one	A/I/R
	Ability to deliver engaging and motivating lessons	A/I/R
	Genuine passion and belief in the potential of every student	A/I
	Ability to develop learning resources and contribute to department schemes of work	A/I/R
	Effective and systematic behaviour management to promote positive relationships	A/I/R
	Good communication, planning and organisation skills	A/I
	Sensitive to the varying needs of young people and individuals	A/I/R

Personal Attributes	Enthusiasm, flair, energy and imagination	A/I
	Strong educational principles based on inclusion and equality	A/I
	Demonstrate resilience, motivation and commitment to raising standards	A/I
	High level of emotional intelligence, honesty and integrity	A/I/R
	Excellent communication skills	A/I
	Willingness to be involved in the full life of the academy including extra-curricular activities	A/I
	Good health and attendance record	R
	A commitment to the safeguarding and welfare of students	A/I/R

* A – Application form; R – Reference; I – Interview; C – Certificates

Dinnington High School's mission is to help all students to "Achieve Excellence" via quality first teaching, responsive pastoral care and decisive leadership.

We welcome contact to discuss this post, as well as visits to our school.

Completed applications should be returned either by post to: Dinnington High School, Doe Quarry Lane, Dinnington, Sheffield, S25 2NZ or by email to recruitment@dinningtonhigh.co.uk

The Learner Engagement and Achievement Partnership is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff to share this commitment. This post involves working with children and therefore if successful you will be required to apply for a disclosure of criminal records check at an enhanced level. Further information about the disclosure of criminal records can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/disclosure-barring-service-check>.

We undertake to make any "reasonable adjustments" to a job or workplace to counteract any disadvantages a disabled person may face.

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