



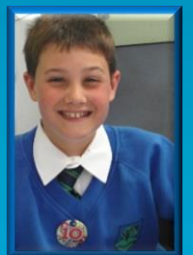
Walkwood

Church of England  Middle School



Recruitment information:

Head of Spiritual & Social Education



“For learning about wisdom and instruction, for understanding words of insight, for gaining instruction in wise dealing, righteousness, justice, and equity; to teach shrewdness to the simple, knowledge and prudence to the young - let the wise also hear and gain in learning, and the discerning acquire skill, to understand a proverb and a figure.”

Proverbs 1: 2-6

“The vision, in line with the Church of England’s role as the established Church, is for the common good of the whole human community and its environment, whether national, regional or local. It is hospitable to diversity, respects freedom of religion and belief, and encourages others to contribute from the depths of their own traditions and understandings.”

Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good, 2016

“The core purpose of any Church school is to maximise the learning potential of every pupil within the love of God.”

SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) 2012



Head of Spiritual & Social Education

Main Professional Scale or Upper Professional Scale

Teaching and Learning Responsibility – Scale D - £7017

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for taking time to consider applying for the post of Head of Spiritual & Social Education at Walkwood Church of England Middle School.

Walkwood is a school that has clear values that are taught within all lessons alongside the subject knowledge and associated skills. Therefore, we are seeking a colleague who will share the vision for a curriculum that links content, skills and values, and who also believes that each individual pupil deserves high-level pastoral care. Spiritual and Social Education is one of the core subjects at our school, has high status and this is well regarded by our pupils.

Our school is “middle deemed secondary”, and the timetable is run as for a secondary school, with great emphasis placed on subject specialisms. Tutor groups are based within four colleges, and each group is made up of pupils in Year 5 to 8.

The inclusive vision of the school ensures that all children are supported in their personal well-being and academic achievement.

SIAMS, 2017

The school has an impressive climate for learning. Pupils' contributions in lessons are often thoughtful, sensitive and articulate.

Ofsted 2018

Spiritual and Social Education is a timetabled subject which combines the teaching of Religious Education, Citizenship and PSHE. We believe that the skills that are required by pupils within these curriculum areas are the same if we wish the learners to be fully engaged and have the ability to empathise. We wish pupils to be able to enquire and honour the thinking of people from different beliefs systems, and appreciate how a harmonious society can have both human and spiritual dimensions. We define spirituality as *reaching towards God, connecting with each other and the world, in love*. Furthermore, in a church school, we consider that it is right and proper that considerations of a personal and social dimension can be informed by a thoughtfulness for the spiritual dimension of human existence, whether one is a person of faith or of no faith.

Pupils at key stage 2 (Years 5 and 6) have four lessons a fortnight of SSE, while pupils within key stage 3 (Years 7 and 8) have 6 lessons over the two-week timetable cycle. This is in line with Humanities (History and Geography) and Science, and a little less than English and Mathematics. Hence, the timetable commitment gives an indication of the subject's importance. Moreover, the Head of SSE also coordinates our Deep Days – the five off-timetable occasions when stories from the Bible are explored within the vertical tutor groups. These days reflect key events in the church calendar. Worship within assemblies is valued by pupils, and the organisation and evaluation of this element is a key part of the role of Head of SSE, as well as contributing one of the components within the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools.

Walkwood teachers support children in developing their understanding of problem solving and reasoning in a broad range of contexts in which they can explore, enjoy, learn, practice and talk about



their developing understanding. Children are offered opportunities for these skills to be practiced in order to give them confidence and competence in their use.

Throughout their time at Walkwood, all pupils are encouraged to express themselves creatively and imaginatively, through their reading, writing, speaking and listening. We expose them to a wide range of genres, text types and visual and audio media to stimulate their responses. The Walkwood Learning Roots (all our “Learning Superheroes”: Reflective Learner, Team Worker, Creative Thinker, Independent Thinker, Self-Manager and Effective Participator) help our students to reflect on their own skills as learners and to develop these skills across the curriculum, in an interactive and creative manner.

Should you read the information and consider that you match our criteria, do progress to making an application. Letters of application should be written to the person specification and job description, and should be no more than 2 sides of A4. A standard application form must also be completed. Please send your documents to recruitment@walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk by **9.00am on Wednesday 15th December**. Short-listed candidates will be contacted by the end of the following day. I regret that feedback to unsuccessful applicants will be limited to those who are called for interview. Tours of the school will be part of the interview day.

If you feel you are ready for a new role, working collaboratively with pupils and staff, then I look forward to receiving your application. In any event, I thank you again for your interest in Walkwood Church of England Middle School.

Yours sincerely,

[Rev. Clive Leach](#)
Principal



School Context

"I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name."

John 15: 16



"God blesses those people who are like trees growing beside a stream, trees that produce fruit in season and always have leaves."

Psalms 1: 3

Principles and purpose

At Walkwood Church of England Middle School we:

- Hold each child as precious
- Support the development of good character
- Seek for the best rates of academic progress
- Engender care, happiness & love

At Walkwood Church of England Middle School our purpose continues to be for pupils to:

- develop a deep desire to learn, engaging with the roots of the learning process;
- cultivate values that will shape their living both within and without the school;
- experience awe and wonder, and consider both spiritual and human dimensions.

Borrowing an adage from St. Irenaeus: "The glory of God is a human being fully alive!"

Vision and Values

The school has been an established Christian community for an extended period, being welcoming and friendly, with pupils who are expected to behave and be eager to learn. Those pupils who find this a challenge are fully supported through highly functioning classroom practitioners and well-developed pastoral support.

Walkwood Way

'Love to Learn; Learn to Live; Live to Love'

Our aim is that all children attending the school will become life-long learners who are curious about the world around them and are creative in their exploits while caring for others and themselves. We seek to enable our pupils to make informed choices, becoming increasingly independent and playing their part in the community. We offer pupils a spiritual dimension that is distinctively Christian, and honours other faiths and those people who profess no faith.

We aim to inspire every child – whatever their abilities – to achieve their very best, and make a valuable contribution to the Walkwood community. We want our pupils to [love to learn](#).



Our school is not just about knowledge, it is also about skills. It's about inspiring children to look at the world differently, and about challenging them to be fascinated by lessons and subjects. In this way, we encourage our pupils to **learn to live**, preparing them for an adult life in a changing world, and as such we seek to equip our children for the future. Our 'Learning Superheroes' allow teachers to hone pupils' learning skills. We want pupils to excel in school... and in later life.

As a Church of England school, we are fully inclusive of all faiths and beliefs. While Christian principles underpin all of the school's values, we know that these morals are shared by many faiths. We look for our pupils to take into their lives beyond our school an outlook that allows them **to live to love** the experiences, people and spirituality that they encounter.

Walkwood values

Our core values are expressed in the Fruits of Faith, which are ten values that have their roots in Christian tradition. However, we believe that devotees of other faiths, or those who express no faith commitment, are able to agree upon the definitions and implementation of these values within a shared community. These fruits are used as part of worship, and are also within lessons.



Walkwood pupils

Our Christian ethos, embedded in all aspects of school life, ensures that every child will know what it is to be cared for and valued. All pupils receive the very best education and an equal opportunity to learn and achieve academically, socially and spiritually. We know that enthusiastic, happy, confident children are most likely to persevere and work to the best of their ability. We aim to build upon this and foster a love of learning in all children. Our Fruits of Faith and Superhero Thinking Skills form a firm foundation to school life where children are encouraged to develop independent learning skills, be thoughtful and take responsibility for their actions.



Walkwood staff

We set high aspirations for all our pupils, both academically and socially, as well as allowing pupils to consider the spiritual dimension. Therefore, we have high expectations. Christian values lie at the heart of our work and we aim to provide a broad, rich, stimulating education to develop a thirst for learning in all children. We aim to challenge all our children to raise their standards and support them in that challenge, encouraging them to become reflective, resilient learners. Firm and fair discipline, based upon Christian values, is vital in creating an environment in which all children can flourish. We aim to make every child feel positive about their learning and achievements and our role as staff in school is to care, encourage and listen as well as to teach.

Walkwood community

Our Fruits of Faith were developed as a Christian expression of the nature of the school, but also to define the characteristics of an interconnected community. These values are part of teachers' planning, as well as part of decision making by the Senior Leadership Team and Governors. We wish for our pupils to be aware of their role in the wider world, open their eyes to the diversity within it, celebrating the richness of human experience and the potential of divine expression.

Curriculum: Introduction

Walkwood's curriculum is summarised by its three-fold mission statement:

Love to Learn; Learn to Live; Live to Love.

Our curriculum is based on the National Curriculum. Our pupils are offered a very wide range of experiences to extend their understanding of themselves and the world in which they live.

Skills, attitudes and values are developed to prepare the children for the next stage of learning and enable them to be successful in the community. We believe that effective learning takes place when there is considerable emphasis on active involvement, opportunities to talk both imaginatively, expressively and to explain and clarify thinking. We make meaningful connections across subjects.

The school expects everyone to develop and show a sense of responsibility and self-discipline whether alone, together, at work or at play, and to support policies on equal opportunities. The development of character is a significant part of the school's work.

The school actively promotes its core values – the Fruits of Faith – doing so through the curriculum as well as through collective worship and vertical tutor time.

Curriculum: Aims

- That all pupils are provided with outstanding learning experiences that lead to consistently outstanding levels of pupil achievement.
- From the start, children are taught in mixed ability groups to allow further consolidation for some, and for greater speed and breadth of delivery at the upper end of attainment.



- That all teachers and other professionals possess expert levels of knowledge in the subjects they teach.
- That all teachers and other professionals are “lifelong learners”, committed to an ongoing development of their own knowledge and skills to optimise the pupils’ learning experiences.
- That a positive, caring attitude, where achievements at all levels are acknowledged and valued, is prevalent throughout the school.
- That all pupils from the earliest opportunity are encouraged to develop independence, self-discipline, responsibility and the ability to build resilience.

Curriculum: Intent

Love to Learn

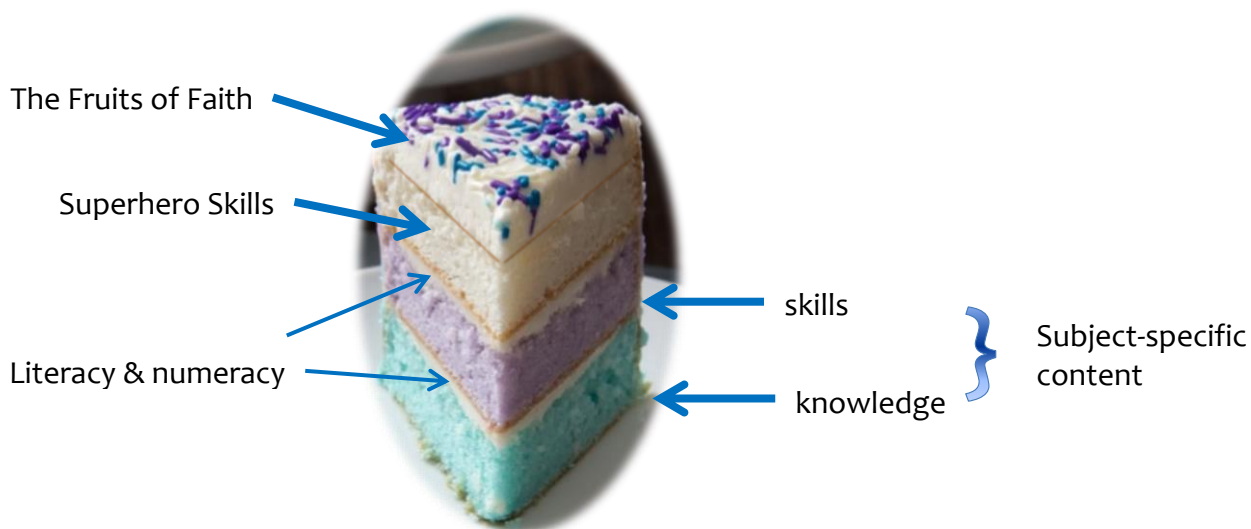
This aspect concerns the subject content, that is, structured and delivered in an age-appropriate, engaging and differentiated way. The content holds both the subject matter and the subject-specific processes that are taught and explored.

Learn to Live

Here we have the learning roots – our ‘Superhero skills’. These six aspects are part of the Walkwood Way, and are delivered in each lesson. Teaching draws out the opportunity for applying these learning and thinking skills. Literacy and numeracy strands are part of this section too.

Live to Love

Our ten school values – our Fruits of Faith – are an aspect of our school that is unique to us. These values are in action throughout our school, and are thus another part of the Walkwood Way. It is appropriate that opportunities to model these values, and to exercise them, are within lessons.

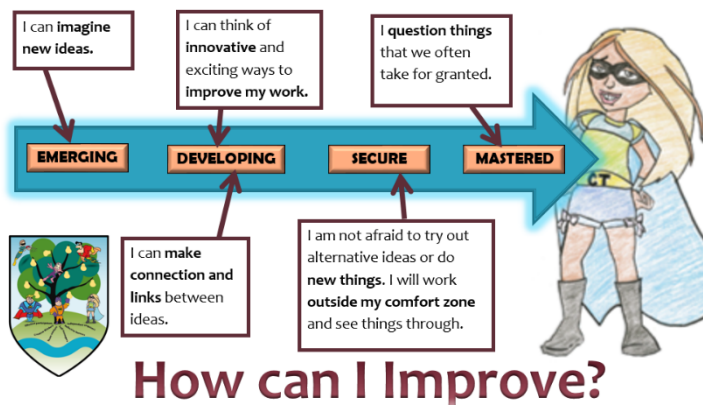


Superhero skills

Effective Participator



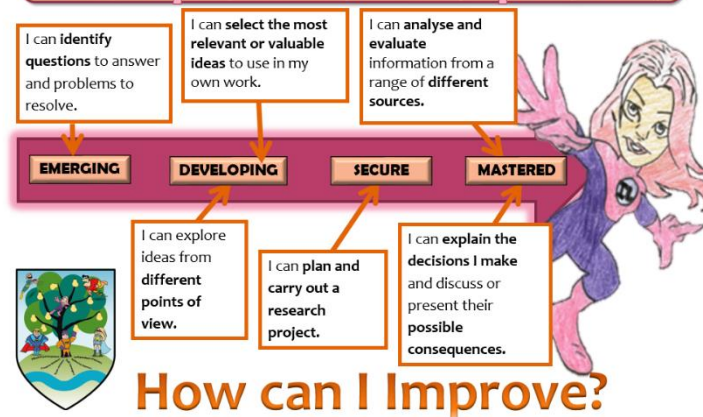
Creative Thinker



Reflective Learner



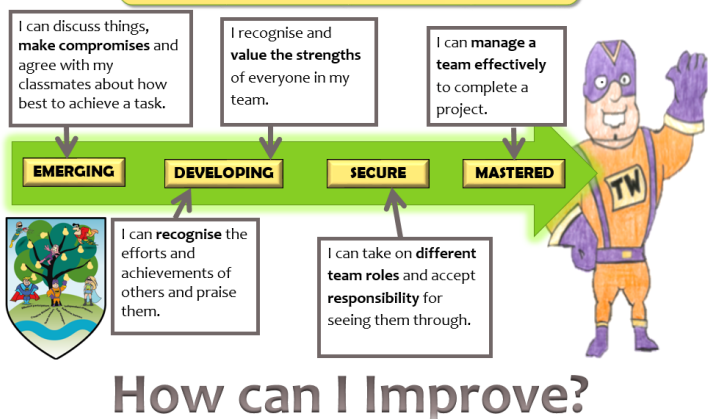
Independent Enquirer



Self Manager



Team Worker



Job description

Post title:	Head of Spiritual & Social Education
Salary and Grade:	MPS or UPS in line with the current <i>School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document</i> , TLR 'D' at £7017
Responsible to:	The Principal, SLT Line Manager, College Leader and the Governing Body
Responsible for:	The deployment and supervision of the Teaching Assistant Teachers of SSE

Main Purpose of the Job:

- To establish and maintain high standards in relation to all aspects of the Teachers' Standards
- Lead the teaching of SSE, designing and amending the learning within the curriculum intent of the school.
- Demonstrating effective practice and to evaluate the impact of their teaching on pupils' achievement
- Coordinating and evaluating the worship life of the school
- Upholding and implementing workplace policies
- Contributing to school development
- Fulfilling the pastoral arrangements for pupils
- Making a contribution to the wider aspects of school life

Main Responsibilities:

As set out in the job description for Main Pay Scale or Upper Pay Scale (whichever applies), both of which incorporate the Teachers' Standards.

1. Set high expectations which inspire, motivate and challenge pupils.
2. Promote good progress and outcomes by pupils.
3. Demonstrate good subject and curriculum knowledge.
4. Plan and teach well-structured lessons.
5. Adapt teaching to respond to the strengths and needs of all pupils.
6. Make accurate and productive use of assessment.
7. Manage behaviour effectively to ensure a good and safe learning environment.
8. Fulfil wider professional responsibilities, support the ethos of the school, and demonstrate consistently high standards of personal and professional conduct.

Responsibilities as Head of Spiritual & Social Education:

- Co-ordinate and take day-to-day responsibility for the organisation and management of staff and resources involved in the teaching of the subject.
- Co-ordinate and take day-to-day responsibility for the worship life of the school, including on-going evaluation thereof.
- Organise and manage the resources for the five Deep Days.
- Prepare and maintain schemes of work, teaching materials, teaching programmes, methods of teaching and assessment with reference to the subject.
- Ensure schemes of work have reference to contributions to SMSC.
- Plan and lead continuing professional development training for other staff under the general direction of the Assistant Principal (Teaching and Learning).



- Contribute to continuing professional development sessions, discussions and management systems necessary to co-ordinate the work of the department and integrate this into the work of the school as a whole.
- Draw up and monitor the resource requirements of the department and, from time to time, to requisition resources and materials in accordance with arrangements made for the purpose.
- Carry out monitoring and review activities as part of the work across the school.
- Prepare written reports for the Governing Body.
- Maintain arrangements for reporting to parents on the progress of pupils undertaking learning in the department in accordance with the school's overall systems.
- Organise and lead related visits to curriculum-related events.

Working time

A full-time teacher shall be available for work for 195 days in any given year of which 190 days shall be days on which she/he may be required to teach pupils, in addition to carry out other duties.

Subject to this, a full-time teacher shall be available to perform such duties at such times and such places as may be specified by the head teacher for 1,265 hours in any academic year excluding time spent in traveling to or from the place of work.

A teacher will have duties assigned as part of directed time. A teacher shall not be required under his/her contract as a teacher to undertake midday supervision and shall be allowed a break of reasonable length for lunch.

A teacher shall, in addition work such additional hours as may be needed to be enable her/him to discharge effectively her/his professional duties, including marking of pupils' work, writing reports on pupils and the preparation of lessons, teaching materials and teaching programmes. The amount of time for this purpose beyond their 1,265 hours shall not be determined by the employer but shall depend upon the work needed to discharge the teacher's functions.

The teacher will be entitled to 10 per cent PPA time.

Code of Conduct

The School expects all staff to ensure that their standards of conduct are, at all times, compliant with the Walkwood Church of England Middle School Code of Conduct for Employees.



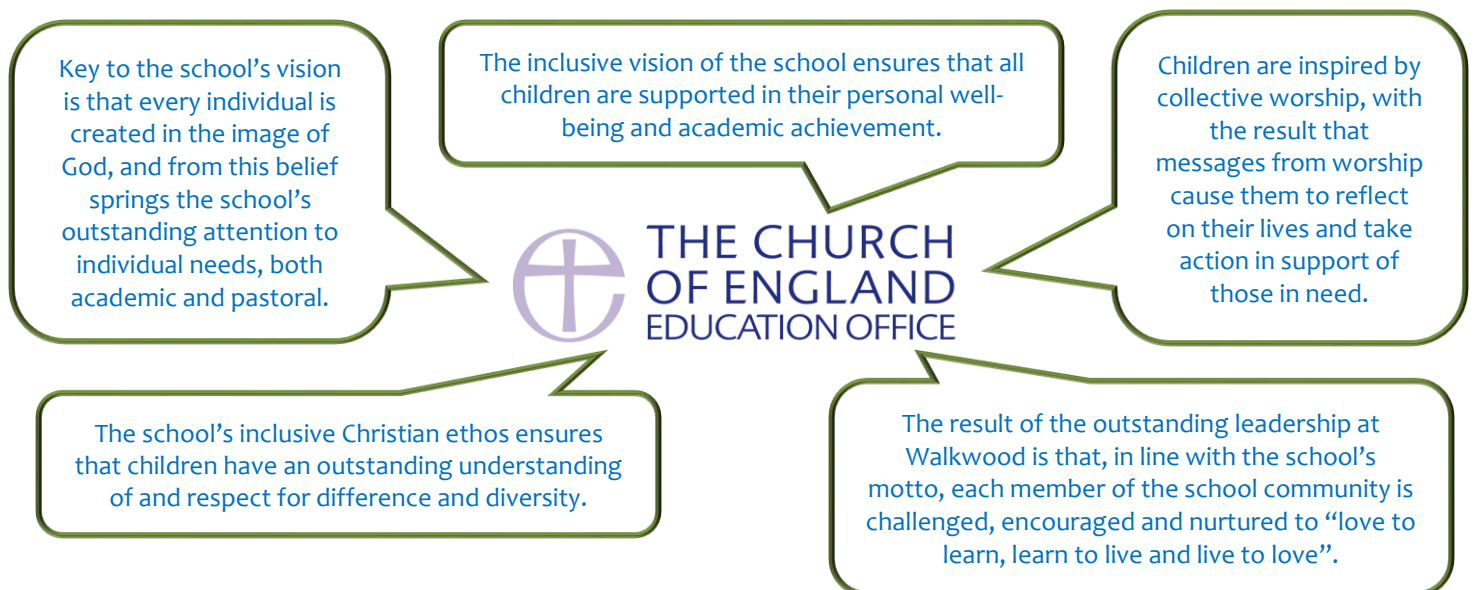
Person Specification

Attributes	Criteria
Qualifications and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualified teacher status. • Degree qualification in a relevant subject. • Evidence of professional development and recent relevant in-service training. • Commitment to the protection and safeguarding of children and young people
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful teaching experience. • Successful record of raising standards: demonstrable skills of a highly effective classroom practitioner. • Leadership experience of an initiative or area of responsibility within RE, Citizenship or PSHE. • Experience of improvement planning and implementation in Religious Education or a related subject. (Desirable)
Skills and Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote and develop the values-based curriculum inputs. • Appreciation of the Christian ethos of the school through clarity of vision. • Develop, monitor and evaluate literacy within the curriculum. (Desirable) • Identify the learning needs of individuals and groups and plan supportive interventions where necessary. • Recognise high performance and challenge underperformance. • Plan, monitor, evaluate, review and lead by example. • Delegate when appropriate.
Professional Knowledge and Understanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define, identify and achieve highly effective teaching and learning. • Knowledge of behaviour management strategies and an ability to maintain good discipline. • Sound understanding of recent educational developments. • Knowledge of school management systems for data. • Commitment to the Church of England's Vision for Education: 'Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good'. • Experience of working in collaborative partnerships with other schools. (Desirable)
Qualities and Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be in sympathy with the Christian values of the school. • Flexible leadership style and the ability to build and maintain professional relationships with colleagues and parents. • Inspirational to pupils and staff. • Ability to lead the department through changes and to meet new challenges with enthusiasm, vision and flair. • Self-motivated and hard working. • Positive approach to behaviour management and rewards. • Commitment to developing the extra-curricular life of the school and other out of school activities. • Commitment to ensuring the health and wellbeing of all pupils and staff. • Ability to demonstrate drive and determination. • Role-model for good manners and professional behaviour.

Note: The Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Appointments to this post will be subject to receipt of satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.



Inspection highlights





"Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labour is not in vain."

2 Corinthians 15: 58



I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.'

Ephesians 3:18-19

