



ROEHAMPTON CHURCH FOREST SCHOOL

Headteacher Information Pack

From the Chair of Governors

Thank you for your interest in the position of Headteacher at Roehampton Church Forest School. On behalf of the whole school community, I am delighted that you are considering joining our community at an exciting and pivotal moment in our development.

Roehampton Church Forest School is a vibrant, inclusive Church of England primary school in the heart of Roehampton. We serve a richly diverse community and are deeply committed to offering all children the highest quality education, rooted in Christian values and strengthened by our thriving forest school provision.

As Headteacher, you will play a central role in shaping the future of our school, building on our strong foundations and leading us into the next chapter with vision, compassion, and ambition. We are seeking a leader with warmth, integrity, and a genuine passion for helping every child flourish.

We warmly invite you to visit the school, meet our wonderful pupils and staff, and see for yourself what makes Roehampton such a special place.

We look forward to receiving your application.

With best wishes,

Paul Nicholls

Chair of Governors



From the Vicar of Roehampton

Thank you so much for your interest in being our new headteacher at Roehampton Church Forest School.

As vicar of the parish I take a keen interest in the school and the individual pupils and staff who make up the school family. I am a governor of the school and take collective worship weekly. And the school shares a site with the parish church and the vicarage so I meet pupils and staff every day, seeing the school as it really is. I can report that it really is a wonderful community to be part of.

It is also a vital institution for Roehampton. The Alton Estate, where most of our children live, is one of the largest in London. We are surrounded by the glorious green spaces of Wimbledon Common and Richmond Park, but this makes Roehampton quite isolated from the rest of Inner London. The parish is the most economically deprived in the borough. Although so many parents and carers bring up their children well despite these challenges, some of our children do not always have the role models or family back-up we would want for them.

But when they get to RCFS, no matter where they have come from, each of them is known and valued as an individual. Teachers want the best for them and consistently help them to become their best selves. There is a great sense of school spirit. The children are articulate and funny.

They also work hard and are well educated. We are consistently in the upper quartile of Wandsworth primary schools measured by KS2 outcomes, well ahead of all other schools with whom we share a catchment area.

We have recently added Forest School provision to give our children the added advantage of outdoor learning, helping them grow in confidence and love of nature, build relationships, and learn to manage risk. Some other primary schools in Inner London are trying to get Forest School going: ours, though, is probably the only one situated right next to an actual forest! Forest School is a key part of the vision for the school. We see it as enhancing already strong learning, and also as an antidote to many of the negative influences children receive through their screens.

Above all, we are here to educate children of all faiths and none, and to help them become their best selves, as an expression of the Christian faith in which the school was founded almost two hundred years ago, the values of which it lives out day by day. Personally I find it a joy to be involved with RCFS. I hope you will too.

With my prayers and best wishes

Joshua Rey

Vicar of Holy Trinity
Roehampton



Where we are

Roehampton is in Wandsworth, at the South West edge of Inner London, amongst some of the most glorious green space in any major city of the world. The parish is demographically varied with extremes of wealth and poverty; the large majority live on the Alton Estate and on average Roehampton is one of the most deprived areas in South West London.



About the school: data

Number of children in school: 125

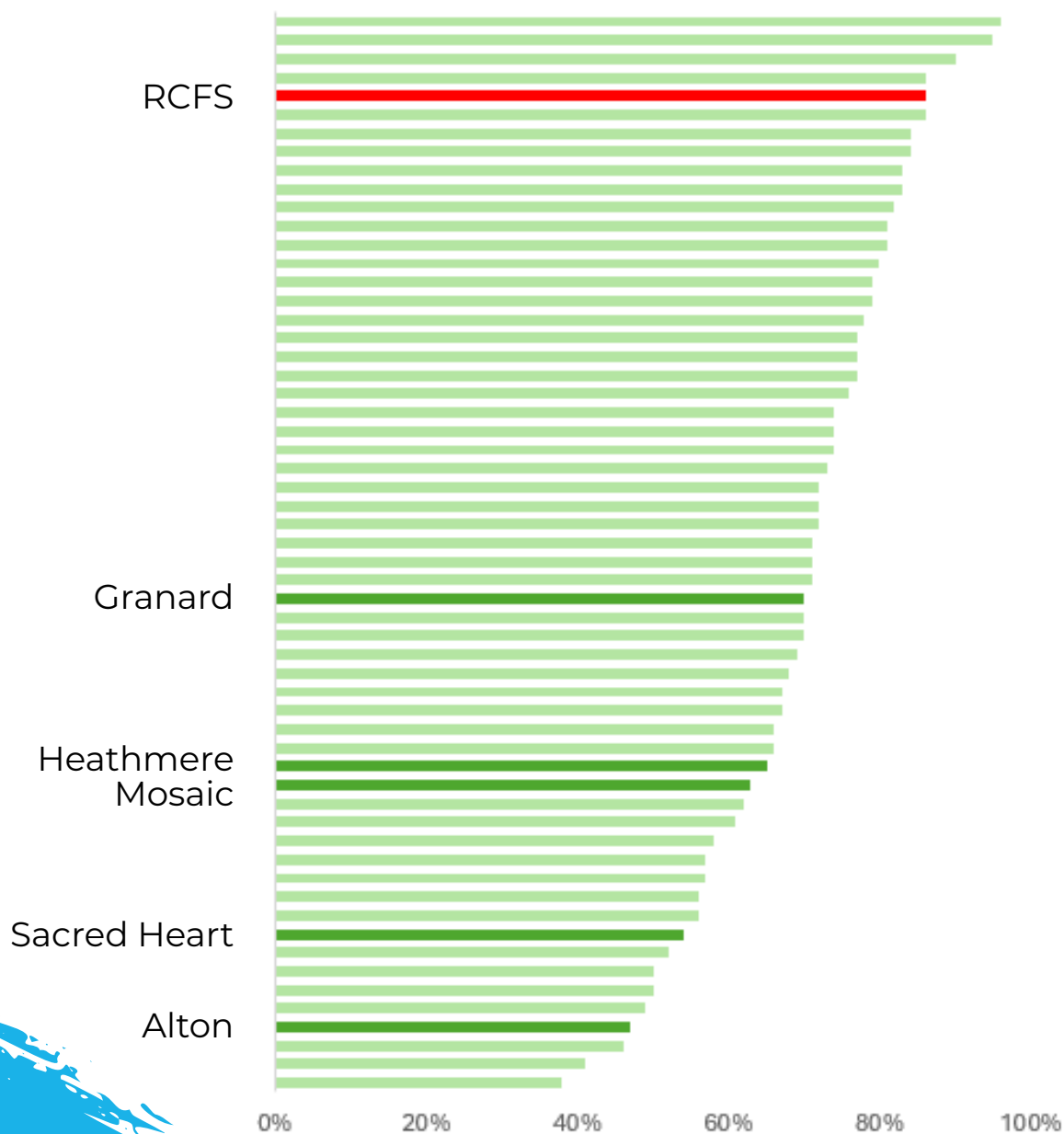
Those with English as an alternative language: 53

SEND: 27%

PPG : 60 children

Most recent OFSTED: "Good" 2023

KS2 pupils achieving at expected standard 2025 – all Wandsworth schools, Roehampton schools highlighted:



About the school: vision

'Nurturing Individuality, Growing Together, Embracing Community'

Roehampton Church Forest School (RCFS) is a proudly Christian school, where our Christian vision is underpinned by the verse, 'How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity'. Psalm 133:1

RCFS is a community where everyone is welcomed and respected and where every person commits to our school values of being responsible, caring, fearless and secure. These values sit alongside our Christian values of Respect, Service, Courage, Generosity, Friendship, Compassion, Peace, Perseverance, Forgiveness, Thankfulness and Truthfulness, which permeate throughout the life of our school. Our Christian values encourage all to make the world a better place through love, knowledge and understanding.

Children at Roehampton are known, valued, and celebrated. We believe that every child has God-given potential, and we aim to help each one discover and develop their gifts.

Our thriving Forest School provision is central to our identity. Through outdoor learning, children build resilience, confidence, creativity, problem-solving skills, and a deep connection with the natural world. Our grounds and local green spaces enable children to develop curiosity, independence, and teamwork in ways that complement classroom learning.

The next Headteacher will play a key role in embedding and extending this distinctive aspect of our offer.



Our Community

We are proud to serve the diverse Roehampton community. Our families bring a richness of cultures, backgrounds, and experiences, all of which contribute to the inclusive environment that characterises our school.

We enjoy strong partnerships with:

- Holy Trinity Church, which supports our worship and spiritual life.
- Southwark Diocesan Board of Education, which supports school leaders and the school
- The local authority, who collaborate closely with us.
- Community organisations, providing opportunities beyond the curriculum.

Our parents and carers are deeply committed to the school and play an active role in school life.

Our Staff

The staff team at Roehampton is dedicated, compassionate, and highly motivated. Our teachers and support staff work collaboratively to create a safe, stimulating environment where children thrive. We are proud of our culture of professional development and reflective practice, and we are seeking a Headteacher who will continue to nurture this.

Looking to the Future

As we look ahead to the coming years, we are excited about the opportunities before us. Key priorities for the next phase of our journey include:

- Strengthening our Christian distinctiveness, ensuring that faith and values remain at the heart of everything we do.
- Further embedding our Forest School practice, deepening its impact across the curriculum.
- Raising aspirations and attainment through high-quality teaching, broad enrichment, and strong pastoral care.
- Continuing to develop a rich, ambitious curriculum that reflects the needs, talents, and diversity of our children.
- Investing in staff development, leadership growth, and sustainable recruitment.
- Enhancing partnerships with families, the church, and the wider community.
- Ensuring financial stability and strategic use of resources to support long-term school improvement.

We are searching for a leader who will embrace these opportunities with creativity and determination.



The Headteacher We Are Looking For

We are seeking a Headteacher who embodies our values and offers visionary, compassionate leadership. Our ideal candidate will:

A Leader of Christian Distinctiveness

- Be a practising Christian or demonstrate a deep commitment to Christian vision and values.
- Confidently champion and develop our Christian vision and values including leading collective worship, spiritual development, and a faith-rooted school ethos.
- Model integrity, kindness, and inclusivity.

An Inspirational Educational Leader

- Have proven senior leadership experience and a strong track record of raising standards.
- Understand outstanding primary practice, curriculum development, and effective pedagogies.
- Inspire staff through supportive, collaborative leadership.

A Champion of Outdoor Learning

- Understand or be ready to embrace our Forest School philosophy.
- Advocate for outdoor learning as a driver of wellbeing, confidence, and creativity.

A Strategic Thinker

- Navigate challenges with clarity, resilience, and sound judgement.
- Lead improvement planning, quality assurance, and whole-school evaluation.
- Make effective financial and operational decisions.

A Community Builder

- Build trusting relationships with pupils, staff, parents, and the church.
- Communicate with warmth and transparency.
- Be present, approachable, and visible within the school.



What We Offer You

Joining Roehampton Church Forest School means becoming part of a caring, committed community where leaders are encouraged to grow and make meaningful impact. We offer:

- A school with a clear identity, strong values, and a passionate community.
- Enthusiastic children who love learning and thrive in our Forest School environment.
- A dedicated, talented staff team eager for continued professional development.
- A supportive governing body and strong partnerships with Holy Trinity Church.
- Opportunities to shape an ambitious vision and lead creative curriculum development.
- A competitive salary of £87,032 to £98,234 which may be pro-rated depending on agreed pattern of work.



What the children say



'We enjoy projects with Sparkle where we communicate with older people who become grandfriends'

'We learn about nature as we go to forest school weekly alongside other learning'

'I like the forest school and the Church'

'We learn about Jesus and God'

'We are caring, fearless and secure in school and in the school community'

'All children at RCFS are always ready to learn'

'Our knowledge grows bigger and better every day because the staff the staff communicate well'

'RCFS I committed to our education and forest school learning'

'We have fun trips that are linked to our learning'

'We get opportunities to attend after school clubs at different places'

'I like the forest school and the Church'

'The best thing about school is the Maths!'

'I love the playground.'

'My favourite thing about school is my friends.'

'My really best thing is lunch.'

'All my favourite things are my playing and learning and doing Maths.'

'My favourite thing is arts and crafts and English '

'My favourite thing is all the nice teachers'

'All my best things are English and science, we do some great science'

'We love Sparkle'

'My favourite subject is Art. You can be quiet and it is so calming.'

'My favourite thing about school is Maths'

'My favourite thing is Forest School. You get to look at nature and explore outside.'

'I like Forest School. We talk about Nature and learn about trees and we respect nature.'

'My favourite things are Forest School, Art and DT and Maths.'



What the staff say

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I love being involved in the forest school element of the school.

As a member of staff at Roehampton Church Forest school, what stands out most is the genuinely welcoming atmosphere. Because we're a small school, we have a close-knit community of staff, pupils, parents, and church partners, and there's a real sense of working together. It's a supportive place to work, and you can feel that shared commitment as soon as you walk in.

I like being part of a team, someone is always around to ask for support. It's an amazing location, a beautiful historical building, great to look and explore the common around us, but most of all we have with lots of lovely children.

RCFS is like a family full of warmth, committed to supporting all of our families and community whilst shaping our children's futures.

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Annex: job advertisement

Location: Roehampton, London (SW15 4AA)

Start date: Summer 2026 or Autumn 2026

Contract: Full time or 0.8 FTE, pattern of work subject to negotiation

Salary: £87,032 - £98,234 (pro rata)

Roehampton Church Forest School is a warm, inclusive Voluntary Aided Church of England primary school (3–11 years), serving our diverse Roehampton community. We are committed to providing a **nurturing, stimulating, and child-centred environment**, rooted in our Christian vision and values, where children flourish academically, socially, spiritually, and emotionally. Our Forest School provision gives every child the opportunity to learn deeply through nature, our forest school curriculum and outdoor experiences. The school has a “Good” Ofsted rating (June 2023).

We are seeking a **visionary, child-focused, and inspirational leader** to continue to build on our strengths and drive the next phase of the school’s journey.

As Headteacher, you will:

- Provide strong, strategic leadership in collaboration with the governing body, staff, and church to deliver the school’s vision, with children at the centre of all decisions.
- Lead and uphold the school’s Christian distinctiveness, supporting collective worship, spiritual development, and pastoral care for all pupils.
- Lead, manage, and develop a high-performing team of teachers and support staff, fostering a positive, caring, and inclusive environment for every child to thrive.
- Oversee curriculum development and ensure high standards of teaching and learning that meet the needs of all pupils.
- Champion our Forest School, embedding it in the life of the school to enhance children’s personal, social, and emotional development.
- Manage school operations, including oversight of budgets, safeguarding, and site development, in partnership with governors, the local authority and the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education (SDBE).
- Engage with children, parents, carers, the church, and the wider community to strengthen partnerships and support every pupil’s growth.
- Uphold the school’s Christian distinctiveness, supporting collective worship, spiritual development, and pastoral care for all pupils.



We are looking for a candidate who:

- Is a practising Christian (or demonstrates a strong commitment to Christian values) and is committed to leading a Church of England school.
- Has proven senior leadership experience, with a track record of improving children's outcomes and wellbeing.
- Demonstrates a strong understanding of primary education, curriculum design, assessment, and staff development to support all pupils.
- Has experience of or enthusiasm for forest school philosophy, or a willingness to champion it for the benefit of children's learning and personal development.
- Is a confident communicator, able to engage effectively with pupils, parents, staff, governors, and the church community.
- Has excellent organisational, financial, and operational leadership skills.
- Is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and development of every child.

What We Offer

- A supportive and committed leadership team and governing body.
- A school with a distinctive Christian identity and forest school.
- Opportunities for professional development and leadership growth.
- Strong community links with the local church and Roehampton neighbourhood.
- A competitive pay commensurate with experience.
- A caring, nurturing school community where children and staff are valued and supported.



How to Apply

To apply, please complete and submit the application form (available on our school website).

Applications should be sent to: Vanessa Lewis, HR Officer, Wandsworth Council via email to vanessa.lewis@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk .

You may also download further documentation (job description, person specification, application form) from www.roehampton.wandsworth.sch.uk or www.wandsworth.gov.uk/jobs

Closing date: 18 January 2026

Visits: w/c 5 January or 14 January 2026

Short Listing: 20 January 2026

Interviews: 27 January 2026

To arrange a visit, please contact:

School Business Manager: Mrs N Gooljar-King

Email: sbm@roehampton.wandsworth.sch.uk Tel: 020 8788 8650



Safeguarding Statement

Roehampton Church Forest School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. We expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All posts are subject to an enhanced DBS check, online search, and satisfactory references.

Equality Statement

Roehampton Church Forest School is committed to positively tackling discrimination in all its forms and works to ensure that all sections of the community have fair and equal access to and experience within employment. We welcome applicants from all backgrounds and communities, in particular those that are currently underrepresented in our workforce; we are respectful of all individuals' race, age, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, caring responsibilities, disabilities and cultural background.

