



# PRIESTLANDS SCHOOL

Learn more... Do more... Be more...

## Information for Applicants

## RE & Ethics Teacher



Our vision is to offer an education of high quality which ensures our young people become creative, enthusiastic, hard-working learners who control their own success and contribute positively to the communities in which they live.

Learn more... Do more... Be more...



Priestlands is an exciting school in which to work and we are proud of its many achievements. We are committed to being a leading comprehensive school that serves the entire community, provides high quality education across the curriculum and has ambitious plans for its continued success and development. In 2015, we were recognised by the Minister for Schools as one of England's top 100 schools for sustained performance at GCSE. Since then we have continued to build on this success with our headline GCSE Progress 8 score consistently placing us among the top schools in Hampshire and the New Forest. This measure indicates how much value a school adds to each student and shows that Priestlands is consistently delivering positive outcomes for students year on year.

However, Priestlands is about far more than exam results as our motto, *Learn more... Do more... Be more...*, implies. Our aim is to develop well rounded young people who have the skills and attributes to be successful in life and make a positive impact in our community.

We are looking for someone with a commitment to education, a capacity for hard work and a passion for continuous improvement. We are also looking for someone who enjoys their work and has a keen sense of humour! If you would like to have an informal chat on the phone about the post, or even visit the school before application, please do contact me.

You can be assured that a warm welcome awaits whoever is appointed. Priestlands is a mutually supportive and friendly staff community, dedicated to the continued professional development of all staff.

I very much hope that, having read the enclosed details, you will wish to apply for the post and become part of the Priestlands team. If so, please complete a Priestlands School application form (available on our website) and send it to me as soon as possible. We are happy to receive applications sent via email to [info@priestlands.hants.sch.uk](mailto:info@priestlands.hants.sch.uk) and will consider applications as soon as they are received. The deadline is Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, but we reserve the right to close the vacancy early so encourage you to submit your application as early as possible.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact us. I look forward to hearing from you.

***Peter Main***

Headteacher





# The Vacancy

## RE & Ethics Teacher (MPR/UPR) Required September 2022

We are seeking to appoint a suitably qualified, dynamic and imaginative teacher of RE & Ethics with a commitment to education, a capacity for hard work and a passion for continuous improvement. We are also looking for someone who enjoys their work and has a keen sense of humour!

The successful candidate will be expected to teach Religious Studies across Key Stage 3 and 4. We would be pleased to receive applications from NQTs as well as more experienced teachers.



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This post offers an excellent experience for the successful candidate, who is likely to be someone who:

- is an excellent classroom practitioner, with a track record of securing good student progress at both key stages
- is a good communicator
- is able to enthuse others
- has high expectations of students and colleagues, and will raise standards
- has a coherent vision of RE & Ethics in the curriculum, and their special contribution to the whole curriculum
- has an understanding of quality in Learning and Teaching
- is seeking further promotion and career enhancement
- is confident, resilient, resourceful and has a sense of humour.



## The RE Department

At Priestlands School, Religious Education seeks to promote equality of opportunity for all students and enable them to benefit from a rich and enjoyable learning experience. Currently the department comprises three teachers: the Head of Department, and two further specialist full-time teachers. The school is keen to consolidate and build on the considerable growth and development of RE experienced in recent years.



At all levels Religious Education is taught as an academically rigorous and highly relevant subject. The department has a strong record of academic success and an increasing number of our leavers go on to Religious Studies, Philosophy and Sociology at A Level at our local colleges.

At Priestlands School, Religious Education seeks to promote equality of opportunity for all students and enable them to benefit from a rich and enjoyable learning experience. We are committed to providing a framework for success for all students and to the delivery of a curriculum which will meet individual needs.



Religious Education is part of the school's core curriculum. It is taught as a discrete subject by specialist teachers in specialist teaching areas. The syllabus at KS3 and KS4 is designed to meet the requirements of the Agreed Syllabus for Hampshire. All classes are taught in broad ability groups. We use a selection of varied and appropriate teaching methods and encourage independent and experiential learning. We recognise that teaching and learning styles are interactive; our programmes of study have been carefully selected to meet student needs and fulfil legal requirements.

At GCSE, students follow the AQA Syllabus A and alongside the four Themes units they study the key beliefs and practices of Buddhism and Christianity. Numbers have rapidly increased in recent years. Currently over 80 students in total are taking the course, with three full sets in Year 11 and three groups in Year 10. The department's GCSE results are excellent and we seek the best for every pupil who takes the course.



The Year 9 has parity of provision on the curriculum with other GCSE options subjects if they opt at the end of Year 9 in which we complete a course on Humanism, Philosophy of Religion and Human Rights. All students follow a foundation course in Ethics – based on the BBC's A-Z of Religion and Ethics.



By its very nature, RE promotes inter-culturalism; students are encouraged to explore diversity of belief and practice and to listen with respect to the beliefs and values of others. A major feature of the school calendar is Holocaust Awareness Day for Year 9 students. The day includes a talk by a Holocaust survivor, something which always leaves students with a lasting and memorable impression. Students also have the opportunity to take part in a five day trip to Germany and Poland which includes a whole-day visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau. We are also a UCL Beacon School for Holocaust Education and have worked with other organisations to ensure a more comprehensive study of the Holocaust.

The Religious Studies Department is situated in the modern Nichols teaching block and all classrooms offer integrated ICT, sound and projection facilities. We also benefit from a well-situated departmental office. We have a wide range of resources and text books along with artefacts from the major world beliefs.



This continues to be an exciting time in the development of Religious Studies at Priestlands. We are looking to gain the RE Quality Mark in the next couple of years and the successful candidate will be pivotal in our achievement of this award. The successful candidate will share a creative passion for the subject, coupled with a vision for integrating it even more into the life of the School. There is scope for the subject to contribute more fully to the Moral and Spiritual development of students through the School's PSHE programme.

## Application Procedure

Please complete the application form on our website at <https://www.priestlands.hants.sch.uk/vacancies/teaching-staff> .

### **Please do not submit additional documentation at this stage**

In the personal statement section of the application form (which may be presented as an attached letter if you so wish), I would ask you specifically to describe on no more than two sides of A4:

- your experience to date;
- your reasons for applying for the post and your suitability for it;
- your view of the challenges and opportunities which would await you in your first year in post.

Applications should be sent to the Headteacher as soon as possible. They will be considered as they are received and we reserve the right to close the vacancy early.

**The deadline for receipt of applications is 2.00pm, Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022.**

**Interviews will be held the same week, on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May.**



***Priestlands School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment. This post is covered by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exemptions) Order 1975 and you will be required to declare whether you have any criminal convictions. Priestlands School is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.***