



Parkstone Grammar School

Permanent Teacher of English Applicant Pack

Parkstone Grammar School
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Headteacher's Welcome

As the headteacher of Parkstone Grammar School, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to our vibrant and dynamic school community. At Parkstone, we are committed to providing an exceptional educational experience that nurtures the intellectual, social, and emotional growth of every student.

We are a heavily oversubscribed 11-18 selective girls' school offering outstanding education to the students of Poole and its surrounding area. Founded in 1905, Parkstone has continued to provide excellent academic results within a warm, friendly and vibrant community. We are a six-form entry school with 1250 students including 350 in the sixth form.

Our school is a place where students are encouraged to explore their passions, expand their knowledge, and develop critical thinking skills that will serve them well throughout their lives. We have a team of dedicated and highly qualified teachers and support staff who are passionate about education and are committed to inspiring and challenging our students.

We believe in creating a supportive and inclusive environment where each student feels valued and respected. Our students are rightly proud of their school which provides for them a broad and balanced curriculum promoting independence, intellectual curiosity and a love of learning. Subjects offered at GCSE and A Level include academic and facilitating subjects from a very wide range. Our sixth form collaboration with Poole Grammar School for Boys allows us to offer an extensive A Level curriculum.

Students at Parkstone are not only encouraged to succeed academically, but to enjoy the wide range of musical, theatrical, sporting, speaking and charitable opportunities. They thrive in an environment of support and challenge, becoming resilient learners well prepared to succeed in the 21st Century.

The unique single-sex selective environment allows the students to grow in a safe and supportive atmosphere. Parkstone's national reputation for excellence and continued success is testament to the consistent dedication of students, staff and governors.

Ofsted commented that Parkstone offers a 'stimulating, friendly community in which all students are valued and may thrive intellectually, emotionally and physically'. Our school's focus is always on teaching and learning as we strive to challenge these able students to become confident, happy and successful young people.

I invite you to apply to our school, and experience the warm and welcoming atmosphere that makes Parkstone truly special. If you're ready to embark on a rewarding journey where your passion for education meets limitless possibilities, we encourage you to explore the opportunities at Parkstone. Join us in making a difference to our young people and shaping the future together.

David Hallsworth, Headteacher



Our Vision

At Parkstone, we embody the values of Commitment, Courage and Compassion to enable students to adapt and thrive in an evolving world, providing an education that inspires and empowers students to determine and achieve their goals.

COMMITMENT

“Be tenacious and relentless in your curiosity for knowledge”

COURAGE

“Feel confident to achieve your very best and develop your resilience to overcome barriers”

COMPASSION

“You should encourage and care for your peers, value and engage with all cultures and religions in our diverse global community”

“Parkstone has encouraged and inspired me to love learning. There is a great community and I am always supported – just like a family.”

Year 7 Pupil



Our Guiding Principles

- Parkstone will be a seat of exceptional learning where great teachers enjoy autonomy in the classroom to inspire and challenge our able students.
- Very high-quality staff development and peer support to facilitate highly effective learning over time.
- Effective feedback to move students forward in their knowledge and skill development.
- Parkstone will achieve amongst the best schools in the country for the national progress measures at GCSE and A Level.
- A positive ethos underpinned by our values of Courage, Commitment and Compassion.
- Personalised support with highly effective intervention to enable equal access to learning.
- Students will have an understanding of global and national diversity and will be well prepared for life in an ever-evolving world.
- A strong community supported by the staff and student leadership teams.
- Compassionate, high quality advice and guidance to make informed and confident decisions regarding life after Parkstone.
- Opportunities outside the classroom which provide holistic development.
- To engage in initiatives and charity projects to contribute to the local and wider community.
- A broad, balanced and inspiring curriculum appropriate to Parkstone.
- An inspiring learning environment underpinned by a research culture and reflective practice.
- Our community will have high expectations of everyone in line with our Values and Charter.
- To instil a sense of stewardship towards our local, national and global environment.



"Teachers are knowledgeable and enthusiastic. They inspire and sustain a love of learning in their pupils."

Ofsted Report



Our School Charter

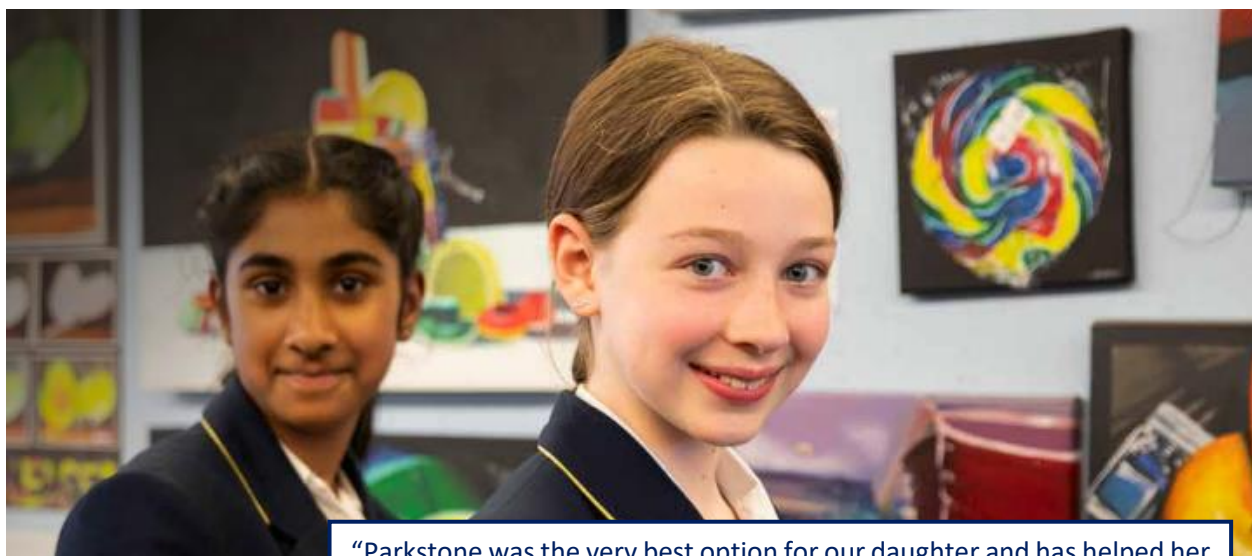
In our community it is important that we should maintain high standards and take responsibility for our own actions.

OUR COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITIES

- To uphold the values of our school
- To treat all persons and the environment of the school with respect
- To apply ourselves to all areas of school life
- To empower all to do our best and to take care of each other
- To challenge any inequality and prejudiced attitudes

OUR RIGHTS

- To be treated with respect by all members of our community
- To feel safe both emotionally and physically in our school environment
- To participate in all the opportunities that our school offers
- To know where we can access support and guidance
- To be challenged appropriately where we fall short of our responsibilities



"Parkstone was the very best option for our daughter and has helped her grow in confidence and equipped her for university and life beyond!"

Parent



Ofsted

Key findings of this Outstanding School

“Under the headteacher’s calm, authoritative and exceptionally effective leadership, the school has improved rapidly since the previous inspection”.

“Leadership at all levels is very strong. Governors, senior leaders, middle leaders and other staff work harmoniously together to provide high-quality education for pupils”.

“Pupils make remarkable progress by the time they take their GCSEs in Year 11. This is sustained in the sixth form”.

“By the time they leave school, pupils have attained consistently at the highest levels and are extremely well prepared for the next stage of their education or employment”.

“Disadvantaged pupils make exceptional progress during their time at the school. Their rates of progress are much higher than other pupils nationally with the same starting points”.

“School leaders make very good use of targeted training to develop teachers’ professional knowledge and skills. As a result, teaching continues to improve”.

“Teachers are knowledgeable and enthusiastic. They inspire and sustain a love of learning in their pupils. Teachers have an unswerving faith in the ability of their pupils to succeed and give their time unselfishly to ensure that this happens”.

“Pupils are confident and articulate learners. They take great pride in their work and are determined to succeed”.

“Pupils’ behaviour is impeccable and their positive attitudes to learning are exemplary. They are hungry to learn and attendance rates are high, including in the sixth form”.

“The sixth form is outstanding. Students follow very well developed 16 to 19 study programmes”.

“Disadvantaged students prosper in the sixth form and in recent years all have gone on to university”.



Benefits

Parkstone is pleased to be able to offer all staff members:

Core Benefits

- A contributory pension scheme relevant to your role (including access to Teacher and Local Government Schemes).
- Occupational sick pay.
- Tailored Continuous Professional Development (CPD) through the South Central Teaching Hub.
- Free access to the Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) - confidential support network that offers expert advice and compassionate guidance 24/7 covering a wide range of issues, such as: Legal Information, Bereavement Support and Online CBT among much more.
- All staff are entitled to a 'Golden Day' once a year – a paid day off or part time equivalent.
- Free Yoga and Pilates sessions throughout the term.
- Termly Staff Wellbeing and Workload groups to raise and solve issues.

Flexible Benefits

- Cycle to work scheme
- Electric Vehicle Salary Sacrifice Scheme through Love Electric



Permanent Teacher of English

DETAILS OF THE POST

This permanent post becomes available from 1 September 2024.

The position offers excellent prospects for a committed and enthusiastic candidate to work in a highly effective, dynamic and very successful English Department. We are looking to appoint an excellent teacher to teach English Language and English Literature to GCSE and English Literature and/or English Language to A Level. The ideal candidate will be a teacher who can inspire and bring out the best in all our students.

All teachers are expected to act as form tutors and to assist with the extra-curricular activities of the school and the teaching of associated subjects.

The school's Pay Policy recognises salary portability and will honour an applicant's existing salary progression in most cases.

THE DEPARTMENT

The English Department currently consists of seven full time and four part time members of staff. There are strong links with the separately organised Drama and Media Studies Departments. The English Department is highly successful and effective; staff are committed to maximising student achievement and examination results in the department are excellent.

CURRICULUM

Students in Years 7 and 8 are well established on Programmes of Study which meet the requirements of the National Curriculum. Literacy is well integrated into teaching and learning at all levels. Members of the department work as a team to address initiatives, to update resources and materials, to make the process of assessment relevant and meaningful and to enhance the experience of students in the classroom. A range of teaching and learning styles is encouraged at all levels, with students quick to respond to group work, individually negotiated tasks or whole class activities. The department is involved in the Initial Teacher Education programme when required.

At GCSE our students work towards the AQA specifications for English Language and English Literature, with the vast majority achieving Levels 7-9.

At A Level, English Literature continues to be a very strong and popular subject at A Level, usually with two teaching groups. Students study the AQA 'A' specification which, together with set texts for examination, includes coursework and making challenging connections between texts. English Language A Level is also a popular and successful course.



RESOURCES

The English Department aims to create a stimulating environment across its eight dedicated classrooms, with lively displays of students' work. The department is very well equipped with a range of source books, texts, audio-visual and computer resources. There are three rooms with ICT equipment and laptops are available to supplement classroom computers.

The department provides a range of support materials, lesson activities and resources via Teams, its Virtual Learning Environment. We aim for our students to become more independent and active in their learning by the use of this valuable resource. The work of our students is also explored and analysed using exam board results analysis services to inform future planning and teaching.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Visiting poets, writers, theatre groups and other speakers contribute to the drive for vitality and enrichment within and beyond the curriculum. Activities extend beyond the timetabled curriculum with theatre visits, A Level conferences, Film Club, Sixth Form Prefects, World Book Day events, creative writing group, reading groups, activities shadowing the Carnegie Award, and competitions for Year 7 and Year 8 students.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

To provide additional support for students, the department offers literacy sessions and examination booster sessions for targeted students, and English Prefects in Year 12 and Year 13 act as mentors for younger students as required.



Person Specification

We are seeking a highly skilled colleague who will be dynamic and committed to the school. The qualities/skills/experience we are looking for include:

- excellent academic/professional qualifications
- excellent classroom skills reflecting the standards laid out in the Teachers' Standards
- the highest possible expectations of standards of behaviour and attainment
- a proven record of success in teaching English and the ability to teach English Literature and/or English Language at Advanced Level.
- the ability to demonstrate enthusiasm and passion for the subject
- an awareness of current developments in the subject
- the ability to use data on student achievement as effectively as possible
- ICT skills that enable you to make the best use of new technology to support teaching and learning
- excellent inter-personal skills
- the ability to work well within a team and contribute to planning of schemes of work
- a willingness to carry out coursework supervision and marking if required
- an excellent rapport with both students and colleagues
- decision-making skills
- excellent communication and presentation skills
- the ability to work effectively under pressure
- a commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students
- a commitment to the wider life of the school
- a commitment to equality of opportunity
- a commitment to continuous improvement and professional development
- boundless energy and a sense of humour!



Contact us

If you would like more information about Parkstone Grammar School please email recruitment@parkstone.poole.sch.uk

Alternatively, if you wish to discuss the vacancy please call 01202 605605 8.00 – 4.30 Monday to Thursday and 8.00 – 4.00 on a Friday.

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