



# CANDIDATE BRIEF TEACHER OF GEOGRAPHY



# LETTER FROM THE HEAD TEACHER



Dear Applicant

I am delighted that you are expressing an interest in working at Queensmead. I took up the position of Head Teacher in 2009 and it fills me with pride when I reflect on what we have achieved in this time and how we continue to build on our outstanding work. We are committed to ensuring that every student at Queensmead excels and has the very best start in life. Our standards are high and our expectations are clear and consistent.

During my time I have seen some exceptional teachers and also witnessed remarkable growth in teachers. I am proud that several members of my leadership team started their careers as NQTs in our school. We are committed to your development and providing you with the opportunities and support to progress in your career.

I wish you luck with the application process and invite you to visit us and see the school for yourself. Indeed, it was the students and the team that inspired me and many others to join Queensmead!

If you have any questions on the recruitment process, please email [recruitment@qmschool.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@qmschool.org.uk) or visit our website:- [www.queensmeadschool.org.uk](http://www.queensmeadschool.org.uk)

Yours sincerely

Rhona Johnston  
**Head Teacher**

# HOW TO APPLY



Applications must be received by **9am** on **Friday 15th March 2024**.

Please email your completed application form and covering letter for the attention of the Head Teacher to:  
**[recruitment@qmschool.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@qmschool.org.uk)**

If you have any questions, please email [recruitment@qmschool.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@qmschool.org.uk)

# DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

## Overview

Geography at Queensmead School is a successful subject. Our results for KS4 and KS5 are consistently above the national average and we constantly achieve positive Value Added results. Uptake is strong for GCSE and we have a good proportion of students go on to study Geography at University. Fieldwork trips are undertaken for both GCSE and A Level, consisting of both urban and rural studies. Students behave exceptionally well and are engaged and enthused by the subject.



## Staffing and Resources

The Geography Department consists of five members of staff. The entire KS3 course has been completely re-written and resourced in line with curriculum changes. All KS3-KS5 lessons are planned in line with the specifications and all resources are shared within the department. Textbooks are not relied upon at all – all topics are current, interactive and interesting. All classrooms are equipped with IWB and speakers.



Topics covered at KS3 are:

**Year 7 Topics** - 1. What is Geography? 2. Pole to pole. 3. UK Geography. 4. Coasts. 5. Development. 6. Beautiful Biomes. 7. Global Issues.

**Year 8 Topics** - 1. Natural hazards. 2. Global conflicts. 3. Rivers. 4. Global economy and globalisation. 5. Weather and climate. 6. Changing populations.

**Year 9 Topics** - 1. Global superpowers. 2. Hot and Cold Deserts. 3. Hazardous Earth. 4. Development Dynamics. 5. Challenges of an Urbanising World.

We follow the GCSE and A-Level Edexcel Geography courses.



## Teaching Groups

All key stages are taught in mixed ability groups. In KS3, the groups are no more than 30. At A Level and GCSE, groups are of a smaller size to ensure that all students are supported.



# PERSON SPECIFICATION

## Classroom Management

To maintain classroom discipline and help maintain school discipline in accordance with school policy standards and procedures; to arrive promptly at lessons and tutor sessions and dismiss students at the correct times; to keep checks on students' attendance at lessons and follow up absences as appropriate; to liaise with Heads of Department and/or pastoral staff on matters of concern relating to individual students.

## Subject Responsibilities

To follow conscientiously, departmental syllabuses and schemes of work for each teaching group; to prepare properly lesson materials and to mark students' work consistent with departmental and school assessment policy; to set and mark homework in accordance with departmental and school policy; to have the highest reasonable expectation of individual student performance; to play a part in organisation and administration.

## Recording Student Progress

To keep appropriate records of individual students' work and achievements, consistent with departmental and school policy; to make a proper contribution to the writing of school reports; to complete such National Curriculum assessments as are required.

## Pastoral Responsibilities

To teach the pastoral curriculum and to follow conscientiously personal, social and health education syllabuses and schemes of work; to act as counsellor and guide to individual students in the tutor group, both in relation to personal development and specific phases of educational development and transition.

## Administration

To carry out efficiently the various necessary administrative functions of the Form Tutor including school requirements in relation to the proper and accurate keeping of registers.

## Development Aspects

To play a part in the development of departmental, curriculum development group and year team meetings as appropriate; to seek to identify personal staff development and INSET needs and ensure that these are discussed with Head of Department/senior pastoral staff.

## Appraisal/Performance Management

To play a part, as required, in the school's appraisal programme, both as appraisee and, where appropriate, as appraiser of other colleagues.

## Health and Safety

To ensure that practice is, in all respects consistent with the requirements of Queensmead Health and Safety at Work policy as well as with any subject specific health and safety guidelines.

# QUEENSMEAD

excellence through learning



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