

Teacher of Geography from January 2023

Thank you for your interest in this post and we look forward to receiving your application. This is an exciting opportunity for someone to join our school. We are looking for someone who is:

- passionate about high quality teaching and learning,
- offers inspirational and caring guidance for young people and
- works collaboratively, asks questions and is keen to learn.

We are seeking someone with the commitment and enthusiasm to be part of a lively, well managed and successful team. The staff in the **Geography** department enjoy their work and strive to deliver relevant, interesting and stimulating lessons. There is a supportive climate in which there is much cooperation, resulting in detailed schemes of work and excellent resources. The successful applicant will also be expected to teach some other humanities lessons within their timetable.

The successful candidate will be given full support and will be encouraged to engage in further **professional development** which we believe will benefit both the individual and the school. We have a **strong induction programme, particularly for ECTs** who will be part of the George Abbott Teaching School. The successful applicant is likely to be a form tutor. As the school transitioned from being a Local Authority Community School to forming a MAT, a key element was maintaining the full benefit and protection of the **National Pay & Conditions**. Similarly, staff appointed from other academies are not disadvantaged, e.g. by counting service towards sick pay and maternity leave. The school takes a constructive approach towards Performance Management & Appraisal and Pay Progression and offers many opportunities for career development through paid responsibilities.

This document contains information about the department and the person specification. Separately, there are the following documents:

- overview information about the school, including extracts from the January 2019 Ofsted report
- a selection of staff stories highlighting the career opportunities available in the school
- the main school and 6th form prospectus

The closing date for applications is **8am on Monday 3rd October 2022**, but early application is advised as the school reserves the right to interview as applications are received and appoint before the closing date. Applicants should submit the Application Form and a letter of application which should not normally exceed two sides. A curriculum vitae is not necessary as all relevant information should be included on the application form or in the letter.

Visit our website www.ashcombe.surrey.sch.uk for information about the school

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any successful applicant will be required to undertake an Enhanced Disclosure check by the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

Candidates selected for interview will be informed by telephone. We do not generally contact candidates who are not shortlisted.

Thank you for taking the time to complete your application.

[https://theashcombeschool.sharepoint.com/sites/HRTeam/Shared Documents/Recruitment/2022-2023/Humanities Teacher/Geography Teacher/Teacher of Geography Advert.doc](https://theashcombeschool.sharepoint.com/sites/HRTeam/Shared%20Documents/Recruitment/2022-2023/Humanities%20Teacher/Geography%20Teacher/Teacher%20of%20Geography%20Advert.doc)

An Introduction to The Ashcombe School Geography Department

The Department

The Geography department is keen for students to enjoy Geography while developing skills which benefit their work across the curriculum.

Staff

At present there are six members of the department;

- Maddie Brown (Head of Department)
- Andrew Mawson (full time)
- Ben Ravenhill (full time)
- Jo Marks (full time)
- Cheryl McGookin and Helen Winter both contribute part time teaching in the department.

We are a committed department who work well as a team, being enthusiastic and creative professionals.

Accommodation

The department is very well resourced and is situated on a corridor of four classrooms with a communal work room. All rooms have multi-media projectors and two have interactive whiteboards. One room has 32 networked computers set in multi-purpose desks.

KS3

Year 7 and 8 are taught in their form groups and have one 70-minute period of Geography per week. The lessons include a wide range of activities and skills accessible for mixed ability classes. Each topic includes a mid-topic test and end of topic assessment to monitor progress throughout the year.

In Year 9 mixed ability groups are taught one 70-minute period of Geography per week. Students are continually assessed and marks are stored on a spreadsheet. Levels are calculated at the end of the year based on a range of activities.

We value "Learning Outside the Classroom" and this is incorporated into our scheme of work wherever possible.

GCSE – AQA

Full course (has been taken by over 100 pupils per year for several years)
Pupils have 2 x 70-minute periods per week.

The course covers the following themes:

The challenge of natural hazards

The living world

Physical landscapes of the UK (River landscapes and Glacial landscapes)

Urban issues and challenges

The changing economic world

The challenge of resource management

Geography is a popular subject and students are taught in sets and mixed ability groups depending on option numbers. Throughout the course students gain important skills of analysis and the course is designed to engage all pupils. We work closely with the SEN department to help students with needs.

Fieldwork is an essential part of the course. Pupils carry out fieldwork in Portsmouth and a local river as part of their course.

A level (Edexcel)

We regularly have over 50 students in the Upper and Lower Sixth, with two groups in each year. A large number of our pupils go on to study Geography at Degree Level.

Throughout the A-level courses fieldwork, statistical analysis, cartography, decision making and data handling skills are taught as an intrinsic part of the subject. Each year is treated separately and organised as such, with a teaching folder with resources and SoW prepared for each unit. Staff will be required to remain flexible as to which units they teach. Currently the units taught are:

Year 12: Tectonic Processes and Hazards, Coastal landscapes and changes, Globalisation, Diverse Places

Year 13: The water cycle and water insecurity, The carbon cycle and energy insecurity, Superpowers, Health human rights and intervention

Students go on two fieldtrips in Year 12 – a coastal study in East Sussex and a trip to East London and in Year 13 – a four-day residential trip to Slapton, Devon. There is also a bi-annual international trip to Iceland at Easter.

TEACHER OF GEOGRAPHY (MPS)

In selecting candidates for interview and eventual selection, the Governors will be looking for teachers with relevant education, experience, job related knowledge, aptitudes and skills, and many of the personal qualities listed below. The Governors welcome applications from teachers who consider that they could meet most if not all the requirements listed.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

EDUCATION / QUALIFICATIONS

- Qualified teacher status
- First degree or equivalent; able to teach Geography to GCSE and A-level

EXPERIENCE

- Either successful progress on a PGCE course or in a teaching post, preferably (but not necessarily) in a mixed-comprehensive school
- An excellent record of attendance and punctuality

JOB RELATED KNOWLEDGE, APTITUDE AND SKILLS

The curriculum:

- Commitment to the comprehensive ideal and to the principles and practice of equal opportunities
- The knowledge and vision to put these into practice to meet current and future challenges within the science area
- A keen interest in children as individuals, in how they learn, and in a collaborative approach to learning

Contribution to the Department

- An ability to contribute to the coherence, effective planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Geography Dept development plan within the school development plan
- A commitment to the development of a collaborative approach to decision-making, implementation and evaluation of the work in the department
- An ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing
- A willingness to use or acquire relevant I.T. skills for administration purposes.

PERSONAL QUALITIES

- Confidence, imagination and drive
- Flexibility and adaptability
- A sense of humour and perspective
- A capacity for hard work and the ability to manage its pressures
- The ability to be self-critical
- An ability to establish good working relationships with a wide range of people including students, parents, governors and colleagues.