



Tunbridge Wells Girls' Grammar School

# Geography Teacher

(Part time Maternity Cover)

Information for Candidates

Start: 4th November 2024



# Welcome from the Headteachers

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TWGGS is a forward-looking school embracing traditional values. We aim to provide pupils with a full and balanced education for life within a caring environment. Our consistent and outstanding academic record demonstrates this but, more importantly, reflects the commitment and qualification of our teachers supported by the hard work and determination of our pupils.

“The school has exceptionally high expectations of all pupils, which they consistently meet. Across the curriculum, pupils keenly engage in challenging subject content. Staff foster a love of each subject so that all pupils thrive in their phase and are well prepared for their next stages of learning. As a result, pupils enjoy school. They excel academically and flourish as well-rounded individuals.”

*Ofsted, September 2023*

Working together towards high standards is part of the school ethos which encourages every pupil to achieve their full potential in public examinations, sports and artistic, cultural and community pursuits. The special, successful community in which these activities take place allows pupils to feel supported, happy and safe, and it is one which we feel very privileged to be a part of. We look forward to welcoming you to TWGGS.”

*Linda Wybar, Executive Headteacher & Katie Marchant, Associate Headteacher*

## The confidence to achieve your full potential

The motto of our school has long been 'Give your best' and it is an approach that we encourage our pupils to take in everything that they do. We believe our environment of mutual respect affords every member of the TWGGS community the confidence to achieve their full potential in all aspects of school life. Our approaches to teaching and learning support the individual needs of pupils, while we are sensitive and responsive to the wellbeing of every child.

- **Community**

Achievements and contributions are valued and celebrated in all areas, both in and out of school, encouraging our pupils to succeed in public examinations, sports, and artistic, cultural and community pursuits. We believe that parents and carers are key partners in nurturing our pupils and aiming for this success and we involve them at every stage. By participating in our extensive programme of enrichment beyond the classroom, each pupil is encouraged to enjoy the pleasure and rewards which come from the activities themselves and from the sense of community that they engender.

- **Challenge**

We have very high expectations of all members of the school community. Our pupils enter the doors with high baselines and, as a grammar school, we encourage them to push themselves to achieve their true potential. Our staff prepare challenging lessons, and content is constantly refreshed to remain contemporary. Throughout their time at TWGGS, we prepare young people for life beyond school, equipping them with the skills to become self-assured, engaged and responsible members of society, in a challenging and competitive world. • **Character** We value the individual and ensure that all pupi

- **Character**

We value the individual and ensure that all pupils are catered for. Working together towards high standards is part of the school ethos and values, and we balance these high expectations with warmth and support. The wellbeing of all is at the heart of our approach, allowing pupils to feel respected, included, secure and, above all, happy. With happiness comes the self-confidence to strive and achieve, both academically and personally.

## Teacher of Geography

Part-time maternity cover (0.5 FTE)

We are looking for an enthusiastic, well-qualified and committed KS3 Geography teacher to join an outstanding department and teach bright, well-motivated pupils in a supportive environment. The Geography Department at TWGGS currently consists of four full time staff. This post would require the successful applicant to teach KS3, with an ability to teach KS4 desirable but not essential. Geography is a popular subject and attracts committed, keen and well-motivated pupils; at least a third or more of these then go on to A Level studies and in recent years several have continued their studies at University. In 2023 8 of 37 pupils are pursuing Geography related courses at university with one accepted by Cambridge. Over the past 3 years pupil uptake has been consistently high at both GCSE (98 Year 11 pupils in 2020-21) and A Level (38 average for the last four years). This role would suit both an experienced teacher or an ECT.

The Department is well resourced; there are 4 Geography teaching rooms and a resource room. Class rooms are equipped with interactive whiteboards and digital projectors, networked computers and WiFi. All resources are kept on Google Drive, with Google Classroom actively used. A range of textbooks and resources is available for all year groups and each year's teaching has been rigorously planned by department staff, with regular review to maintain up to date materials. The department has a strong ethos of developing dynamic, independent study; staff are committed to providing excellent fieldwork opportunities and candidates must be willing to be involved in local day trips for Year 7 and Year 8.

TWGGS is an 11-18 girls' selective school of over a thousand pupils, where girls are encouraged to be as active beyond the curriculum as they are within it. Trips, visits and extra-curricular activities are unrivalled in the state sector, but, more importantly, it is an amazingly happy, positive community to be part of. This post arises as a result of maternity cover and offers an exciting opportunity to a teacher keen to get very actively involved in school life.

The teaching of Geography is compulsory from Year 7 to 9, with pupils in each year group having three 1 hour lessons of Geography a fortnight. Lessons in Key Stage 3 have a modern, issue based focus, combining skill development with real world events. The successful candidate would be expected to teach Year 7 and Year 8 Geography with an ability to teach GCSE (we follow EdExcel) preferable but not essential to the post.

The department is very successful at GCSE and A Level, including achieving the award for the highest GCSE and A Level grades in the country in 2018. Our last, pre-pandemic results, 66% of GCSE pupils achieved a Grade 8-9, with 41% of A Level students achieving an A\* grade.

If you would relish the opportunity to join TWGGS and get involved in this busy, happy community, application is by completion of the [school application form](#), accompanied by a letter stating why you feel your strengths, skills and experience best fit you for this post. Applications will be urgently considered as they arrive. If you have not heard from us by 5 July, please assume that, unfortunately, your application has not been successful. We should like to wish you well in your future career whether at TWGGS or elsewhere.

TWGGS is a diverse and inclusive school and we aim to recruit talented individuals from all backgrounds who add value to our pupils and who share our vision and ethos. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. As such, the successful applicant will be required to undertake a criminal record check via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

- At least one member of each interview panel will have completed Safer Recruitment Training and understanding of child safeguarding will be asked at every interview.
- References will be taken up at the selection stage and an enhanced DBS is required for all applicants.
- We will also carry out online searches for all shortlisted candidates related to suitability to work with children.

# How to apply

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The closing date for applications is 26th June 2024

Interviews are likely to be held on 1st July 2024

Application forms should be completed in full and applicants should directly address the skills and experience outlined in the person specification.

Further information about TWGGS and an application form can be found on our [website](#)

Please contact Mrs Michelle Clarke, Headteachers' PA at [admin@twggs.kent.sch.uk](mailto:admin@twggs.kent.sch.uk)



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