

Clarendon Academy Geography Department Information for Applicants – March 2023

Clarendon Academy has a highly motivated and ambitious Geography Department. We pride ourselves on the excellent standard of our teaching, the outcomes we provide for our students and the enjoyment we get from working in a stimulating, supportive and friendly atmosphere. I hope you gain a clear impression of our Department from these pages, and that you feel this is the type of work environment which would suit you. I look forward to receiving your application.

Kurt Williams
Head of Geography

1. Department Structure and Main Responsibilities

We are an average sized department within the school - there are currently 4 subject specific teachers in the Geography Department. Our department is in an exciting time of development. There is plenty of scope for colleagues to take an active part in shaping the development and direction of the department.

2. Professional Development

Clarendon Academy prides itself on the quality of the professional development opportunities it offers to both its own staff, and to others. We have a comprehensive ECT induction programme, including regular professional development, INSET meetings and training, and the allocation of a subject mentor and a teaching 'buddy' (a recently qualified teacher from a different Department), to offer help and support during the first few months in teaching. All of the Department become involved in new staff training and we pride ourselves on giving them a very supportive environment in which to begin or continue their teaching careers.

3. Curriculum

Geography is one of the most popular option subjects, with approximately 4 GCSE classes across each cohort. We teach an exciting and engaging curriculum across the key stages with specifics detailed below. We currently offer fieldwork opportunities to students in Lyme Regis, Swanage, Chesil Beach, Studland Bay, Bath and Stratford. The Geography department takes great pride in its strong record of results with consistently good Progress 8 scores. Our most recent results at KS4 had an overall progress score of +0.42 and we were in the top 20% nationally for KS5 progress. The Geography Department are in a strong position and seek a leading member of staff to augment this.

Key Stage 3:

Year 7 – 1) Map Skills 2) Geography of the UK 3) Antarctica 4) Africa 5) Kenya 6) Rivers
Year 8 – 1) Hazards 2) Brazil 3) Climate Change 4) Coasts 5) Resources
Year 9 – 1) Development 2) China 3) Glaciology 5) Globalisation 6) Topical Rainforests

Key Stage 4 (Edexcel B)

Year 10 – 1) Hazardous Earth 2) Development Dynamics 3) Challenges of an Urbanising World 4) The UK's Physical Environment.
Year 11 – 5) The UK's Evolving Human Landscape 6) Fieldwork Investigations 7) People and the Biosphere 8) Forests Under Threat 9) Consuming Energy Resources

Key Stage 5 (AQA)

Year 12 – 1) Hazards 2) Changing Places 3) Coasts
Year 13 – 1) Global Governance and Global Systems 2) Population and the Environment 3) Water and Carbon Cycles

4. Department Accommodation and Resources

The Geography Department is based largely in the 'Oliver' building – kindly donated by the Oliver brothers, ex-students who created the 'Tomb Raider' series of computer games. All full time Geography teachers in the Department have their own room in which they teach. We provide a wide variety of resource materials – including a number of class sets of different text books and full schemes of learning and full resources for KS3 and KS4 lessons.

5. Extra-Curricular Activities

The Geography Department offer weekly revision sessions for KS4 students. Humanities Staff are also involved in the delivery of sporting activities – including netball and basketball clubs.

6. Further Information

The Ethos of the Geography Department

The Geography Department at Clarendon Academy is a successful, dynamic, forward thinking and risk-taking Department. We are keen to embrace new developments which enhance the learning experience we provide for our learners.

We aim to instil a lifelong interest in Geography in our pupils, and provide them with skills they can use no matter what their future profession. The Department has a supportive, friendly atmosphere where new ideas and approaches are welcomed and openly discussed. We always aim to make our Geography lessons challenging, stimulating and fun and achieve this through careful planning and creating high quality resources.

What Sort of Person Do We Want?

The focus for our Department is firmly on '**teaching and learning**', and looking at ways of improving and enhancing the learning experience our students receive. We are therefore looking first and foremost for an excellent classroom practitioner who can bring new ideas and approaches to the Department. We will also require enthusiasm, hard work and a sense of humour. In return we will offer you support when you need it, excellent career progression and training, as well as a stimulating and vibrant working atmosphere. If you are looking for a new challenge in a supportive environment with a like-minded team of professionals, then we would love to hear from you – and will look forward to meeting you at interview.