



# **Uckfield College**

## **Recruitment Information Booklet**

**Teacher of History (MPS/UPS)**

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Dear Candidate

We are delighted you are interested in applying for a role at Uckfield College and thank you for taking the time to discover more about life at our school.

The staff here, both teaching and non-teaching, are excellent. They are professional, deeply caring people who have a strong moral purpose to make a difference to young people. Students in lessons are ready and eager to learn. Both personally and professionally, I am very proud of the work they do. While we are a 'students first' college and students are what we are here for, our greatest asset is our dedicated staff who strive and frequently go beyond the 'call of duty' to develop and maintain the very special learning environment that is Uckfield College. We are a Super Curricular school, which means that every student in years 7-13 (including those who are disadvantaged or have special needs) has to do at least one Super Curricular activity a week. There is an exceptional range of exciting opportunities on offer.

The History Department's strengths lie in its total commitment to the ongoing development of the curriculum, its innovative approach to learning sequences, and through maintaining strong relationships between colleagues. The History planned curriculum is very carefully curated, deeply thought through and well recognised and celebrated externally.

Collaborative time dedicated to Joint Professional Learning this last week, for example, was spent assessing the components of a language-rich History classroom, reviewing an article in the most recent Teaching History that championed structured talk in lessons, reviewing development priorities through a lego building task and devoting time to data and subsequent actions following the A-level trial exams.

The History team themselves are a great asset to the college, both in their commitment to the emerging historians of the future and in being ever-willing and keen to support new colleagues in shaping their ideas and in making a recognisable contribution to the department.

I feel sure that you will identify Uckfield College as an energetic and successful place in which to work. One aspect that stands out is the extensive support for teachers. There are comprehensive shared resources, detailed schemes of learning, weekly Joint Professional Learning Time (JPL), an innovative Professional Learning and Development (PLD) programme and our research informed, nationally recognised framework for teaching and learning, called Uckfield Excellence. Our professional development programme is exceptional and every member of staff in our team has bespoke training for their support role, teaching post or leadership position. Most recently, we have been focusing on 'Total Participation', setting out to embed key pedagogical strategies that ensure students are thinking hard and engaged in their learning.

If, after reading about us, you decide to apply for the post, then we look forward to receiving your application form. Applications will be processed in line with the dates provided and we will write to successful and unsuccessful candidates as soon as possible to inform them of their progress.

There is further information about the College, including the Prospectus and an electronic version of the briefing booklet and application form available on our website: [www.uckfield.college](http://www.uckfield.college). If there are specific parts of the application you would like to clarify, or if there is particular information you require, then please telephone me at the College. I can be contacted via my PA, Toni Fletcher, on 01825 764844, extension 1002.



In conclusion, I make no excuses for sounding so very proud of the enthusiasm, hard work and support of staff, students, parents and governors. Uckfield College is very much a team and I believe, fundamentally, a very happy and successful one.

I look forward to meeting short-listed candidates at interview.

Yours sincerely

Sara Marshallsay  
Principal



## About our College

Uckfield College is a rapidly improving school with excellent results, happy staff and students and highly engaged governors. In April 2024, we were proud and delighted that Ofsted graded Uckfield College as unequivocally 'Outstanding' in all areas. The inspection particularly highlighted the extremely positive staff culture and innovative, ambitious professional learning:

*The school's 'ceaseless pursuit of learning' extends to staff. Well-being is a priority for all. Staff are confident that leaders consider their workload when planning new initiatives. Training for teachers is unapologetically ambitious and highly effective. Early career teachers receive exceptional support and guidance. All staff, regardless of experience, participate in coaching that improves both their subject knowledge and teaching skills. As a result, staff feel highly motivated and are very proud to work at the school. Governors are ambitious for the school. They provide expertise and robust challenge. Leaders are diligent and highly skilled. Together, their shared commitment to continuous improvement is at the heart of decision making.*  
OFSTED April 2024



Inspectors also said some wonderful things about our students:

- *Pupils' behaviour and conduct are typically excellent.*
- *The Uckfield qualities of love, integrity and kindness permeate the school.*
- *Different opinions are respected and diversity is celebrated. As a result, this is a highly inclusive school.*
- *Pupils relish challenge and are not afraid of making mistakes.*
- *Sixth form students thrive when taking on positions of responsibility, such as head student or when contributing to the student leadership team. They are excellent role models and perform their responsibilities with care, dedication and diligence.*

Students are at the heart of everything we do. The positive relationships between staff, parents and students have helped us to sustain and drive significant improvements in recent years. We are very proud of our College and want to recruit members of our staff team who will champion and celebrate our success, within the College and in the wider community.



## Our Vision and Ethos

**Our Vision: An inspiring College where every individual is supported and challenged to achieve personal excellence.**

**Our Aim: Is for everyone in our community to lead truly, deeply, happy, fulfilled and purpose-driven lives. Our curriculum is how we achieve those aims.**

In feedback to the Lead Inspector during our last Ofsted Inspection, one parent summed up the ethos of the school as **“Encouraging the young people to love learning, be interested in the world around them, take care of it and take care of one another.”**



## Our Staff

We are exceptionally proud of our staff here at Uckfield College, both teaching and non-teaching. They are an amazing team who work together collegiately to support each other and help each and every one of us to be the very best we can.



# Teacher of History (MPS/UPS)

<b>Hours</b>	Full Time
<b>Commencement</b>	Term 5 or September 2025
<b>Contract</b>	Permanent

## The Application Process

We hope that after reading the information in this booklet you will be keen to apply to join our dedicated team of staff. If you would like to be considered for this role, please complete and return an East Sussex County Council Application Form, which is available electronically from our website. We will also be pleased to forward a hard copy of the application form to you if you prefer.

Please ensure that you submit your application before the closing date for this post of Teacher of History, closing date Monday 27th January at 9.00 a.m. Unfortunately applications received after this time cannot be considered. If you are short-listed for the post we will contact you as soon as possible to invite you to interview.

If you would like to discuss the post further, or arrange to visit the College prior to making your application, please do not hesitate to contact our HR Department on 01825 764844 extension 1008 or email [hr@uckfield.college](mailto:hr@uckfield.college).

## The Interview Process

We look forward to welcoming short-listed candidates on the interview day, when they will have the opportunity to find out much more about the College throughout the interview process. On the day you can expect the format to include:

- Welcome from the team
- Meetings with key members of the team
- Lesson Observation
- Tour of the College
- Safeguarding Interview
- Panel Interview

We are committed to the safeguarding of children. References and Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service checks will be conducted on the successful applicant. Please note this role is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and the amendments to the Exceptions Order 1975, 2013 and 2020.

We are equally committed to eliminating discrimination and encouraging diversity. We aim for our workforce to be representative of society and that each employee feels respected and able to give their best. We are committed to providing equality and fairness in our recruitment and employment practices and not to discriminate on any grounds.



# Job Description

<b>Job Title:</b>	Teacher of History
<b>Responsible To:</b>	Curriculum Leader of History

## **Main Purpose of the Job**

- To carry out the professional duties of a teacher as circumstances may require and in accordance with the College's policies under the direction of the Principal.
- To be an effective professional who demonstrates thorough curriculum knowledge, can teach and assess effectively, take responsibility for professional development and develop standards of students' learning, achievement and attainment through the use of evidence-informed practice.
- To play a full part in the life of the College and its community, to support its mission and ethos of realising potential and to be a role model for staff and students.

## **Job Dimensions**

- Students: accountable for the oversight of learning of those students allocated to the post holder, engaging and motivating in the classroom and building team commitment with colleagues.

## **Key Accountabilities**

**Strategic Direction and Development:** Lead, develop and implement teaching and learning policies, plans, targets and practices to ensure contribution to whole College improvement.

Where appropriate to:

- promote the general progress and well-being of individual students and of any class or group of students assigned to the post holder;
- use evidence-informed practice to improve outcomes in each area of the role;
- identify clear teaching objectives through planning and specify how they will be taught and assessed;
- set tasks which challenge students and ensure high levels of interest and expectations for each and every student;
- set clear targets and intervene, when appropriate, based on prior attainment;
- provide clear structures and routines for lessons which regularly review prior learning using effective strategies, e.g. retrieval practice;
- use regular, specific feedback, both verbal and written, to provide clear and meaningful improvement strategies to students;
- effectively scaffold the curriculum and use adaptive teaching to ensure all students can access and excel at tasks within each lesson;
- have routines which maintain high levels of pace, motivation and challenge;
- ensure students' working memory is kept on task through cognitive offloading strategies;
- maintain discipline in accordance with the college's procedures and encourage good practice with regard to punctuality, behaviour, standards of work and homework;
- use college strategies to improve literacy in all lessons, e.g. the explicit teaching of Tier 2 vocabulary;
- ensure students acquire and consolidate knowledge, skills and understanding appropriate to the subject taught;
- evaluate own teaching critically to improve effectiveness;
- ensure the effective and efficient deployment of classroom support through explicit guidance;
- prepare students for public examinations where relevant;
- register the attendance of students in lessons in line with the college policy.





**Leading and Managing Staff:** provide the necessary support, challenge, intervention and information to sustain motivation and secure improvement in teaching and learning.

Where appropriate to:

- use performance data to evaluate students' progress and set appropriate targets for improvement;
- use strategies to promote self efficacy for every adult in the college;
- assess how well learning objectives have been achieved and use them to improve specific aspects of teaching;
- promote the use of educational research to improve both student and staff outcomes;
- mark and monitor students' work and set targets for progress;
- assess and record students' progress systematically and keep records to check work is understood and completed, monitor strengths and weaknesses, inform planning and recognize the level at which the students achieving;
- undertake assessment of students as requested by examination bodies, departmental and College procedures;
- prepare and present informative reports for parents and other external agencies as appropriate;
- make records of reports on the social needs of students;
- provide or contribute to oral and written assessments, reports and references relating to individual and groups of students.

### **Curriculum Development**

- Contribute to the development of Schemes of Learning and lesson planning within the curriculum area which are inline with the subject's curriculum intent.

**Teaching and Learning:** secure and sustain effective teaching, evaluate the quality of teaching and standards of students' achievements and set targets for improvement to ensure high standards across all key stages and external assessments.

- Have a working knowledge of teachers' professional duties and legal liabilities;
- operate at all times within the stated policies and practices of the College;
- establish effective working relationships, with students and staff, and set a good example through own presentation and personal and professional conduct;
- endeavour to give every student the opportunity to reach their potential and meet high expectations;
- to use strategies to promote self efficacy for all students;
- monitor student progress and implement intervention strategies;
- be committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students in all lessons and related activities, and develop and implement policies and practices which reflect the College's commitment to every child;
- provide guidance and advice to students on educational and social matters and on further education and future careers;
- maintain good order and discipline among students and safeguard their health and safety when they are engaged in authorised College activities elsewhere;
- participate in arrangements for students presentation for examinations;
- supervise and so far as practicable teach any students whose teacher is not available to teach them following the current Pay and Conditions;
- participate in meetings at the college which relate to the curriculum, administration or organisation of the college.

### **Communication**

- Communicate and consult with the parents of students and Governors where appropriate;
- communicate and cooperate with persons and external agencies and participate in meetings arranged for any of the purposes described above;
- take part in marketing and liaison activities such as Open Evenings, Parents Evenings, Review Days and events with partner schools;
- contribute to the corporate life of the College through effective participation in meetings and management systems necessary to coordinate the management of the College;
- cooperate with other staff to ensure sharing and effective usage of resources to the benefit of the College, department and students.



## **Deployment of Resources**

- Review from time to time own methods of teaching and Schemes of Learning;
- participate in arrangements for own further training and professional development as a teacher;
- participate in arrangements for own supervision and training whilst serving in an induction period;
- participate in arrangements for the appraisal of own performance and that of other teachers;
- take responsibility for own professional development and duties in relation to College policies and practices;
- contribute to the professional development of other teachers e.g. the induction of new teachers.

## **Quality Assurance**

- Embed the College's High Reliability practices in order to sustain and develop high quality teaching and learning.

*Refer to the current 'Conditions of Employment for Teachers other than Head Teachers' from School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document from the DfE.*

*This post is subject to the current conditions of employment for Class Teachers contained in the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document, the 1998 School Standards and Framework Act, the required standards for Qualified Teacher Status and Class Teachers and other current legislation. This job description should be read in conjunction with 'Clarification notes on the exercise of professional duties for all teachers, other than head teachers' contained at Appendix A.*

*This job description may be amended at any time following discussion between the Principal and member of staff, to be reviewed annually.*



# Person Specification: Teacher of History

## Essential education and qualifications

- Qualified Teacher Status

## Essential key skills, abilities, knowledge, experience, values and behaviours

- Excellent classroom teacher
- Ability to teach KS3 and KS4
- High quality interpersonal skills
- Displays commitment to the protection and Safeguarding of children and young people
- Team player
- Flexible
- Proactive and able to make decisions
- Ambitious, personally and for the College
- An educational vision focused on students
- Excellent range of communication skills; listening as well as speaking, presenting, writing
- Resilience
- Positive 'can do' attitude

## Desirable key skills, abilities, knowledge, experience, values and behaviours

- Able to teach subject to A Level
- Aware of strategies to raise student achievement



# Role of Form Mentor

**Line Manager:** Director of Year

## Professional Duties

- To act as the first point of contact between home and college and to advise and guide parents and students on a day to day basis.
- To get to know the students in the mentor group and strive to be aware of backgrounds as these will affect the student's performance in college.
- To establish a positive relationship between mentor and the student so that the mentor is aware of both danger signs and indications that the group and individuals are functioning well.
- To encourage each student to take a full part in college activities.
- To be a source of information about the college and to interpret college policy to the students as it affects them.
- To maintain high standards of college uniform with all students in the group.
- To liaise with senior pastoral staff about students in difficulty or trouble.
- To complete the form register and to do so in a well-controlled manner so that the information recorded is accurate and in accordance with the notes in the staff guide.
- To check (using Google Classroom) and encourage students to:
  - complete homework that is set; and
  - hand homework in on time.
- To ensure that all absences are covered by letters or telephone calls from parents. Directors of Year should be notified when a Form Mentor is unable to obtain a satisfactory reason for absence either from the students or from contact with the parents directly.
- To monitor students' academic progress through profiles/reports and data/progress analyses. To make a meaningful and appropriate comment on social and academic progress made as required by the style of the report.
- To coordinate appropriate intervention strategies to support students' academic and social progress.
- To deliver the set mentor programme during Personal Development Time and Life Learning (PSHCE).



# Departmental Structure and Organisation 2024/2025

## History Department

### Staff

David Brunson	Curriculum Leader of History
James Harvey	Deputy Curriculum Leader of History, Super Curricular Lead
Emma Balfour	Teacher of History
George Bottomley	Teacher of History
Neil Peckham	Teacher of History

### Curriculum Intent

The History Department at Uckfield College wants its pupils to develop an ongoing interest and fascination with the past and an appreciation of human achievements. We want students to be enthused and intrigued by different aspects of History so that they might ask their own thoughtful questions of the past and so they can make considered and well communicated responses to different material. They might understand how our society and its values have developed as well as appreciate the diverse nature of different people groups and how they have evolved in their culture, government and leadership over time. In doing so, pupils learn about major events and issues in British, European and World History. Students also understand the work of the historian, the use and problems of evidence and the development of historical thought and interpretation. We encourage students to question the actions and motivations of those who have lived before so that they can make relevant judgements of their actions.

### Curriculum

We offer a broad and carefully curated curriculum that seeks to help students gain a deeper understanding of the world - by studying the past, our curriculum is designed to provide links to the present and foster curiosity that students might ask the pertinent questions of what is going on in the world today. The curriculum is built around enquiries and enquiry-led activities - students can prepare for lessons but also are expected to investigate and uncover answers to questions through different activities.

The curriculum for History supports the focus on strong moral values - enquiries require students to engage positively in material and question the actions and motivations of those who have lived before. Our Key Stage 3 curriculum focuses on enquiries that include a range of studies such as Benin, the Medieval village, the Holocaust and political equality in Britain. There is a strong focus on key terms and vocabulary, oracy activities and debate, as well as activities that help students to think hard and reflect judiciously.



## Accommodation

The Department is housed in four specialist classrooms. Resources are stored in several locations within the History wing.

## Resources

- All rooms have a digital projector with speakers connected
- The College is networked and digital resources are openly shared
- All teaching staff are currently issued with a free Chromebook. To enhance learning, all students have Chromebooks (Years 7 to 11) or their own device (Sixth Form).

## History Provision

**Key Stage 3** Students study topics ranging from “What do great historians do that makes them great?” to “How has India been shaped and affected by the experience of empires in the last 5 centuries?” with two lessons each lasting one hour per week. We combine enquiry based learning with depth studies and our contact time allows us to offer a wide variety of skills and content. Throughout the two year Key Stage, students complete regular assessments which test their knowledge, writing and source skills. All classes are mixed ability.

**Key Stage 4** Approximately 100-120 students each year choose to study our Edexcel GCSE History course; these students are usually taught in 4-5 different class groups. Students receive 5 one hour lessons per fortnight. Students study Medicine Through Time and the British Sector in the Western Front for Paper 1. The Depth study unit for Paper 2 encompasses the American West unit as well as a study of the reigns of King Richard and King John. For Paper 3 we teach the German 1918-1939 Interpretations unit.

**Year 12 and Year 13** There are typically 10-12 students who take A-level History. Students follow the OCR syllabus.  
Unit 1 England 1485 – 1558 the Early Tudors, the British Period Study  
Unit 2 Russia 1894 – 1941, the Non British Study  
Unit 3 Civil Rights in the USA 1865 – 1992, the Thematic Study  
Unit 4 Topic based Essay

## Public Examinations

**Year 11** Paper 1 Medicine and the Western Front (30%)  
Paper 2 American West and King Richard and King John (40%)  
Paper 3 Germany 1918-1939 (30%)

**Year 13** Students are prepared for the OCR A2 examinations.



## **Additional Information**

The aim of the Department is to make History as interesting, enjoyable and accessible to all as possible. We perceive History as a rigorous intellectual pursuit so we encourage students to be curious, explore in depth and reach judgements. We acknowledge how the study of History expands the mind through critical thinking, evaluating and reasoning. For us, History gives a sense of the past and a context to today's society. It is about people and how they act, and so encourages tolerance and open mindedness. It also raises issues of a controversial and sensitive nature and in so doing responds to the demands of Citizenship and subject relevance in the curriculum. The Department aims therefore to continue to develop a rigorous curriculum that challenges all students, provides access where needed and enriches their understanding of both History and the world in which they live.

The department has developed high quality resources to support learners in each stage of their curriculum and skills development. Colleagues regularly share and develop ideas, work collaboratively in their planning and follow schemes of learning that are regularly reviewed and enhanced. Lesson resources are openly available for students to review and access their learning throughout the year.

Departmental meetings are scheduled at regular intervals. They are lively and constructive, as our aim is to work together towards moving the Department forward and continually strengthening teaching and learning. The Department regularly seeks to use specialist subject knowledge, build in the use of historical writing, present diverse and interesting narratives from a range of perspectives and be informed by research in our practice. We pride ourselves for being a friendly, sharing, supportive team, dedicated to stimulating and motivating the students in our care.



# The Application and Appointment Arrangements

We look forward to receiving your application which should be returned to our HR Department at Uckfield College, [hr@uckfield.college](mailto:hr@uckfield.college). Your application should comprise:

- A letter of application (2 sides A4 max), which includes reference to those aspects of your experience, personal qualities, knowledge and skills which will equip you for these roles;
- A fully completed application form.

The closing date for receipt of completed applications is Monday 27th January 2025 at 9.00 a.m. Short-listing will take place shortly afterwards and interviews will be held as soon as possible. The selection process will include meetings with key members of the team, a lesson observation, a tour of the College and formal interviews.

If you require any further information please contact our HR Department at Uckfield College on 01825 764844, extension 1008 or email [hr@uckfield.college](mailto:hr@uckfield.college). Alternatively you may contact Toni Fletcher, PA to the Principal, on 01825 764844, extension 1002, or email [t.fletcher@uckfield.college](mailto:t.fletcher@uckfield.college).





# Uckfield College

## *Love Learning for Life*



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