

Teacher of English / Humanities MPS/UPR Required from September 2022



Birkdale
High
School



Aspire - Thrive - Succeed

INFORMATION PACK - GENERAL INFORMATION.

Birkdale High School is a successful, oversubscribed 11- 16 all-boys High School. There are currently 860 pupils on roll. The school is situated in Southport and is very accessible from Liverpool, Preston and West Lancashire.

We are specialists in the education of boys and firmly believe that this gives us the opportunity to create a unique environment that will enable all our boys to develop their full potential both academically and personally, free from many of the gender based prejudices that so often put pressure on young men. In an all-boys setting, they can mature at their own pace, supported and challenged by staff who are experts in teaching boys, and surrounded by peers to whom they can closely relate.

We are proud of our academic achievements and the examinations success of our boys over the years. These achievements would not be possible without our talented and dedicated staff, who work tirelessly to engage and challenge each and every pupil, or without the hard work of the boys and the support of their parents and carers.

We also have a sporting record that is second to none amongst the local schools, whether on the track, the field or the court. We regularly top the local league tables and enjoy success at regional and national level too.

We are, however, most proud of our pupils themselves and the ethos they embody: Aspire, Thrive, Succeed. I hope that as you browse through this welcome pack you start to get an idea of the many different ways in which our pupils exemplify this motto: through our pupil leadership team, the school council, peer mentors, sports leaders, charity fundraisers and countless other examples.

We are a school for all boys, regardless of their backgrounds, abilities or interests. There are many different ways to be a boy and we value and celebrate every one of them, so we can help each pupil to succeed and become the young man they aspire to be.



Values and Ethos

Our vision is driven by the strong moral imperative that it is our mission to provide all our boys with a first class education, outstanding outcomes and better life chances. We seek to challenge stereotypes, we are ambitious for every boy we teach and we want to see a society that benefits from the contributions of our well-educated, well-rounded and empowered young men.

We believe that every child, regardless of their background, should be able to fulfil their academic potential and go on to thrive amongst the demands and expectations of life in modern Britain and beyond. The school's motto is **“Aspire – Thrive – Succeed”** and underpins its ethos and approach.

We aim to engage, support, stretch and challenge all boys by providing them with a range of exciting opportunities; a varied and purposeful curriculum and a strong set of core values, demanding of all its pupils the highest standards in all they undertake whilst supporting them in the fulfilment of their personal and academic potential.

We strive to be an inclusive school, an outward facing centre of academic, professional and personal achievement, prepared to lead, learn from and collaborate with all available partners in the pursuit of excellence for our pupils and staff.



English

The English Department strives to be at the heart of a vibrant curriculum here at Birkdale High School. We are a dedicated and experienced team who uses expert subject knowledge and strong routines to build a consistent learning environment, raising the outcomes, aspirations and independence for all boys, regardless of their abilities.

Currently, we have 8 full time English specialist teachers, including the school's SENDCO and the Assistant Headteacher for Teaching and Learning. We are a supportive, collaborative department in the truest sense; we invest time discussing the curriculum and in exploring evidence-based research practices to improve student attainment and outcomes. The successful candidate would further enrichen the department and contribute towards our journey to outstanding.

We are fully committed to cultivating a climate of excellence, whereby every child is supported and taught to become an outstanding reader, writer and speaker of Standard English. Enjoyment is also important to us too! We are passionate about ensuring that our boys harness a desire and enthusiasm to learn and succeed; fire up their imaginations through reading for pleasure; foster a love of literature both past and present; develop a strong work ethic with the determination to succeed; gain the ability to apply a range of literacy skills and knowledge to meaningful contexts and establish themselves in a successful role within society. Essentially, we work on the premise that, If English were an option subject, we would want students to opt to continue to study our subject!

In The Foundation Stage (KS3) our curriculum is knowledge driven, with students encountering a diverse range of challenging texts and genres. We place a strong emphasis on direct instruction of tier two vocabulary reinforced by the Bedrock Vocabulary programme, as well as the metacognitive processes of reading supported by the Accelerated Reader programme. We also strive to develop students' writing accuracy, flair and stamina through regular writing challenges.

At the Examination Stage (KS4) we deliver the AQA specifications for both GCSE English Language and English Literature to all students. The curriculum builds on the Foundation Stage curriculum by addressing increasingly challenging texts and complex themes. We aim to develop critical and analytical readers who are able to unpick a writer's motivations, viewpoint and possible agenda. We want students to recognise the links in their GCSE texts to previous units that they have studied and to encourage them to transferring their learning. We also aim to develop our students as writers who can confidently express their viewpoint or express themselves imaginatively and expressively.

Underpinning every English lesson is pace, challenge and progress. To facilitate this, each classroom has a whiteboard, projector and high quality visualizer to model and scaffold learning.

We have developed strong working relationships with pupils using high expectations and positive language to embed effective routines for learning. The successful candidate can expect strong support from all colleagues in establishing effective habits in their pupils, as well as instilling high standards.

Humanities

The Humanities department at Birkdale High is a dedicated team that benefits from having a range of experience all based on sound subject knowledge and a passion for history and geography. We believe in strong routines to build a consistent learning environment, raising the outcomes, aspirations and independence for boys regardless of their abilities.

Currently, we have two full time History specialist teachers, and two non-specialists who teach some KS3. We also have two full time geographers and a member of SLT on the team.

We are members of the Historical and Geographical Associations to ensure that we have access to the latest subject specific pedagogy to support our drive for continued improvement in our own teaching and learning and the outcomes of our students. Humanities subjects are very popular options, we regularly have between 3-5 classes per subject, per year group.

The Foundation Stage (Years 7-9) is based on a history curriculum which helps explain the world as it is by exploring the world as it was. We aim to create a sense of intrigue and encourage students to be ambitious. We base our studies around British history, but our enquiries will be local, continental and global in scale. We aim to emphasise that the past is a 'foreign land' constructed in ways which are still contested. Students will develop their disciplinary thinking, exploring the past from multiple perspectives and viewpoints. We strive to make our curriculum representative of a variety of perspectives and viewpoints. We are aiming to provide the broadest picture while picking up on those details that fascinate, challenge and delight. Combining these threads we want to provide a rich, broad and structured understanding of the past for every student. Our curriculum aims to produce 'citizen historians' by helping change how students understand themselves, the world around them and their place within the world. Significantly increasing students' historical knowledge, curiosity, critical thinking and communication skills are all key functions of our curriculum. Increased knowledge of the past will help inform students' identity; this curriculum will give them confidence to defend their beliefs and flexibility to incorporate new perspectives into their thinking. The Birkdale History curriculum will help students question and influence the people and communities around them. Our history curriculum exists within the wider Birkdale curriculum to challenge the students and give them power. We want it to help all our students engage in the discourse and practices of educated people so that they are enabled to enjoy and actively become citizens of the world.

At KS4 we teach OCR SHP B as our departments thinking is very much in line with the values of the Schools History Project. We study Crime & Punishment, Elizabethan England, The Making of America, Living in Nazi Germany, and our History Around US Unit is based on the Albert Dock in Liverpool.

Each classroom has a whiteboard, projector and high quality visualiser to support teaching and learning.

We have developed strong working relationships with pupils using high expectations and positive language to embed effective routines for learning. The successful candidate can expect strong support from all colleagues in establishing effective habits in their pupils, as well as high standards.

Job Description - Teacher of English / Humanities

Reporting to:	Head of Department - Mrs J Tipping (English) or Miss Bailey (Humanities)
Working time:	Full Time
Salary Grade:	Main Scale / UPR
DBS check:	Enhanced with barred list information and prohibition order checks

Main purpose

- To teach and effectively deliver the curriculum to a range of classes throughout Key Stages 3-4.
- To be accountable for pupil attainment, achievement and progress in the classes taught.
- To evaluate the teaching and learning strategies and resources deployed.
- To be responsible for leading on the development of one departmental dimension as agreed with the Subject Leader.
- To support the school and the Subject Leader in securing quality of education for all learners.

You are required to carry out the duties of a school teacher as set out in the current School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document (hereafter called The Document). You are required to carry out such professional duties as stated in the Document which the Headteacher may reasonably ask you to undertake. In addition, you are required to undertake the following responsibilities, which may or may not be included above:

General responsibilities

- To support and promote the school's aims and objectives.
- To ensure a duty of care at all times to safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils in line with statutory responsibilities.
- To work within the school's Health and Safety policies to ensure a safe working environment for all pupils, staff and visitors.
- To work within the school's Equal Opportunities policies to promote equality of opportunities for all pupils and staff.
- To maintain high professional standards of attendance, punctuality, appearance, conduct and courteous, positive relations with pupils, parents, colleagues and visitors.
- To actively support and promote positive professional and curriculum links across the school and with partner schools.
- To actively engage with the performance management process and continue with personal and professional development.
- To adhere to school policies and procedures as set out in the staff handbook and other documentation available.
- To adhere to and support as appropriate school and departmental procedures regarding assessment including preparation and entry for public examinations as specified by the boards.

Shaping the Future

- To support the Subject Leader in providing a clear direction for the development of the school.
- To ensure that work across the classes taught fully reflects the school ethos and mission statement.
- To contribute to establishing the core values of the subject area and their practical expression.
- To contribute to the preparation, implementation and monitoring of the subject development plan.
- To support the departmental and pastoral teams in the review, implementation, development and monitoring of whole school policies which promote the school's values, aims and objectives.

Leading Learning and Teaching

- To work with colleagues to formulate the aims, objectives and strategic plans for the designated area which have coherence and relevance to the needs of pupils and support the aims, objectives and strategic plans of the school.
- To ensure short, medium and long-term planning is effectively carried out and pupils' individual needs are met.
- To support subject staff in the development and implementation of curricular and pastoral initiatives.
- To lead by example as a teacher, achieving high standards of pupil attainment, behaviour and motivation through effective teaching.
- To uphold the school's Code of Conduct.

Developing self and working with others

- To identify development needs and engage with appropriate programs designed to meet such needs.
- To participate in the interview process for teaching posts when required and to ensure effective induction of new staff in line with School procedures.
- To lead, with support as appropriate, the professional development of staff through example, coaching, peer-support and target setting.
- To plan, chair and organise meetings as appropriate.
- To support the school's ITT programme as required.
- To liaise with support staff, parents, governors and outside agencies.
- To attend and participate in Open and Parents' evenings.
- To participate in whole staff training and Continuing Professional Development.
- To attend team and whole staff meetings.
- To work collaboratively with all colleagues.
- To encourage moral and spiritual growth and civic and social responsibilities amongst pupils.

Managing the organisation

- To ensure the highest standard of behaviour within the classes taught in liaison with the Subject Leader, Heads of Year and the Senior Leadership Team.
- To use all available resources effectively and efficiently.
- To actively commit to, engage with and support the school's programme of extra curricular activities.

Securing accountability

- To engage with the school appraisal process.
- To contribute to the target setting process for the subject.
- To contribute to the School procedures for lesson observation/progress reviews.
- To implement School quality procedures and to ensure adherence to those within the subject area.
- To monitor and evaluate own practice in line with agreed School procedures including evaluation against quality standards and performance criteria.
- To provide accurate and up-to-date information for the management information system as requested by the Subject Leader, Senior Leadership Team or Governors.
- To analyse and evaluate performance data provided for the classes taught.
- To identify and take appropriate action on issues arising from data, systems and reports; setting deadlines where necessary and reviewing progress on the action taken.
- To update the Headteacher, Senior Leadership Team, Subject Leader and Governing Body on the effectiveness of provision for pupils in the classes taught.
- To report to and engage with external agencies as appropriate.

Strengthening Community

- To be aware of your own role and responsibilities within the department and as part of the school and wider community.
- To ensure effective communication/consultation as appropriate with the parents of pupils.
- To liaise with partner schools, Higher Education, Industry, Examination Boards, Awarding Bodies, External Agencies, and other relevant external bodies, as appropriate.
- To contribute to and actively engage with the school liaison and marketing activities as appropriate.
- To contribute to the setting up of effective links with identified partner schools and the wider community.
- To play a full part in the life of the school community and to encourage and ensure staff and pupils follow this example.

Other Specific Duties:

Whilst every effort has been made to explain the main duties and responsibilities of the post, each individual task undertaken may not be identified.

Employees will be expected to comply with any reasonable request from a manager to undertake work of a similar level that is not specified in this job description.

The school will endeavour to make any necessary reasonable adjustments to the job and the working environment to enable access to employment opportunities for disabled job applicants or continued employment for any employee who develops a disabling condition.

This job description is current at the date shown, but, in consultation with you, may be changed by the Headteacher to reflect or anticipate changes in the job commensurate with the salary/grade and job title.

Date: April 2022

Person Specification - Teacher of English / Humanities

Specifications	Essential	Desirable	Evidence
1. Qualifications	<p>Qualified Teaching status</p> <p>English or Humanities qualification at degree level or equivalent</p> <p>Evidence of recent relevant CPD</p>	<p>Higher degree</p> <p>Coaching qualification/ training</p> <p>SLE/ Lead Practitioner</p>	A
2. Experience	<p>Recent experience of teaching in a mainstream 11-16 school</p>		A, S, I
3. Abilities, skills and knowledge	<p>Excellent subject knowledge</p> <p>Ability to teach up to GCSE Level in one or both areas</p> <p>Knowledge of how to meet the needs of pupils in defined groups: SEND, Disadvantaged, Most Able</p> <p>Knowledge of assessment to support pupil progress</p> <p>A knowledge of the issues surrounding safeguarding of pupils in schools</p> <p>The ability to maintain and improve, where necessary, pupil behaviour</p>	<p>Knowledge of the Catch-up Premium and National Tutoring Programme</p> <p>An innovative approach to delivering the curriculum</p> <p>Knowledge of Ofsted Education Inspection Framework</p>	A, S, I

Specifications	Essential	Desirable	Evidence
5. Philosophy and Ethos	<p>An understanding of how pupils learn how to meet their needs</p> <p>Commitment to high standards and continuing improvement</p> <p>A commitment to the principles and values of an inclusive education and the pastoral care and personal development of pupils</p> <p>A commitment to the Personal Development of pupils through the provision of extra-curricular activities.</p> <p>A commitment to safeguarding</p> <p>High expectations of pupil progress, personal development and conduct</p> <p>Relentless personal drive and ambition anchored in success</p> <p>Strong support for the ethos and values of Birkdale High School</p>		S, I
6. Community	<p>Ability to work with and gain the support of external agencies</p> <p>Ability to promote the school within a diverse community</p>	<p>Experience in building wider relationships in a diverse community</p>	S, I

For evidence section A - Application Letter, S - Supporting Letter and I - Interview

Covering letters must be a maximum of 2 sides of A4.

Summary

Role	Teacher of English / Humanities
Reporting to	Head of English or Humanities - Mrs Tipping or Miss Bailey (Line Manager)
Start Date	September 2022
Salary Grade	MPS/UPR Temporary Full Time Contract
Tour or discussion details	To arrange a tour or have a chat to Mr Banks (Deputy Headteacher) please email kanslow@birkdalehigh.co.uk
Deadline for applications	Monday 16th May at 10:00am
Interview Dates	Thursday 19th May
Type of School	Single Academy
Age Range	11-16 (All boys)
Location	Southport, Sefton
Number of pupils	860

It was a pleasure to be shown around your high school today. We were very impressed firstly by Mr Bourgade taking the time to show us around and making our son feel so welcomed and calm. The school has a wonderful calm and caring feel and we were so happy with the subjects on offer, the hub, staffing and how well the school has adjusted during covid. It was a big step bringing our son today and he came away so happy about Birkdale High and not at all anxious. He skipped into primary telling his teacher all about his amazing time at Birkdale High.

A parent of a y6 pupil

