

ROMAN EMPIRE ANCIENT



Teacher of History (Maternity Cover)

MPR

Required from September 2021

A LETTER FROM THE HEADMASTER

Dear Colleague,

Thank you for expressing an interest in applying for the position of **Teacher of History (Maternity Cover)** at St Christopher's. This vacancy will provide the successful candidate with the opportunity to work in a very strong department and an Outstanding 11-18 Church of England high school (SIAMS 2016-17). The contract will commence on **1st September 2021** and will last for the duration of the maternity leave which is expected to be **until June 2022**.


The successful candidate will join a joyful, flourishing and thriving school. The staff are hard-working, reflective and collegiate in approach. Our pupils are a delight and parents are very supportive. We are always oversubscribed in Year 7 and the Sixth Form, although we take nothing for granted. This year, for example, well over 850 pupils applied for one of our 195 places. St Christopher's is a rewarding place to work and to develop professionally. The school engenders real loyalty from all who are associated with it.

The application form should be completed electronically and emailed to **head@st-christophers.org**, marked for the attention of Mrs Walsh, my PA. It should be accompanied with a supporting letter of not more than two sides of A4 paper, in 11 point font, explaining your suitability for the post, including reference to your skills, experience and a flavour of your vision for teaching at St Christopher's.

The closing date for applications is **Monday 12 April 2021 (midday)** and interviews are planned for **Thursday 15 April 2021**.

If you would like to find out more about the school or position, or to organise a visit, please feel free to email my PA at the above address.

I took up my present position at St Christopher's in September 2013 and know all too well the time and commitment required to go through the application process for a new post. If, having considered the supporting documents you feel you have the necessary qualities we require, I would be delighted to receive your application.


Yours sincerely,



R D Jones
Headmaster

"The clear Christian vision of the senior management team (SMT), ably led by the headteacher and well supported by governors and the director of spirituality, ensures that the academy is a caring and inclusive community in which learners flourish as 'children of God'."

ABOUT ST CHRISTOPHER'S

Introduction

St Christopher's is a highly successful and popular 11-18 co-educational Church of England school with 1,300 pupils and students on roll. We are situated in the Lancashire town of Accrington close to the Ribble Valley. Good motorway links mean that Preston, Burnley, Blackburn, Manchester and North Yorkshire are all within a 30-40 minute car journey. The school is situated in a pleasant setting with views towards Pendle Hill.

Our pupils come from a wide catchment area. Pupils join us in Year 7 from over fifty primary schools, and the sixth form receives students from around thirty secondary schools. We enjoy an enviable reputation, built-up over many years, for providing high quality education for a comprehensive intake of pupils. Our reputation means that we are a popular school, and always over-subscribed. However, we do not allow ourselves to become complacent, always striving for higher standards in all areas. This year, for example, well over 850 applications were received for the 195 on offer. Ten per cent of our pupils are eligible for the Pupil Premium and 3% are from minority ethnic groups.

Our teaching comprises of 80 teachers and 12 teaching assistants. The Senior Leadership Team is substantively the Headmaster, two Deputy Headteachers, three Senior Assistant Headteachers, two Assistant Headteachers, and the school Business Manager.

The school's commitment to learning extends to staff as well as pupils; there is a well-developed support structure for NQTs and other new members of staff, and a strong culture of ongoing professional development among our teaching and support staff. We are continually looking to develop innovative approaches to learning, with an increasing focus on collaborative learning. All classrooms are equipped with interactive whiteboards and access to laptop computers. Whilst we appreciate the contribution that technology can play in assisting learning, we remain committed to the idea that it is the teacher who makes the difference.

Academic results

Our pupils achieve very well. This year over 70% Year 11 pupils gained 5+ GCSE passes at grades 9-4, including English and mathematics. Our Sixth Form, which opened in 2010 and now has over 300 students studying A-level, achieved impressive results, with 84% of students gaining A*-C.

The school has grown significantly in recent years but this period of change has been managed without compromising the high standards of pastoral care and academic achievement for which we are well known.

Curriculum

We offer a genuinely broad and balanced curriculum to all year groups. Pupils acquire the skills, concepts, knowledge and skills necessary to prepare them to take place their place as active and successful citizens of the 21st century.

At Key Stage 3, subjects are taught according to the National Curriculum guidelines and a wide range of learning styles are used to ensure that all pupils are engaged and able to progress. We believe that pupils learn best in classes appropriate to their ability so pupils are set for many subjects from the beginning of Year 7.

"St. Christopher's offers a friendly and supportive environment, where teachers strive to support each individual pupil to fulfil their potential. The varied curriculum and rich opportunities provided ensure that pupils flourish both socially and academically."

In Years 10 and 11, all pupils follow a core curriculum of English, mathematics, science, RE, PSHE and RE. In addition, pupils select courses from a wide range of GCSE options. Pupils are provided with the opportunity to study the EBacc suite of qualifications, with the most able following separate science courses.

Over thirty A-level courses are offered in the Sixth Form. Most students continue to study four subjects for most of the Lower Sixth and continue with three of these in the Upper Sixth. All sixth formers participate in our enrichment programme which takes place on Wednesday afternoons. A wide range of options are available including pre-professional work experience, sports academies, archery and dance. Most students progress to university with many making successful applications to Russell Group universities including Oxford and Cambridge.

The curriculum is based around five sixty-minute periods per day, organised as a two-week 48 lesson timetable.

Extra-curricular activities

Pupils are encouraged to participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities including the largest school based Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme in Lancashire, an award winning eco group, and a vibrant music department which enjoys a national reputation. Opportunities for foreign travel are numerous, including, in the last year, visits to India, Iceland, USA, Paris, Rome and Barcelona.

All staff are encouraged to participate to the extra-curricular life of the school and contribute in any way they can.

Pastoral care

The Heads of Year and Form Teachers (Personal Tutors in the Sixth Form) have responsibility for the welfare, academic progress and discipline of the pupils in their care. Time is set aside each day to enable form teachers to get to know each pupil as an individual.

Pupils are offered many opportunities to accept positions of responsibility in addition to the senior roles of prefect, Head Boy and Head Girl. Pupil Voice is important at St Christopher's and we have an active School Council.

Spiritual care and worship

St Christopher's opened in 1958 to educate the children of Church going families of east Lancashire. Admission to the main school is primarily based on parental patterns of worship at churches recognised by Churches Together or the Evangelical Alliance.

The school motto of 'Ad Gloriam Dei' informs all that we do. We try to establish caring attitudes and lasting values through worship and work done in the classroom, as well as, on a more practical level, supporting charitable appeals.

Each school day begins with an act of worship within the Anglican tradition. A Chaplaincy Team supports our worship and pastoral work, each year group having its own chaplain.

At the last SIAMS inspection (2016) the school was judged **Outstanding in all areas**.

"St. Christopher's Christian virtues give all pupils a caring, structured environment in which we flourish into capable and successful young adults. Our school ethos establishes a compassionate atmosphere that guides us to become positive, appreciative members of the St. Christopher's family."

Ofsted

The school was inspected by Ofsted in December 2016 and was judged to be Good with a number of Outstanding areas. Inspectors reached some telling judgements.

- **‘Leaders have created an ambitious culture. Pupils are expected to become the best they can be, both academically and socially.’**
- **‘Pupils’ attendance is excellent.’**
- **‘The work the school does to keep pupils safe is exemplary.’**
- **‘The behaviour of pupils is outstanding.’**
- **‘Tolerance and respect are strongly evident throughout the harmonious school community and the warm and inclusive ethos permeates every aspect of the school’s work.’**
- **‘Pupils are proud of their school. Pupils of all abilities demonstrate resilience and enthusiasm in lessons.’**
- **‘Attainment is at record levels.’**

We all work hard to ensure that every child at St Christopher’s is known, supported and challenged. In the words of one of our former students...

“I am still not sure what I want to be but after studying at St Christopher’s I know who I want to be.”

R D Jones

Headmaster



“I was a bit nervous on my first day, but afterwards I knew that somebody would always be there for me if I needed help.”

JOB DESCRIPTION

Post Title: Teacher of History
Salary: MPR
NJC Conditions: Full time - Maternity cover

Main Purpose

To make the education of pupils your first concern in such a way that has a positive and significant impact on their personal development and academic achievement.

To uphold the vision and values of the department and school.

Key Responsibilities

- Plan for teaching which will promote at least good rates of pupil progress.
- Set high expectations for pupil behaviour, establish and maintain a good standard of discipline through focused teaching and the nurturing of positive and productive relationships.
- Fully exploit a range of appropriate teaching techniques and methodology.
- Use a range of assessments to inform planning with a view to maximising rates of progress.
- Contribute to the development and evaluation of lesson plans and schemes of work.
- Set, record, monitor and provide feedback on homework tasks.
- Be familiar with the statutory requirements for assessment and reporting.
- To communicate appropriately with parents including attendance at parents' evenings as required.
- Carry out the roles and responsibilities of a form teacher (main school) or personal tutor (sixth form).
- Contribute to the wider life of the Department including clubs and revision sessions.
- Contribute to the wider life of the School and uphold its Mission Statement.
- Support the head of department in working with and contributing to the local teaching school alliance.

Wider Responsibilities

- Actively support and promote the Christian ethos of the School.
- Provide pastoral support for pupils to a high standard.
- Contribute appropriately to School events and extra-curricular activities.
- Be aware of and adhere to School policies and procedures particularly in relation to Safeguarding and Child Protection, Health and Safety, Confidentiality and Data Protection, reporting all concerns to the appropriate person/s.
- Fully participate in the School's programme of performance management.
- Undertake any other duties and responsibilities as required that are covered by the general scope of the post or at the request of the headmaster.

"Pupils are proud of their school. Pupils of all abilities demonstrate resilience and enthusiasm in lessons."

Working with Others and Developing Oneself

- Evaluate one's own teaching and use this to improve effectiveness.
- Treat people fairly, equitably and with dignity and respect, supporting the positive culture of the wider school community.
- Develop and maintain a culture of high expectations for self and take appropriate action when performance is unsatisfactory.
- Review one's own practice, set personal targets and take responsibility for one's own professional development.
- Manage one's own workload and that of others in order to support an appropriate work/life balance.

Securing Accountability

Fulfil commitments from contractual accountability to the governing body.

Strengthening the Community

Create and maintain effective partnerships with parents and carers to support and improve pupils' academic achievement, in addition to their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Reporting to: Mr J Waller, Head of History and Classics

This job description forms part of the contract of employment of the person appointed to this post. It reflects the position at the present time only and may be changed in the future at the discretion of the School management. The appointment is subject to the current conditions of employment in the current School Teachers' Pay and Conditions.

"The school is a caring and inclusive community in which learners flourish as 'children of God'."

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Criteria to be determined from application form and supporting statement.

Qualifications and experience

Qualified Teacher Status.....	E
Good honours degree or equivalent	E

Knowledge and Skills

A belief in the value of each child	E
The ability to raise attainment, achievement and aspirations	E
Excellent subject knowledge	E
Knowledge of NC and GCSE subject requirements and ability to teach at this level.....	E
Knowledge of A-level requirements and ability to teach at this level	D
Knowledge of A-level requirements in Classics and/or Ancient History and willingness/ability to teach at this level	D
Good knowledge of how to develop and improve teaching	E
Understanding of the principles of assessment and the way in which it can be used to promote pupil progress.....	E
Understanding of strategies to promote positive pupil behaviour.....	E
High level of communication and organisational skills.....	E
Skilled in the use of ICT	E
Ability to use data effectively to inform appropriate actions	E
Ability to share quality practice with the team	E

Personal Qualities and Attributes

Willingness to support and reinforce the ethos of a Church school.....	E
Christian commitment.....	D
Hard working, loyal and flexible in approach to work.....	E
Commitment to on-going learning and professional development	E
Openness, good humour, enthusiasm and a sense of proportion	E
Excellent health and attendance record.....	E
Ability to prioritise and work under pressure.....	E
Desire to contribute to a range of extra-curricular activities	E

E = Essential | **D** = Desirable

Confidential references

Professional references should show a strong level of professional support and a positive recommendation from the applicant's current employer.

"St. Christopher's is a welcoming school with kind pupils and teachers who help you."

SUBJECT PROFILE: HISTORY

The History Department is stable and has a strong record of success. It is very well led and the whole team are dedicated to delivering lessons of the highest standard.

Number of staff: Four full-time specialist and three part-time teachers.

Departmental structure: Head of Department responsible for History and Classics respectively.

Examination courses for KS4: AQA GCSE History Spec B:

- Germany, c1890-1945; Democracy and Dictatorship
- Conflict and tension, c1918-1939
- Britain; Health and the people: c1000 to the present day
- Elizabethan England, c1568-1603

Examination courses for KS5: History AQA:

- The Tudors: England c1485-1603
- The Cold war, c1945-1991
- Historical Investigation, Russia c1855-1941

Classics OCR:

- The world of the hero; Homer and Virgil
- Culture and the arts; Greek Theatre
- Beliefs and ideas; Democracy and the Athenians

GCSE examination results:	2018	2019	2020
9-7	27%	31%	31%
9-4	74%	78%	81%

A-level examination results:	2018	2019	2020
A*-A	10%	19%	28%
A*-B	38%	61%	66%

Accommodation: Three dedicated History classrooms in the main school and a dedicated classroom in the Sixth Form.

Structure of timetable:

KS3	Y7 - 3; Y8 - 3; Y9 - 3, hours (lessons) per fortnight.
KS4	5 hours (lessons) per fortnight.
KS5	9 hours (lessons) per fortnight, taught between two teachers.

“History is a popular choice at St Christopher’s for all learners. Pupils are enthusiastic, able and relish the trips and visits we offer as a department, alongside the stimulating learning environment we have endeavoured to create.

With four GCSE groups in both years 10 and 11, alongside two groups in both 12 and 13, this is a great opportunity to join our dedicated and hardworking team. We are an experience department working to complement each other’s strengths, building on the legacy of examination success in History at KS4 & KS5.”

Mr J Waller, Head of History and Classics

“The teachers are really supportive and help you with anything you need.”