

TEACHER OF MFL
French and Spanish, or Spanish only
TMS/UPS

Maternity cover contract with effect from January or February 2022 until December 2022 or earlier should the postholder return to work sooner

1. THE SCHOOL

Gordano School is a large and highly successful 11-18 comprehensive secondary school approximately eight miles outside Bristol. This includes a thriving Sixth Form of over 350 students that is strongly integrated into the school and offers significant opportunities for Post-16 teaching in over 30 courses. We are the sole secondary school serving the popular town of Portishead, and benefit greatly from being a central part of our community.

We view education as something bigger than just academic achievement. We have a record of considerable academic success, but believe that an education should be about preparing young people for their future lives in a complete sense. As well as consistently positive Progress 8 and Level 3 Value Added outcomes at GCSE and A Level respectively we place great emphasis on student leadership, an unparalleled extra-curricular programme and student progression to their next steps in a wide range of academic and vocational routes.

We value our membership of the Lighthouse Schools Partnership, the North Somerset Teaching Alliance and our role as a Teaching School in delivering high quality support and development for colleagues, both new to the profession and more established. Our size allows regular opportunities for progression into leadership roles.

We were judged Outstanding in all categories in our last Ofsted inspection, but, just as importantly, seek to be a very happy school community with a big heart. This has never been more evident than in the last year, where we have been incredibly proud of the response from our brilliant staff, children and families to the Covid pandemic.

2. THE VACANCY

With effect from January or February 2022, we are looking for an enthusiastic teacher of MFL. You must be able to teach up to Year 11 Spanish, and will preferably also offer French, ideally to A Level, although this is not a requirement for the right candidate. This full-time role would suit either an NQT or more experienced teacher.

The successful candidate will join an enthusiastic, forward-thinking and skilled Modern Languages team with a very strong reputation in the school and local area and where most students study a Language GCSE. You will either have experience of supporting very strong student attainment or, if at the start of your career, show the potential to be an outstanding teacher.

3. THE FACULTY

The Faculty aims to teach pupils of all abilities to the highest possible level, taking into account individual aptitudes and learning needs. A considerable variety of resources and supplementary materials is available, including text books for GCSE, and in-house produced resources, particularly at KS3. Current areas of development include a focus on sentence builders at KS3, and recycling of key structures across topics at KS4.

The Modern Language Faculty at Gordano is thriving and successful in many respects. We are confident that it will provide a happy working environment, with scope for personal and professional development. Being a team is a central part of our faculty identity, and we are extremely supportive of each other. We collaborate extensively with the creation of high-quality resources, and sharing pedagogical ideas and approaches.

4. ACCOMMODATION and RESOURCES

The Faculty of Modern Foreign Languages is clustered together in a suite of specialist rooms. Some teachers are based principally in one classroom, but the priority has been to timetable classes consistently in the same room. Sometimes teachers therefore work in more than one classroom. We have our own networked computer room, and all classes are timetabled here for one lesson each fortnight. All classrooms have an Interactive Whiteboard with a networked computer.

We also have a faculty office where teachers each have space, and a small kitchen area. We tend to all eat lunch together, and our sense of team community is really important to us.

5. THE CURRICULUM

All Year 7 students study one language in mixed ability groups, either French or Spanish. Students carry on with this language for the duration of year 8.

Key Stage 4 at Gordano begins in Year 9, and most students continue with their language through to Year 11 (either as a compulsory or optional GCSE subject). Year 9 students are loosely placed in ability sets, with all sets currently taking AQA GCSE courses. From Year 9, students also can opt to take a second language ab-initio. Languages taught in at Key Stage 4 from September 2021 are Spanish and French.

AS and A2 courses (AQA) run in French and Spanish whenever sufficient demand exists.

6. TRIPS ABROAD

Each year (Covid measures permitting!) the Faculty organises major five-day visits to France and Spain for Year 8 pupils. We have also offered students the chance to go on a day trip to a Christmas market. We hope to offer a 6th form trip next year. We are looking to establish a programme of visits and exchanges that have increasing linguistic demands and require increasing levels of independence from students, and an enthusiasm for this aspect of the Faculty's work is essential.

7. THE MODERN LANGUAGES TEAM

The Modern Language Faculty currently consists of a team of 6 full time teachers and 3 part time teachers. The current team is as follows:

Name	Role/Subjects
Hilary Meakin (Mat leave)	Head of Faculty - French, Spanish; Head of MFL
Barbara Sciarrino	Spanish; French: Head of Spanish
Joanna Pogmore	French, Spanish (part time)
Sam Pooley	Spanish
Sophie Hay	Spanish, French
Rachel Allen	Spanish, French (part time)
Manon Cotte	French (part time)
Katy McPherson	Spanish, French
Sam Thomas	Spanish, French

8. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Interested candidates should display the following:-

- Excellent teaching skills
- Ability to develop excellent relationships with pupils and staff
- Good organisational skills and ability to work in a team
- Linguistic proficiency and confidence in teaching languages
- Commitment to using ICT as a teaching tool
- Commitment to high expectations and standards of work
- Enthusiasm, flexibility and ability to adopt differing teaching styles
- Creativity in bringing ideas to the faculty
- Enthusiasm for and willingness to participate in or lead trips abroad

9. APPLICATIONS & CLOSING DATE

Gordano School offers an excellent benefits package including contributory pension scheme, a comprehensive employee assistance programme and benefits (offering discounts on shopping), cycle to work scheme and on-site parking. As a Teaching School we also offer support to staff looking for career progression.

For more information including an application form, please visit www.gordanoschool.org.uk

Applications should be submitted with covering letter and application form (curriculum vitae optional) to the Headteacher, Mr Tom Inman by:

Closing date: 9am Wednesday 20th October 2021

Interview date: Friday 22nd October (provisional)

****Early applications are encouraged. Gordano School reserves the right to interview and appoint prior to the closing date of the advertisement, should the School be able to identify an appropriate candidate.***

Gordano School supports Equal Opportunities Employment.

Gordano School is committed to the safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils and expects all staff to share this commitment. Safer recruitment practice and pre-employment background checks will be undertaken before any appointment is confirmed. Appointment is subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check for regulated activity.