



ROUNDHAY SCHOOL
All-through education from 4 to 18



Job Application Pack

TEACHER OF POLITICS (& HISTORY OR GEOGRAPHY)

www.roundhayschool.org.uk

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info@roundhayschool.com

Gledhow Lane, LS8 1ND



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Job Application Pack

TEACHER OF POLITICS – (& HISTORY OR GEOGRAPHY)

Secondary – Permanent – Full time - MPS/UPR – Start: 1 September 2023

To apply for this position please click on the link below to go to our Vacancies page.

<https://www.roundhayschool.org.uk/headteacher-welcome/vacancies>

At our Vacancies page you should download the Teaching application form which should be completed in full please. Once complete, please email your application form back to us before the closing date to recruitment@roundhayschool.com.

The application deadline for this position is **9.00am on Monday 27th February 2023**

Please remember to detail in your application your experience, the impact your appointment will make in terms of raising standards at Roundhay School and why you are the ideal candidate. All gaps in employment must be clearly accounted for. Please also be aware that we are not permitted to accept CVs. Further information, policies and guidance are available at our Vacancies page.

We encourage early applications and reserve the right to close this vacancy at any time.

For our Ofsted Report:

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/28/108076>

Roundhay School Statutory Information (including our Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy):

<https://www.roundhayschool.org.uk/our-school/statutory-information/>

To view our Sixth Form Prospectus:

<https://www.roundhayschool.org.uk/sixth-form/applications-admissions/>

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ROUNDHAY SCHOOL

EST. 1903

February 2023

Dear Prospective Applicant

WELCOME

Thank you for expressing an interest in the advertised position at our '**outstanding school**' (Ofsted).

We are looking for an enthusiastic and committed colleague who is willing to do '**whatever it takes**' to ensure that our amazing pupils get the very best school experience. As one of the first all-through schools, educating children from 4 to 18 with an outstanding sixth form of 500+, we are absolutely dedicated to continuing to improve in all areas. Despite our impressive results and history of success, we continue to have unrelenting ambition for the young people we serve and you will not find the slightest hint of complacency.

Our truly comprehensive community reflects the cosmopolitan nature of Leeds, which we see as a real strength of the school. We also pride ourselves on having a strong ethos and our work is centred around our core values of being **Responsible, Resilient and Ready to Learn** and what it means to **be Roundhay**. We place real emphasis on traditional values of being respectful, wearing uniform with pride, having good manners and showing gratitude. As a result of this approach, you will find a school which has the highest standards of behaviour, a calm atmosphere and very positive staff-pupil relationships. We see this as everyone's responsibility and all staff, including those who are not classroom based, help support and uphold these values with our pupils.

Any member of staff joining our school will be offered a very warm welcome and unwavering support in all that you do. We genuinely value our staff and place real emphasis on staff induction, continuing development and wellbeing.

Despite our size, we have an incredibly low staff turnover, which is clear evidence that Roundhay School is a remarkable, infectious place to work and learn; staff morale is incredibly high.

If you share our desire to make a difference to the life chances of our pupils and feel that Roundhay School is the right community for you, we would very much welcome your application!

Yours sincerely

Matthew Partington
Headteacher

HEADTEACHER
Matthew Partington

HEAD OF SECONDARY
Jenny Hogarth

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER
John Mattinson

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What is enclosed in this pack?

- How to Apply
- School Overview
- School Policies
- Important Information
- Job Description
- Person Specification
- Department Overview

Maps are available to download for our Primary and Secondary sites from our website or by clicking on this link [Contact - Roundhay School](#) Please note the Secondary Campus entrance is on Old Park Road, and if you use Sat-Nav, please use the post code LS8 1JT.

Our School Policies, Sixth Form Prospectus and Ofsted report are available to download from our website

If you have any questions whatsoever about our vacancies, or about working for us, we would encourage you to contact us via recruitment@roundhayschool.com

We hope you find this information helpful, thank you for your interest in our school.

How to Apply

Submitting an application

To apply for this position please go to the Vacancies section of our website which may be found at <https://www.roundhayschool.org.uk/headteacher-welcome/vacancies>.

From here you should download the job pack for the vacancy. This clearly sets out the full details of the position as well as the qualifications, skills and experience we require in order for applicants to be shortlisted for this role. Please then download the [relevant application form](#) ('teaching' for all teacher roles and 'non-teaching' for all other roles) as directed in the vacancy job pack and complete this in full please. Once complete, please email your application form to us before the closing date to recruitment@roundhayschool.com.

On your application form, you are required to provide full details of your education and employment history, including details of any unpaid or voluntary work. You should evidence your experience, the impact your appointment will make in terms of raising standards at Roundhay School and explain why you are the ideal candidate.

All gaps in employment must be clearly accounted for. Where there are gaps in your employment, please state the reasons why. Please also be aware that we are not permitted to accept CVs. Further information, and guidance is available further on in this document and at our Vacancies page.

If you have a disability that prevents you from completing the application form, please contact the school and we will look at adaptations we may make to assist you.

When will I hear if I have been shortlisted?

Applications will be evaluated against the requirements of the post, with those candidates that best fit the requirements being shortlisted. Details of the interview programme will be confirmed after the closing date.

If you have not been contacted within one month of the closing date, please assume you have not been shortlisted. In this case, may we thank you in advance for your interest in this post and wish you the very best for the future. Due to the volume of applicants, we regret that we are unable to give feedback to non-shortlisted candidates.

School Overview

Our Mission Statement

Roundhay School is all about its pupils and we will do *'whatever it takes'* to ensure that each one reaches their full potential. We will never put limits on what our pupils can achieve, regardless of background or circumstance. Our focus on developing character, instilling confidence and a love of learning whilst teaching the importance of kindness, manners and respect. We want all our pupils to make a positive contribution to school life and society, continuing to learn and develop for the rest of their lives.

Always responsible. Always resilient. Always ready to learn. Always Roundhay.

Our Pupils

The school population reflects the cosmopolitan nature of modern Leeds. The pupils come from a very wide variety of socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds; more than 27 languages are represented, with around 60% of our pupils drawn from the black and ethnic minorities. This gives the school great strength in its many endeavours and relationships.

'The atmosphere in lessons is very positive and supportive' ... 'Learning moves at a lively pace'. Ofsted

We currently have around 2500 pupils in this 4-18 co-educational community comprehensive school, making it one of the largest within Leeds. Our specialist Dyslexia Base, our SEN provision and our 500+ strong and very successful Sixth Form (one of the biggest in the region) are just some of our many strengths.

'Behaviour in lessons is exemplary' ... 'Movement around the school is extremely orderly and students show consideration and respect for each other'. Ofsted

In September 2012 we became one of the first 'all-through' schools in the region, growing with a new intake every year. Our first primary cohorts joined up with the secondary aged pupils in September 2019. We have a separate £4.8 million purpose built Primary Campus located just a mile away from the Secondary Campus.

We are proud of our examination success at all key stages. At our Sixth Form, over 35 qualifications (including A Levels, BTECs and Cambridge Technicals) are taught and with excellent achievement we find that the majority of our students are able to progress to higher education including students going to Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

We have the highest expectations of every pupil and strive to achieve high standards in all that we do, both academically and socially.

'The atmosphere in lessons is very positive and supportive. As one student said, "It is cool to want to learn at Roundhay". Students are comfortable admitting that they do not understand a particular point and others often try to help by offering alternative explanations. Students are keen to volunteer ideas and participate.' Ofsted

'Students, from a very wide range of backgrounds, work and socialise together extremely well.' Ofsted

Our Staff

We are fortunate to have highly-committed, professional and friendly staff, who have worked hard and successfully to establish a thriving learning community. Many staff have sent, or currently send, their own children to Roundhay, which is a real vote of confidence.

'Student and staff relationships are extremely good. Students' personal development is exceptional and behaviour is exemplary.' Ofsted

'Teachers have an infectious enthusiasm for their subject which is communicated to the students' ... 'Professional development is a strength of the school' ... 'The quality of teaching is outstanding'. Ofsted

We also have other pupils who come from families with parents professionally involved in education, which helps to keep us on our toes! We take seriously the professional development of all our staff. As a school, we are heavily involved in Initial Teacher Training and are a strategic partner within a Teaching School Alliance (Red Kite) which involves sharing outstanding practice across four local authorities. School improvement and self-review are central to our drive to raise standards. We have around 270 staff, both associate and teaching, who work very hard as a team to ensure they support both the pupils and each other.

Our Location

The school's two campuses are situated in north-east Leeds, adjacent to Roundhay Park, and are surrounded by highly sought-after owner-occupied houses. The settings can only be described as impressive. The schools' grounds are magnificent; the campuses cover over 30 acres of parkland combined. We also serve some of the most economically and socially-deprived areas of the city, as well as more favoured wards, giving us the rich mix of pupils that makes us a 'true comprehensive'. Currently, around 21% of our pupils are classified as being Pupil Premium children with 15% currently entitled to free school meals.

'Students who attract Pupil Premium funding are monitored very closely' ... 'making exceptional progress and closing any attainment gap with their peers at a very fast rate'. Ofsted

'Primary provision is outstanding. Pupils make extremely rapid progress, teaching is outstanding, resources are first-rate and leadership is exceptional.' Ofsted

Our Facilities

We have very good facilities, and since our Secondary Campus was rebuilt in 2004 we continue to invest heavily in ICT and in improving facilities to enhance the learning and teaching experience of pupils and staff alike. We expanded with a £4.8 million purpose built Primary campus in 2012 and a £12 million Pavilion building and artificial pitch on the Secondary site in 2017.

Our School Organisation

Our separate Primary Campus introduces two forms each year and houses upwards of 420 children. The Primary school day starts at 8.55am and ends at 3.20pm.

At our Secondary site, pupils are grouped for registration and for Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education in mixed-ability form groups. For teaching purposes, pupils are placed in a variety of groupings as appropriate, including setting and some mixed-ability grouping. Lessons at the Secondary Campus are 50 minutes in length, six per day, although the vast majority are double lessons. The secondary school day commences at 8.20am and finishes at 3.00pm, followed by extra-curricular activities.

Our Pastoral Organisation and Leadership

Each campus (Primary and Secondary) has a Head Of School. At the Secondary Campus Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 are led by Heads of Year, assisted by teams of tutors and overseen by member of the Leadership Team. Our Assistant Headteacher: Director of Sixth Form and her team are supported by Academic Mentors.

There is a strong tradition of support for both pupils and colleagues. Our Academic Support Tutors, Mentors, Behaviour Support workers and Raising Achievement teams have had a powerful effect on the positive implementation of our social inclusion strategies.

'The senior leadership team is very strong and effective'. Ofsted

'The headteacher has the unanimous support of staff in the mission to create an inclusive school where every student is enabled to 'be the best they can be'. He is very accessible to both students and staff.' Ofsted

Our Extra-Curricular Activities

We have a thriving and exceptional programme of music, drama, sports teams, outdoor pursuits, residential, art events, enrichment days and charity events! Everyone contributes, as we feel that it is a vital part of our role in developing the potential of all our pupils and building a cohesive community.

Our Community Links

The school has excellent links with the communities it serves and actively seeks to widen these. We believe that this vital 'citizenship work' demonstrates our ethos as a school, where courtesy, co-operation and commitment are more than just words!

'High ability students out-perform similar students nationally. Students of all abilities make very good progress in lessons.' Ofsted

School Policies

Full details of all these policies are available on our website or from the school upon written request.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

Roundhay School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff, volunteers, visitors and contractors to share this commitment. All employment offers will be subject to pre-employment checks including references, an enhanced DBS check, online search and other relevant checks in line with statutory guidance.

We have a designated senior member of the Leadership Team who is responsible for referring and monitoring any suspected case of abuse. All members of staff will receive training in line with our child protection policy.

Whistle Blowing

Our policy is to ensure that all staff are able to raise concerns about a danger, risk, malpractice or wrongdoing which is in the public interest in the knowledge that that they will be protected from any potential reprisals.

Code of Conduct and Personal Behaviour

The school believes that it is essential for standards of conduct at work to be maintained to ensure delivery of quality services and also to protect the wellbeing of all its employees and pupils. The Headteacher and Governing Body regard everyone working at our school as a role model to our pupils. As such, employees should conduct themselves with integrity, impartiality and honesty. Furthermore, everyone in the school has an absolute duty to promote and safeguard the welfare of children. Registered teachers are in addition bound by the codes and professional values of the Teaching Regulation Agency, and the school considers the principles to apply to all staff employed at the school.

Equal Opportunities

Roundhay school is committed to providing an environment free from discrimination, bullying, harassment and victimisation where all members of its community are treated with respect and dignity. The school aims to create a culture of diversity within its community, providing a dynamic working and learning environment, where all members are valued for their contribution.

Smoking Policy

Roundhay School is a no smoking building and site and all staff must adhere to this policy.

Online Safety and Acceptable Use Policy

We encourage the use of ICT across the curriculum. On appointment, staff agree to abide by the above policy.

Important Information

References/Online searches

If you are shortlisted, we will take up references before the interview date. One of your referees must be your current or most recent employer, further information on our reference requirements is provided on the application form. Two satisfactory references must be received before we can confirm any offer of appointment. The information we request will relate to salary, length of service, skills and abilities, suitability for the job, disciplinary record and suitability to work with children. Copies of references or references that are addressed 'to whom it may concern' will not be accepted. On receipt of references, your referees may be contacted to verify any discrepancies, anomalies or relevant issues as part of the recruitment verification process. References coming from a school must always be approved by the Headteacher/Principal.

In line with Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2022 statutory guidance, online searches will also be undertaken on all shortlisted candidates.

Selection Process

As part of the selection process, in addition to assessing your skills and knowledge against the requirements of this role, specific questions will be asked to assess your suitability to work with children. Roundhay School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff, volunteers, visitors and contractors to share this commitment. Therefore, interviews will include questions about safeguarding children.

Equality and Diversity

We promote diversity and want a workforce which reflects the population of Leeds. The Equality Act 2010 defines a disabled person as someone with 'a physical or mental impairment, which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day to day activities'. You no longer have to be registered disabled for this to apply to you.

We ask candidates about any disabilities/health conditions on our application form in order to capture this information for monitoring purposes only, in order to review the fairness of our recruitment. Any information you provide will be kept confidential and not be available to the recruitment panel. You do not have to answer these questions and if you do not, then it will not make any difference to your application. If shortlisted for an interview, we will ask again at that stage for information on any impairments you may have and if these require us to put in place any reasonable adjustments/adaptations to assist your attendance and participation in the interview process.

Validation of Qualifications and Identity

All shortlisted candidates will be asked to bring original certificates of relevant qualifications and identity documents to interview. These will be photocopied and kept on file and, if appropriate, may be confirmed as genuine with the relevant awarding bodies. The copies for the successful candidate will be retained on their personnel file. The copies for unsuccessful candidates will be treated as confidential waste and disposed of appropriately.

Right to Work in the UK

Under the provisions of the Immigration Act 2016 it is a criminal offence to employ anyone who is not entitled to live or work in the United Kingdom. Applicants should expect us to ask for proof of this at interview stage, where you will be asked to bring in specific original documentation to confirm that you are eligible to work within the UK. Photographic proof of identity will also be required. Further detail will be provided should you be invited to interview.

Safeguarding, the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) and Self-Disclosure

Roundhay School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff, volunteers, visitors and contractors to share this commitment. All employment offers will be subject to pre-

employment checks including references, an enhanced DBS check, online search and other relevant checks in line with statutory guidance.

All posts involving direct contact with children are exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. As a result of amendments to this act in 2013 and 2020, some minor offences are now protected (filtered) and should not be disclosed to potential employers, and employers cannot take these offences into account. If you are shortlisted for interview, you will be required to complete a self-disclosure form, providing details of all unspent convictions and those that would not be filtered, and return it to us prior to interview. You may be asked for further information about your criminal history during the recruitment process. If your application is successful, this self-disclosure information will be checked against information from the DBS before your appointment is confirmed. A flow chart with guidance explaining the process for disclosure may be found on the Vacancies section of our website.

Please note it is an offence for candidates to apply for this role if they are barred from engaging in regulated activity relevant to children. Checks will be made for all successful applicants against the Child's Barred List where appropriate. In addition to this, for teaching posts only, further checks will be made against the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA). All such checks must be satisfactory before any offer of an appointment can be confirmed and before commencement of work can take place. All supply and/or peripatetic staff will be required to produce their worker's ID and other relevant documents when they arrive at school.

Recruitment of Ex-Offenders

We actively promote equality of opportunity for all applicants with the right mix of talent, skills and potential, and we welcome applications from a wide range of candidates, including those with criminal records. We shortlist for interview based on a candidate's skills, qualifications and experience. We are committed to using the DBS (along with other parts of the regulatory system regulating employees in schools) to assess applicants' suitability for all positions of trust. We will only ask an individual about convictions and cautions that are not protected under the amendments to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 as outlined above.

Pre-Employment Health Assessment

All appointments are conditional on the satisfactory completion of a Pre-Employment Health Declaration form. Should a candidate declare an existing medical condition on this form, where required we may refer them for an assessment with the Council's Occupational Health (OH) team to determine they are able to perform the duties of the proposed post. The outcome of the OH referral must be confirmed prior to confirming a start date.

Continuous Professional Development

Roundhay is committed to developing and supporting its staff with appropriate training. Staff are inducted into our school community to enable new colleagues to become familiar with the culture of our school and its policies, expectations and procedures

Dress Code

We expect all staff to dress professionally and appropriately for the roles undertaken at Roundhay School. We pride ourselves on the high standards of dress of both our students and staff; these standards are led by our staff whom we expect to set a good example.

Job Description

TEACHER OF POLITICS – (& HISTORY OR GEOGRAPHY)

Secondary – Permanent – Full Time – MPS/UPR – Start: 1 September 2023

Introductory Statement: The successful candidate will be an outstanding teacher of Politics helping pupils to reach the highest standards of achievement and behaviour. The responsibilities of the post are to be performed in accordance with the provision of the school teacher's pay and conditions document and within the range of the teachers' duties set out in the document

Accountable to: Head of History, Headteacher and Leadership Group member linked to subject

Purpose of the job: To make a strong and enthusiastic commitment to Politics teaching at Roundhay School by seeking to raise the expectations and performance of all pupils both in and outside the classroom.

Particular Responsibility

1. To contribute, as directed, to the teaching of Politics.
2. To contribute to the raising of standards of student attainment and achievement within Politics, with particular focus on improving access to Politics for our most vulnerable learners.
3. To participate in the development of appropriate resources, materials and schemes of work.
4. To vigorously support the general ethos of our school.
5. To contribute to and uphold the department vision.
6. To implement the school behavior policy and contribute to the celebration of achievement.
7. To monitor and target set with pupils and staff in order to raise achievement.
8. To contribute fully to departmental intervention.
9. To actively contribute to a regular extra-curricular enhancement programme at Roundhay.
10. To maintain internal pupil records according to school, departmental and national policies, and set and monitor individual pupil targets.
11. To contribute as required to the preparation and marking of internal examinations in Politics.
12. To keep up to date with developments in Politics learning through reading and research, contributing to personal CPD, and that of the department.
13. To maintain an organised and purposeful teaching space, including maintaining the displays around the Politics teaching areas to promote learning and engagement.
14. To work collaboratively with other members of the department.

Other Duties

15. To be a Form Tutor and be fully involved in all aspects of school life.
16. To teach other subjects if and when required by the Headteacher.
17. To act as a personal mentor for specified pupils.
18. To attend all meetings as appropriate within school time budget, with colleagues and parents etc.
19. To carry out supervisory duties as required and any other duties commensurate with the post.
20. To work flexibly and positively across departments and job roles to ensure the very best provision for our students.
21. To be aware of, and comply with, policies and procedures relating to child protection and safeguarding ensuring all concerns are reported to a designated person in a timely manner

Conclusion

The job description and allocation of particular responsibilities may be amended through appropriate consultation from time to time.

Roundhay School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff, volunteers, visitors and contractors to share this commitment. All employment offers will be subject to pre-employment checks including references, an enhanced DBS check, online search and other relevant checks in line with statutory guidance.

Person Specification

TEACHER OF POLITICS – (& HISTORY OR GEOGRAPHY)

Secondary – Permanent – Full time - MPS/UPR – Start: 1 September 2023

In order to effectively undertake the above role (see job description) the following attributes have been identified as important for the post holder to have. These attributes will be identified by means of the application, qualification certificates, interview and references as appropriate.

Required Attributes	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications/Training		
Good honours degree or equivalent	X	
Recognised teaching qualification	X	
Experience/Knowledge		
Excellent teaching record in Politics incl. success in raising pupil's attainment	X	
Ability to teach History or Geography at KS3	X	
Ability to teach History or Geography at KS4/ 5		X
Experience and confident use of ICT as learning tool, within school and for remote learning	X	
Personal Skills/Qualities		
Organisation and time management	X	
Excellent communication skills- both oral and written	X	
Total commitment to raising all pupils' achievements	X	
Commitment to organising extracurricular opportunities	X	
Excellent classroom management skills	X	
To be a team player, ready to adapt to the changing teaching environment	X	
To be a reflective practitioner, who actively seeks to develop their teaching skills	X	
Demonstrates a commitment to fundamental British values and an awareness of how these can be promoted in direct work with children and young people.	X	
Safeguarding Children		
Maintains appropriate relationships and personal boundaries with children/young people	X	
Emotional resilience when working with challenging behaviours and appropriate attitude to the use of authority to maintain discipline	X	

Roundhay School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff, volunteers, visitors and contractors to share this commitment. All employment offers will be subject to pre-employment checks including references, an enhanced DBS check, online search and other relevant checks in line with statutory guidance.

Department Overview

History

Roundhay's History department is very well motivated, hardworking and vibrant. The structure of the department is currently; a Subject Leader, a leader of KS3 History alongside six full and part time teaching staff responsible for teaching History across Key Stages 3 to 5 and Politics at KS5.

We are passionate about helping the students make outstanding progress in their studies as well as fostering a love for History and Politics. For many years, the department has enjoyed an excellent reputation amongst staff, pupils and parents alike. As a result of highly professional and dedicated teaching, the department has developed and maintained an excellent tradition of academic success which has contributed to the continuing growth and popularity of the subject within the school.

The department has eight classrooms, all of which are fitted with interactive whiteboards; we also have a dedicated workspace available for members of the department. We have built up an excellent range of commercially and teacher-produced resources to support the delivery and assessment of the History and Politics curriculum at Roundhay. The success of the department relies very heavily on the willingness of colleagues to support one another and ensure that good practice is shared.

At Key Stage 3, students are taught History for four hours on a fortnightly basis. The curriculum explores British, European and International History from 1066-2018. Topics are taught in depth and breadth with built in assessment opportunities. We are in the middle of re-planning our Key Stage Three curriculum with new Year 7 and 8 lessons being taught this year and new Year 9 content being planned. Enrichment Days also allow students to explore History away from the classroom.

In Year 10 and 11, GCSE pupils currently follow the AQA History specification are taught for six hours on a fortnightly basis. We study America 1920-1973, Conflict and Tension in Asia, Health and the People and Elizabethan England. GCSE results in 2022 saw positive progress of +0.4. Lessons are thoroughly prepared and contain high levels of intellectual challenge. The department runs a highly successful visit to some of the key sites of the First World War in Belgium and France for the Year 10 students.

The take up of A Level History and Politics has always been strong and for many years the department has enjoyed excellent results with significant numbers of students going on to study the subject at University. We currently have almost 150 students studying both subjects in the Sixth Form. In History the department is currently following Edexcel Route E; Communist States in the 20th Century: Paper 1 - Russia, 1917-1991 - From Lenin to Yeltsin and Paper 2 - The GDR 1949-1990. A Level students will be prepared for Paper 3 - Protest, agitation and Parliamentary Reform in Britain c1780-1928 and a coursework option focusing on International Relations 1879-1949. For Politics, we currently deliver the Edexcel specification where we cover UK Government and Politics, American Government and Politics alongside the ideologies of liberalism, conservatism, socialism and feminism.

Teachers are committed to developing the individual skills of pupils and promoting their personal and social development through the vehicle of history lessons, which are both challenging and productive. Extremely high levels of collaboration exist between staff and the emphasis is very much on sharing good practice within the department. All members of the department give vigorous support to the general ethos of the school and the care and sensitivity of staff has enabled large numbers of pupils from across the ability range to enjoy their experience of History and to succeed in this subject.