



WIMBLEDON COLLEGE



TEACHER OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES INFORMATION PACK



Jesuit Schools

WELCOME TO WIMBLEDON COLLEGE

Wimbledon College is a popular and oversubscribed school which prides itself on its exam results at both GCSE and A level with results significantly above national averages. As a Jesuit school, our ethos can be summed up by St Ignatius Loyola's vision for Jesuit schools as being "for improvement in living and learning for the greater glory of God and the common good." Central to St Ignatius' vision and to the College is the education of the whole person, providing each pupil with the opportunity to strive for excellence in all that they do.



The school is accommodated in striking Grade II listed buildings on Edge Hill, above the parish church of the Sacred Heart, on a spacious green site in a conservation area. Private and public funds have facilitated a substantial development of the facilities of the College over the last fifteen years.



The College currently has close to 1300 boys on roll including 270 in the Sixth Form. It is a great place to work with a supportive, committed staff who share the school's high expectations. All teachers are specialists in their subjects and there is a well-established CPD programme which encourages staff to work collaboratively on self-identified areas of research and pedagogy.



Wimbledon College has a strong system of pastoral care and discipline. All teachers are form tutors and work with Heads of Line in ensuring every boy is supported, cared for and challenged to progress academically and become involved in the wider life of the school. The school's intake is truly comprehensive academically, socially and economically and ethnically. It draws from across southwest London and from Surrey and north of the Thames also. Last year saw boys join the College from over 40 different schools. Places in Y7 are regularly oversubscribed threefold.



We encourage all of our boys to be involved in extra-curricular clubs and activities and we offer over 80 different such opportunities to the boys. The school has a strong tradition of drama and music as well as a very extensive sports programme in the school, financially supported by parents' donations to the School Fund.



THE ROLE

required from September 2025

Teacher of Religious Studies

Salary scale : Wimbledon College Main Scale/UPS + Inner London allowance

Closing date: 12pm Wednesday 26th March

The College is seeking to employ a well-qualified, enthusiastic and motivational teacher to teach Religious Studies. The successful candidate will have the capacity to bring innovative ideas to the classroom and show a strong record of raising student attainment through their teaching.

Religious Studies has a consistent strong record of results with both Attainment and Progress significantly above the national average. Progression into Sixth Form is good, with consistent uptake for A Level.

Applications are welcome from both experienced and newly qualified teachers able to teach throughout the age and ability range.

Interviews will take place as soon as is practicable after the closing date. Shortlisted candidates will be expected to prepare and deliver a 50 minute lesson followed by an interview. There will also be an opportunity to tour the school.

References will be requested prior to interview. Any queries regarding the recruitment and application process should be directed to the College Secretary (collegesecretary@wimbledoncollege.org.uk)

We will withdraw the advert if a suitable candidate is found in advance of the deadline so please apply as soon as possible.



THE ROLE

duties and responsibilities

- Teach such a way as to challenge and inspire students of all abilities to achieve high standards, in line with the Department's schemes of work and external examination courses.
- Plan, prepare and teach lessons according to the students' educational needs with reference to prior attainment, subject targets, SEND and other needs, as required
- Liaise with support staff, such as Learning Support Assistants, to ensure a coherent programme of study for the students in your classes
- Assess, record and report on the development, progress and attainment of students in line with school and department policies
- Set high expectations for students' behaviour establishing and maintaining a good standard of discipline through well focused teaching, effective classroom management and through positive and productive relationships
- Be familiar with, support and reinforce the aims, Jesuit ethos, policies, procedures and development plans of the school and department
- Take an active part within the school's monitoring, evaluation and review programmes, professional development activities and teachers' appraisal structure and cycle
- Take on the role of Form Tutor
- Attend staff briefings and departmental meetings
- Carry out a share of supervising duties in accordance with published schedules.
- Carrying out such other tasks commensurate with the above as may be required from time to time by the Headteacher

candidate profile

E = Essential

D = Desirable

- Suitably qualified to teach in Religious Studies with a PGCE and QTS (E)
- Able to teach Religious Studies at KS3, KS4 and KS5 (E)
- Strive to deliver a high quality learning experience for all students (E)
- Believe all students can achieve to a high standard (E)
- Have energy, enthusiasm, flexibility and determination to succeed (E)
- Have good interpersonal and organisation skills (E)
- Able to communicate effectively both orally and in writing (E)
- Have a strong commitment to the school's Jesuit ethos and values (E)
- Have a strong commitment to your own Continuous Professional Development (E)
- Good level of digital literacy (E)
- Efficient administration and positive communication skills (E)

THE DEPARTMENT

We currently have four full-time teachers and one trainee of Theology & Religious Studies at the College with the Headteacher also a member of the department. In our last Section 48 inspection we were judged to be “Outstanding”. Religious Studies extends throughout and beyond the curriculum in a Jesuit school. It is concerned with the ultimate meaning of human life and developing an appreciation of the presence of God in all people and in all things.

Religious Studies has an important role in helping pupils to explore the values of the culture in which they live and those taught by the Catholic Church. It should bring to life the values of the Gospels, as indeed should the whole school community. It must aim to equip pupils to make an intellectual defence of their beliefs.

Similarly, it has a responsibility in helping to develop a Christian commitment to the welfare and appreciation of all human beings, including those of other religious traditions or of none. To this end we also study other faiths at all key stages and so some knowledge and understanding of other main religious traditions in this country, along with the challenges to religious belief in general, is required.



Head of Department

Mr J Stock

2nd in Department

Ms F Kelly

Teachers of Religious Studies

Mr D Doran

Mr A Laing

Mr J McDonald

Mr W Morris



THE DEPARTMENT

In the classroom

We believe that the objectives outlined above can best be achieved in an atmosphere of mutual affirmation, encouragement and commitment to others. The objectives are best achieved by adopting and encouraging a variety of teaching styles and strategies. Pupil participation is paramount. Teacher and pupil have joint ownership and responsibility for the learning experience in order to maximise and realise the potential of all involved. This must take place with due regard to the spiritual, cognitive and social development stage of each individual pupil (*cura personalis*). We should be concerned with the freedom and dignity of the individual. We are involved in the development of the 'whole person' to their full potential.

Beyond the classroom

In a Catholic school the Religious Studies Department is only a part provider of Christian witness:

- It is the responsibility of the whole school to create a Christian witness.
- It is the responsibility of the whole school to create a Christian community in which pupils feel accepted, can experience God and grow in the Faith.

Christian witness is present in the liturgical life of the school, in the relationships between and amongst pupils and staff, and in the school's role in the community at large. In many areas of school life the RE Department may be a resource for staff and pupils in their own human development and in providing such Christian witness.

The Religious Studies Curriculum

KS3: pupils follow a course of study based upon on the RED.

KS4: pupils follow the Eduqas Route B GCSE:

- Component 1 Foundational Catholic Theology 37.5% of qualification
- Component 2 Applied Catholic Theology 37.5% of qualification
- Component 3 Study of Judaism 25% of qualification

KS5: in the Sixth form pupils may study the OCR Advanced Level course in Religious Studies (currently 23 students take the course). All students have one period a week of core RE the Sixth Form.

Further detail of the curriculum for each year is available on the school's website



STAFF DEVELOPMENT

At Wimbledon College, we believe that professional development is an essential and inherent part of your role regardless of the stage you are at in your career or the position you hold. This results in bespoke CPD journeys based on your current position and the trajectory you would like your career to go in. Every staff member is supported along that journey. Through a combination of internal and external CPD opportunities staff are able to develop their own skills and competencies and then have the opportunity to share those with colleagues from the College and across the borough.



We use a range of resources and strategies within and outside the College to achieve this:

- We have staff completing external leadership courses such as NPQs and Merton specific Leadership Courses
- We engage with a wide range of organisations, including UCL, Bluesky and PixL to support the delivery of our extensive professional development programme for both career progression and skills development tailored to individual needs
- We have a coaching programme to allow both teaching and non teaching staff to share best practice and offer career advice and guidance.
- We have in-school groups that work collaboratively on projects around a chosen topic such as promoting literacy across the curriculum



If you are starting your teaching career with us, we partner with Teach Wimbledon and Roehampton University to welcome both Schools' Direct and PGCE students. We also have a comprehensive Early Career Teacher support system where you will receive an individual mentor, reduced timetable and opportunities to embed your learning.



We fully appreciate the importance of training for support staff and have a generous budget to ensure that external courses are available in addition to in school training for all interested support staff.



Our aim is to empower staff to ascertain their own professional needs, both within and around their role, and to provide whatever support they require to flourish.

WORKING AT WIMBLEDON COLLEGE

"I'm really pleased to have joined the Sixth Form team this year as Head of Rhetoric (Y13). Supporting students at such an important time of transition in their lives comes with a great deal of unexpected challenges. Thankfully, I have a lot of experienced staff in the pastoral support team to lean on. I try to stay as organised as possible and 'control the controllables' so that I can respond to any problems arising with a clear mind. Of course it's a demanding job but seeing my students engage with learning in a positive way and start to achieve success is equally rewarding."

Antoinette, Head of Line (Year)



"I've really enjoyed developing my career from NQT to Head of Department in the time I have been at Wimbledon College. I have been well supported every step of the way and am looking forward to the opportunities and challenges being HOD will offer me. I am hoping to expand the History department by offering more extra curricular activities and continuing with the work to ensure our curriculum reflects the diversity of the students."

Claire, Head of Department



"Starting my teaching career at Wimbledon College has undoubtedly been the best decision I've ever made. I couldn't have asked for a more supportive and nurturing environment. The staff here form a true community, and throughout my ECT year, I was always able to seek advice from them, both within and outside of my department. I'm always impressed by their dedication to the students at the college. The pupils have been a pleasure to teach, and they are motivated to learn and thrive. I've had many opportunities during my time here, including teaching across all key stages (KS3-5) and participating in various extracurricular activities such as geography field trips and school ski trips. As a new Head of House, I've also been given valuable opportunities to share in with the pastoral side of the school. I continue to be amazed by the hard work that goes on behind the scenes, beyond just the lessons. Our ethos of being "men and women for others" is clear to see in all aspect of the school, and it has made this a wonderful place to teach."

Lewis, ECT+1



STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

"I am very proud for having being part of a Jesuit school. It not only brings a sense of belonging in the sense of feeling part of the Jesuit family. All the boys have a real sense of community and I have made long standing friendships"

"The opportunities I have had this year to go so much further into the life of the school has made me realise how much people really do care about it. Especially the staff, who have inspired me to love my subjects and would go so far to get what's best for each and every pupil. The daily interactions with them are invaluable."

"I feel very proud to call myself a student of Wimbledon College. Whether it was doing up my tie in the morning with seven stripes or holding my hand on my heart above the Wimbledon College logo when I was preparing for a football game for the school, I always knew that my identity was a Catholic student of Wimbledon College, and I aimed to show that in everything I did, in and out of school. Every member of staff along the way encouraged me, and influenced me to work to my strengths, furthering my admiration of the subject, and overall, the teachers made me feel a sense of pride about my God-given talents."

"I don't believe any other school focuses on the men that we shall become and how we will impact the world around us, and for that reason I am proud to have attended the College. I have been able to achieve targets in and out of the classroom which I am very proud of, and there have been teachers along the way that I have always been able to turn to. Wimbledon College has furthered my development into a young man who is ready for the next step in his life, and I believe that is all a school is there to do"

"Every opportunity that comes my way to help my fellow students in need is an integral part of life at Wimbledon College. The school encourages us to live for the success of not only ourselves, but our colleagues likewise."

"Wimbledon College has given me opportunities that I never dreamed of doing and has taught me how to be a better man through respecting other, listening and adapting myself to challenging situations."

"The College has allowed me to become an individual who acts as a natural leader, sharing success with peers. Wimbledon College brings out the philosophical side, and allows for a deeper meaning of our world, that will encourage us to explore more when we leave."



WORKING IN A JESUIT SCHOOL

Jesuit schools

There are eleven Jesuit schools in Britain, including two comprehensive schools, one state primary school, two senior independent boarding schools, four preparatory schools, and an independent day school in Scotland with its own junior school.

These schools are part of a much wider network of Jesuit education. The Society of Jesus is responsible for 3,780 primary and secondary schools, colleges and universities educating some 2½ million students in over 70 countries. This great responsibility and enterprise is undertaken in partnership with thousands of lay people, Catholics and non-Catholics alike, who share the vision and spirit of Jesuit education. It is their generosity and commitment which make the Jesuit identity and mission of the schools a reality. All of the Jesuit schools in Britain are led by lay head teachers.

In most of the schools, a majority of the pupils will come from Catholic backgrounds.

Teachers in Jesuit schools come from a wide range of religious and philosophical backgrounds. Many will be committed Catholics or belong to other Christian churches, while others will have a Catholic or Christian background but have questions about their faith. Some will be from other religions. Others may have no particular religious belief. All have an important and valued part to play in the education of children and young people in Jesuit schools.

Expectations of teachers in Jesuit schools

If you join the staff of a Jesuit school, you will be joining a strong Christian community with a sense of purpose. Its underlying values of respect for the individual and giving each person every opportunity to develop their talents and grow as a person will be accorded to you as much as to everyone else. Generosity is a hallmark of Jesuit schools, both in what is expected from staff and as an attitude encouraged and fostered in the pupils.

Many of the expectations of your work as a teacher in a Jesuit school will be exactly the same expectations any good school would have. These include being competent and enthusiastic in your teaching, being interested in and committed to the pastoral care and personal development of your pupils, and playing an active role in the wider life of the school.

In a Jesuit school there will also be expectations that you will support the school's Jesuit character, including its prayer and worship, its historical and spiritual traditions, its emphasis on growth in faith and the service of others, its values of personal responsibility, tolerance and justice, and its promotion of intellectual enquiry and striving for excellence.

