Nihil quam optime

Chulmleigh College

Nothing but our best

Teacher of Religious Studies

Candidate Pack

Closing date: Wednesday 18 March 10am

Interview date: Thursday 26 March

Chulmleigh Academy Trust

COMPASSION AMBITION TEAMWORK

Chulmleigh College

A Very Warm Welcome

Chulmleigh Academy Trust

Welcome to Chulmleigh College and thank you for requesting this pack.

The successful candidate will be joining the College at a point where five years of growth has been stabilised and secured: with every year group fully subscribed. Our reputation across Devon is such that we are the chosen school for many families who live a great distance outside our designated transport area. This is because they like the way we operate as a school; valuing tradition and concentrating on ensuring pupils achieve highly and behave very well. Those visiting the school always comment on how well-mannered our pupils are.

Colleagues like this school because it is one in which they can concentrate on teaching the subject they love, as opposed to spending time dealing with difficult behaviour, poor resourcing or incongruent demands.

We are seeking to appoint an ambitious, talented and inspiring classroom practitioner to teach Religious Studies across all ability groups at KS3 and KS4. The successful candidate will join a committed, professional and high-performing Humanities Department, where colleagues work collaboratively to provide the best possible learning opportunities for all pupils. The department comprises History, Geography, Religious Studies, Sociology and Psychology, and shares a strong commitment to developing pupils as informed, thoughtful citizens who aspire to make positive contributions to their future communities.

Good behaviour, hard work and excellent manners are at the heart of our school and we welcome applications from candidates who share our values and approach. This is a great school to teach in.

N Payne

Neil Payne
Headteacher Chulmleigh College
CEO Chulmleigh Academy Trust

We are looking for someone who:

- Has a clear and good understanding of current educational issues, theory and practice, with particular regard to Religious Studies teaching.
- Has evidence of being at least a good teacher.
- Is a team player, tenacious and earns the respect of colleagues and pupils.
- Can demonstrate consistent and effective planning of lessons to meet pupils' differing learning.
- Has evidence of good classroom management skills.
- Has involvement and commitment to all aspects of school life.
- Has a willingness to learn and develop new skills.
- Can create a happy, challenging and effective learning environment.
- Goes the extra mile.

ENGAGING CHILDREN IN LEARNING

Chulmleigh College

About Our School

Chulmleigh Academy Trust

Chulmleigh College is a successful and ambitious rural secondary school with a strong reputation for high standards. The progress of our pupils is consistently amongst the best in the region. The College has enjoyed some of the best results in the region over the last 10 years and is heavily oversubscribed. Pupils achieving 4+ in Basics was 82%. Our A8 score was 54.09. Mathematics is a high achieving subject with 72% of pupils achieving at least grade 5.

The College was totally rebuilt a few years ago, with the completed buildings opening in 2017. Numbers have grown substantially in recent years, from 500 to the current roll of 750, and most year groups are oversubscribed; due to both our excellent reputation and the College's successful transport service, which brings in approximately 25% of our pupils from outside the school catchment area.

We aim to create ambition and inspiration and want our young people to achieve all that they can in a safe, caring and well-disciplined environment. We commit ourselves to providing a learning experience which ensures high challenge, inspires, and provides both the range of qualifications and the start in life which will last forever. We aim for our young people to have the foundation and independence they need to make the progress they are capable of, building resilience for their future lives.

As a school we value courtesy, hard work and respect, and set high standards of behaviour; promoting self-discipline, resilience, responsibility and working together as a community.

We offer a broad and rich curriculum, enhanced by excellent extra-curricular activities; our outdoor education in the form of Ten Tors and Duke of Edinburgh is particularly strong. As well as having high academic achievement, we also have a proud record in sport, music, drama and art.

Our pupils read an astonishing amount of literature and develop themselves by making the most of the array of opportunities available. This is all possible because teaching and support staff create the best opportunities for our pupils. We are very proud of our team, who work hard to make our school a happy place where we learn together in a formal, warm environment. We are also proud of the excellent relationships we have with our pupils, families and friends within the community.

Chulmleigh is a Saxon hilltop market town in North Devon, near the Mid Devon border. It lies near the banks of the Little River Dart, and is surrounded by rolling hills, woods and farmland. With Exmoor and the North Devon coast to its north, and Dartmoor and the city of Exeter to its south, Chulmleigh is in a beautiful part of the county and is easily accessible from all other areas.

Our Values

Compassion

Compassion is caring about others, behaving towards them with humanity, generosity, and concern, and caring about other people's struggles. It is a skill which has benefits; treating others with compassion means they are likely to treat you, and others, back in kind.

We recognise the uniqueness of each circumstance and every child in the Trust, liaising closely with families and work to show appropriate compassion for our pupils and community.

Ambition

We work hard to help pupils develop a strong sense of ambition: the appetite for challenge and the determination to look beyond the horizon for inspiration. Whilst we recognise that children have different talents and abilities, we nevertheless expect each pupil to work hard and make significant and tangible progress. Our ultimate aim is to help them to achieve the best results possible, providing a wide range of options for their next stage in life.

Teamwork

Teamwork is an essential communication and social skill and includes compromise, collective effort, active listening, effective speaking and providing support for a group. We encourage our pupils to learn how to listen and be independent, in order to perform their individual roles and function as a cohesive unit, and how to respectfully and confidently express their ideas and opinions effectively in a group setting.

Our shared goal is to ensure that pupils leave us not only with excellent exam results, but also with confidence, resilience and the ability to make their mark as young people heading out into the world.

WE GIVE NOTHING BUT OUR BEST

Chulmleigh College

Humanities Department

Chulmleigh Academy Trust

The Humanities Department is a well-established and cooperative team that together teach the following elements of our curriculum: Geography, History, Religious Studies, Sociology and Psychology. A key principle is that we have subject specialists delivering content wherever possible.

Chulmleigh College follows the English Baccalaureate model at Key Stage 4, therefore all pupils must study either History or Geography – but some study both. Year on year, Progress 8 scores in Geography and History have been outstanding, and consistently well above national average.
Religious Studies is taught to GCSE full course in Year 9 and 10 by specialist teachers. This is a model that we have recently introduced, whereby pupils enter the GCSE exam early. Our current Year 11 will be completing their GCSE RS exams this summer. The two religions taught as part of the AQA Religious Studies course are Christianity and Buddhism. Pupils value Religious Studies highly and there are no pupils withdrawn from the subject in any year group. Key Stage 3 has been completed rewritten over the last two years, following the locally agreed syllabus. We focus on the Dharmic religions in Year 7 and the Abrahamic religions in Year 8, before pupils embark on their GCSE study in Year 9. We also explore topics on philosophy and ethics, as well as non-religious views, in Key Stage 3.

GCSE Sociology is now in its second year at the College and has proved to be a popular option choice. This academic year, Psychology was added to the suite of GCSE subjects within Humanities.

There is a transition project from Year 6 into Year 7 called 'The Global Cup', forming the start of the programme of study in History, Geography and Religious Studies. The specialists in the department have planned a challenging and carefully sequenced curriculum. Pupil behaviour, attitudes and approach to the Humanities subjects is exceptional.

The accommodation for the Humanities team is arranged across a central Humanities corridor of four classrooms, and two additional Humanities classrooms in a separate block. All staff who have at least 0.7 teaching contact or higher have their own classroom. The main Humanities classrooms each have a separate office space adjoining the teaching area. Each classroom has a visualiser to enable teachers to model explanations and tasks and to provide feedback. The strongest resource in the room is the subject expertise of our teachers who have a passion for their subjects. There is an established culture of collaboration; this is a friendly team of colleagues.

The department has been at the forefront of both residential and co-curricular trips. In October 2025, pupils went to Iceland and we have a forthcoming Ski Trip in 2027. We have had smaller groups representing the College at the Holocaust Memorial Day and the GA's WorldWise Quiz.

The Humanities team has been an integral part of the significant examination success enjoyed by the College over the last eight years. In 2025, the attainment point score for Humanities was 5.06.

National Holocaust Day

Iceland 2025

History Trip to Plymouth

COMPASSION AMBITION TEAMWORK

Chulmleigh College

Job Description

Chulmleigh Academy Trust

Job Title: Teacher of Religious Studies
Status: Permanent, fulltime MPS /UPS
Start Date: September 2026

Job Purpose (including main duties and responsibilities

To teach Religious Studies at Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. It is essential that the successful candidate should have a broad view of the curriculum and, as far as possible, have experience of teaching full range of ability.

Main Accountabilities

A Teacher of Religious Studies should be a well-qualified teacher. H/she should be committed to developing the College's provision for study in their subject for all students throughout their time at the College and be able to respond effectively to current issues concerning the curriculum, development, and up-to-date teaching methods. H/she is expected to promote clubs and activities.

Main Tasks

Humanities teachers will undertake duties in accordance with the School Teachers Pay and Conditions documentation and are responsible to the Headteacher and Head of Humanities for the following:

- Ensuring that all teaching takes place within the framework of the College aims.
- Setting objectives, preparing schemes of work and good quality learning materials appropriate to the needs of individuals.
- Using a variety of teaching and learning techniques, to include class discussion, question and answer, group and individual simulation and re-enforcement, mind-mapping, resource based learning, practical and experimental work, modelling, I.T. etc.
- Keeping a class register and records of work.
- Ensuring the safety of pupils at all times to include not leaving classes unattended, maintaining order and control, vigilance during practical lessons, escorting pupils to assemblies or out of buildings during evacuation, punctuality when on duty, invigilation etc.
- Setting work when absent.
- Ensuring high standards of pupil work and behaviour in the classroom and adjacent corridors, to include high quality displays.
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- The identification of under-achieving pupils and the development of appropriate strategies to meet their needs.
- Completion of such other duties or development work which may from arise time-to-time.

Location

The post holder may be required to work at any school which is currently within or in the future joins the Chulmleigh Academy Trust chain of academies, either on a temporary or permanent basis according to the operational needs of the Trust.

This document outlines the duties required of the post-holder for the time being to indicate a level of responsibility. It is not a comprehensive or exclusive list and from time to time duties may be varied which do not change the level of responsibility or the general character of the job.

Global Cup Winners 2025

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Person Specification

Chulmleigh Academy Trust

Attribute	Essential	Evidence	Desirable	Evidence
Qualification	• To have QTS • Evidence of participation in relevant CPD • ICT confident and competent	AF AF / R AF	• Evidence of participation in child protection/ safeguarding children training	AF / R
Knowledge and Understanding of the Curriculum	• Understanding of safeguarding and child protection procedures • A clear and good understanding of current educational issues, theory and practice, with particular regard to teaching Humanities: Religion Studies	I AF / I / R	• Experience in teaching Sociology at GCSE level	
Teaching Skills	• Evidence of being at least a good teacher • An understanding of how to use assessment to inform planning for good teaching and learning • Demonstrate consistent and effective planning of lessons to meet pupils' differing learning needs • Evidence of good classroom management skills • Create a happy, challenging and effective learning environment • Involvement and commitment to all aspects of school life	AF / I / R I I /R I / R AF / I / R AF / I	• The ability to use ICT effectively to engage pupils • Experience of training other colleagues • Experience of working with and/or developing links with parents and/or the wider community	AF / I / R AF / I AF / I / R
Personal Qualities	• A willingness to learn and develop new skills • Team player • Robust • Goes the extra mile	I I I I		

AF: Application Form
I: Interview
R: Reference

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How to Apply

Chulmleigh Academy Trust

Please complete the online application form available here.
A tour of Chulmleigh College will be arranged as part of the interview schedule.

Status: Permanent, MPS/UPS

Closing date: Wednesday 18 March 10am
Interview date: Thursday 26 March
Start date: September 2026

If you have any questions please email:
personnel@chulmleigh.devon.sch.uk or
call 01769 580215.

Chulmleigh College, Chulmleigh, Devon, EX18 7AA

COMPASSION AMBITION TEAMWORK