



HARTFORD
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
HIGH SCHOOL

**TEACHER OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES
APPLICANT PACK**

JANUARY 2025

INTRODUCTION

Dear Candidate,

We are delighted to welcome applications for the permanent role of Teacher of Religious Studies at Hartford Church of England High School. Our school is a great place to work! We have brilliant students, talented and committed staff and supportive parents. Our most recent Ofsted inspection in June 2023, demonstrated that we are a good and improving school and our ambition is to make Hartford Church of England High School an outstanding place to learn and work.

As a core subject, the Religious Education (RE) Department plays a central role in encouraging the School's Christian Ethos; we are fortunate to have a Chapel at the centre of our department, the Chapel provides a unique space for reflection, worship and, connection. We are fortunate to work in a close capacity with our School Chaplain in providing students with enriching extra-curricular activities that complement their spiritual and moral development.

The RE Department has a strong and dedicated team of experienced and passionate staff who strive to equip students with the knowledge necessary to flourish in an ever-diversifying society, both at a personal level and more widely, considering the place of religion in our society at local, national and international levels. Our aim is to cultivate well-rounded individuals with the potential to flourish in the world around them. In joining the department, you would become part of a group of teachers who are highly motivated and determined to achieve the best for our students.

Our high-quality, inclusive curriculum provides students with the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding of the major six world religions, including how an individual's beliefs and values influence their decision-making processes. Students are encouraged to develop a wide range of skills, including the ability to critically analyse, evaluate and interpret a variety of sources of authority.

In the RE Department we challenge students to explore their own position, presuppositions and values as well as the social and ethical responsibilities of not only themselves, but also those of society more generally. This approach not only encourages personal growth but also fosters a deeper understanding of the responsibilities we share as members of a global community.



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Aside from the curriculum, we focus on the importance of personal development, high expectations and care for one another across the school community. Our newly formed Family System, pastoral teams and SEND hub support this philosophy. All that we do is centred around our core HART values of Happy, Achieving, Ready, Together, built on the Christian foundation of Love (caritas) and Truth (veritas).

Our school is blessed with exceptional facilities across a large and growing site and is oversubscribed year on year. We have children who are enthusiastic to learn and who are great to teach. We have hugely supportive parents and committed staff and governors. Our school is at the centre of the community in Hartford and we are constantly looking to strengthen our commitment to one another, no matter what stakeholder we are. We have extremely close working relationships with the Diocese, local authority and our colleagues in other schools.

If you share our vision and values and are determined to bring out the best in young people, providing them with the best possible educational experience, we want to hear from you!

Should you choose to apply for the role of teacher of Religious Studies, I look forward to receiving your application and hopefully welcoming you to Hartford Church of England High School in the near future.

Rachel Pickerill

Headteacher



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KEY INFORMATION

Job role: Teacher of Religious Studies

Starting Date: 1st September 2025

Salary: MPS/UPS

Contract Term: Permanent

Closing Date: 9am Monday 3rd February 2025

Interviews: Wednesday 5th or Thursday 6th February 2025



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JOB DESCRIPTION

Teacher -UPS/MPS

The role of a teacher at Hartford Church of England High School is to contribute to raising standards of achievement and attainment through supporting and embracing the ethos of the school. The teacher will work collaboratively with colleagues to ensure the highest standards of curriculum planning, teaching and behaviour management. They will ensure the standard of education that students receive continually evolves and improves to meet the needs of all children in their lessons. They will have the highest aspirations for the attitudes to learning of all students, ensuring every young person achieves the best possible outcomes.

A teacher at Hartford Church of England High School will be highly motivated and innovative with an ability to enthuse, encourage and inspire staff and young people alike. Prior to their appointment at Hartford Church of England High School, teachers will have gained skills, knowledge and experience in their subject specialism(s). They will have outstanding communication skills possessing the ability to effectively enthuse and challenge young people in equal measure. Good teamwork, the highest of standards, determination and resilience will have been at the core of their success in their education and/or career to date. These skills will be at the heart of their role as teacher at Hartford Church of England High School in the future.

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Teachers at Hartford Church of England High School are responsible for ensuring that the highest standards of teaching, learning and assessment are provided across their subject specialism(s).

Teachers will:

- Ensure that all students fulfil their potential by creating a culture of high expectations, aspirations, ambitions and scholastic excellence within their lessons
- Have secure and up-to-date subject knowledge and related pedagogies so that teaching and learning is consistently engaging, appropriately challenging and suitably differentiated with all students making at least expected progress. These include SEND, EAL and high attaining students
- Ensure that assessment information is used to plan appropriate teaching and learning strategies, in order that all students make at least good progress and achieve well
- Keep up to date with the assessment requirements and arrangements for the subject(s) taught
- Ensure that spoken and written assessment is both regular and thorough to enable students to make continuous progress
- Apply the school's policy for marking and feedback, providing students with effective feedback and next steps for learning



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- Work alongside the Curriculum Leader(s) to implement strategies to address the underperformance of individuals and groups of students
- Set effective and meaningful homework in line with school policy
- Where necessary, provide high quality remote work for students that reflects the school's curriculum
- In line with the school's policy, maintain high standards of behaviour both within the classroom and beyond, consistently and fairly
- Assist in the development of appropriate schemes of learning and resources for the subject area
- Promote excellent student attendance and punctuality to lessons, ensuring that accurate and prompt registers are taken
- Ensure equality of opportunity and recognition of diversity are promoted through teaching, learning and assessment.

Wider Professional Responsibilities

The Teacher will contribute significantly to the wider running of the school. They will:

- Play a full part in the life of the school community, supporting the Christian distinctiveness of the school, and contributing to the school's vision, values and ethos in and out of the classroom
- Support the school in meeting its legal requirements for worship
- Be a reflective practitioner who is both adaptive and committed to improving their practice through appropriate professional development opportunities including mentoring and/or coaching
- Be a positive and professional role model for all students and staff
- Manage and organise the classroom environment efficiently and effectively to ensure that all health and safety regulations are met
- Ensure the effective and efficient deployment of classroom support
- Share good practice across the Faculty and, where appropriate, across the school
- Contribute to the planning and delivery of extra-curricular activities, including contributing to the school's revision programme
- Know, understand and follow whole school policies and apply them consistently, including those relating to safeguarding and well-being, in accordance with statutory provisions and school policy



- Ensure any concerns regarding students' welfare and safeguarding are communicated to the relevant senior member of staff and understand that safeguarding is the responsibility of all staff
- Support the pastoral provision within the school by being a form tutor and fulfilling responsibilities as requested by pastoral colleagues
- Attend regular school meetings within the directed time budget
- Carry out supervision duties as directed through the school duty rota
- Liaise effectively with parents, carers and other stakeholders
- Actively engage in the School Appraisal process
- Attend school events and activities as appropriate to the role of teacher of a given subject.

Hartford Church of England High School is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults as its number one priority. This commitment to robust recruitment, selection and induction procedures extends to organisations and services linked to the school on its behalf. This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check. We value variety and individual differences, and aim to create a culture, environment and practices at all levels which encompass acceptance, respect and inclusion. All our colleagues are expected to demonstrate a commitment to our Church of England ethos and Christian distinctiveness.

The functions and specific responsibilities of this job description are to be undertaken in conjunction with the duties of a teacher as defined in the Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document. The responsibilities and duties will be reviewed and modified as any government guidance evolves.



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PERSON SPECIFICATION

Teacher of a Subject - Person Specification

	Essential	Desirable	Evidence
Qualifications and Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Degree Teaching qualification Successful teaching experience, including the teaching of subject to GCSE level. Record of excellence in the classroom Contribution to curriculum planning, development and evaluation. Strong track record of one's own continuing professional development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post-graduate certificate Relevant in-service training e.g. relevant NPQ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application Interview
Special Aptitudes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent teaching ability, commanding respect of students and colleagues Excellent use of IT in education Ability to generate enthusiasm for the subject (s) and for learning in general Ability to plan, organise, review and adapt Up to date on current educational issues including having a clear understanding of developments in the subject area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to innovate and manage change. Experience of leading initiatives beyond their own classroom. Experience of the role of form tutor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application Interview



	Essential	Desirable	Evidence
Special Aptitudes (cont'd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of leading and/or supporting extra-curricular activities 	-	
Interpersonal Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully committed to the Christian ethos of the school • Inspirational • Ability to forgive and move on • Ability to challenge and support students and staff • Excellent spoken and written communication skills • High expectations • Commitment to school improvement • Team worker • Independent worker • Resilient under pressure • Excellent attendance • Flexible 	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application • Interview
Safeguarding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willingness to consent to apply for an enhanced disclosure CRB check • Commitment to demonstrating a responsibility for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people, including the mental health of young people 	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application • Interview



OUR SCHOOL VALUES

H

HAPPY

Showing respect to one another.
Looking after our mental and
physical wellbeing.

A

ACHIEVING

Working towards our goals,
both academic and extra-
curricular. Showing resilience
and not being afraid to fail.

R

READY

Being punctual, equipped
and ready to learn every
day. Wearing our uniform
with pride.

T

TOGETHER

Working together in all
things - building a school
family characterised by
tolerance and kindness.

LOVE 'CARITAS' & TRUTH 'VERITAS'

"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they
may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

John 15:12 and Matthew 5:16



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