

**Application Pack**

**Religious Studies Teacher (permanent)**

**Full time opportunity**

Thank you for your interest in our vacancy.

The following information contains further details regarding the school and the role.

**Sandbach High School and Sixth Form College are proud to be registered with ‘Investors In People’ and continue to support the development of our teachers and support staff.  We offer regular training programmes as well as staff well-being activities. Our school offers an exciting, rewarding and supportive environment for all our staff enabling them to grow and build on their skills.**

We take pride in being a caring and well-ordered community where everyone is encouraged to develop self-awareness and personal responsibility and play a full part in the life of the school. Our Code of Conduct is based on respect, courtesy and consideration. We make sure that students who work hard, help others and show responsibility in their behaviour are properly recognised through our awards system. Commitment and success in sport or music are celebrated in the award of distinctive colours badges.

Our extensive curriculum is broad and balanced, giving all students the opportunity to develop their potential. A wide range of learning and teaching strategies is used to actively involve students in the learning process. Progress is carefully assessed and monitored.

The Trustees are seekinga well-qualified, enthusiastic and inspiring graduate to join our Business, Computing and Religion and Worldviews department and teach Religious Studies to KS3, GCSE level and A level.

The successful candidate will be creative, imaginative and an excellent team player with a proven record of excellence in the classroom.

Applications from experienced, recently qualified and newly qualified teachers are welcomed.

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| **Appointment Type** | Full-time Permanent |
| **Start Date** | 1st January 2023 |
| **Salary Scale** | Main pay scale |
| **Closing Date** | Monday 26th September 2022 |
| **Interview Date** | Friday 30th September 2022 |

**Religious Studies Teacher**

**The ideal candidate will:**

* an excellent teacher of Religious Studies
* Someone who does whatever it takes to ensure the best learning and teaching for all our students
* A committed team player who is happy to contribute to departmental improvement activities
* Be a well-qualified Religious Studies teacher with a record of planning and delivering lessons that are engaging challenging and enjoyable to pupils of all ability levels.
* Have a PGCE qualification and QTS or recently qualified as an ECT.
* Have the ability to teach pupils throughout KS3, KS4 & KS5.
* Be able to inspire and make positive relationships with students to encourage great learning.
* Have evidence of supporting students to reach their full potential.
* Be a resilient character with a strong personal drive.

**We can offer you:**

* The opportunity to work in an Ofsted rated ‘Outstanding’ school.
* The opportunity to work alongside a collaborative, forward thinking Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team whose priority is to support and develop you.
* A dedicated, hardworking and supportive Business, Computing and Religious Studies team, all passionate about their subject.
* Friendly and highly motivated students who are keen to learn and take pride in their achievements.
* A comprehensive induction programme when joining the school as an ECT, including your own dedicated mentor.
* An Investors in People approved school where staff are supported and encouraged to take part in professional development programmes with the opportunity to share best practice within your own department and with staff from other specialisms.

**The Department:**

**Religious Studies**

The Religious Studies department consists of 3 full time members of staff. We are an enthusiastic and dedicated team who are passionate about our subject. We are dedicated to achieving our curriculum objectives across the Key Stages:

* To spark curiosity about religion and the range of worldviews in the world around us.
* To introduce students to a wide variety of theological, philosophical and ethical themes, ranging from beliefs about the nature of God to the ethics of women’s rights.
* To inspire a life-long love of learning, independent thought and the courage to think and act differently.
* To address 'real world' issues, make these relevant to pupils’ lives and consider the consequences of actions, using contemporary examples and case studies.
* To challenge prejudices and appreciate that there are differing values and attitudes, including those of decision makers, and to give pupils the tools to develop their own opinions.
* To encourage critical understanding of big ideas, such as justice and equality; developing a “futures” perspective.
* To develop a curriculum where pupils are involved in what is taught and in the learning process.
* To provide a differentiated program of activities which will reflect a variety of assessment methods appropriate to measuring achievement in a wide range of skills and abilities.

Wherever possible we provide students with extra-curricular opportunities to enhance their passion for the subject. We pride ourselves on extra curricula activities that include lunch time clubs on feminism, Amnesty International and anti-racism.

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We have 2 dedicated teaching rooms, both of which have overhead projectors and whiteboard facilities.

The Curriculum is designed around a five year learning journey which focuses on building on prior knowledge and developing knowledge of key religious and non-religious worldviews and practices. KS3 covers aspects of the six major world religions, alongside non-religious worldviews. GCSE focuses on Christianity and Islam, following AQA GCSE Syllabus A. A level focuses on Islam, Philosophy of Religion and Ethics, following the Eduqas Religious Studies A level syllabus.

Our students achieve extremely well in Religious Studies and our results and progress data is above average.

Mr G Bashford

Curriculum Leader Business, Computing and Religion and Worldviews

**Job Description – Religious Studies teacher**

**Job Title:** Teacher of Religious Studies

**Accountable to:** Business, Computing and Religious and Worldviews Leader

**Job Purpose:**

To contribute to raising standards of student achievement in Religious Studies by teaching a timetable of lessons and supporting the Curriculum Leader in the achievement of whole school and department goals as stated in the department’s strategic plan.

**Key Responsibilities**

**Teaching**

* To have high expectations of all students and ensure that they are stretched and challenged.
* To use effective teaching and learning strategies to promote student-led learning and develop independent, resilient and confident Religion and Worldviews’ students.
* To assess, record and report on the attainment, attendance and progress of students.
* To be aware of the needs of all students and groups and to make provision for this in lesson planning.
* To provide or contribute to oral and written assessments, reports and references relating to individual or groups of students.
* To prepare and update subject resources.
* To maintain discipline in accordance with the school’s procedures and encourage good practice with regard to punctuality, behaviour and standards of work.
* To assess students’ work in line with school policies and procedures, with reference to student performance targets.

**Curriculum Provision & Development**

* To assist the Subject Leader in the development of appropriate syllabuses, resources, schemes of work and teaching strategies.
* To contribute to the development and implementation of the subject’s strategic plan.
* To plan and prepare courses and lessons.
* To attend and contribute to subject meetings.
* To contribute towards the planning and implementation of Enrichment days.

**Monitoring & Evaluation**

* To use external and internal data to assess student performance and to develop appropriate courses of action.
* To regularly review teaching methods.
* To produce termly effort and attainment monitoring grades for all students taught.

**Pastoral**

* To be a form tutor to an assigned group of students.
* To liaise with Senior Leadership Team in implementing the school’s pastoral policies.
* To register students and mentor them during assembly time.
* To enable, encourage and support a form’s participation in the Student Voice.
* To communicate with parents and outside bodies as appropriate.
* To attend form tutor meetings.

**Other Responsibilities**

* To participate in the school’s CPD programme.
* To continue personal development in relevant areas, especially subject knowledge and teaching methods
* To engage actively with the school’s performance management programme.
* Where appropriate, ensure the effective deployment of classroom support.
* To work as a member of a team, positively contributing to effective working relations within the school.
* To communicate, where necessary with parents and external bodies, following school policies.
* To attend Open Evenings, Parents’ Evenings and Presentation Evenings.
* To report to the school’s Health and Safety Co-ordinator regarding any Fire, Health & Safety issues undertaking risk assessments where necessary.
* To undertake appropriate supervision of pupils on a rota basis, before school, at break and lunch.

All teaching staff are responsible for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of students they are responsible for or with whom they come into contact.

**Person Specification**

**Job Title: Teacher of Religious Studies**

The Trustees are seeking to appoint a graduate who is able to demonstrate the following qualities and experience:

Key: AF Application Form I Interview LO Lesson observation R References

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CRITERIA** | **ESSENTIAL** | | **DESIRABLE** |  |
| **Qualifications** | * Well qualified graduate in Religious Studies * Qualified teacher, or expect to gain QTS or recently qualified as an ECT. * Secure subject knowledge | | * Evidence of continuing professional development. * Ability to teach Islam at GCSE and A level | AF  LO  I |
| **Experience** | * Experience of teaching Religious Studies to KS3 and KS4 * Ability to communicate passion for the subject to students * Proven record or evidence from teaching practice of potential to help students reach high standards of learning and achievement. * Ability to be an effective member of the pastoral team in the role of form tutor (including the delivery of PSHCE) | | * Experience of teaching KS5 | AF  LO  I |
| **Knowledge** | * High standard of subject knowledge. * Knowledge of current developments in Teaching & Learning. * Understanding and use of strategies to raise achievement. | | * Experience and understanding of helping low achievers. | AF  I  R |
| **Personality** | * A positive & enthusiastic outlook. * Ambitious with a drive to succeed. * Ability to inspire & motivate students and peers. * Commitment to safeguard & promote the welfare of children. | | * Self confidence * Flexibility/adaptability | AF  LO  I  R |
| **Special Aptitudes** | * Professionalism/integrity. * Excellent classroom practitioner with a commitment to a safe learning environment and the ability to inspire and nurture students to see the value of Religious Studies, both in and out of the classroom * Passion and commitment to developing students’ skills alongside your own * Play full role in departmental development, especially contributing to teaching & learning materials. | | * Willingness to adapt practice in light of current educational initiatives * Understanding of the importance of assessment and tracking in achieving the best outcomes for every student * Flexible and innovative | AF  LO  I  R |
| **Interpersonal Skills** | * Excellent communication skills * Work with energy, commitment and good humour * Be an effective team member, proactive at contributing to departmental activities | |  | AF  I  R  R |
| **Personal Attributes** | | Desire to contribute to and be involved in the wider life of the school.  Promote respect for all members of our school community  Excellent record of attendance and punctuality.  Have a passionate commitment to our school’s core vision and values  Organised with excellent time management and planning skills | | AF  I  R |

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**THE REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS ACT**

The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act allows for a person who has been convicted of a criminal offence involving a sentence of not more than 2½ years imprisonment and who has since lived trouble free for a specified period of time (related to the severity of the offence) to be treated as if the offence, conviction or sentence had never occurred. This is known as a spent conviction.\* This job is one of those to which the provisions of the above Act in relation to spent convictions\*, **do not apply**. Applicants **must therefore disclose** whether they have any previous convictions\*, whether or not they are spent.

Should an applicant have a criminal conviction\*, this will be discussed in confidence at interview. However only convictions\* that are relevant to the job in question will be taken into account. Failure to disclose any conviction could lead to an application being rejected, or, if appointed, may lead later to dismissal.

Certain spent convictions\* are ‘protected’ and are not subject to disclosure to employers, and cannot be taken into account by a recruitment manager. Guidance and criteria on the filtering of these convictions\* can be found at the following link:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/1198/pdfs/uksi_20131198_en.pdf>

\*including cautions, reprimands or warnings.

People who have convictions will be treated fairly and given every opportunity to establish their suitability for the job, all applicants will be considered on merit and ability.

Any information that you give will be kept in strict confidence and will be used only in respect of your application for the job.

**DISCLOSURE & BARRING SERVICE (DBS)**

Successful applicants will be asked to apply for an Enhanced Criminal Record Check (Disclosure) from the Disclosure and Barring service.

A copy of the Disclosure and Barring Service Code of Practice is available on request.

Further information about the Disclosure scheme can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service>

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN**

Sandbach High School and Sixth Form College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

## All staff at Sandbach High School and Sixth Form College are expected:

* To adhere to the school’s corporate standards, policies, systems and procedures in relation to Safeguarding and Child Protection, and health and safety
* To set a personal example that contributes to the positive ethos of the school
* To be committed to the life of the school and to support its distinctive mission and ethos
* To behave at all times in accordance with the school’s values
* To agree annual performance targets with their Line Manager
* To promote the school favourably in the community
* To engage actively in the performance review process, addressing appraisal targets set in conjunction with the line manager each autumn term.
* To participate in training and other professional development learning activities as required.
* To promote equal opportunities and celebrate diversity in all aspects of the school.
* To play a full part in the life of the school community, to support its distinctive aim and ethos and to encourage staff and students to follow this example.
* To adhere to the school’s Staff Code of Conduct and the Dress Presentation Code.
* To comply with the school’s Health and Safety policy and undertake risk assessments as appropriate.
* To be familiar with and promote safeguarding requirements, demonstrating adherence to the DfE Guidance ‘Keeping Children Safe in Education’ and the school’s Safeguarding/Child Protection policies.
* To be aware of and comply with all school policies and procedures, in particular those relating to conduct, child protection (as above), health, safety and security, confidentiality and data protection, reporting all concerns to an appropriate person.

**Safeguarding**

* Sandbach High School and Sixth Form College is committed to keeping children, young people and vulnerable adults safe. The post holder is responsible for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of the children, young people and vulnerable adults for whom she/he is responsible or comes into contact with.

**Health & Safety**

* The post holder will be responsible for his/her own health and safety. All duties and responsibilities must be carried out in line with the specific requirements detailed in the school Health and Safety policies.

**Policies & Procedures**

* The post holder will be accountable for ensuring that he/she is aware of relevant school policies and that all duties and responsibilities are carried out in line with the appropriate policies and procedures.

**Equality Act 2010**

The school will endeavour to make any necessary reasonable adjustments to the job and the working environment to enable access to employment opportunities for disabled job applicants or continued employment for any employee who develops a disabling condition (as defined in the Equality Act 2010).

We will consider any reasonable adjustments under the Equality Act (2010) to enable an applicant with a disability (as defined under the Act) to meet the requirements of the post.

Applications

Visits to the school, individually risk assessed in accordance with our Covid risk assessment, and informal enquiries, prior to application, are warmly welcomed please contact Helen Hulse, School Business Manager, on 01270 765031 to discuss or email hhulse@sandbachhigh.co.uk

To apply for this post, please complete an application form with a supporting statement of no more than two sides of A4 on your suitability for the post and the school, with reference to your areas of expertise.

The closing date for applications is Monday 26th September 2022 at noon.

Interview date will be Friday 30th September 2022.

Thank you for your interest in our school.

We look forward to receiving your application.

All applications should be emailed to [recruitment@sandbachhigh.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@sandbachhigh.co.uk)

