

Notting Hill & Ealing High School, GDST

HoD Geography - Full time

From April or September 2016

Notting Hill & Ealing High School is an academically selective girls' school with 588 in the Senior department and 310 in the Junior department. Our public examination results are consistently excellent and girls go on to study a wide range of subjects at prestigious universities. Creativity is encouraged in all subjects and girls here are passionate about Art, Drama, Debating, Music and Sport, performing to a very high standard in all these areas. There is a deep-seated ethos of respect, tolerance and understanding and girls take a very active role in fund raising for local and global charities. This is an exceptionally warm and friendly community in which to work.

The Post

The post of Head of Geography is available from April or September 2016. The vacancy provides the opportunity for a well-qualified and inspirational teacher of Geography to lead a lively and successful Geography department teaching full time at all levels throughout the school including GCSE and A level.

Person specification

The successful candidate will be encouraged to bring fresh ideas to the department and also to contribute to whole-school initiatives. We are looking for a well qualified graduate with excellent subject knowledge and a passion for their subject. The successful candidate will have excellent organisational and time management skills, the ability to solve problems, be interested in bringing the subject alive outside the curriculum and be able to motivate their students to explore the subject beyond the syllabus.

The Department

The Geography Department consists of three full time teachers. The Department develops enthusiasm for the subject using a wide variety of teaching and learning techniques. We encourage an enquiry based approach to studying Geography, helping students to develop a sense of place and a wide range of skills. Within a supportive environment we encourage all students to achieve their full potential. In all years, we have a balance between Physical, Human and Environmental Geography. Fieldwork plays an essential role in the understanding of the subject, and all year-groups enjoy fieldwork visits to compliment the curriculum.

The subject is taught largely in two specialist teaching rooms, within a Humanities area of the school. All rooms are equipped with a tablet and projector. The Department shares a Humanities office with History and RS, where there is workspace for staff, as well as storage for resources.

Curriculum

At Key Stage 3, all students are taught in their tutor groups. In Year 7, students develop essential map skills through a range of activities. Other introductory topics include Settlement, Population, Rivers, and Farming, with a visit to a local farm. In Year 8, students investigate coasts, Europe, Tourism and Living Spaces with a visit to the Chilterns where fieldwork is carried out to investigate contrasting settlements. Year 9 students tackle more global issues such as Tectonics, Development

and Globalisation, and Climate and Climate change. There is a visit to Cadbury World to consider the impact of TNCs and Fair Trade.

At Key Stage 4 the students follow the Edexcel B course. There are 4 units. In Units 1 and 2 there is core knowledge and understanding of Physical and Human Geography. This knowledge and understanding is developed in Units 3 and 4 which are skills based. For Unit 1, there is a fieldwork visit to Amersham Field Study Centre to develop the topic of Rivers. Unit 3 is a decision-making exercise based on unseen resources which cover a range of topics from Unit 1 and 2. Unit 4 is a controlled assessment based on primary fieldwork carried out in Dorset. The question is set by Edexcel and the students collect their primary fieldwork data at Lulworth Cove and the surrounding area.

At Key Stage 5 the students follow the Edexcel course, comprising four units. At AS, Unit 1 covers 'The World at Risk' and 'Going Global'. Both sections tackle important global issues such as Managing Hazards, Climate Change, Globalisation, Population and Migration, and World Cities. Unit 2 is based on fieldwork and investigation where the students study coasts and rebranding at Slapton Field Study Centre in Devon. At A2, Unit 3 is a taught unit tackling Development issues, Biodiversity, Superpower Geographies, Resource use and Technological Fixes. It is a challenging unit which also includes a synoptic question based on pre-released resources. Unit 4 is a researched based unit where the students have a choice from 6 topics to study. They learn report writing skills and practice this style of essay writing to prepare for the examination.

Extra curricular

The Department runs a Geography Club for the Lower School, which is supported by Sixth Formers. In recent years, the Department has entered a Year 10 team in the local round of the GA 'World Wise' quiz. We offer a range of opportunities to attend evening lectures advertised through the Geographical Association or RGS, which are well attended by the Year 12 and 13 students. The Department has run very successful trips to Iceland for Year 10 students and above over the last couple of years.

Terms and conditions of the Post

Salary is according to qualifications and experience. A GDST supplement is paid.

Application and Interview Process

Applications should be submitted by 4.00pm on Wednesday 18th November. Candidates should complete the application form provided and also include a covering letter and full curriculum vitae with details of qualifications and experience and the names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of two professional referees, one of whom should be the Head of their present or most recent school.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for interview. As part of this process they will be expected to teach a lesson of up to 35 minutes, for which a full prior briefing will be given. All applications will be acknowledged and candidates who have not heard from us further within two weeks of the closing date should assume that the post has been filled.

Please see attached full information regarding the Girls' Day School Trust guidelines on the Safeguarding of Children.

Further information about the school can be found on our website at: www.nhehs.gdst.net