



Trinity School

Trinity School, Carlisle, Cumbria

TEACHER OF RS (Christianity, Philosophy and Ethics)

REQUIRED FOR SEPTEMBER 2018

When you have read the details, and if you decide that you like the sound of us, please let us have your completed application form by **9.00am, Tuesday 20th February 2018** along with a letter, explaining why we should be thinking about appointing you.

A The School

Trinity School began in 1968 with the joining together of the Carlisle Grammar School, The Creighton School, and The Margaret Sewell School. We have a site which is right at the heart of the city of Carlisle. The old grammar school which houses our Sixth Form is a lovely building in red sandstone. The 11-16 school has benefited from an extensive rebuild and remodelling project. In September 2010 we opened the first phase which gave us state of the art Science, Technology and ICT rooms. September 2011 saw the opening of the second phase, with new Art, MFL, Humanities and SEN rooms. The third phase, a new entrance, was completed in April 2012. We think we have a lovely school in which to work and we are delighted with what we have achieved.

Trinity School has just under 1700 students; this includes a Sixth Form of 350. This makes us one of the largest Church of England schools in the country. We gained academy status with effect from 1 September 2011 and are now a Church of England Academy. If you are worried that the school might be too big and impersonal for you, then don't be: this is a very friendly school, which functions as a community, and as a series of smaller communities within the main school.

There are four houses – Amazon, Nile, Everest and Kilimanjaro – and the pastoral system is run by the Heads of House, each supported by a House Tutor. Form tutors make sure that they know their forms well and monitor their progress through the year. Behaviour in the school is good, and our classrooms are pleasant, well ordered places.

Each department has its own area in the school, with its own facilities, but the central staffroom still works as the main meeting place for staff. We are not a quiet place: there are school plays and concerts; Graduation Evening takes place in Carlisle cathedral; we have a wide range of sports and team games going on; the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme is very popular and we have a big programme of visits to the continent. Yet this is a place where the emphasis will always be on the quality of teaching and learning. We have high ambitions for all our students, and enjoy a very supportive relationship with parents, and with governors.

We aspire to being a place where Christian values are at the heart of what we do. We try to have simple policies and to value the contribution of every individual in the school. While we are a Church school, there is no requirement in our admissions policy for pupils that they must be churchgoers to come here. Similarly for staff – we would like you to be in sympathy with and supportive of the aims and ethos of a church school, but there are members of staff of many different persuasions working here.

The school is supported by the Diocese of Carlisle, and the Trust which oversees us as an Academy has the Bishop, the Dean and the Archdeacon on it, along with the Diocesan Director of Education and our Chair of Governors. They have our best interests at heart, as do the Governors themselves who support, encourage and celebrate the school.

B The Inspections

Ofsted judged us to be a good school with outstanding Sixth Form provision in April 2015, and our capacity to move forward is very strong. You may well have looked this up on our website, or through Ofsted, but here are some highlights:

'All staff share the co-headteachers' and governors' determination that the school will offer the best possible provision to students.'

'Safeguarding arrangements are exemplary. Leaders and all staff go beyond their roles to ensure that all students are safe and cared for well.'

'The behaviour of students is good. The vast majority of students have positive attitudes to learning and are keen to do well.'

'Students respond well to teachers' high expectations and are engaged in their learning.'

'The sixth form has gone from strength to strength and is now outstanding.'

'The behaviour of students in the sixth form is exemplary. Their mature conduct provides excellent role models for younger students.'

Our **SIAMS** (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) report, completed in October 2016, states:

"The school's clear commitment to the worth and potential of each individual is summarised in the short vision statement: 'standards, responsibility and opportunity...for all'. This is linked with five core values (community, trust, hope, endurance and compassion) whose impact is acknowledged by all."

"Students speak readily of how the vision and values influence behaviour, relationships and attitude to learning. This is clear in the purposeful atmosphere that pervades the school. They also underpin the careful attention given to spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development."

"Leaders understand the school to be part of the wider community and demonstrate this through their commitment to service. This was clear at the time of the December 2015 flood when they opened the school as soon as possible to restore a sense of order, calm and normality in a context of devastation and distress. This is just one of many powerful examples of leaders living out their Christian vision."

C The RS Department

The RE Department is a successful, friendly and supportive department which benefits from a strong team of specialist teachers and the established leadership of someone with clarity of vision and understanding, enthusiasm and energy. In the 2016 SIAMS inspection RE was seen as outstanding. RE contributes richly to the '**standards, responsibility, opportunity**' mission of the school and to students' SMSC development.

In addition to the Subject Leader, there are three other qualified RS specialists; two of whom are part time, and other staff who teach in other departments. Teaching arrangements are as follows:

Key Stage 3

Religion is taught to all pupils for one hour a week at KS3. Year 7 are taught in Form groups. Years 8 and 9 are taught in mixed ability sets. Students complete assessments after each unit of work and we assess and track students' progress, identifying specific individual targets in all the key skills in RE. The KS3 scheme of work is mapped against the Diocesan Framework for Religious Education and ensures that curriculum provision is in line with Diocesan expectation, especially regarding the balance of Christian to other faiths' teaching. All Y8 students complete the **Archbishop of York Young Leaders Award** which is accessed through a combination of taught modules – (Faith and Hope) and community action (Hope and Action). All Students will be involved in personal volunteering work, school charity and community service. These activities should lead to 'change' within the community. This aspect of RE develops in students important social skills such as teamwork, conflict resolution and decision making.

Year 9 students commence the **Religious Studies GCSE EDUQAS** specification following route A and focusing on the religions of **Christianity and Islam**.

Key Stage 4

At KS4 students are taught in sets based on ability and continue to follow GCSE Eduqas Religious Studies leading to the award of a full or short course GCSE. This GCSE course, which commences in Year 9, enables pupils to develop their understanding of the relationship between religion and life and their response to philosophical, ethical, moral issues. It also

ensures that pupils continue to study a predominantly Christian syllabus while allowing for further learning about and understand of another faith to occur. There are three examinations; a 2 hour **Issues** Paper (Relationships, Good and Evil, Human Rights and Life and Death) and two 1 hour papers in **Christianity and Islam**.

Key Stage 5

In Sixth form, A Level students follow **OCR Advanced GCE Religious Studies** (H573). There are 3 two hour papers in *Philosophy of Religion, Religion and Ethics and Developments in Christian Thought*. These three components have clear well defined content and allow the opportunity for learners to apply their knowledge and skills to contemporary issues. The emphasis of this course is to enable students to respond critically and engage in a wealth of philosophical, ethical and religious concepts. There are currently 9 students following this course. Students are allocated four hours a week.

D The RS Post

This post would suit a well-qualified, enthusiastic and innovative RS specialist, either a newly qualified or more experienced teacher. The ability to teach 'A' level RS would be an advantage but is not essential.

E What to do next

We hope that these details have helped you decide that you would like to apply for this post. Please fill in the application form, in black as we will photocopy it, and write a letter of no more than two sides about your work so far, and what we would gain if you joined our school.

Send the completed form and your letter to **Mrs Judith Clarke, Co-Headteachers' PA, Trinity School, Strand Road, Carlisle, CA1 1JB** or email jcl@trinity.cumbria.sch.uk by **9.00am, Tuesday 20th February 2018**.

We do not usually acknowledge applications received by post. Please enclose an s.a.e. or contact us by email if you want us to let you know that we have received yours.

You are welcome to contact us in advance if you would like to know more about us, or have other questions about the post, the school or the area. Please contact Judith Clarke on 01228 403551. If we have not contacted you within two weeks of the closing date please assume you have not been selected for the next round of our recruitment process.

We look forward to receiving your application.



Sheila Johnston
Co-Headteacher