

TEACHER OF HISTORY APRIL/SEPTEMBER 2022

Whitgift is one of Britain's leading independent day and boarding schools for boys aged between 10 and 18 years with approximately 1550 pupils and over one hundred boarding or flexi-boarding pupils. The school, which was founded in 1596 by Elizabeth I's last Archbishop of Canterbury, John Whitgift, is one of the oldest in Croydon and enjoys facilities of outstanding quality, amongst the best available nationally. It is set in an attractive 48-acre parkland site in South Croydon with excellent links to London, Surrey and the south coast.

The Vacancy

This position is a permanent post.

The Department is very busy and expectations within the School are high. The successful candidate must be confident, proactive and reflective about their teaching, has excellent communication skills, is capable of contributing positively within a team and is committed to raising attainment through excellent teaching and learning.



We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and dedicated graduate who possesses a genuine passion for History alongside a capacity to share this effectively with pupils of all ages. A commitment to maintaining the high standards of the department would be expected, and there is excellent scope for an inspirational teacher to develop and apply their skills and knowledge at all levels. Involvement in the wider activities of the department would be expected, and the ability to teach Politics may be an advantage.

The position is suitable for recent graduates for whom this would be their first teaching experience and looking to challenge themselves academically, for newly qualified teachers, or for a more experienced candidate who has the skills to enrich this already successful department. The ability to work as a team is essential and candidates will also need to have good IT skills.

The successful applicant will be expected to have the flexibility to teach across the range of student ages, abilities and examination courses, including Oxbridge preparation. We are looking to employ a team player with an energetic approach, who is keen to make a major contribution to the future development of this strong, cohesive and exciting department and who is both flexible and passionate about the study of History and/or Politics. The right person for the post will be interested in fulfilling an important role in the Department that extends beyond the classroom and will therefore not be shy of giving appropriate energy as well as being a supportive and enthusiastic member of the team.

As a Boarding School, stimulating opportunities may be available for the right candidate to contribute to the pastoral care of students as a Boarding Tutor, both resident and non-resident along with a wide range of co-curricular activities.

The position reports to the Acting Head of History.

The History Department



The vibrant, energetic and dedicated History team comprises 10 full-time members of staff and six members of the department hold other significant school responsibilities (including two members of the Senior Management Team); the majority of the current department undertook their training at the school. We are a team of teachers who are passionate about our teaching and who work together and share ideas to drive the department forward. Both the School and the Department

have a firm commitment to helping teachers enhance their abilities through experience and appropriate in-service training.

The History Office benefits from a wide range of shared teaching resources including textbooks and an extensive departmental library. IT is a particular focus of current development: each member of staff has their own school laptop, we employ the school network extensively to share resources, and increasing use is made of the school VLE and media server in classroom teaching.

Class sizes in the Sixth Form average at 12 students; GCSE classes are usually around 21 students and Lower School classes contain an average of 23 boys. Junior classes are taught in a dedicated classroom block, but most other History and Politics lessons are accommodated in six specialised classrooms equipped with digital whiteboards.

Curriculum

History is studied by all boys and is designed to install interest in students throughout the School. Starting in Year 7, our pupils also study Medieval History from the Norman Conquest to the late 15th century, and there is a visit to the Tower of London. Year 8 covers the Tudors and Stuarts in the first term, moving on to study aspects of Britain's economic, social and imperial development in the 18th and 19th centuries. They have a day visit to Hampton Court.



In Year 9, the focus is on European History c.1890-1945, with the origins, course and aftermath of the two world wars forming the backbone, with the role of women in the First World War a particular focus. Boys also study America's 'golden age' in the 1920s and the Civil Rights movement from 1950-1965.

There is also, where permitted, a fascinating three-day World War One Trip to France and Belgium for this year group.

In the Upper School approximately 150 boys each year choose History at GCSE, where we follow the Cambridge International Examinations (Modern World History) specification, studying The 20th Century: International Relations since 1919 and a depth study of Germany 1918-1939.

We encourage students in their learning of History and in Year 11 a five-day residential trip to Berlin is organised.

At any one time, approximately 120 boys will be studying History for A Level or International Baccalaureate. We teach the Edexcel A Level specification, covering Russia 1917-91, Mao's China 1949-76 and The British Experience of Warfare c.1790 to 1918. There is a coursework component too and this allows for broader independent research on Modern or Early Modern topics. For the IB, we follow Route 2 (Late Modern period), with candidates prepared for papers in International Relations 1918-36, Wars and Dictatorships in the 20th century, and European History 1815-1939, as well as individual Historical Investigations.

The Department also offers a well-subscribed and successful A Level Politics course. In Politics, we currently have 40 boys studying the subject and there are 2 or 3 sets in each year group. We follow the Edexcel specification with UK Politics in the Lower Sixth and US Politics in the Upper Sixth.

Academic Results

Examination results are outstanding, and History is a popular subject at GCSE, A Level and the International Baccalaureate.

		2021	2020	2019
GCSE	9-7	90%	90%	88%
A Level	A*- B	100%	100%	98%
IB (Higher Level)	7 - 6	100%	100%	91%
Politics	A*-B	100%	100%	94%

Co-Curricular Activities

The Department is proud of its extensive range of co-curricular activities which are designed to install a love of history in students throughout the school. There are active Junior and Senior History and Politics Societies run by the boys with staff involvement. A wide range of trips and visits are offered, ranging from Politics tours of the Houses of Parliament to multi-day visits to the First World War battlefields and Sixth Form trips to the USA and Russia. Day trips to St. Albans, the Tower of London and Hampton Court are also organised for our younger pupils.

Contact

If you have questions regarding the vacancy or would like to know more, please feel free to contact Dr David Kmiot, Acting Head of History, on 020 8688 9222 or e-mail dak@whitgift.co.uk.

Conditions of Service

The salary will be on the Whitgift Foundation scale (substantially above national scale) according to qualifications and experience. Accommodation may be available. Assistance is offered towards removal expenses etc., up to £1,000 in total.

Staff are required to make a significant contribution to the co-curricular life of the School and this is reflected in the salary offered. A strong commitment to the pastoral and house system is also anticipated.

We offer a generous salary and benefits package including membership of the Teachers' Pension Scheme (including Life Assurance cover), Employee Discount Club, discount on school fees for the Foundation Schools (permanent posts only), membership of a healthcare plan plus a range of family-friendly benefits and season ticket loan.

We welcome applications from all parts of our community as we aspire to attract staff that matches the social and cultural diversity of our student intake.

For further information and an online application form, please visit www.whitgift.co.uk/vacancies. For any general queries, please telephone the School Human Resources Department on 020 8688 9222 or e-mail SchoolHR@whitgift.co.uk.

Applications will be reviewed daily basis interviews may occur at any stage after applications are received so we invite interested candidates to apply as soon as possible.

As a result of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996, employers now have to verify that new recruits who are not British Nationals are eligible to work in this country. Therefore, any applicant who is offered an interview will be asked to provide official documentation to verify their ID, address and right to work in the UK. It is also normal practice for the School to ask for original qualifications and professional membership documents as detailed on their application.

Whitgift School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people, and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening including checks with past employers and the Disclosure & Barring Service.

November 2021