WALES HIGH SCHOOL

WALES HIGH ACADEMY TRUST

Teacher of English

INFORMATION PACK

A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE AND RESPECT

Details of the post of
Teacher of English

Are you interested in joining a school and department:

- That is committed to excellent teaching and learning?
- That demands high standards from students and staff?
- That is extremely popular and over-subscribed?
- Which is forward-thinking, innovative and creative?
- That is at the heart of its community and enjoys excellent links with parents?
- That believes well-motivated and highly skilled staff are key to a school's success?
- Where students feel safe and happy?

If so, then please consider applying for this challenging and rewarding post.



Message from the Headteacher

Wales High School is a happy, popular and highly successful school which provides an excellent education for over 1,800 children and young people and I am immensely proud to be the headteacher of this vibrant learning community.

Our aim is for all of our students to achieve their potential and to prepare them to thrive in a rapidly changing world. Pupils are valued as individuals and we are passionately committed to their achievement, personal growth and excellence in everything we do. We have a hugely talented and committed staff team, with a range of well-qualified and dedicated professionals to make sure that our curriculum, guidance, care and support meets the different needs of every young person, and we pride ourselves on having high expectations which ensure that our students are well-organised, caring and supportive of each other and also personally ambitious.

Our strong tradition of success is built on a firm foundation of pastoral care, and we ensure a climate for learning which is well ordered, safe, calm, and focused on achievement and success.

We are particularly proud of the care and guidance we provide for all of our students, from the most academically gifted who win places at Oxbridge to those who have significant additional needs.

All of our students are expected and encouraged to become independent learners and to develop their leadership skills, so they can fully participate in our rich extra-curricular programme. Across the school, teachers and students work in a collaborative and orderly atmosphere of mutual respect and trust. This gives the students a sense of belonging and a pride in our school and in themselves. Above all, we are committed to working together as a team.

We believe that by working together we can ensure opportunity and success for everyone. Every young person has unlimited potential, together we can make sure that this potential is realised and fulfilled.

We pride ourselves on very close, open and positive relationships with parents and carers and expect them to be fully involved in supporting the learning of their son or daughter.

We are very active in our local and wider community, and have developed very close links with our Business and Enterprise partners.

I have pleasure in inviting you to visit the school to judge for yourself what makes this such a special community in which to learn.



Mr. G. Di'Iasio
Headteacher

WALES HIGH SCHOOL
Storth Lane, Kiveton Park, Sheffield S26 5QQ
Tel: 01909 775711

Headteacher: G. Di'lasio, B.Ed. (Hons)
11-18 Mixed Comprehensive
1833 on roll (Sixth Form 234)

We welcome applications for the following full-time, permanent post - with effect from 1st September 2022

TEACHER OF ENGLISH

(MPS / UPS / TLR)

An exciting opportunity has arisen for the appointment of a Teacher of English in this extremely successful school, which has a first-class reputation for producing excellent results at GCSE and A Level.

We are seeking a motivated and enthusiastic Teacher of English to join this strong and exciting department. The successful candidate will demonstrate a passion and commitment to teaching. It would be an advantage for applicants to have the ability or potential to teach English across all Key Stages.

We welcome applications from both experienced and recently qualified teachers to join this successful team.

Further details and a Wales High School application form can be found online, via the school's website www.waleshigh.com.
PLEASE NOTE we operate Safer Recruitment and we do not accept CVs - all applicants must complete our application form in full.
Applications can be posted to the school or e-mailed to vacancies@waleshigh.com

Deadline for applications is: *9:00 am on Tuesday 24th May 2022*
Interview date to be confirmed

'To join the English Department at Wales is to join a friendly, enthusiastic and supportive team who are passionate about English and determined to foster a similar passion in every student who walks through our doors. We believe in delivering a quality curriculum to all students at all times, in and out of the classroom, and we are always looking for new and innovative ways to sharpen our practice and improve the learning of our students. If you are willing to go the extra mile for a subject you love and for a diverse and deserving set of young people, then this may be the department for you.'

Victoria Bolton: Head of English

If you would like to discuss the role or would like to arrange a visit to the English department, please contact **Mrs Victoria Bolton and Mrs Jennifer Flounders** on 01909 771291 or by email on VB@waleshigh.com and JFD@waleshigh.com

Mrs Victoria Bolton
Head of Department of English

Mrs Jennifer Flounders
Associate Head of English



Wales High School is committed to safeguarding
and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults.
Successful candidates will be required to apply for a disclosure of criminal records check at an enhanced level. Further information about the Disclosure Scheme can be found at www.gov.uk/disclosure-barring-service-check.

Teacher of English

~ Job Description ~

Responsible to: **Head of English**

Hours: **32.5 hours per week (52 weeks p.a.)**

Main Purpose

To teach English as directed by the Head of Department.

Duties and Responsibilities

- To plan, prepare and deliver stimulating and imaginative lessons to classes of different age groups and abilities – scaffolding learning, as appropriate.
- To develop appropriate schemes of work.
- To mark, check and assess students' work and provide feedback.
- To routinely track and monitor students' progress in accordance with school procedures and Assessment Points.
- To prepare students for qualifications / examinations.
- To manage pupil behaviour within lessons and the wider school premises.
- To attend staff and department meetings, as appropriate.
- To manage and co-ordinate extra-curricular interventions and activities, as appropriate.
- To liaise with parents and carers, as appropriate.
- To maintain up-to-date subject knowledge and keep up with changes in the National Curriculum.
- To engage in continuous professional development, including CPD opportunities.

Teacher of English

~ Person Specification ~

Essential	Desirable
• QTS and suitable experiences or qualifications as a teacher of English. • Proven IT skills. • To like children and have high expectations of them, with good standards of discipline. • To be efficient, well-organised and able to work to deadlines. • To have shown a strong interest and success in dealing with young people and their pastoral welfare. • To demonstrate effective communication skills - written and verbal. • To have a strong public presence. • To be able to deal with pupils, parents, staff and the wider community. • To have a 'whole school' perspective. • To be reliable, have the ability to work hard and give freely of your time. • People focused with a friendly, yet professional, and respectful approach - which demonstrates support and mutual respect. • Flexibility and willingness to work unsociable hours occasionally.	• To have a good honours degree in English or related subject. • To be passionate about the subject of English and the ways in which it can be taught. • Experience of teaching English. • To have participated in extra-curricular activities. • Experience of being a form tutor. • Managerial / leadership skills. • To have a good sense of humour. • To have taught the full ability range in a mixed comprehensive school. • To have experience of working in more than one school. • Smart appearance / dress.

The English Department

The English department at Wales is a dynamic and experienced team of practitioners committed to ensuring students make excellent progress. Our teachers are constantly striving to improve the attainment of every student and we successfully adapt our teaching, curriculum and intervention strategies to ensure our curriculum is bespoke and students' learning is personalised. We encourage our students to be active participants in their learning and work hard to support and challenge individuals so they make the best possible progress in English.

We are a large, friendly, and welcoming department that work well as a team. There are 27 colleagues in the English department, including ECTs, experienced subject specialists and two Assistant Headteachers, one of whom leads the department as Head of Department. We are an outward-looking department and are always keen to sharpen our own practice and develop teaching and learning collaboratively. We regularly train ITT students from Sheffield University and Sheffield Hallam. In addition to teaching English, some of our subject specialists also teach Drama and Media Studies. To support teaching and learning within the department we have subject specialist Teaching Assistants who support students in lessons and work as departmental cover supervisors. We have 16 classrooms with interactive Whiteboards, a Drama Studio, a fully equipped workroom and can loan iPads, flip cameras and visualisers to support teaching and learning.



Our teachers work as a cohesive team and are keen for the department to grow and develop in future years. As a diverse and experienced department, we have the luxury of being able to successfully help colleagues develop their pedagogy, share good practice and support career aspirations. The department has a Head of Department, who also forms part of the school's leadership team, an Associate Head of Department, and each year group has a Progress Leader. Many colleagues who start their career here go on to be promoted in various roles across the school. We focus our meetings on pupil progress and teaching & learning, with everyone contributing as we feel a collaborative approach helps improve our collective practice by drawing on varied experience. We also encourage teachers to use innovative approaches and develop research-based pedagogy in their classroom practice. We also have a structured CPD programme as part of our departmental collaborative planning, as we believe that strong subject knowledge is the key to success.

We encourage students to be more resilient, and to be prepared to fail in order to ultimately become more tenacious and independent learners. In Key Stage 3, our curriculum is broad and balanced, but also closely linked to the disciplinary and substantive knowledge required to succeed in formal assessments - this helps us to track pupil progress effectively and intervene with underperforming cohorts. The department has detailed schemes of work that are linked to assessment foci and are regularly reviewed to respond to student need. We have also developed the use of knowledge organisers to help students retain knowledge of key concepts that are revisited throughout our spiral curriculum. We offer the flexibility for teaching staff to adapt and deliver the curriculum in a creative way that is appropriate to their students, whilst also retaining consistency and fairness through our collaboratively-created 'core lessons.'

We currently deliver the AQA GCSE specification in English Language and English Literature. We have a large number of staff who are already trained AQA examiners, moderators and Team Leaders, as well as staff who are at the forefront of examining the new GCSEs. In addition, we are currently offering some students the opportunity to take their literature GCSE in Y10, and who then go on to study the new Pearson English Language 2.0 GCSE. We are also constantly exploring ways to diversify and enrich our curriculum, and would love to hear from any candidates with an interest in this area.

At KS5, the department offers both AQA 'English Language and Literature' and 'English Literature' at A-Level. Our courses are popular with students in our large Sixth Form and 100% of students pass at A-level. Students from our 6th form go on to study English related subjects at some of the most well-respected Universities in the country.

The department has a clear, focused and supportive ethos that ensures no student underachieves and we are determined that all students fulfil their potential. Although we are concerned with academic progress and the development of students' literacy skills, a key value of the department is that students' learning and curriculum should be enriched by a range of activities and their experience of English, both inside and outside of the classroom, should be challenging, exciting and fun! The department currently runs a KS3 Authors Club, Film Club, and Journalism club. We also run annual trips and initiatives for various year groups. In recent years, these have included: BBC school report for KS3 students; trips to Stratford for Y7 and Y8 students; Y9 Sports Journalism with Sheffield United Football Club; a Y11 residential to London including a tour of The Globe and a performance of 'Aladdin' and Y13 visits to Sheffield University to take part in seminars and workshops on stylistics.

This post would suit an enthusiastic teacher with drive, energy and commitment who can contribute to the team spirit of the department. Suitable candidates would include those who have a love of learning, a passion for their subject and who wish to develop their own practice through CPD in a forward-thinking department. In return, the English department can offer challenges and rewards in equal measure, and the possibility of career development in a number of different directions – as well as the opportunity to work in a happy and well-respected school.

Best Wishes

Mrs Victoria Bolton & Mrs Jennifer Flounders
Head of Department of English/ Associate Head of English

Wales High School – Stake Holder Comments

Parents/Guardians:

- ‘My daughter enjoys coming to this school’
- ‘Fantastic - child extremely happy. He loves the school.’
- ‘Wales high is a fantastic school: nurturing and caring’
- ‘When your son walks into school saying he is worried about scraping through a particular subject and walks out with a 9 in it! Priceless!’
- ‘What an amazing teacher. Thank you’
- ‘Very supportive teachers and approachable’

Students:

- ‘I'm happy with everything - love the school’
- ‘This is a lovely school to be at and it makes me feel grown up. So glad I came to this school’
- ‘Teachers care and help me’
- ‘Thank you so much for being the best teacher ever and making exams less stressful’
- ‘Proud of myself’
- ‘Over the moon with my results - the hard work has finally paid off’

Wales High School – Ofsted

During the last two inspections of Wales High School, Ofsted were impressed with “the schools drive to provide strong pastoral care and ensure a climate for learning which is well ordered, safe, calm and focused on achievement is a reality at this ‘good school.’” They also commented that “the leadership team has maintained the good quality of education in the school…Together with governors, you are resolutely committed to the school’s further improvement. You are not complacent about any of the school’s successes and strengths.”

We are proud of all our staff, pupils, parents, governors and community who have made this possible.

Among the points highlighted by the Inspectors in the School's recent short inspection they say:

- ‘the leadership team has maintained the good quality of education in the school since the last inspection’
- ‘leaders have worked with persistence and diligence to maintain and improve levels of attendance and persistent absence, which are better than the national averages’
- ‘there is evidence of very effective teaching’
- ‘a significant number of middle leaders are now nationally recognised as leaders in their subject areas, and they provide support to other schools’
- ‘acted decisively in responding to the needs of your pupils, such as training 18 staff as mental health first aiders’
- ‘pupils told us that the school is a tolerant place, and that they feel safe there. They told us that bullying is rare, but that if it happens, the school deals with it’.

Wales High School

Founded 1970

Celebrating 50 Years of Excellence

Wales High School Academy Trust

Storth Lane, Kiveton Park, SHEFFIELD, S26 5QQ

Tel: 01909 771291

Email: vacancies@waleshigh.com