



# Bancroft's School

Woodford Green • Essex • IG8 0RF  
[www.bancrofts.org](http://www.bancrofts.org)



Candidate brief for the position of  
**Religious Studies Teacher Fixed Term**



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## THE ROLE

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The Religious Studies department is looking for a temporary teacher for the autumn term to cover classes up to key stage 4. The Religious Studies department is a thriving and forward-looking department with a strong record of success. The successful candidate will benefit from the opportunity to work in a collegiate and welcoming department.



## RESPONSIBILITIES

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### Key responsibilities of this role:

- To deliver subject curriculum to pupils
- To inspire pupils to develop a passion for learning
- Teaching pupils through the School at Key Stages 3 and 4
- Marking, assessment and grading within the department, always setting the highest standards of personal organisation and administration
- Assisting in the preparation of the departmental handbook
- Attending regular meetings of the department, both formal and informal, to discuss policy, teaching methods, approaches to the subject and the sharing of common problems and concerns
- Adhering to departmental policies and to meet School deadlines insofar as it applies to the department
- Where required, assisting in the induction of new staff into the department
- Participating in an annual review with Head of Department

### Responsibilities in relation to the pupils and to what is taught:

- Keeping abreast of developments in the subject, maintaining contacts with professional associations





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- Participating in discussion, within the department, on the development of appropriate syllabuses and schemes of work at all levels
- Developing new teaching and learning resources and sharing them with pupils and colleagues
- Ensuring pupils are properly prepared for exams and entered for exams and overseeing course work and controlled assessment
- Participating in the setting and marking of internal exams and determining appropriate grade boundaries thereafter
- Assisting with co-ordinating the organisation of expeditions and other co-curricular activities in relation to the department
- Giving appropriate guidance to pupils who wish to study the subject at further levels
- Assisting with the organisation of RS trips and supervising students during such trips
- Maintaining the image of the subject as an interesting and valuable one
- Keeping learning environments stimulating and interesting

## **Responsibilities in relation to the School:**

- Carrying out School policy, including the School safety policy, in the context of the department
- Contributing to the co-curricular life of the school
- Communicating departmental matters to the Head of Department, discussing examination results and raising issues of concern
- Setting and marking entrance exams and interviewing where necessary
- Supporting the use of ICT within the department
- Presenting the department at Open Days etc. as the need arises and in prospectuses
- Ensuring that the facilities used by the department, including equipment and teaching areas, are maintained in an appropriate condition
- To demonstrate a commitment to improving and developing the organisation's processes and facilities
- To carry out such duties that may be reasonably required by your line manager

## **Additional Work Information:**

This job description is not an exhaustive list of all responsibilities or duties but reflects the major core of the role. The organisation reserves the right to alter the content of this job description after consultation to reflect changes to the job or services provided, without altering the general character or level of responsibility.





# Bancroft's School

Bancroft's School is committed to providing the best possible care and education to its pupils and to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. The School expects all staff, contractors, Governors and volunteers to share this commitment.

## THE PERSON

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### The ideal candidate will

- Have a good degree in a relevant subject
- Be enthusiastic, confident, and diligent
- Develop and maintain good relationships with students and colleagues
- Have a good understanding and awareness of safeguarding procedures
- Be willing to contribute to the co-curricular and pastoral life of the school

### Desirable Criteria

- QTS/PGCE
- Ability to teach a second subject
- Experience of teaching high ability students
- IT literate to support teaching and learning
- Commitment to ongoing professional development



## THE DEPARTMENT

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Religious Studies is a successful and popular subject at Bancroft's. The curriculum recognizes the rich religious diversity of our student body and aims to accommodate all pupils, irrespective of background, and to encourage critical engagement with conceptually challenging ideas in philosophy, ethics, theology and religions more generally. The





# Bancroft's School

Bancroft's RS Department is dedicated to inspiring enthusiasm and engagement of Religious Studies and the multitude of different areas it encompasses.

At KS3, all students follow a course that covers the six major world faiths in a variety of ways, as well as a range of philosophical and ethical questions. The aim is to develop pupils' analytical skills, in order to enrich their future scholarly potential. The RS full course is optional at GCSE and attracts high numbers of students, where they follow the AQA Religious Studies A course with Christianity and Islam as the religions of study. Some of our pupils choose to go on to study the subject at A Level, where the OCR examination board is delivered, offering study of Philosophy of Religion, Ethics and Developments in Christian Thought. Achievement is good at both GCSE and A Level. In 2018, 95% of our students achieved 8 or 9 at GCSE, whilst at A Level over 60% gained A or A\*. Philosophy and joint honours are increasingly popular university choices for pupils and successful support of applications to read these subjects is part of the department's remit.

The majority of our lessons are taught in three classrooms located next to each other in the main building of the school. All of these have interactive whiteboards. The RS department has a set of classroom iPads, which are increasingly used to support pupil learning during the course of their studies.

Some of the work outside the classroom undertaken by the RS department includes inviting in external speakers to speak to pupils, including contemporary moral and political philosophers. The department frequently supports pupils with essays for Oxbridge Essay Prize Competitions, with some success. In 2017, the RS department led a study trip to India, where pupils visited the Golden Temple at Amritsar and learned more about the principles of Tibetan Buddhism in Dharamsala. The department is keen to plan and run a study trip abroad in the next few years so interest in broadening the pupil experience of RS beyond the classroom is important. The School Chaplain is a full time member of the RS department and is responsible for the spiritual life of the school, running the chapel and helping with the provision of inter-faith assemblies to reflect the exciting breadth of religious and cultural backgrounds of Bancroft's students.





## BACKGROUND

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### The School

Bancroft's School was founded by the Drapers' Company in 1737 on the Mile End Road as a day-school for local boys from a diverse range of backgrounds; the School has come a long way geographically and institutionally since then but remains committed to pupils from a wide range of backgrounds and has a long tradition of excellence.

We are now a co-educational independent day school for around 1200 pupils from 7 to 18 and an unashamedly aspirational school, devoted to scholarship and intellectual inquiry. We aim to provide an atmosphere in which each child can flourish and we believe that children succeed when they take full advantage of the huge range of different opportunities we provide – whether immersed in academic research, being out on the sports fields, taking part in charitable activities, acting on the stage, playing music and attending some of our numerous clubs and societies, our pupils challenge themselves and learn by taking part wholeheartedly in school life.

We have the highest expectations for every child in the School and we support, encourage and nurture each individual; we want our pupils to enjoy life to the full, make enduring friendships and grow up in a friendly, safe but challenging environment.

At Bancroft's we continually strive to ensure that all our pupils leave here with the confidence, self-awareness and knowledge to thrive in the world beyond, as well as taking with them an awareness of others and an abiding curiosity about the world.

Bancroft's has a selective 5 or 6 form entry at 11+, with just under half the pupils coming from the Preparatory School. The school uses its own entrance exam and admits boys and girls in equal proportions. There is a further small entry at 16+, and most pupils stay into the Sixth Form. Public examination results are very strong and place Bancroft's among the top co-educational schools in the country.

In 2018 91.4% of all A-level exams taken by Bancroftians were graded A\*, A or B, and 70.0% A\* or A compared with the national level of 26.4%. 36.2% of all A-levels sat achieved the top grade of A\*, again significantly higher than the national average which has been around 8% over the past years.

With the new grade 9 representing the very top level of the A\* band, we were pleased that overall 41.1% of GCSEs examined under the reformed system were awarded a 9. A very commendable 98.3% of all exams were graded 9-5 or A\*-B, well in line with previous years' results.

***Bancroft's is a forward-looking, modern school; a centre of excellence for the twenty-first century.***

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# Bancroft's School



## REMUNERATION

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The successful applicant will receive an attractive salary package according to experience and expertise.

## HOW TO APPLY

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An application form is available to download from the School website, <http://www.bancrofts.org/about-us/employment-opportunities> or by emailing [recruitment@bancrofts.org](mailto:recruitment@bancrofts.org)

*Bancroft's School is an Equal Opportunities employer and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants will be required to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.*

