



January 2025

Dear Colleague,

### **Teacher of Philosophy, Beliefs & Ethics**

Thank you for your interest in this post. We are currently hoping to recruit an outstanding teacher of Philosophy, Beliefs & Ethics to join the Humanities Department.

The High School Leckhampton opened to Year 7 in September 2021 on our temporary site at Balcarras School. In September 2022 we moved to our £30 million, state-of-the-art building at Farm Lane, Leckhampton where we welcomed a new cohort of Year 7 pupils. The school has expanded each year, and we will take a new cohort of 180 pupils into Year 7 annually, until it reaches a capacity of 900 pupils. From September 2025, we will have 750 pupils on roll in years 7-11, as follows:

- Year 7 = 180 pupils
- Year 8 = 180 pupils
- Year 9 = 150 pupils
- Year 10 = 120 pupils
- Year 11 = 120 pupils

We are on a very exciting journey!

The High School Leckhampton is part of The Balcarras Multi Academy Trust, and we already work closely with Balcarras School. During our first year we were temporarily housed in a brand-new building on the site of Balcarras and shared several teachers and this close relationship has continued in year 4. Consequently, all applicants should look at the Balcarras Trust website for additional information about the ethos and culture of The Trust. Winchcombe School joined The Trust in November 2023 and subject networks are in place across all 3 schools.

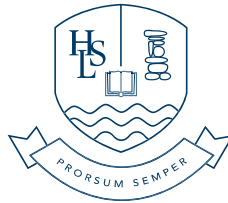
At this time, we are looking to recruit a superb teacher of Philosophy, Beliefs & Ethics, who will join our school. This is an exciting opportunity to work alongside our Curriculum Lead for Philosophy, Beliefs & Ethics as we take our first cohort of Year 11 Religious Education GCSE pupils into their exams in summer 2026. We are seeking for an inspirational teacher and are prepared to consider both experienced and Early Career Teachers. All candidates should have an excellent track record of achieving, or the potential to achieve, outstanding GCSE outcomes and should be capable of teaching at Key Stage 5 if required. The successful candidate may also teach some History lessons.



Farm Lane, Leckhampton, Cheltenham GL51 3FS | Headteacher: [Mrs Helen Wood BA \(Hons\) NPQH](#)

01242 383351 | [admin@hsl.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@hsl.gloucs.sch.uk) | [www.hsl.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.hsl.gloucs.sch.uk)

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The High School  
**Leckhampton**

At The High School Leckhampton we believe in developing the whole child and as such extra-curricular clubs and super curricular activities already play a key part of the life of the school – the person appointed will, we hope, make a strong contribution to them. We want our pupils to have plenty of enriching opportunities to 'experience' Philosophy, Beliefs & Ethics outside the classroom including visits, visiting speakers and the opportunity to enter competitions. Philosophy, Beliefs & Ethics is already a very popular subject amongst all our pupils.

As we are recruiting to a new and growing school, this role provides a unique and exciting opportunity for the right candidate and I would encourage you to read all the information about the school before making your application, particularly: the *Information Pack for Applicants*, the *Prospectus*, and of course visit our website <https://www.hsl.gloucs.sch.uk/>

Above all else, we are looking for a dedicated, enthusiastic, and highly skilled Philosophy, Beliefs & Ethics teacher who will integrate smoothly into the existing team and who shares our values.

The High School Leckhampton is an excellent place to work, and we will support you to develop your leadership and expertise as a teacher. As you will see from the website and in the information provided to applicants, we are an ambitious school with a clear vision. Whoever is appointed will be assured of a warm welcome, a strong induction programme and consistent support.

I hope that having read all the details that you will be keen to apply. Please write a covering letter of no more than 2 sides of A4 explaining why you are a strong candidate and what you can offer to our new school.

Please send your application to arrive by *Wednesday February 12<sup>th</sup> 2025 at 9am*. We will then interview after half-term.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher



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## THE HIGH SCHOOL LECKHAMPTON JOB DESCRIPTION

<b>JOB TITLE:</b>	Teacher of Philosophy, Beliefs and Ethics
<b>SALARY GRADE:</b>	MPS / UPS
<b>CONTRACT TERM:</b>	Full-time & Permanent
<b>RESPONSIBLE TO:</b>	Curriculum Lead for Philosophy, Beliefs and Ethics

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### GENERAL INFORMATION

Applications are invited for the position of **Teacher of Philosophy, Beliefs and Ethics** at The High School Leckhampton, from September 2025.

We are seeking a dynamic, forward-thinking teacher of Religious Education to help develop the department as we move into our 5<sup>th</sup> year and welcome a new cohort of Year 7 pupils from September 2025. This is a tremendously exciting opportunity, and the successful applicant will have the opportunity to significantly shape the experiences of our students in Religious Education as they progress through our growing school.

We see it as of paramount importance to appoint the right person to join a very successful and happy teaching staff that is already notable for its particularly strong emphasis on teamwork and mutual support. The successful candidate should have a keen appreciation of the school's ambitious ethos and an understanding of how academic study and scholarship, pastoral care and extra-curricular activities contribute equally within it.

The successful applicant will be confident, resilient, and comfortable with change. They will be expected to quickly familiarise themselves with the existing culture, ethos and practices of the school that have been established since the school opened on the site at Balcarras School in September 2021. We relocated to our new state of the art school in September 2022 and the new building brings with it many fantastic facilities and the opportunity to teach Religious Education in large, light classrooms, that are superbly resourced with access to computing facilities to support the teaching of Philosophy, Beliefs and Ethics skills.

Above all else, the appointed candidate will share our ambition that provision of Philosophy, Beliefs and Ethics at The High School Leckhampton is second to none. They will be a superbly capable teacher, who can show they are as motivated, creative, and dedicated as the current team of staff who have already worked so passionately to bring our school to life.

## **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

**We are looking for someone who is qualified as a Religious Education teacher, with a good Degree and is:**

- an excellent classroom practitioner, who embraces current pedagogy
- able to teach Religious Education to at least GCSE
- passionate about teaching and learning with a positive outlook and excellent interpersonal skills
- an excellent communicator and with superb interpersonal skills
- prepared to promote the subject to the staff and pupil body
- enthusiastic and committed to working as part of a team
- prepared to support our extensive extra-curricular and super curricular programme
- passionate about student welfare and committed to safeguarding

## **What you will need to succeed**

- Have high expectations for yourself and the pupils to ensure that all of our children achieve their very best
- Have the ambition, creativity, and resilience to ensure The High School Leckhampton develops an excellent reputation amongst the local community
- Be happy to grasp exciting CPD opportunities
- Contribute to the values, ethos and the development of our school

## **The Department**

The Philosophy, Beliefs and Ethics Department currently consists of:

- Mrs Helen Holland – Curriculum Lead for Philosophy, Beliefs and Ethics
- Mr Sam Matthews – SENDCo and teacher of Philosophy, Beliefs and Ethics

The Philosophy, Beliefs and Ethics Department is part of the Humanities Faculty which currently consists of:

- Mr Chris Newman – Senior Assistant Headteacher and Curriculum Lead for Geography
- Mrs Vicky Bull – Head of Windrush House, teacher of Geography and Business Studies
- Mr Morgan Powell-Jones – Teacher of PE and Geography
- Mrs Ali Cox – Assistant Headteacher, Curriculum Lead for Humanities and teacher of History
- Ms Kathrynne Nelmes – Head of Chelt House and teacher of History
- Mr Adam Talbot – Teacher of Science and Geography
- Mrs Helen Wood – Headteacher and teacher of History

You will be joining a newly established and very ambitious team.

*The current humanities staff will continue up to the end of the academic year 2025 and is likely to change subject to new appointments.*

## **The Curriculum**

Candidates should have a deep knowledge of Religious Education and be a highly effective classroom practitioner. The appointed candidate will make a significant contribution to developing a curriculum that is both challenging and inclusive. We expect the Religious Education curriculum to prepare pupils to achieve outstanding results at GCSE Religious Education. We are currently delivering the AQA syllabus at KS 4. The successful candidate will play a vital role in delivering high standards of education and ensuring students are fully involved in the wider life of the school.

## **The Facilities**

The appointed candidate will be in the fortunate position of having access to brand new classrooms equipped with large Viewsonic touch screen technology and visualisers.

*The above responsibilities are in addition to the responsibilities and duties outlined in the school's standard job description for a Teacher. These responsibilities are also subject to the general duties and responsibilities contained in the Teacher Contract of Employment and letter of appointment.*

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## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

It is the policy of The High School Leckhampton to provide equal employment opportunities for all qualified individuals; to prohibit discrimination in employment on any basis protected by applicable law, including but not limited to race, colour, religious creed, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, age, medical condition, or disability. The High School Leckhampton promotes equal employment opportunities in all aspects of employment through positive employment policies and practices. If any special requirements are needed to attend an interview, please inform the school.

## **SAFEGUARDING**

The post holder's responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young persons for whom they are responsible, or with whom they come into contact, will be to adhere to and ensure compliance with the School's Safeguarding Policy and Procedures at all times.

Please note that all appointments are subject to the Balcarras Trust Recruitment, Selection and Disclosure Policy and Procedures.

January 2025