

# Social Sciences Faculty

## The Department

The department teaches psychology and sociology, health and social care and child development. In psychology we teach the AQA specification at GCSE and OCR specification at A level. In sociology we teach the Eduqas specification at GCSE and the AQA specification at KS5. In health and social care the department teaches the BTEC Tech Award at KS4 and the Cambridge Technical (CTEC) Extended Certificate and Diploma at KS5. We are committed to teaching all three subjects in a way that inspires our students to become leaders and practitioners in careers relating to psychology, sociology and health and social care. We have very well established links with local employers and higher education institutions, which result in many of our students moving into these areas of employment.

## The Curriculum

Psychology, sociology and health are popular subjects at both KS4 and KS5. In key stage 4 we currently have 2 psychology groups (1 in year 10 and 1 in year 11), 4 sociology groups ( 2 in year 10 and 2 in year 11 ) and 2 health and social care groups. ( 1 in year 10 and 1 in year 11 ). In key stage 5, there are 2 A level groups in psychology in both Year 12 and Year 13, 2 A level groups in sociology in both Year 12 and Year 13.

## Extra-Curricular / Fieldwork

The department offers a range of trips and visits, including visits to appropriate work places and universities. Local employers also come into school to share their expertise.

## Job Description

**Job Title:** Head of Social Sciences

**Salary:** MPS/UPS TLR2b £6,022 plus £1,500 relocation allowance

**Date:** September 2026

### Aim

The Head of Social Sciences will lead the team, working strategically with them to develop consistently good and outstanding teaching throughout the faculty by:

- Leading, developing and implementing teaching and learning initiatives and strategies, which improve the teaching practice of all members of staff and therefore raise student standards and progress.
- Providing professional leadership and management for the faculty.
- Ensuring the efficient and effective use of resources in the faculty.

## Teaching and Student Learning

The Head of Social Sciences will:

- Be able to teach across the range of age and abilities,
- Act as a role model and lead subject staff through own high-quality teaching,
- Set expectations and targets for staff and students in relation to standards of achievement and the quality of teaching including the use of faculty policies,
- Engage all subject staff in the creation, consistent implementation and improvement of schemes of learning which incorporate key school learning strategies,
- Ensure the delivery of an appropriate, comprehensive, high quality and cost-effective curriculum programme,
- Review teaching and learning, monitoring the progress of all students including those requiring additional support or challenge to ensure students are engaged in their learning and achieve success,
- Take responsibility for leading key curriculum areas.
- Ensure the effective and efficient deployment of classroom support.
- Ensure students are fully prepared for external examinations.

## Assessment and Self-Evaluation

The Head of Social Sciences will:

- Establish and implement clear policies and practices for assessing, recording and reporting on student achievement and to assist students in setting targets for further improvement,
- Use data effectively to identify students who are underachieving and, where necessary, create and implement an effective intervention plan.
- Assess and record each student's progress through observation, questioning, testing and marking.
- Make effective use of national, local and school data to set clear targets for students' achievement and to monitor progress.
- Meet tracking and reporting deadlines.
- Lead on subject/faculty monitoring of student assessment and keep, SLT HOYs & Form tutors informed about student progress.
- Ensure effective assessment of students for external examinations, as required.

## Reporting and Communication

The Head of Social Sciences will:

- Ensure familiarity with reporting requirements and prepare and present informative reports for parents.
- Communicate as appropriate with parents of students and external bodies concerned with student welfare.
- Take part in activities such as Parents' evenings, Review Days, Open Evenings, Faculty meetings, staff meetings and other meetings/events as required.

## Managing Staff and Own Performance

The Head of Social Sciences will:

- Prioritise and manage their own time effectively,
- Take responsibility for their own professional development,
- Providing regular feedback for subject colleagues in a way which recognises good practice and supports their progress against performance management objectives resulting in a tangible impact on student learning,
- Ensure all subject staff understand and are actively implementing the key aspects of school and faculty policies,
- Maintaining subject and pedagogical knowledge through reading, CPD and research to inform their own practice.
- Demonstrating impact in teaching and on students' learning;
- Achieving their own challenging professional objectives.
- Taking an active part in curriculum leadership Team Meetings to share good practice and promote consistency.

## Managing Resources

The Head of Social Sciences:

- Organise and co-ordinating the deployment of learning resources, including ICT, support staff and monitor their effectiveness.

## Strategic Leadership

The Head of Social Sciences will:

- Create a faculty development plan which contributes positively to the whole school development plan, and which actively involves all subject teachers in its design and execution,
- Contribute to the development of whole school strategic planning and policies, attendance at Middle Leadership Team meetings.

Whilst every effort has been made to explain the accountabilities and responsibilities for this post, each individual task may not be identified.

This job description is current, but following consultation with you, may be changed by the Headteacher to reflect or anticipate changes in the post which are commensurate with the salary and job title.

## Person Specification

### Aim and main purpose of the job

To provide: professional leadership and management of a faculty, to secure high-quality teaching, effective use of resources, and improved standards of learning and achievement for all students.

Knowledge and understanding	Essential	Desirable
Good awareness of current educational developments	✓	
Clear understanding of current issues related to the subject	✓	
Ability to plan lessons effectively	✓	
An understanding and commitment to the ethos of the school	✓	
Evidence of high-level classroom skills	✓	
	✓	
Skills, Qualifications and Training		
Qualified Teacher Status	✓	
Courses of further study relevant to the post		✓
Qualification in the relevant subject	✓	
Evidence of active involvement in professional development	✓	
Excellent organisational skills	✓	
Excellent ICT skills		✓
Clear evidence of leadership	✓	
Personal Qualities/Ethics & Professionalism		
Excellent record of attendance	✓	
Ability to work well in a team	✓	
A sense of humour	✓	
Ability to think originally and creatively	✓	
Positive attitude	✓	
Energetic and enthusiastic	✓	
Warmth and sensitivity	✓	
Excellent rapport with students	✓	
Commitment to the School and the students we serve	✓	