



Pleckgate
HIGH SCHOOL

Aspire & Believe. Act & Succeed.



Geography Teacher

Candidate Information





A message from the Headteacher

“This is an outstanding school. The community of Pleckgate has a local secondary school it can be proud of. It provides an excellent education for all its pupils. They flourish in a bright, positive and secure environment”

Ofsted, January 2019

Applications are welcome for the position of a full time Geography teacher. This is a special opportunity for an outstanding, ambitious and dynamic teacher to join an outstanding school at an exciting stage of its journey.

We are a large secondary school under the sponsorship of the Education Partnership Trust (EPT), situated on the northern outskirts of Blackburn with Darwen. Our school community is made up of 1200 students and 180 staff with state-of-the-art facilities that benefit both the school and local community. Pleckgate High School is a thriving multicultural community that places the best interests of young people at the heart of everything we do.

In January 2019, the school was judged as outstanding in all areas by Ofsted, a copy of the report can be downloaded from the school website. Inspectors found our school to have a “great sense of industry and endeavour” and described the school as “harmonious” with a “common goal to excel”.

At Pleckgate everyone is committed to providing the best educational experiences and opportunities for our students. At the heart of the school’s work is a commitment to high quality teaching and learning and achievement for all: for our students to be safe, happy and successful developing as individuals into caring, responsible citizens who participate fully in school life and are proud of their achievements. Every student at Pleckgate is encouraged to have ambitious goals and everybody is responsible for creating a culture of high expectations and academic excellence.

We are proud of our achievements – our examination success, our extra-curricular programme, our charity work and our community involvement. We are committed to the pursuit of outstanding teaching and learning alongside the highest possible academic, personal and moral standards. This commitment is built upon a shared belief in hard work, self-reflection and a culture of respect and support for others.

Pleckgate is a successful 11 – 16 high school and over the past three years has achieved the following:

- Judged as outstanding across all four areas: Leadership and management, quality of teaching, outcomes and personal development and welfare.
- Outcomes in 2019 continued to demonstrate excellent progress with a fifth successive year of positive Progress 8 and in the top 20% of schools nationally.
- Admission numbers to Pleckgate in September 2019 have shown a 20% increase in first choices and for the first time in three years the school is oversubscribed.

If you have any questions about our school, or the role itself, please don’t hesitate to get in touch and please visit our school website www.pleckgate.com to get a flavour of what we have to offer.

Mark Cocker
Headteacher

Why Pleckgate?



Named as a
Beacon of
Success
by the Institute for
Public Policy Research



Secondary
School
of the Year

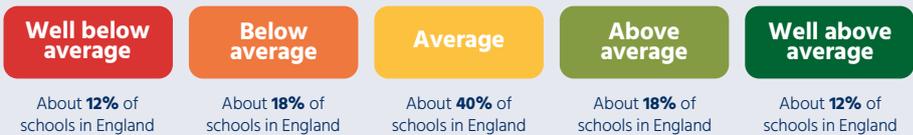


Placed in the
top five schools
in the UK

based on results for schools
with similar prior attainment

Progress 8 Score:

This school's
Progress 8 score is
0.4



Education
Partnership
Trust

An Education Partnership Trust School



Full Time Geography Teacher (MPS/UPS/NQTs) Required: September 2020 or earlier

This is an opportunity to join a highly ambitious school, which has strong and supportive relationships ensuring our expectations and visions are shared with parents, students and staff. We are seeking an outstanding Geography teacher to support our educational aims and who has the vision, drive and interpersonal skills to motivate our students. You must be able to teach Geography to GCSE level have a willingness to teach some History at KS3 (if required).

The Geography Department:

The Geography department at Pleckgate is a thriving, dynamic environment with a clear aim to enthuse students about the world in which they live. We strive for excellence and aim to be outstanding, delivering quality teaching and learning at all levels to challenge children's perception of the world around them.

The department consistently produces good outcomes. The department's strengths are the collegiate approach to teaching and learning through discussion and sharing best practice. Recently the department has been working with the Prince of Wales Teaching Institute to further develop areas outside of the curriculum and be accredited with the kite mark in Summer 2020. Furthermore, work with the Eco-Club this year will hopefully lead to the successful completion and award of the Eco-Schools Bronze Award.

Geography remains a popular options subject at GCSE where we follow the Edexcel GCSE Geography A specification. Fieldwork takes students to the River Wyre and a local urban study of Blackburn through a transect from Langho to the town centre. The department is currently staffed by three experienced teachers who are geography specialists (physical geography) and are heavily involved in departmental decision-making, some of whom hold various curriculum-related responsibilities, as well as commitments within the broader life of the school. The Geography department is located in a suite of four classrooms on the first floor of the school and is well resourced with ICT, current educational texts, ActivTeach and Dynamic Learning software to support lesson planning and delivery.

You will benefit from strong and supportive leadership, effective support by colleagues and being part of an ethos that strives to achieve the best possible outcomes for our students. You will play a central role, building on the strengths and successes of the Geography department and the school.

These strengths include:

- A culturally and socially diverse student body who behave well and are keen to learn.
- An established and successful Geography department and supportive team.
- Popular option choices at KS4 with a history of strong educational outcomes.
- A well-established programme of extra-curricular Geography activities, which engage and motivate students.
- A supportive environment with high quality CPD opportunities.
- An ICT rich environment where all students have mini iPads and all teachers have iPads and a MacBook.
- Part of a growing MAT with associated benefits such as Health & Dental care plans for staff.

We are looking for someone who is:

- Passionate about the study of Geography and working with young people.
- A well-qualified teacher educated to degree level in Geography.
- Passionate and knowledgeable about the teaching and learning of Geography.
- Committed to outstanding teaching and learning practices.
- Able to think creatively with an excellent understanding of developments in education and Geography, specifically the new 9-1 GCSE syllabus.
- Positive, with a 'can do' attitude.
- Able to engage, motivate and inspire students and colleagues.

This post offers outstanding opportunities for continuous personal and professional development for a highly motivated and ambitious teacher looking for career advancement.

The Education Partnership Trust is committed to safeguarding its children; therefore, an enhanced DBS clearance will be undertaken for the successful applicant(s). The Trust (and its schools) are legally obligated to process a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check before making appointments to relevant posts.

Incomplete application forms will not be shortlisted, if you need to discuss a reason for being unable to complete a section, please call the recruitment team on 01254 790026.

For a confidential discussion about this post or alternative ways to apply, please contact 01254 790026

For visits to the school or any other information, please direct all enquiries to: jferguson@pleckgate.com

Closing Date: 3 February 2020 09:00
Interviews: TBC

Job Description



Full Time Geography Teacher (MPS/UPS/NQTs) Required: September 2020 or earlier

JOB PURPOSE

- To implement and deliver an appropriately broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum for students and to support a designated curriculum area as appropriate.
- To monitor and support the overall progress and development of students as a teacher/form tutor.
- To facilitate and encourage a learning experience which provides students with the opportunity to achieve their individual potential.
- To contribute to raising standards of student attainment.
- To share and support the Academy's responsibility to provide and monitor opportunities for personal and academic growth.

AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Operational/Strategic Planning

- To assist in the development of appropriate syllabuses, resources, schemes of work, marking policies and teaching strategies in the subject area.
- To contribute to the subject area's Development Plan and its implementation.
- To attend all appropriate meetings.
- To plan and prepare courses and lessons.
- To contribute to the whole Academy's planning activities

Curriculum Provision

- To assist the Subject Leader to ensure that the curriculum area provides a range of teaching which complements the Academy's Strategic Objectives.

ROLE OF SECONDARY SUBJECT TEACHER

Staff Development:

- To take part in the Academy's staff development programme by participating in arrangements for further training and professional development.
- To continue personal development in the relevant areas including subject knowledge and teaching methods.
- To engage actively in the Performance Management Review process.
- To ensure the effective/efficient deployment of classroom support.
- To work as a member of a designated team and to contribute positively to effective working relations within the Academy.

Quality Assurance

- To help to implement Academy quality procedures and to adhere to those.
- To contribute to the process of monitoring and evaluation of the subject area in line with agreed Academy procedures, including evaluation against quality standards and performance criteria.
- To seek/implement modification and improvement where required.
- To review from time to time methods of teaching and programmes of work.
- To take part, as may be required, in the review, development and management of activities relating to the curriculum, organisation and pastoral functions of the Academy.



Management of Information

- To maintain appropriate records and to provide relevant accurate and up-to-date information for Management Information Systems (MIS), registers etc.
- To complete the relevant documentation to assist in the tracking of students.
- To track student progress and use information to inform teaching and learning

Communications

- To communicate effectively with the parents of students as appropriate.
- Where appropriate, to communicate and co-operate with persons or bodies outside the Academy.
- To follow agreed policies for communications in the Academy.

Management of Resources

- To contribute to the process of the ordering and allocation of equipment and materials.
- To assist the Subject Co-ordinator to identify resource needs and to contribute to the efficient/effective use of physical resources.
- To co-operate with other staff to ensure a sharing and effective usage of resources to the benefit of the Academy, subject area and the students.

Pastoral System

- To be a form tutor to an assigned group of students.
- To promote the general progress and well-being of individual students and of the form tutor group as a whole.
- To liaise with the Subject Leader to ensure the implementation of the Academy's Pastoral System.
- To register students, accompany them to assemblies, encourage their full attendance at all lessons and their participation in other aspects of Academy life.
- To evaluate and monitor the progress of students and keep up to-date student records as may be required.
- To contribute to the preparation of Action Plans and progress files and other reports.
- To alert the appropriate staff to problems experienced by students and to make recommendations as to how these may be resolved.
- To communicate as appropriate, with the parents of students and with persons or bodies outside the Academy concerned with the welfare of individual students, after consultation with the appropriate staff.
- To contribute to PSHE and Citizenship and enterprise according to Academy policy.
- To apply the Behaviour Management systems so that effective learning can take place

Teaching

- To teach students according to their educational needs, including the setting and marking of work to be carried out by the student in Academy and elsewhere.
- To assess, record and report on the attendance, progress, development and attainment of students and to keep such records as are required.
- To provide, or contribute to, oral and written assessments, reports and references relating to individual students and groups of students.
- To ensure that ICT, Literacy and Numeracy are reflected in the teaching/learning experience of students.
- To undertake a designated programme of teaching.
- To ensure a high-quality learning experience for students which meets internal and external quality standards.
- To prepare and update subject materials.
- To use a variety of delivery methods which will stimulate learning appropriate to student needs and demands of the syllabus.
- To maintain discipline in accordance with the Academy's procedures and to encourage good practice with regard to punctuality, behaviour, standards of work and homework.
- To undertake assessment of students as requested by external examination bodies, the subject area and Academy procedures.
- To mark, grade and give written/verbal and diagnostic feedback as required.

Job Description



Other Specific Duties

- To continue personal development as agreed at appraisal.
- To engage actively in the performance review process.
- To address the appraisal targets set by the line manager each Autumn Term.
- To undertake any other duty as specified by School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Body (STPCB) not mentioned in the above.
- To play a full part in the life of the Academy community, to support its distinctive aim and ethos and to encourage staff and students to follow this example.
- To support the Academy in meeting its legal requirements for worship.
- To promote actively the Academy's policies.
- To comply with the Academy's Health and Safety policy and undertake risk assessments as appropriate.
- To show a record of excellent attendance and punctuality.
- To adhere to the Academy's Dress Code.

Person Specification



School:	Pleckgate High School
Job Title:	Teacher of Geography
Grade:	MPS / UPS/ NQTs

No	CATEGORIES	Essential / Desirable	Application or Interview
CORE BELIEFS			
1.	A relentless approach to securing the improvement of teaching and learning	E	A
2.	A commitment to establishing and maintaining honest, meaningful working relationships with children, school staff, parents, carers and the wider community	E	I
3.	Committed to team work and working collaboratively with colleagues	E	I
4.	Clear vision of what you want to achieve with the department, aligned to Pleckgate High School's vision and values	E	I
5.	A commitment to the safeguarding and welfare of all students.	E	I
QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING			
6.	Qualified to at least degree level	E	A
7.	Qualified teacher status	E	A
8.	Evidence of relevant CPD	D	I
KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE			
9.	Ability to deliver consistently high-quality lessons in this subject to students of all ages and abilities – including evidence of impact	E	A
10.	Experience of teaching the subject throughout the Key Stages	E	A
11.	A commitment to continued professional development and a readiness to reflect and self-evaluate to change, improve and develop.	E	A
12.	Knowledge of the requirements of the National Curriculum in the subject.	E	A
13.	Good knowledge of current educational developments and initiatives relating to the subject and their implications	D	I
14.	An understanding of the ways children learn and how individual needs may be assessed and met	E	A
15.	An understanding of the strategies needed to establish consistently high aspirations and academic / behavioural standards and a commitment to relentlessly implementing these strategies.	E	I
PROFESSIONAL SKILLS			
16.	Excellent interpersonal and listening skills and a high degree of emotional intelligence	E	I
17.	The ability to develop positive relationships with all young people	E	I
18.	Well-developed planning and organising skills including time management and prioritisation.	E	I
PERSONAL QUALITIES & ATTRIBUTES			
19.	A clear passion for your subject	E	A
20.	The ability to enthuse and inspire young people.	E	I
21.	Passion, resilience, maturity and optimism to lead through day-to-day challenges while maintaining a clear strategic vision and direction.	E	I
22.	Confidence and self-motivation to work well and be decisive under pressure	E	I
23.	A high level of honesty and integrity	E	I
24.	A firm and constant belief in the unlimited potential of every student and a commitment to inclusive educational provision	E	I



Contact

Mrs J Ferguson, PA to the Headteacher

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Twitter @PleckgateHigh



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Outstanding
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