

TEACHER OF GEOGRAPHY



FOR SEPTEMBER 2016



BARNARD CASTLE SCHOOL

The History of Barnard Castle School

Barnard Castle School has its roots in the medieval past and its eyes set firmly on the future of its children. The School traces its origins back to the nearby Hospital of St John, which was an educational and religious community established by John Balliol in 1229. John Balliol also established Balliol College in Oxford and his passion for learning remains central to our philosophy today. In 1883 with a gift from Benjamin Flounders, a Victorian philanthropist, and the proceeds of St John's Hospital, the present main School building was constructed.



The School

Barnard Castle School is a warm, friendly, busy and purposeful School which fosters strong senses of community and endeavour. A co-educational school for pupils aged 11-18, it has its own Preparatory School for boys and girls aged 4-11, situated on an adjacent site. There are 500 pupils in the Senior School and a further 200 in the Prep School. The Sixth Form currently numbers 150 pupils.

While academic achievement lies at the heart of what we do, as a Christian foundation we never forget the importance of fostering mutual respect and decency amongst our pupils. We believe that all our children have something to offer, and we are driven by a desire to find areas where each of them can excel. Every week we offer an extensive programme of over 100 extra-curricular activities, and we are as proud of those who play chess for their House as those who play rugby for their country.

The School accepts both day pupils and boarders, the latter currently numbering around 170. Boarding is largely British with a small number of overseas students, particularly in the Sixth Form.

The School is situated in its own extensive grounds on the outskirts of an historic market town in an area of outstanding natural beauty. It is well-resourced and enjoys an enviable reputation for its pupils'

achievements on a broad variety of fronts. It is also in proximity to and enjoys close relationships with departments in the universities of Durham, York and Newcastle.

Continuous improvement and investment have produced a number of new buildings, including this year a state of the art Sixth Form Centre which is helping to transform the way in which Sixth Form students study.

The School was inspected by ISI in March 2011. The overall summary acknowledged:

“a well-managed and well-resourced school which is professional and forward-looking in outlook and which has high aims for all its pupils, but which still encapsulates the traditionally unpretentious ethos of this immensely busy, friendly and happy boarding and day school.”

The School was inspected again in January 2016 and the report has not yet been published, but we have been led to believe that it will endorse the hard work and good spirit of Barney.

Further details about Barnard Castle School may be found on the School's web-site www.barnardcastleschool.org.uk.



The Geography Department



The Geography Department has three full-time teaching staff and is accommodated in close proximity to each other in a recently renovated building.

Geography is studied by all pupils up to GCSE. The course in Years 7 – 9 broadly follows the KS3 programme of study. At GCSE and A'Level students follow AQA's specification. At every stage, theoretical studies are complemented by fieldwork and in addition, in Sixth Form, by regular York Geographical Association lectures.

Results in recent years have been very good and in 2015 at GCSE, of 33 candidates:

- A*-C: 85%
- A*/A: 52%

At A'Level in 2015 15 candidates achieved:

- A*-E: 100%
- A*-B: 60%

The subject supports many who are making ambitious applications to universities which include Oxbridge and Russell Group institutions.



The annual trip to Iceland is always popular and spectacular



Job Description for Teacher of Geography

REPORTING TO: HEAD OF GEOGRAPHY

Overall expectation

To teach effectively, encourage independent learning and instil in pupils an appreciation of the importance of the Geography and its associated skills.



Expectations as a member of the Common Room

- To have high professional standards and so be an appropriate role model of reliability, behaviour and appearance
- To relate to children in an atmosphere of trust, frankness and ambition and to engender a climate of mutual respect
- To make sure that pupils meet the School's expectations of them
- To facilitate the development of children's confidence, self-esteem, determination, responsibility and personal pride in achievement, behaviour and appearance
- To provide good support to the various activities of the School
- To contribute to marketing the school and to promote the School to prospective pupils and parents
- To establish and maintain high standards of communication with pupils, staff and parents
- To uphold all the policies of Barnard Castle School
- To take an interest in how the School functions and to convey suggestions for improvement to the Head of Department, Senior Management Team and Headmaster from time to time
- To subscribe to the Common Room's ethos of inclusivity, collegiality and helpfulness.

Key Responsibilities

1. To teach according to the timetable for the current year, ensuring that lessons are planned, ordered and effective
2. To be aware of the need to differentiate work and challenges according to the ability of the pupils, whilst maintaining high expectations of all and taking full account of any Special Educational Needs
3. To work as part of a team, in harmony with and for the furtherance of the school's ethos and declared educational aims and priorities
4. To be supportive of the department's aims, agreed teaching styles, methods of assessment and other policies
5. To set written assignments or other creative pieces of work that involve a finished product (Prep) regularly and mark them promptly and in accordance with School and Departmental policies, ensuring that formative comments are always helpful and make helpful suggestions for further appropriate improvement in learning
6. To provide parents with written reports on their students' work and progress according to current school policy and to attend parents' meetings
7. To take a share of supervising duties and cover for absent colleagues.
8. To be responsible for the supervision, control and proper use of teaching rooms, materials and resources, and to have regard to health and safety issues and regulations
9. To attend weekly staff meetings and other meetings that may be called from time to time, as required by the Headmaster.
10. To report in a timely manner any concerns about students and their learning progress to the appropriate colleague
11. To report in a timely manner any concerns regarding Child Protection or Bullying to the appropriate colleague
12. To take responsibility for one's continuing professional development and, to this end, to participate in Development and Review procedures as directed by the Headmaster
13. To contribute to Barnard Castle School's broad and active co-curricular activities programme.



In order to meet the high standards expected of a teacher in our School, the Headmaster is seeking to employ a person with the following qualities, experience, skills and abilities.

Essential Criteria:

- A good honours degree;
- Evidence of either being or having the potential to be an excellent teacher;
- The ability to teach to A'Level
- The ability to inspire and motivate children;
- Clear and effective communication skills;
- An ability and willingness to make a significant contribution to the extra-curricular life of the School;
- An ability to relate well to colleagues and children;
- Approachability, accessibility and flexibility;
- High levels of organisation;

Desirable Criteria

- A higher degree or experience of educational or subject-specific research ;
- A record of and commitment to continuing professional development;
- An ability and willingness to contribute to the coaching of games or CCF training;
- Experience of pastoral work such as a House or Year tutor;
- Experience of external examination or school inspection;
- Experience of working in a boarding school;
- The ability to develop and maintain effective relationships with all members of the school community;
- Sympathy with the Christian values of the School and the nature of working in a boarding environment.

Applications

If you feel that you can meet the requirements of the position, then please submit a letter of application along with the Barnard Castle School Application Form to the Headmaster by **Friday 26th February 2016**. A CV may be enclosed, if desired, but is not required and will not be accepted as an alternative to the Application Form.

Applicants may telephone to discuss matters relating to the advertised post with the Headmaster and all shortlisted applicants will be invited to tour the School. Applications should be sent to the address overleaf by post or by email.



Contact

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