

**TEACHER OF  
CLASSICS  
JOB  
INFORMATION**



RGS



## TEACHER OF CLASSICS

Newcastle upon Tyne Royal Grammar School  
Required from September 2023 or January 2024



### THE POSITION

We have an exciting opportunity to join our superb Classics Department from September 2023 or January 2024. You must be an excellent Classicist with good knowledge of Ancient History and Latin, and the ability to inspire our enthusiastic students from Year 7 to A Level and Oxbridge. If you can also teach Classical Greek, it would be an advantage.

We are particularly looking for a resourceful, collegiate, and forward-thinking practitioner, who will make a positive impact both within the classroom and beyond. Alongside a wholehearted contribution to the Classics department, you will naturally want to play a role in co-curricular activities, be they sporting, academic, musical or arts.

We are keen to invite applications from those who would like to make their own distinctive contribution to this ethos. Whilst all applications are considered on merit, we would particularly welcome applications from black and minority ethnic candidates who are currently under-represented in our staff community.



Job description: Teacher of Classics  
Closing Date: 9.00am Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023  
Contact: Zeta Hill (Head of Classics) ([z.hill@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:z.hill@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk))



## THE SCHOOL

Thomas Horsley, the original settlor of the Royal Grammar School Newcastle (RGS) pledged his legacy to the School in 1525. Almost 500 years later, RGS continues to flourish as the premier independent school in the North East of England and as one of the country's leading schools, and the Sunday Times' North East Independent School of the Decade 2020. Most recently, RGS was awarded the Sunday Times' 2023 North East's Top Independent Secondary School for Academic Performance. We regularly lead all northern schools in national league tables and pride ourselves on academic excellence, a high level of pastoral support, involvement in a wide range of sports and other co-curricular activities, and our commitment to bursaries and partnerships.

RGS has grown substantially in recent years. There are now some 1,340 students, over 260 of whom are in the Junior School. The Sixth Form of 350 students is one of the largest in the independent sector. We became coeducational 20 years ago and girls now comprise 43% of the school.

The school is based in the heart of the city, immediately opposite Jesmond Metro station. The school occupies over 30 acres of land and has state-of-the-art facilities, including five brand new art studios, a new library, a new Sixth Form Centre, a 25m swimming pool, two Sports Halls, a Performing Arts Centre, outdoor football/rugby pitches at Mooracres, an artificial turf pitch for hockey and the former County Cricket Ground.



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The Classics Department comprises of six teaching staff (one part time) and has a strong footing within the school. All pupils study Latin in Years 7 and 8. In Year 9 students can choose to continue with Latin, and/or begin Greek and/or Ancient History. At GCSE there is always at least one set of each subject. In the Sixth Form numbers vary, but there is usually one set of each subject for A level. In addition, AS Classical Civilisation is offered as an option, to be studied over the two-year period. Students in all year groups are highly motivated and extremely pleasant to teach. Exam results at both GCSE and A Level are consistently excellent and many of our Sixth Form students go on to study a Classical subject at university, including Oxford and Cambridge.

The school is located in a region with some of the best Roman sites in the country and we regularly take advantage of this access by visiting the likes of Arbeia, Housesteads, Chesters, the Roman Army Museum, as well as Vindolanda and Hadrian's Wall itself. We aim to run a rotation of international trips to Pompeii, Rome and Greece, which enables pupils to visit a wide range of sites throughout their Classical studies here. We attend lectures at Newcastle University, host visiting speakers such as authors and academics and go to the theatre whenever a Classical play is put on locally. We have also visited the British Museum, Stratford-upon-Avon and Cambridge in recent years, to visit museums and watch plays. Finally, the department is also keen to support Classics for all and is involved in a number of partnership programmes with other schools in the region.

## THE CURRICULUM

The school operates on a two-week timetable and the subject is delivered as follows:

Year	Course	Periods per cycle	No. Sets	Approx. Set Size
7	Cambridge Latin Course Book 1	4	6	25
8	Latin to GCSE Book 1	3	6	25
9	Latin to GCSE Books 1/2	4	3	10-15
	Greek to GCSE Book 1		1	5-12
	RGS Ancient History course		3	10-15
10	Latin to GCSE Book 2	5	1	15-20
	Greek to GCSE Book 2		1	3-9
	OCR Ancient History GCSE		1	10-20
11	OCR Latin GCSE	4	1	15-20
	OCR Greek GCSE		1	3-9
	OCR Ancient History GCSE		1	10-20
12	OCR Latin A level	10	1	3-10
	OCR Greek A level		1	1-4
	OCR Ancient History A level		1	4-7
	OCR AS Classical Civilisation		2	4-7
13	OCR Latin A level	11	1	3-10
	OCR Greek A level		1	1-4
	OCR Ancient History A level		1	4-7
	OCR AS Classical Civilisation		2	4-7





## PERSON SPECIFICATION

The following person specification indicates the areas of skills and personal characteristics, qualifications, training, and experience that we hope to find:

### Qualifications and Training

- A degree in a relevant subject
- Courses of further study relevant to the post

### Experience

- Experience teaching in a highly academic context
- Experience teaching the full 11-18 age range.
- Experience teaching A Level, GCSE and Key Stage 3 Ancient History and Latin

### Skills

- Ability to inspire young people to develop a love of Classics
- Ability to think originally and creatively and show initiative.
- Commitment to high standards of teaching and learning
- Ability to teach high quality lessons.
- Excellent organisational abilities
- High levels of IT competency
- Ability to demonstrate excellent interactive use of technology to enhance pupil learning.

### Personal characteristics

- Ability to work in a fast-paced working environment.
- Ability to communicate effectively with parents, students and staff in a variety of ways
- Understanding of, and commitment to equality of opportunity for all
- Understanding of, and commitment to the ethos of the school as a community
- Tact, discretion, and diplomacy
- A genuine liking of people and the ability to show warmth, good-humour, empathy and sensitivity.





## LIVING IN THE NORTH EAST

Whilst the North East is beloved and popular with so many, we know that not everyone will have had first-hand experience of it, so this is a short introduction to a city and region which we love, and believe you will too. Newcastle is a medium-sized city with an historic centre and a vibrant life of its own. There's culture and arts in the form of the award-winning BALTIC Art Gallery and The Sage, alongside several theatres that attract national touring productions. There's music from classical to club and we are home to the Royal Northern Sinfonia. There's also a growing food culture with some fantastic restaurants.

If you like sport then there's certainly no shortage of top-class entertainment: from Premier League football being played at St James' Park and EFL at the Stadium of Light to first class cricket at Durham (a mere half hour away), and great rugby at the Falcons, not to mention basketball and even ice hockey, and then there is the annual Great North Run. The North East has also produced some of the country's finest athletes in track and field and there are clubs aplenty to get involved with, most famously in Gateshead.

The coast and the hills are minutes away from the city centre. By car you can be in the middle of nowhere in 45 minutes, the Scottish Borders is only an hour away and the Lake District an hour and a half. The coast is served by the Metro (our version of the Tube), but some of the country's best beaches are up the road in Northumberland, less than 40 minutes by car. There's mountain biking, road cycling, climbing, and endless hill walks in stunning countryside. There are green spaces all over the city too, with plenty of parks for children and dogs alike to run around.

There are three local teaching hospitals, two universities in the city with another three close by. Some pioneering medical work goes on at the RVI, Great North Children's Hospital and the Freeman Hospital.

History abounds with more castles than you could count and sites of interest for almost every period of English (and border) history. Add that to a proud, independently minded and very friendly local population and we have most things you could want.

There are excellent primary schools in the region and city as well as some good secondary schools too, but staff do get a discount at the RGS. There are also a number of good competitor independent schools as well.





## MAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- This is a full time, permanent post.
- Working Hours - Normal working hours will be those necessary to carry out the duties of the post.
- Salary - The salary will be determined by the RGS Teachers' Scale.
- The School is part of the Teachers' Pension Scheme and all teachers are automatically included in the Scheme.
- School lunch is provided during term time for staff on site.
- Education - At present the School's policy is to allow all eligible members of staff to educate their children at the school at concessionary rates, subject to their children meeting the academic entry requirements and subject to a place being available.
- Ongoing educational support and development of all staff with the provision of external and internal training courses, our middle leaders training programme for existing and aspiring managers.
- Car parking is provided during term time (limited spaces available).
- We offer an interest free travel loan for a corporate Metro travel pass.
- Opportunity to see free school productions in the Miller Theatre located in our Performing Arts Centre.
- Free use of a well-equipped gym, fitness suite and swimming pool.
- Access to our onsite confidential counselling service.
- We offer access to the school medical team (1 doctor and 2 nurses) for triage medical advice and free flu vaccinations.
- Invitation to join staff clubs and wellbeing activities during term-time.
- Staff social events throughout the year.
- Supportive and friendly community.
- Opportunity to join in with RGS tradition and become a member of the Stowell, Collingwood, Horsley or Eldon House.





## HOW TO APPLY

Candidates are advised to read the 'Information for Applicants' with particular care before applying.

If you have any queries or would like to arrange a visit to the school, please do not hesitate to email or to call the Head of Classics, Zeta Hill (details below).

If, having looked through the website ([www.rgs.newcastle.sch.uk](http://www.rgs.newcastle.sch.uk)) and read this job information pack and the Information for Applicants, you think this particular post would suit you, please say so (and why) in a covering letter of application. You must complete the application form, even if you want to also attach a CV. You are welcome to apply electronically, please email all documents to [jobs@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:jobs@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk) by the closing date.

**The closing date for this role is 9.00am on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023.**

Interviews will be held shortly after the closing date. We will hope to make the appointment as soon as possible following interview, offering the post and gaining acceptance, so applicants should arrive for interview with a clear idea of what would be involved in moving to the area (if necessary) and working at the RGS.

Reasonable travel expenses will be considered to attend an interview if candidates live outside the local area. This is normally up to a maximum contribution of £100 on provision of receipts. If your expenses will be significantly higher than £100 and an overnight stay is required, please note all expenses will need to be booked and approved in advance. If you plan to claim expenses, please contact the Head's Secretary, Sandra Ellis [S.Ellis@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:S.Ellis@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk) in advance of your interview, who will talk you through the policy and advise on eligibility for reimbursement.

### Safeguarding and Safer Recruitment

RGS is committed to the safeguarding of children and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, volunteers and those working in school to share this commitment. The school applies the Government's Safer Recruitment procedures to all candidates. More information regarding the checks can be found in the Information for Applicants and 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (September 2022).

### Equal Opportunities

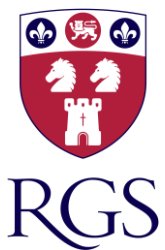
We are looking to appoint staff from a wide variety of backgrounds. Not just because it is the right thing to do but because at the RGS we recognise that those different experiences provide fresh perspectives, opportunities to challenge existing beliefs and provide opportunities to act as excellent role models for our diverse student body. We are committed to creating an inclusive and diverse school culture and our staff are at the heart of this. We are proud to be an equal opportunities employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment regardless of age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief and marriage and civil partnerships. Whilst all applications are considered on merit, we would particularly welcome applications from black and minority ethnic candidates who are currently under-represented in our staff community.

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We encourage all candidates to complete an 'equal opportunities' form with your application. This will be sent directly to the HR team for monitoring purposes.

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## CONTACT DETAILS

Royal Grammar School Eskdale Terrace Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 4DX

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Zeta Hill, Head of Classics ([z.hill@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:z.hill@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk))  
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