Teacher of English

(Part Time 0.6)

Job Information

RGS NEWCASTLE

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Teacher of English (Part Time 0.6)

Newcastle upon Tyne Royal Grammar School
Required from 1st January 2027 (September 2026 start also possible).

THE POSITION

We have a wonderful opportunity for someone to join our vibrant and scholarly English department. The successful candidate will be a dynamic and inspiring teacher from Year 7 to A-Level, with experience of preparing and guiding Oxbridge candidates.

This is a permanent position with the school offered at 0.6 FTE. There may also be opportunities for the successful candidate to take on a Key Stage lead role, and applicants are encouraged to indicate in their covering letter if they would be interested in such an opportunity.

Being 'willing to go the extra mile' is a major part of the role for all teachers at the RGS, not merely in specialist activities but in a huge range of co-curricular sporting, artistic and cultural work. We are keen to invite applications from those who would like to make their own distinctive contribution to this ethos. We very much value colleagues who are willing to contribute to the co-curricular programme. The RGS has its own salary scale (which is above national pay scales for teachers) and provides ECTs with an appropriate programme of induction leading to QTS.

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Closing Date: 9.00am Monday 15th June 2026
Contact: Carole Saville (Head of English) c.saville@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk

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THE SCHOOL

In 1525, the Mayor of Newcastle, Thomas Horsley, wrote his will, in which he generously gifted his estate to fund a grammar school. Five centuries later, Horsley's vision lives on in the Royal Grammar School Newcastle's corridors and classrooms, and his philanthropic spirit drives the RGS's commitment to education.

Few schools can claim a 500-year history. Over the years, the RGS, has continued to flourish as the premier independent school in the North East of England and as one of the country's leading schools - consistently topping the regional table for academic excellence.

Today, RGS is a fully co-educational school with over 1,300 students aged 7-18 (Years 3 to 13). Its academically selective places are highly sought after. The school has more than 250 students in the Junior School, which shares the same outstanding site as the Senior School. Its Sixth Form is one of the largest in the independent sector, with more than 340 students.

While RGS prides itself on academic excellence, the school is also known for its emphasis on a holistic education. The school's 'There's More to Life' approach informs its holistic education, which is central to students' success, health and happiness.

RGS is based in the heart of Newcastle, 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 modern 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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Academic Success

RGS is a special place, known and respected throughout the whole country as well as the North East. It's a place where aspirations are high, results are outstanding, and opportunities are endless. Our students go on to study highly selective courses at the most sought-after universities but also leave the school realising that life outside the classroom has been equally beneficial.

In 2023, RGS was named the overall national 'Independent School of the Year' by The Telegraph Group's Independent School Parent Awards. The school was again named North East Independent Secondary School of the Year for Academic Excellence 2025 by The Sunday Times' Parent Power Schools Guide. Most recently, the school was named Independent Senior School of the Year at the TES Awards.

Academically, the school is highly selective. Students are assessed for entry at the key entry points (Y3, Y5, Y7, and a handful at Y9, plus Sixth Form). The biggest entry points are Y3 (60 students), Y7 (c.75 students) and Y12 (c.45 students). Beyond the academics, in Junior School (Y3-6), entry is assessed through activity days, whilst at Y7, students are assessed through online tests and an interaction day. Sixth Form entry is through interview only.

Students sit baseline tests in Y7, Y10, and Y12 – the average GLA CAT score for both the current Y7 and Y12 is 118. We have several students who have the assistance of our dedicated Learning Support Team, which works across Junior and Senior School.

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Co-curricular Activities

At RGS, students can choose from over 170 co-curricular activities, ranging from music, drama, and sports to unique options like e-sports and knitting. All students are encouraged to discover what excites and inspires them.

Sport is also a central part of life at RGS, with students actively participating in a variety of activities including hockey, cricket, and basketball, from early morning until late afternoon. RGS views sport as a fundamental vehicle for students to develop lifelong skills, character, resilience – and, above all, a love for daily movement.

While it may seem tricky to balance schoolwork with so many exciting co-curricular and sporting activities, RGS has found that students actively engaged outside the classroom often perform even better academically. Both programs are designed to help students develop essential life skills, from self-awareness to decision-making and self-organisation.

Pastoral Care

We understand that all of our students are unique and different, and we strive to treat them as individuals, aiming to tailor our care to meet their needs.

That is why pastoral care is another critical cornerstone of RGS's holistic approach. Student well-being is embedded throughout school life, from a dedicated Form Teacher and an allocated Tutor to easy access to the school Medical Team and counsellors who work together to help students reach their full potential.

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THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

The English Department is strong, diverse and dedicated: it values a high degree of independence, enabling the teacher to play to their specific strengths, whilst also seeking to work towards a set of common objectives broadly within the framework of the national curriculum. The Department maintains a keen focus on the great texts of the literary canon whilst exposing students to work from authors from a diverse range of backgrounds. We are keen to foster students' love for and engagement with literature in and outside of the classroom.

There are eight teachers in the Department, who all teach at all levels of the School (1 who is also the lead for Film Studies A Level).

All students take English Language and English Literature at GCSE level. We teach Cambridge IGCSE First Language English (0990) and IGCSE Literature in English (0992). In the Sixth Form, we teach the OCR English Literature specification (H472). There is no setting in English at any level of the school.

The Department is collaborative, welcoming, and well-resourced whilst seeking to avoid an over-prescriptive approach. The successful candidate should be creative, an advocate for literature, and keen to make a significant contribution to the Department and work collaboratively with the team.

There is a vigorously exciting enrichment programme—always responding to the best that makes itself available—providing opportunities to reinforce and extend beyond the classroom: very frequent theatre visits; book groups; a Sixth Form Reading Group meets weekly after school for a year, culminating in a celebratory literary trip; we have made regular trips to Shakespeare's Globe and the Sam Wanamaker in London (two nights, two/three plays); poetry readings (e.g. in conjunction with the Newcastle Centre for the Literary Arts). There is a developing programme of successful writers visiting school and a member of the Department edits the school magazine with a student committee.

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ACCOMMODATION AND RESOURCES

The department has seven dedicated teaching rooms at the heart of the school, which offer modern facilities including Prowise interactive whiteboards and access to the school network.

There is a strong range of literature to support teaching in Key Stage 3 and colleagues are encouraged to add to it in making new discoveries. The English section in the Sixth Form Library is an exceptional resource for a school. We are committed to sharing good practice and resources. New colleagues are expected to contribute to this culture and innovative ideas are encouraged and shared.

English is an extremely popular subject within the school. All pupils study English from Year 7 to Year 9, and study both the English Language and Literature IGCSE courses. There are currently 58 students who study English in the Sixth Form. Students in all year groups are highly motivated and extremely pleasant to teach. Exam results at both IGCSE and A Level are excellent.

Year	Course	No. Periods per cycle	No. Sets	Approx. Set Size
7	RGS English course	4	6	24
8	RGS English course	5	6	24
9	RGS English course	5	6	24
10	CIE IGCSE	5	6	24
11	CIE IGCSE	7	6	24
12	OCR English Literature A-Level	10	2	13-15
13	OCR English Literature A-Level	11	2	12-16

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PERSON SPECIFICATION

The following person specification indicates those areas of skills and personal characteristics, qualifications, training, and experience that we are looking for:

Qualifications and Training

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

Experience

- Experience of teaching in a highly academic context is desirable, but not essential.
- Experience of teaching the full 11-18 age range is desirable, but not essential.

Skills

- Experience of teaching A-Level English is desirable (commensurate with your level of experience, we understand that ECTs do not always have much chance to do this)
- Ability to inspire young people to develop a love of science.
- 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
- Excellent project management skills
- 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 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.
- Willingness to lead and take part in department trips and activities.

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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 Glass House, 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.

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MAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- This is a part time, permanent post with the school starting 1st September 2026 or 1st January 2027.
- The postholder will report to the Head of English.
- Working Hours - This is a part time role - the successful candidate will be employed for 0.6 of an RGS teaching timetable i.e. 3 days per week.
- Salary - The salary will be determined by the RGS Teachers' Scale.
- The Teacher will be required to comply with a range of RGS policies, particularly those regarding Data Protection, use of ICT facilities, Child Protection, Staff Code and Health and Safety, a copy of which will be made available.

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WHAT WE OFFER

Working Environment

- A warm, ambitious and supportive staff community, unified by shared values and a passion for helping young people thrive.
- Opportunities to engage in rich co-curricular life of the school including 170 clubs, societies and creative opportunities.

Food & Facilities

- Outstanding facilities across 30 acres, including state-of-the-art art studios, a modern Sixth Form Centre, Performing Arts Centre and extensive sports facilities including a 25m pool.
- Free use of the gym, fitness suite and swimming pool at permitted times.
- Complimentary lunch during term time
- Access to our modern school library and extensive reading materials.

Health & Wellbeing

- Optional healthcare plan, including optical, dental, physio cover and telephone GP access.
- Onsite confidential counselling service.
- Access to the school medical team, including triage advice and free flu vaccinations.

Pension & Financial Benefits

- RGS Newcastle offers an alternative to the TPS, The Aviva Pension Trust for Independent Schools (APTIS) which is a defined contribution and salary exchange scheme administered by AVIVA. The scheme offers:
  - Life Assurance and income protection
  - Increased flexibility regarding employee contributions and fund management.
  - Further information available on appointment.

Additional Benefits

- Eligibility for the RGS Teaching Staff Sick Pay Scheme.
- Interest-free loan for corporate Metro travel pass (T&Cs apply).
- Bike to Work scheme (T&Cs apply).
- Enhanced maternity pay.

Professional Development

- Opportunity for middle leaders and aspiring middle leaders to participate in a focussed training programme.
- Access to 100+ free online training courses
- Regular safeguarding training
- Ongoing training and development opportunities, including internal/external training
- Free entry to school productions in the Miller Theatre (Performing Arts Centre)
- Easy city-centre access, directly opposite Jesmond Metro station—ideal for commuting.

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HOW TO APPLY

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

Enquiries about this post should be made in the first instance to Carole Saville (Head of English) c.saville@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk

Please visit www.rgs.newcastle.sch.uk/join-us/work-with-us to access our application form and further information for applicants.

To apply for this post please submit the following to jobs@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk by the closing date.

1. A covering letter and
2. A fully completed RGS application form.

Note: You must complete the application form, even if you want to also attach a CV.

The closing date for this role is 9.00am Monday 15th June 2026

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.

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 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 Keeping Children Safe in Education Safer Recruitment procedures to all candidates including appropriate pre-interview checks on shortlisted candidates and pre-employment checks pending any offer. More information regarding the checks can be found in our Information for Applicants here, and 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (September 2025)

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 neurodivergence, age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief and marriage and civil partnerships.

We strive to achieve a diverse workforce, fully representative of our pluralistic society and the ethnic make-up of the student population in the UK. People of colour are under-represented on our staff team. We are keen to attract applicants from a diverse pool of candidates and determined to be a fully inclusive employer, and a great workplace for people of Black, Asian, and ethnic minority heritage as well as White heritage.

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.

CONTACT DETAILS

Royal Grammar School, Eskdale Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE2 4DX

Tel: 0191 281 5711

General enquiries: communications@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk

www.rgs.newcastle.sch.uk

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