

HIGHWORTH GRAMMAR SCHOOL
Maidstone Road, Ashford, Kent TN24 8UD
Telephone: 01233 624910
E-mail: HR@highworth.kent.sch.uk
Website: www.highworth.kent.sch.uk



History Teacher **Further Information**

Highworth Grammar School is a successful 11-18 selective girls' school with approximately 100 boys in the Sixth Form. There are 1542 students on roll – 1090 in Years 7-11 and 452 in Years 12 and 13. Our school is widely recognised as being innovative and highly successful. Highworth has a strong academic reputation and our students are recognised as mature and reliable young people. We aim to deliver the best possible education to all of our students in a safe and secure environment

Our motto of 'Reach for the Stars' embodies the daily working life of the whole school community; students are encouraged to see learning as a lifelong activity. A key feature of our motto is happiness which is achieved through excellent student behaviour in lessons; clear policies and guidance; strong leadership; and enthusiastic community spirit. It is important that both staff and students feel confident, happy and valued.

Students at Highworth are given rewards for creativity, problem solving, achievement resilience and team work. We value the development of a full range of skills to offer students the best preparation for future challenges. Working here allows staff to share this balanced approach to education; embrace new ideas; and sustain a sense of enjoyment in their own learning.

Whilst the school is academic we recognise and fully support the creative aspects of the curriculum and are proud of the many opportunities provided for achievement in music, DT, and the arts. We believe this is crucial in our ethos in encouraging our students to be independent, creative and highly motivated lifelong learners.

During the June 2013 Ofsted Inspection the school was judged as an Outstanding School. In 2019 our A Level results placed us in the top 25% of schools nationally.

FEATURES OF THE SCHOOL

These include:

- Caring, supportive and committed staff
- Commitment to professional development
- High academic standards with a large proportion of outstanding lessons
- Vertical Tutoring
- Cloud storage and software provided by Google.
- Laptop for every teacher
- Wireless multimedia projector for every classroom
- 2 dedicated ICT suites (air conditioned)
- 28 mobile laptop trolleys
- New sports hall
- 10 dedicated Science labs
- 3 Performing Arts studios

- Music Technology suite and recording studio
- DT suite with latest technology
- Research into use of new technologies/pedagogy
- Cover supervisors to minimise staff cover
- 10 day timetable with five one hour lessons per day. Current maximum teaching time for full time teachers is 45 out of 50 teaching periods

Students

The school has a wide catchment area, taking students from over 40 primary schools, many of which are situated in small villages within the Kent countryside. Entry at age 11 is by the Kent Education Committee Selection Procedure, which aims to identify the top 25% of the ability range. Some students transfer to our school at 16+ from other schools.

Staff

We are fully committed to the professional development of all our staff. All new teachers and ECTs follow a well informed and structured induction programme. All staff are encouraged to pursue personal goals and the school fully embraces interest in pastoral and pedagogical innovation. Every member of staff takes part in the annual performance development scheme which also embodies our motto of 'Reach for the Stars'.

Curriculum

Our curriculum at Key Stage 3 includes all the National Curriculum subjects (Art & Design, English, Drama, Geography, History, Mathematics, Modern Languages - French, German and Spanish, Music, Physical Education, Dance, Religious Education, Design Technology, Computing and Science).

We offer all Key Stage 3 subjects through to A Level together with Business Studies, Dance, Economics, Film Studies, Further Mathematics, Government & Politics, Media, Photography, Psychology, Sociology and Theatre Studies.

In the current Year 12, students take three or four A Level subjects, continuing with at least three to full A level. They can also take the Extended Project and qualify for the AQA Bacc. The majority of our students proceed to courses at Universities and in the last academic year all students who made applications, successfully found suitable places in higher education.

THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT

History at Highworth is lively, stimulating and thought-provoking, with students challenged to counter misconceptions and form well-reasoned views regarding the past. Our aim is to develop the intellectual and emotional character of our students by studying a diverse range of human experiences and to mould inquisitive and questioning young historians

Supported by our excellent Prefect team, the History department aims to bring the past to life through engaging lessons, creative activities and exceptional subject knowledge. Whether it is the tension of the Cuban Missile Crisis, experiences of child labourers or the impact of Christopher Columbus on the spread of chocolate, students are transported back to the events that have shaped the world in which we live.

In KS3 (Years 7-9), students will study Anglo-Saxon England, The Norman Invasion, Medieval Life, The Columbian Exchange, The Reformation, The English Civil War, The Industrial Revolution, The Suffrage Movement, The Slave Trade, The British Empire, and World War One.

KS4 begins in Year 10 and GCSE skills are taught throughout. Students follow the Edexcel GCSE (9-1) History specification. They complete the following units, examined with three papers at the end of Year 11:

Paper 1 - Thematic study and historic environment: Medicine in Britain, c1250–present and The British sector of the Western Front, 1914–18: injuries, treatment and the trenches (30%)

Paper 2 - Period study and British depth study: Early Elizabethan England, 1558–88 and Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–91 (40%).

Paper 3 - Modern depth study: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39 (30%).

At KS5, Students follow the Edexcel (2015) specification. The unit breakdown is as follows, with students sitting the Papers at the end of Year 13:

Paper 1 - Breadth study with interpretations: Germany and West Germany, 1918–89 (30%).

Paper 2 - Depth study: The rise and fall of fascism in Italy, c1911–46 (20%).

Paper 3 - Themes in breadth with aspects in depth: Rebellion and disorder under the Tudors, 1485–1603 (30%).

Coursework - (20%).

In all its teaching the department aims to foster and achieve high academic standards and a passion for the subject. There are 5 teachers of History, some of whom are delivering other subjects, such as Government and Politics, as part of their overall timetable. The department very much works as a team with a strong belief in sharing good practice and resources.

The Highworth Grammar School performance measure page can be accessed using this link:

<https://www.find-school-performance-data.service.gov.uk/school/136379/highworth-grammar-school>

Highworth Grammar School is committed to:

- *safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people. This post will require an enhanced disclosure from the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS)*
- *creating a diverse workforce. We will consider all qualified applicants for employment without regard to sex, race, religion, belief, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy, maternity, age, disability, marriage or civil partnership.*

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History Teacher **Person Specification**

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Good honours degree
- Qualified Teacher Status
- Evidence of further relevant professional development (N/A for ECT applications)

SKILLS:

- Ability to lead, inspire, motivate and support students and colleagues
- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines
- Good ICT skills
- Ability to think strategically
- Ability to forge links with the wider community

EXPERIENCE

- Evidence of successful, inspiring and innovative teaching in the secondary phase, particularly A Level (N/A for ECT applications)
- An excellent track record of success with public examination results. (N/A for ECT applications)
- Co-ordinating and collaborating with colleagues
- Teaching to A Level would be an advantage but not essential

KNOWLEDGE:

- Up to date knowledge of developing in teaching and learning and specifically in relation to the teaching of History
- Ability to teach A Level Politics would be an advantage but not essential

PERSONAL QUALITIES:

- High levels of personal and professional integrity
- Personal warmth to gain the confidence of students, staff and parents
- Appropriate levels of personal presentation
- Ability to communicate concisely and sensitively both orally and in writing to a variety of audiences
- A passion for teaching History

ATTITUDES:

- A willingness to share experiences and learn from colleagues
- A team player
- Willing to participate in extra curricular PE commitments
- A commitment to child protection and safeguarding
- A reflective and flexible approach
- Positive, enthusiastic and energetic approach to life
- Ability to think creatively and imaginatively
- Supportive of the School's ethos
- High expectations of student attainment, personal development and conduct
- Commitment to professional development