TEACHER OF PE AND GAMES JOB INFORMATION





TEACHER OF PE AND GAMES (Full Time)

Newcastle upon Tyne Royal Grammar School

With effect from September 2022

THE POSITION

We have a wonderful opportunity for someone to join our vibrant and busy PE and Sports department. The successful candidate will coach across the school's extensive and well-resourced range of curricular and co-curricular co-educational sport and there is the possibility of taking a lead in one of the major sports offered within the department. You might be a new entrant to the profession, or someone seeking to broaden or an experienced professional: it doesn't matter, we'll give you appropriate training and mentoring either way.

Being 'willing to go the extra mile' is a major part of the role for all teachers at the RGS, not merely in subject specialist activities. We are keen to invite applications from those who would like to make their own distinctive contribution to this ethos. Commitment towards the wider life of school; competitive fixtures and clubs as part of the PE department's thriving cocurricular programme, which includes a full commitment to Saturday sport.

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.

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. 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 extra-curricular activities, and our commitment to bursaries and partnerships.

RGS has grown substantially in recent years. There are now some 1,330 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-theart 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, strength and conditioning studios an artificial turf pitch for hockey and the former County Cricket Ground.

THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT

The RGS Senior and Junior Schools offer a fantastic range of sports to girls and boys through curricular PE and swimming, timetabled games and co-curricular sports. All students are encouraged to represent the school and sport offers opportunities at all levels. Staff are multi-disciplined and work with teams across a full range of sports and all age groups.

The sports facilities include a six-lane 25-metre swimming-pool; two sports halls; strength and conditioning studios; dance facilities; a designated PE classroom and changing-rooms to accommodate all the school's foreseeable sporting needs. On-site the school has an excellent



all-weather hockey (multi-use) pitch, netball courts, tennis courts and one rugby pitch. For cross-country running both Senior and Junior Schools use the adjoining Exhibition Park and Town Moor, on the edge of which we have three more rugby pitches and one football pitch. For cricket the school owns the Jesmond cricket ground which is a 5-minute walk away from main school and we regularly uses the Northumberland Lawn Tennis club for tennis, squash and badminton facilities.

Students in Years 7 to 9 get one hour of timetabled PE a week, and an hour of swimming every fortnight. In Years 10 and 11 they get one hour of PE, or swimming on a rotation each week. All year groups have a games afternoon every week, giving the opportunity for all students to be involved in a comprehensive programme, as well as to play in fixtures. Alongside curricular PE, swimming and games, the department delivers AQA A level PE and offers opportunities to develop leadership skills in sports.

In sport we want all girls and boys to participate, whilst also aiming for excellence, and there are inter-house competitions and school teams for rugby, hockey, football, netball, cross-country running, swimming, cricket, rounders, athletics, basketball and gymnastics. These sports have clubs during the week, before, during and after school. Teams compete at the highest levels and the school regularly reaches national finals in different sports; most recently in hockey, netball, swimming and gymnastics. Our senior and U16 girls reached the National Indoor Hockey finals in 2020 and our seniors reached the Tier 2 National Hockey finals and National Netball finals in the same year. The senior rugby team have recently won the prestigious invitational St Joseph's Festival and Rosslyn Park National 7s. We support many individuals who are in Academy Pathways across multiple sports and we currently have 7 Old Novos (former students) contracted with Newcastle Falcons.

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
- Coaching and refereeing/umpiring qualifications

Experience

- Experience of teaching the full 11-18 age range
- Experience of playing sport to a high standard (desirable)
- Successful teaching in another school or successful teaching practices whilst training
- Experience of teaching A level PE (desirable)

Skills

- Ability to inspire young people to develop a love of PE and Sports
- Ability to think originally and creatively and show initiative
- Commitment to high standards of teaching and learning
- Ability to teach high quality lessons
- Good teaching skills that allow learners of all abilities to make progress and make learning enjoyable
- Ability to coach at a high level
- Excellent organisational abilities and time management
- Excellent project management skills
- High levels of IT competency

Personal characteristics

- Ability to cope with pressure
- 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.
- Commitment towards the wider life of school; competitive fixtures and clubs as part of the PE departments thriving co-curricular programme, which includes Saturday fixtures.

LIVING IN THE NORTH EAST

So, where is Newcastle and what's it like up north? Frankly, it's brilliant. 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 Northern Sinfonia. There's a growing food culture with some fantastic restaurants. There's great nightlife and you can ignore the inevitable scenes of drunk Geordies in the streets; that's a very specific part of town!

If you like sport then there's cracking football being played at St James' Park and the Stadium of Light (plus the inevitable disappointment of a town full of Toon supporters and the current dismay of those in red and white, but hopefully not for much longer). There's good cricket at Durham (a mere half hour away), and good rugby at the Falcons. Not to mention basketball, netball and even ice hockey, and don't forget the annual Great North Run. The North East has also produced some of the country's finest athletes in track and field and there a clubs aplenty to get involved with.



The coast and the hills are minutes away from the city centre. By car you really can be in the middle of nowhere in 45 minutes, even the Scottish Borders is only an hour away. The Lake District is an hour and a half away. 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 (imagine Kent with no traffic), climbing, and endless hill walks in stunning countryside.

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 green spaces all over the city too, with plenty of parks for children and dogs alike to run around. There are some really excellent primary schools on the edge of the city or in the suburbs. Some good secondaries exist too, but staff get a discount at our school. There are some good competitor independent schools as well.

The RGS is on the edge of the city centre, a ten-minute walk from the main shopping areas. The leafy, affluent suburbs of Jesmond and Gosforth are close by with housing ranging from purpose-built flats in terraced streets and conversions of bigger houses to terraced houses, post-war semis and large, family-sized detached houses with big gardens. All of this is within walking distance of the school so no commute! And a fraction of inflated southern prices. Yet they are holding their value and increasing relatively steadily. If you want to travel to work then imagine waking up with a sea view, hopping on the Metro and getting off at school on the edge of the city centre just half an hour later. What could be better?



MAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 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.
- Pension The School is part of the Teachers' Pension Scheme and all teachers are automatically included in the Scheme.
- Lunch School lunch is provided during term time.
- 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.
- Car Parking there is a car park on site although spaces are limited.

HOW TO APPLY

If, having looked through the website (<u>www.rgs.newcastle.sch.uk</u>) 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.

Please read the Information for Applicants with particular care before applying. RGS is committed to the safeguarding of children and applies the Government's Safer Recruitment procedures, which will include:

- Checking that the submitted application form provides a continuous record of education and employment from age 16 (including education, employment and voluntary work) with reasons for leaving. Any gaps must be accounted for by the applicant.
- Provision of at least two satisfactory references, one of which must be from the applicant's current or most recent employer. In addition, the school will seek a reference from the relevant employer from the last time the applicant worked with children. Internal references will be sought where appropriate.
- Completion by the applicant of a confidential form of declaration of physical and mental health (after offer of appointment) and, if necessary, a satisfactory report following a medical examination.
- Evidence or other verification of the applicant's qualifications; For teachers, verification of any award of qualified teacher status (QTS) and the completion of teacher induction or probation. For support roles, evidence of qualifications relevant to the role or those listed on the application form must be provided.
- Obtaining a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure Report from the DBS (via the applicant) including children's barred list information for those who will be engaging in regulated activity with children.
- Verification of an applicant's right to work in the UK.
- Verification of the applicant's identity including a check of photographic ID, proof of address and a check of the applicant's birth certificate. The applicant must present official documentation to evidence any change of name or surname.
- For teaching roles or anyone involved in teaching, a check that the applicant is not subject to a prohibition order issued by the Secretary of State.



- For management roles (headteachers, senior leadership team (including non-teaching roles,) teaching positions with departmental headship, governors and trustees, proprietors) a check to ensure that the applicant is not subject to a section 128 direction made by the Secretary of State. This applies to any relevant internal applicants.
- If the individual has lived or worked outside of the UK for more than 3 months in the last 10 years, an overseas police check/s must be obtained (via the applicant) and any other checks deemed appropriate by the school, i.e., obtaining a letter (via the applicant) from the professional regulating authority in the country (or countries) in which the individual has worked.
- If the role, involves supervising children under the age of eight outside teaching hours or managing the supervision of children under the age of eight outside of teaching hours, applicants must complete a self-declaration to confirm that they are not disqualified from providing childcare under the Childcare (Disqualification) Act 2006 and Regulations 2018.

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 Director of Sport, Angela Ponton (details below).

Interviews will be held shortly after the closing date.

Self-Declaration of Criminal Record

Applicants who are invited for interview will be asked to complete a self-declaration of their criminal record or, of information that would make them unsuitable to work with children. Further information about self-declaration can be found on GOV.UK. Please note that if applicants electronically sign this declaration, they will be asked to physically sign a hard copy of the declaration at interview.

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. To help us achieve this please submit the equal opportunities form with your application. This will be sent directly to the HR team for monitoring purposes.

Safer Recruitment

RGS Newcastle is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. In accordance with our Child Protection Policy, we are unable to process applications without a fully completed application form. The post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. Shortlisted candidates must declare any convictions, cautions, reprimands or final warnings that are not 'protected' as defined by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (as amended in 2013 and 2020) via the self-declaration form. The successful applicant must obtain Children's Barred List clearance and DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) clearance at enhanced level.



References

In keeping with the current Keeping Children Safe in Education regulations, references will be sought to support any appointment decisions that the school may make. Further information for applicants:

- the school will seek references for all teaching vacancies ahead of interview, one of which must be the individual's current or most recent employer.
- For support roles, it is a requirement for the school to request a reference from your current employer. It is our preference that we request references including one from your current employer before interview. Should you prefer for the school **not** to contact your current employer before an interview, you must supply details of an additional referee who is able to comment on your suitability for the role applied for. We will then contact your current employer at the point of making an offer of employment.
- In addition, the school will seek a reference from the relevant employer from the last time you worked with children, if you are not currently working with children in regulated activity.
- Internal references will be sought where appropriate.
- References must be completed by a senior person with appropriate authority. For teaching roles, this must be the head of a school. For support roles, this should be the employer, HR or senior level manager.
- Open references will not be accepted.



CONTACT DETAILS

Royal Grammar School Eskdale Terrace Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 4DX

Tel: 0191 281 5711

General enquiries: <u>hm@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk</u>



or <u>communications@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk</u> Angela Ponton, Director of Sport, <u>a.ponton@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk</u> <u>www.rgs.newcastle.sch.uk</u>