HOLYPORT COLLEGE



TEACHER OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Full time or part time, from September 2027 or earlier

Candidate Information

WELCOME

Welcome to Holyport College. I hope, as you read on and learn more about this very special school, you will become more and more excited about joining the Holyport team and the opportunities that provides.

If appointed, you will be joining an excellent, welcoming and supportive staff team. Start dates could be January, February half term, April or September 2027. Our students are diligent and keen to learn and this is reflected in excellent exam results. Students go on to study at the top universities.

Holyport College was the country's first state boarding free school, opening in 2014. It is a distinctive, popular secondary school with 600 pupils, over 200 of whom are boarders. With a comprehensive intake at Year 7, it actively promotes social mobility and has an outstanding record of supporting the most vulnerable. Many of the pupils progress to our high-performing, academically selective Sixth Form where they are joined by a similar number of new students. The College is a vibrant, ambitious and inclusive community where young people thrive. They follow an aspirational academic curriculum alongside an exceptional co-curricular offering that is equally valued by the College and made possible by the extended school day. You would be joining a remarkable staff team who all care deeply about the College.

Holyport College has a unique strategic and very close working partnership with its nearby sponsor, Eton College. With the help of a strong boarding ethos, it has managed to create a "joyous place to learn" which offers students the best of both state and independent education.

The Religious Studies department is led by our highly capable and experienced Head of Religious Studies, Dr Oduntan Jawoniyi, with whom the post holder will work very closely.

If this is a school and a role that excites you and you believe you have the requisite skills, experience and dynamism, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Alastair Ingall
Headteacher



"A school with the modest aim of transforming lives. Much has been invested in this school - not just money but reputations. So far, so excellent".
GOOD SCHOOLS GUIDE

HISTORY AND OVERVIEW

Holyport College (pronounced Hollyport) is a state boarding and day school for boys and girls aged 11–18 located in Berkshire. It was the first state boarding free school in the UK, and it is currently full to capacity, catering for just over 600 pupils, more than 200 of whom board. The doors opened to its first students in September 2014, with the Sixth Form provision beginning in September 2017.

Years 7–11 are non-selective, but the Sixth Form, with over 200 pupils, is academically selective. Holyport College is a state school but, like some other state boarding schools, has a long school day for everybody, finishing at 5.00pm. The extended day affords the opportunity to offer a huge range of co-curricular activities to suit all tastes, with participation in the programme compulsory for all students. Whilst the College has certain elements which are deliberately modelled on a traditional private boarding school, the aim is to emulate the best of both the state and independent sectors. In terms of funding, approx. 50% comes from state, and approx. 50% comes from boarding fees.

Holyport College is exceptionally proud of its close partnership with Eton College which aims to become the gold standard by which other state and independent school collaborations are judged. Through this partnership, the lives and education of every student at Holyport College are significantly enriched on a regular basis. Eton College, founded by Henry VI in 1440, is situated just a few miles away from Holyport, near Windsor. Whilst Holyport College may be a relatively new school, it is fortunate to be able to draw on Eton's heritage and experience. The partnership has allowed Holyport to forge links at a number of levels, including governance, the sharing of facilities, the creation of enrichment opportunities, the establishment of an educational research and innovation centre at Holyport and through positive staff and student interactions. That said, Holyport College is not Eton College. It has a unique and strong personality of its own which is distinctive, exciting and a little bit quirky.

Holyport continues to develop and improve at a remarkable pace and recent initiatives include:

- the introduction of iPads for every student (September 2024).
- the opening of three new Eton Fives courts (October 2024).
- The development of a new Performing Arts Centre, planning application granted (November 2024).
- The reintroduction of a joint Combined Cadet Force (CCF) with Eton College (January 2026)
- Planning to introduce A Level and GCSE Business Studies and Design Technology to the curriculum (September 2026 & 2027 respectively)



Holyport College was last inspected as a boarding school by Ofsted in March 2025 and graded outstanding in every category.

The College is located on Ascot Road in Holyport, a suburban village in the parish of Bray, about two miles south of Maidenhead town centre in leafy Berkshire. The village has a doctor's surgery, a newsagent, a grocery, a butcher, a small café and a hairdresser, as well as the post office and four pubs.

It is well connected: located 4 minutes from the M4 (junction 8/9) and 7 minutes from Maidenhead railway station (Elizabeth line and GWR).

BOARDING

Holyport feels like a fully integrated boarding and day school, not – like many schools – a day school with a few boarders. Day and boarding pupils are treated alike (with all day pupils staying late and doing most of the same activities as boarders). It also helps that all pupils are assigned to a House – boys' boarding Houses are joined by girl day pupils and vice versa. About half of our boarders are in school all weekend, when there are plenty of activities to keep them busy.





There are almost equal numbers of boy and girl boarders. Some are relatively local, others are from further afield, including overseas. They are housed directly above the classrooms, with the biggest dormitories housing up to six younger pupils, whilst Sixth Form boarders share double rooms. Boarders have access to a kitchen on their corridor, and Sixth Form students also have their own living room on their corridor. The College has a dedicated, onsite medical centre staffed by a full-time nurse.

With more than one-third of students living on site, boarding is very much at the heart of the College community and strongly reflects its values and ethos. Holyport's modern boarding model seeks to replicate the family atmosphere of a home, where relationships are familiar in nature and the environment relaxed and stable.

Many staff are also involved in the boarding life of the school for which they receive additional remuneration. Please let us know if this is of interest.









JOB DESCRIPTION

The Post

Holyport College seeks an ambitious and effective teacher to teach Religious Studies, part-time. This post will provide excellent professional development opportunities for a newly qualified or an experienced teacher.

The Role

To provide outstanding teaching and learning of Religion, Ethics, and Philosophy across KS3-5, ensuring students reach the highest levels of achievement possible.

Key Responsibilities

- To plan, resource and deliver lessons and sequences of lessons to the highest standard that ensure real learning takes place and students make excellent progress.
- To provide a nurturing classroom that helps pupils to develop as learners.
- To help to promote good behaviour across the College.

Teaching and Learning

- To teach engaging and effective lessons that motivate, inspire and transform pupil attainment.
- With direction from the Head of Religious Studies, assist in the creation and development of challenging and innovative schemes of work which are inspiring for learners and teachers alike.
- Use regular, measurable and significant assessments to monitor progress and set targets and respond accordingly to the results of such monitoring.
- Participate in preparing pupils for external examinations (AQA GCSE RS and OCR A-Level Religious Studies).
- Maintain regular and productive communication with parents, to report on progress, sanctions, rewards and other communications.
- Develop an exciting and motivating co-curricular and enrichment offer.
- Direct and supervise support staff assigned to lessons.
- Adhere to the College's behaviour management policy, ensuring the health and well-being of pupils is maintained at all times

College Culture

- Support the College's values and ethos by contributing to the development and implementation of policies, practices and procedures.
- Help create a strong College community, characterised by consistent, orderly behaviour and caring, respectful relationships.
- Help develop a culture and ethos that is committed to achievement.
- Support and work in collaboration with colleagues and other professionals in and beyond the school, covering lessons and providing other support as required.

Other

- Carry out the role of a form tutor.
- Undertake other various responsibilities under the reasonable direction of the SLT or Head.

"Holyport College is a joyous place to learn. Pupils are well cared for in a cheerful and warm environment where difference is welcomed. … Pupils enjoy positive and friendly relationships with staff who know them well."
OFSTED INSPECTION REPORT 2023

PERSON SPECIFICATION

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

- Qualified to degree level, ideally in theology, philosophy or religious studies
- Experience of teaching in the state or independent sectors (includes teaching practice)
- Right to work in the UK

SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES

- Effective team worker
- High expectations for accountability and consistency
- High aspirations and expectations of self and others
- A belief in the potential of every student
- Motivation to continually improve standards and achieve excellence
- Commitment to the safeguarding and welfare of all students

TEACHING AND LEARNING

- Experience of teaching Religious Studies at GCSE and A Level
- Excellent classroom teacher with the ability to reflect on lessons and continually improve their own practice
- Effective and systematic behaviour management, with clear boundaries, sanctions, praise and rewards
- Thinks strategically about classroom practice and tailors lessons to students' needs
- Understands and interprets student data to inform lesson planning
- Commitment to regular and on-going professional development and training to establish outstanding classroom practice



REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

The successful candidate will be remunerated on the main/upper pay scale (London Fringe) £35,602—£54,328 and enrolled in the Teachers' Pension Scheme.

Holyport College is committed to staff wellbeing and to ensuring that all colleagues can maintain an appropriate work/life balance. Our staff are listened to and valued. We are a school where teachers really can teach: students behave very well at Holyport College and they want to learn. Classes generally have no more than 24 students in them.

The College has two additional weeks holiday per year compared to the average state school: our October half term is two weeks long and our Christmas holiday is three weeks and there are opportunities for international travel: no member of staff will be asked to do this if they don't want to however we have regular trips to Iceland, the Alps, Spain, France, Italy and the USA.

There are many opportunities for CPD including through our partnership with Eton College and the Boarding Schools' Association.



"The extended day – 8.30am to 5pm for all pupils, boarding and day – is the School's secret sauce… The long afternoon allows time for a phenomenal co-curricular programme with offerings ranging from mindful colouring to real tennis, Young Enterprise to ballet."
GOOD SCHOOLS GUIDE

APPLICATION PROCESS

Closing date: midday on Monday 16th November. Early applications are encouraged and we reserve the right to appoint before the deadline.

Applications should be submitted by email to careers@holyportcollege.org.uk and must include:

- A fully completed teaching staff application form which can be downloaded from the College website here
- Completed References & Monitoring and Equal Opportunities forms, also available on the College website

The process is as follows:

- When you submit your application, you will receive an email of acknowledgment from The College confirming that we have received it. If you have not received an acknowledgment within two working days of your application, please email us at careers@holyportcollege.org.uk or call 01628 640 157
- Shortlist interviews will take place at the College shortly after the closing date when candidates will be given a tour of the College.

DISCLOSURE AND BARRING SERVICES
All applicants must be prepared to undergo screening to confirm their suitability to work with children and young people.

SOCIAL MEDIA
The College will undertake appropriate social media checks for all candidates invited to interview.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES
Holyport College welcomes applications from all sectors of the community.

In compliance with the Department for Education's safer recruitment guidance, the College will contact referees if you have been shortlisted for an interview.

Holyport College reserves the right to check the accuracy of statements made as part of an application process. Those submitting an application are deemed to have given consent to such checks being made.

All staff take part in the College's performance management process and must abide by the Code of Conduct for Staff and Volunteers at Holyport College.

This role is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 so candidates must disclose information about spent, as well as unspent convictions.



