



Generations of Success

Headteacher: Gareth Roscoe BA (Hons)

## APPLICATION PACK FOR:

**Teacher of Philosophy, Theology and Ethics &  
Sociology**

**Full Time Permanent Role**

**To Start: September 2021**

**MPS/UPS as appropriate**

**Closing Date:** Tuesday 4th May 2021

**Interviews:** W/b Monday 10th May 2021



## The Park Community School

Park Lane  
Barnstaple  
North Devon  
EX32 9AX

[www.theparkschool.org.uk](http://www.theparkschool.org.uk)  
[admin@theparkschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@theparkschool.org.uk)



# INTRODUCTION

Park has a proud history and strong sense of tradition with the origins of the school dating back to 1910. We have an excellent reputation within our local community and beyond.

Our vision is for every student to achieve to the best of their potential. In working towards this we recognise the need for a highly skilled, suitably qualified and motivated staff.

We can only achieve our vision by working alongside colleagues to create the right climate and culture for teaching and learning, allowing teachers to focus on teaching and their own development. Our systems allow for this with minimal student behaviour issues.

As a school we are keen to develop and maintain links with a range of schools and educational establishments. These links provide opportunities for learning, discussion, reflection and staff development to enable everyone to deliver the best education for our students.

The school is a member of a locally based MAT involving our main primary feeder schools. This allows for excellent collaboration between partner schools, staff development and primary/secondary partnership working.

This is a great opportunity for new entrants or experienced colleagues to join a dynamic and supportive department. The school has an extensive support programme for all staff to ensure high quality, timely and meaningful CPD.

An Assistant Headteacher leads our staff induction, NQT and RQT programme. The school is the lead centre for teacher training within the North Devon Teaching School Alliance and has an excellent track record of teacher training and NQT support.

I hope that after reading all of the information in this booklet and online that you feel you would like to be a part of our team. Please feel free to contact me at the school if you would like any more information before submitting your application. I can be contacted at [groscoe@theparkschool.org.uk](mailto:groscoe@theparkschool.org.uk)



## WHY PARK?

- Well behaved children with clear systems and structures to support teachers
- A consistent, high quality teaching, learning and curriculum structure to support learning
- Excellent capacity for school improvement
- Established support networks
- High standard of prepared resources to support lesson planning and delivery
- Ample on-site car parking
- Good transport links
- Complementary mix of traditional and modern buildings
- Suited departmental areas
- Extensive staff CPD opportunities
- Commitment to staff wellbeing
- Member of a locally based MAT with excellent links to primary feeder schools



## ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

The Park is one of two 11-16 comprehensives in Barnstaple. Park was opened in 1972 following the re-organisation of selective education in the town; however, the origins of the school date back to 1910, with the site housing both the Boys and Girls grammar schools. Many elements of the original buildings remain and these help to link the school to its proud and strong history.

The school currently educates 1420 students, mainly from the town of Barnstaple and outlying villages. In recent years, the popularity of the school has meant that the geographical catchment has increased, with many students now travelling some distance to join us.

On joining the school, each student is assigned to one of our five houses: Fortescue, Raleigh, Drake, Chichester or Kingsley. The house system is rooted in the DNA of the school with many parents and grandparents showing allegiances to a particular house. Siblings will also join the same house meaning that the Head of House creates a strong relationship with students and families over time. Each house contains two tutor groups from each year group. Students recognise the strength of the house system and value this greatly. It creates a family environment within the school and leads to healthy competition in sports and other inter-house activities.

The curriculum is organised into departments with a traditional structure. The curriculum has recently undergone a review and changed in September 2017 to allow the school to respond to new performance measures, whilst maintaining and supporting non-Ebacc subjects such as the performing arts, sport and technology. In September 2019, we implemented a new teaching, learning and curriculum structure alongside strategies to build further on the positive learning and behaviour culture we already had at Park. This includes clear and explicit schemes of learning; joint planning opportunities; knowledge organisers; school wide assessment opportunities; and centralised detentions.

The student numbers for the school are healthy, with a planned increase expected over the next three years. We are oversubscribed in years 7, 8 and 9 and will be over-subscribed again for September 2020. The school finances are in an equally healthy position with the governors and Headteacher keen to continue the recent development of the campus providing greater facilities for staff and students alike.

The school is led by a dynamic leadership team whom all share the school passion and drive to develop quality teaching and learning. The school is forward looking and sets itself high standards and expectations.

The school is a founder member of the a newly created Multi Academy Trust—The Tarka Learning Partnership—which initially consists of Park, five feeder primary schools and a SCITT. The MAT supports Park and ensures academic rigour, collaboration and the further development of teaching and learning. The school also belongs to NORDAB (North Devon Academic Board), an association that covers North Devon providing supportive mechanisms between partner schools for staff training, developing and sharing ideas. The school is a member of DTSA (Dartmoor Teaching School Alliance) and the NDTSA (North Devon Teaching School Alliance) and governors are keen for the school to form strategic alliances with appropriate bodies to ensure school development.

[Discover more about Park](#)

The school is in a strong position to move forward and embrace the latest challenges of the current education landscape.



# SCHOOL LOCATION



Barnstaple is a busy town that has a developing industrial base and is the commercial and administrative centre of North Devon. With the North Devon Link Road, connecting the area with the national motorway system, Barnstaple and its surrounds are planned to grow further in the future.

The North Devon countryside is outstandingly beautiful. The coast varies from wild cliffs to the magnificent surfing beaches of Saunton, Croyde, Woolacombe and Westward Ho!. Exmoor National Park lies just to the north and Dartmoor to the south. These natural features form the basis of the tourist

Discover more information  
about North Devon here

[Travel](#)

[Visit Devon](#)

[Barnstaple](#)

[Tarka Trail](#)

Industry in the area.

The school is very pleasantly situated, overlooking the River Taw, its estuary and the town of Barnstaple with its beautiful views of the surrounding Devon countryside.

The buildings are overall of high quality, linked together and surrounded by twenty-seven acres of playing fields and parkland. Our substantial building program has provided a full range of well-equipped modern learning environments.

A community sports hall and floodlit artificial turf pitch is managed by the school to the benefit of both the school and the community. Further sporting facilities have been developed including a new floodlit regional netball centre of six courts.



North Devon area is one of the best places to live in Britain, with:-

- A fantastic environment to live in
- Welcoming people
- Low crime rate
- Reasonable house prices
- Tarka Trail
- Two moors - Exmoor and Dartmoor
- The best beaches in the country!
- Fantastic outdoors for hiking, camping, cycling, sailing, watersports
- Good links to Exeter, Bristol and London including airports



## THE ROLE

We seek a well qualified and enthusiastic teacher with a commitment to students of all abilities in a comprehensive secondary school. A willingness to contribute within a team approach to develop the work of the department and the school is essential.

This would be an ideal opportunity for an experienced colleague or someone early in their career in a supportive and developmental environment.

The successful candidate will be expected to teach Philosophy, Theology and Ethics (Religious Studies) across the full age and ability range. In addition, the successful candidate would be expected to teach GCSE Sociology.

This is a permanent post subject to successful completion of a six months probationary period.

## DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

Religious Studies is called Philosophy, Theology and Ethics (PTE) at Park. The PTE and Sociology Department is a strong department within the school. The department consists of three full time subject specialists who teach both PTE and Sociology, and several staff who teach some PTE in addition to other subjects, supported by a Teaching and Learning Leader.

The department currently offers OCR GCSE Religious Studies and AQA GCSE Sociology.

The Philosophy, Theology and Ethics KS3 scheme of work has been developed in line with the Devon and Torbay Agreed Syllabus for RE and the new GCSE. Regular Knowledge Tests and Knowledge Organisers are also used to support the learning of students.

At KS4 GCSE Religious Studies is offered as an Option subject. In addition, all students at KS4 are taught Core Philosophy, Theology and Ethics. In addition, GCSE Sociology is offered as an Option subject. The latter is particularly popular. Teaching and Learning is the main focus in our development plans.

This is a great opportunity for new entrants or experienced colleagues to join a dynamic and supportive department. The school has an extensive support program for all staff to ensure quality, timely and meaningful CPD.

This is a particularly interesting and rewarding time for you to join us: we shall provide every possible opportunity for your professional development and future career.

# **JOB DESCRIPTION - Teacher of Philosophy, Theology and Ethics & Sociology**

## **Key Tasks**

- Plan and deliver effective lessons to all years, based on the agreed departmental long term plans, Knowledge Organisers and assessments.
- Show care and passion in your teaching using a range of strategies to ensure student progress.
- Support the development of resources for the department by sharing and adapting resources from others to meet the needs of your students.
- Inspire students and others to improve.
- Be an open and reflective teacher using our supportive coaching model to improve your teaching.
- Support your own wellbeing and that of other colleagues.
- Support school wide policies and ensure consistent application of our 'Park Culture'.
- Ensure that participation and representation in extra curricular activities is wide and adds value to the life of the school supporting the development of an aspirational school culture .
- Support the wider life of the school and act as a tutor.

## **Curriculum Responsibilities**

- To employ teaching strategies across the department that engender enthusiasm and raise the aspirations of all students.
- To engage and enthuse all students to allow them to reach their full potential.
- To assess students work in accordance with departmental and school guidelines to inform planning and student progress.
- To ensure effective use of tracking and monitoring systems within the department.
- To complete reports and records on students.
- To use homework to extend learning opportunities (Knowledge Organiser for KS3, KO and exam preparation for KS4)
- To promote the school and the department through displays of work, extra curricular activities and participation in events, competitions and other events.
- To ensure that care is taken to keep classrooms, furniture and equipment in good safe working condition
- To maintain high standards in all areas.

Line manager— Ms Karen Ratcliffe, Teaching & Learning Leader

Mr C Tamlyn, Deputy Headteacher

# JOB DESCRIPTION

## TEACHER

### Pastoral Responsibilities

*The pastoral role is of prime importance in supporting the ethos of the school as a place where students can be happy and confident and feel encouraged to work hard.*

#### Form Tutor

- Promote the general well being and progress of students in the tutor group.
- Provide guidance and advice to students on educational and social matters and to respond to their individual needs quickly and in a constructive manner.
- Carefully monitor attendance, punctuality and reasons for absence, keeping a register in accordance with legal requirements.
- Communicate with parents in consultation with the Head of House and Teaching & Learning Leaders.
- Record information on students and raise, where appropriate, with the Head of House.
- Support and participate in Year activities.
- Attend Year Team and House meetings.
- Deliver the PSHEE curriculum in line with the school curriculum.

#### General

- Attend all departmental and staff meetings.
- Play an active part in the life of the school, sharing the aims and objectives of the school.
- Contribute to the protection of children as appropriate, in accordance with any agreed policies and/or guidelines, reporting any issues or concerns to the School's Child Protection Lead.

# PERSON SPECIFICATION

Application A Interview I Reference R

Attributes	Essential	Desirable	Measured by
Qualifications	<p>Graduate</p> <p>PGCE or equivalent</p> <p>Appropriate evidence of in-service training.</p> <p>Qualified Teacher Status</p>	A commitment to further professional development.	A, I
Experience	Experienced of teaching all levels at KS3 and KS4 Religious Studies and/or GCSE Sociology (this could be during teaching practice).	<p>Experienced teacher.</p> <p>Experience of effectively supporting other teachers to improve teaching and learning.</p>	A, I, R
Knowledge	<p>Excellent knowledge of how children learn and how to implement this.</p> <p>Knowledge of GCSE Sociology and RS specifications.</p>		A, I, R
Skills	<p>Ability to enthuse students of all abilities to achieve their very best.</p> <p>Effective lesson planning with appropriate pace and using appropriate teaching and learning styles.</p> <p>Ability to use assessment for improving students' learning and progress.</p> <p>Excellent classroom management skills.</p>		A, I, R
Other Requirements	<p>Ability to form excellent working relationships with other members of staff.</p> <p>High expectations of students.</p> <p>To act as a tutor.</p>	<p>Career ambition.</p> <p>Enthusiasm to support extra curricular activities.</p>	A, I, R
Personal Characteristics	<p>Caring enthusiastic, energetic, innovative and ambitious.</p> <p>Able to work independently and be a team player.</p> <p>Desire to improve own teaching.</p> <p>Maintain a healthy work life balance and support well being for self and others.</p>		A, I, R

# HOW TO APPLY

You can download an application form from our [website](#) or contact Ms Danni Palmer on 01271 373131 or [hr@theparkschool.org.uk](mailto:hr@theparkschool.org.uk)

- Please complete the application form in full (we are unable to accept a CV without the fully completed application form).
- Applications can be either by post, email or in person:

## Postal applications:

### Ms Danni Palmer

The Park Community School  
Park Lane  
BARNSTAPLE  
North Devon  
EX32 9AX

Email: [hr@theparkschool.org.uk](mailto:hr@theparkschool.org.uk)

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A member of the **Tarka**  
Learning  
Network