



THE **HOLMESDALE** SCHOOL

Dedicated to Community, Committed to Equality, Striving for Excellence



**Head of Religious Education -
The Holmesdale School
Information**



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Welcome

Dear Applicant

Make a Difference in Young Lives: Join Our Vibrant School as a Head of Religious Education.

Imagine stepping into a welcoming community where dedicated educators are passionate about making a real difference in the lives of children. At The Holmesdale School, a growing school with a strong sense of belonging, that's exactly what you'll find. As a Head of Religious Education, you'll play a vital role in ensuring our students thrive in a safe, supportive, and stimulating environment.

The Holmesdale School, a growing school dedicated to community, equality, and excellence, is looking for someone like you!

Why Choose The Holmesdale School?

- **Make an Impact:** Be a direct influence on young minds, shaping their learning journey and fostering their confidence.
- **Thrive in a Supportive Environment:** Enjoy collaborative teamwork with passionate colleagues who offer ongoing support and mentorship.
- **Develop Your Skills:** Access exceptional professional development opportunities, including NPQ qualifications and Masters programs, to advance your career.
- **Join a Leading Trust:** Be part of Swale Academies Trust, a highly successful organisation dedicated to continuous improvement and innovation.
- **Become Part of Something Special:** Contribute to a school with a strong sense of community, celebrating diversity and nurturing independent, resilient learners.

What Makes You the Perfect Fit?

- Do you possess infectious enthusiasm and a genuine passion for helping children learn and grow?
- Are you a natural communicator who excels at building positive relationships with students of all ages and abilities?
- Do you have a strong sense of responsibility and a commitment to safeguarding children's well-being?
- Previous experience in a school environment is a plus, but your dedication and eagerness to learn are even more valuable.

Ready to take the next step?

Visit our school or apply today and discover how you can:

- **Make a real difference** in the lives of children.
- **Develop your leadership skills** in a supportive and dynamic environment.
- **Join a thriving school community** dedicated to your success.

Don't miss this exciting opportunity! Apply now and let's shape the future of The Holmesdale School together.

Yours faithfully



Mr Lee Downey

Head of School

Job Description

Job Title: Head of Department
Grade: MPS/UPS + TLR
Responsible to: Headteacher

Purpose of the job

The current School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document describes the general professional duties which teachers are expected to undertake in the course of their employment.

Teachers are also expected to perform particular duties as may reasonably be assigned to them by the Headteacher.

For the purpose of this general job description these particular duties are:

Curriculum

- To plan and prepare courses.
- To continuously review teaching methods, schemes of work and resources as necessary.
- To advise and co-operate with the line-manager, other teachers and the Senior Leadership Team on the preparation and development of courses of study, teaching materials and resources, teaching programmes, methods of teaching, assessment and pastoral arrangements.
- To participate in meetings of the school which relate to the curriculum for the school or the administration or organisation of the school, including pastoral arrangements.
- To take part as required in the review, development and management of activities relating to the curriculum, organisation and pastoral functions of the school.

Professional Development etc

- To participate in any arrangement within an agreed national framework for the performance management of performance and that of other teachers.
- To participate in arrangements for further training and professional development as a teacher.
- To contribute as appropriate to the selection for appointment and professional development of other teachers and support staff, including the induction and assessment of new and newly qualified teachers.
- To co-ordinate or manage the work of other teachers as appropriate.
- To manage or supervise support staff as necessary

Pupils

- To plan and prepare lessons.
- To teach pupils assigned, including setting and prompt marking of work carried out by pupils in school or elsewhere.
- To set relevant and sufficient homework, according to the homework timetable, and to ensure prompt marking of the homework or coursework.
- To assess, record and report on the development, progress and attainment of pupils, according to departmental and whole-school policies
- To participate in the arrangements for preparing pupils for public examinations. To assess pupils for the examinations and record and report these assessments

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- To promote the general progress and wellbeing of individual pupils and of any class or group assigned.
- To provide guidance and advice to pupils on educational and social matters and on their future education and careers, including information about the sources of more expert advice on specific questions.
- To make records of, and reports on, the personal and social needs of pupils.
- To provide or contribute to oral and written assessments, reports and references relating to individual pupils and / or groups of pupils.
- To maintain good order and discipline among pupils and to safeguard their health and safety both when they are authorised to be on the school premises and when they are engaged in authorised school activities elsewhere.
- To attend assemblies and to supervise tutor groups while in assembly, unless the teacher wishes to opt out of any religious aspect of assembly where this is against their beliefs.
- To accurately register pupils at a.m. and p.m. registration and during lessons and at any other time necessary before, during or after school.
- To provide, as a Tutor, the individual contact, knowledge and support for pupils within the allocated tutor group and to liaise with parents and other staff accordingly, as appropriate.
- To contribute to the personal and social education of pupils generally and specifically through the teaching of the PSE programme to the tutor group.
- To support all colleagues in ensuring that high standards of uniform and behaviour are maintained within the school.
- To work with other colleagues to ensure that there is a consistent approach in ensuring pupils abide by the school's code of conduct and the same consistency in dealing with pupils who do not conform to school rules.
- To make relevant records and reports as necessary

Parents and the wider community

- To communicate and consult with the parents of pupils when required.
- To communicate and co-operate with other persons and outside agencies as required.
- To participate in meetings arranged for any of the purposes described above.
- To foster good relationships with parents.

Resources and Accommodation

- To take responsibility for the care of resources, accommodation and fabric of the school, particularly when pupils are present.
- To allocate, as appropriate, equipment and materials in connection with his/her teaching.
- Policies and Staff Handbook.
- To ensure that all departmental and school policies are understood and complied with.
- To ensure that they have read and understands the contents of the Staff handbook and complies with all the requirements detailed in the handbook

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Health and Safety

- To accept responsibility for own safety – as well as that of the pupils and colleagues with whom you work.
- To undertake Health and Safety training offered.
- To be aware of Health and Safety issues and the hazards associated with manual handling tasks, including the cumulative effect of repeated manual handling operations.
- To follow any control measures and care plans required by the generic or individual risk assessments.
- To be familiar with and use available equipment safely.
- To be aware of own limitations and inform your employer of any circumstances that may alter your ability to perform manual handling tasks.
- To report accidents and hazards.
- To report deficiencies in the employer's Health and Safety protection arrangements

Head of Department / Subject Leader

In addition to the requirements of a class teacher and any other agreed responsibilities:

- To be accountable for the results of a named curricular area / aspects of the school's work and to support, hold accountable, develop and lead their team.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES:

- To work with subject teachers to develop their classroom organisation and teaching methods, including providing regular feedback for their team in a way which recognises good practice and supports their progress against performance management objectives
- To ensure high quality teaching resources are consistently used across the subject area
- To support, facilitate and monitor the progress of designated subject area / development plans to ensure they make a significant contribution to the School Improvement Plan.
- To review and report, as required, on the standard of leadership, teaching and learning in the designated subject / area consistent with the procedures in the school self-evaluation policy.
- To support and assist subject teachers with the behaviour management of their students.
- To intervene with the behaviour for learning strategies as required.
- To follow agreed School protocol regarding the tracking and monitoring of rewards and sanctions.

Working Time

The following is extracted from the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document.

- A teacher employed full-time shall be available for work for 195 days in any school year, of which 190 days shall be days which they may be required to teach pupils in addition to carrying out other duties; and those 195 days will be specified by the head teacher.
- Such a teacher shall be available to perform duties at such times and such places as may be specified by the head teacher for 1265 hours in any school year, those hours to be allocated reasonably throughout those days in the school year on which they are required to be available for work.

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- Such a teacher shall work such additional hours as may be needed to enable them to discharge effectively their professional duties, including, in particular, the marking of pupils' work, the writing of reports on pupils and the preparation of lessons, teaching materials and teaching programmes. The amount of time required for this purpose beyond the 1265 hours and the time outside the 1265 specified hours at which duties shall be performed shall not be defined by the governors but shall depend upon the work needed to discharge the teacher's duties.

A summary of the directed time for teachers as allocated by the Headteacher is detailed in the staff handbook.

The Working Time Regulations 1998

All teachers are subject to the EU Working Time Regulations which are described in paragraph 114 of DfEE Circular No. 12/99.

The duties / responsibilities of this post may vary from time to time according to the changing needs of the Trust services.

Person Specification

Qualifications	ESSENTIAL/ DESIRABLE
Qualified Teacher Status.	E
A Degree	E
Experience	
Teaching of specialist subject across all three key stages.	E
Knowledge and Skills	
Knowledge of the National Curriculum.	E
Understanding of the issues surrounding the safeguarding of children and commitment to child welfare and safety.	E
A good understanding of the importance of literacy and numeracy across the curriculum	E
A good understanding of how to assess pupil progress.	E
A good understanding of how to plan and assess work for vulnerable groups, such as SEN pupils, pupil premium pupils and gifted and talented pupils.	D
Personal Qualities	
Enthusiasm for your specialist subject	E
Ability to lead and manage a team of staff.	E
Ability to manage own workload	E
Ability to communicate positively with children	E
Ability to work supportively and collaboratively within a team.	E
A commitment to own continuing professional development	E
Ability to reflect upon and improve your teaching practice.	E



Working at The Holmesdale School

Benefits

- Discounts with local and national retailers, cinemas and restaurants
- Teachers Pension Scheme – with a generous employer contribution
- Employee Referral Recruitment Incentive
- Access to training and development
- On-site Parking

Well-Being

- Employee Assistance Programme – Wellbeing and advice
- Cycle to Work scheme

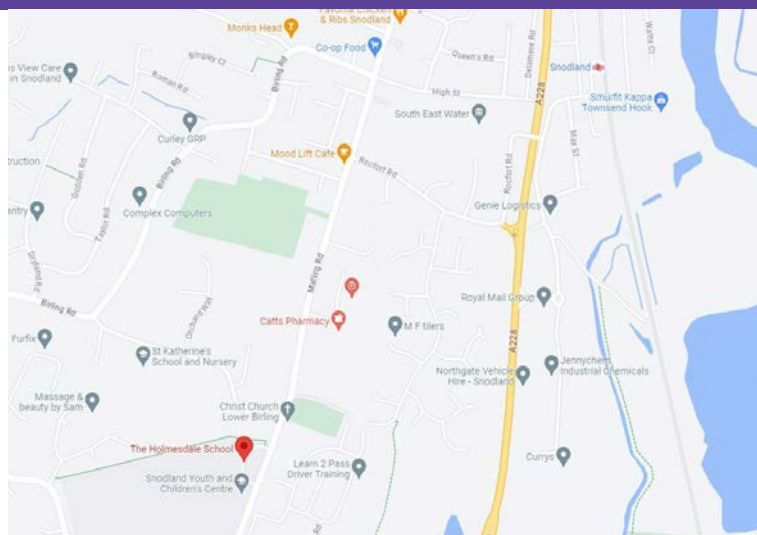
Finding Us

The Holmesdale School
Malling Road, Snodland, Kent ME6 5HS

01634 240416
THS_Office@swale.at

Closest Train Station: Snodland Station
Approx. 18 minute walk

Closest Bus stops:
The Holmesdale School - 71, 149, 151, 549, 575





The Application Process

Applications will only be accepted from candidates completing the appropriate application form. All sections of the form which are applicable to you must be completed as clearly and fully as possible.

Please note CVs will not be accepted in place of a completed application form.

Application forms can be found on the Kent-Teach website and applications should be made via this route. Alternatively, completed [SAT Application Forms](#) can be sent by email to louise.bates@swale.at or by post to the following address:

Louise Bates
The Holmesdale School
Malling Road
Snodland
ME6 5HS

The Shortlisting and Interview Process

After the closing date for this post a panel will conduct the shortlisting process. You will be selected for interview based entirely on the contents of your application form, it is therefore important that you fully read the Job Description and Person Specification prior to completing your form. The Holmesdale School may complete online checks of any candidates as part of the Shortlisting Process.

After the shortlisting process has been completed candidates who have been selected for interview will be informed, and provided with full details of the interview programme. If you have not heard from us within 10 working days of the closing date for this post, you have, on this occasion, unfortunately been unsuccessful.

All candidates who are invited to interview must bring the following original documents:

- Documentary evidence of right to work in the UK
- Visual identification which includes a photograph, usually a passport or driving licence
- Documentary proof of current name and address
- Where appropriate any documentation evidencing change of name
- Certificates of educational or professional qualifications that are necessary or relevant for the post

Conditional Offer

- Any offer of employment will be conditional upon a number of formalities, including, but not restricted to the following:
- Verification of right to work in the UK
- Receipt of two satisfactory references
- Verification of identity checks and qualifications
- Satisfactory enhanced DBS check, as well as additional checks that may be appropriate if you have worked or been resident overseas in the previous five years
- Satisfactory pre-employment health clearance
- A check against the Teacher Service Register for any teaching prohibition or restriction orders where you are applying for a teaching role or if you have previously held a teaching role in past employment.



Safeguarding

Our Trust has robust safer recruitment procedures to help prevent unsuitable people from working with children.

All individuals working in any capacity at our Trust will be subjected to safeguarding checks in line with the statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education.

Retention of information

All information is stored securely and any information supplied by unsuccessful candidates will be destroyed through the confidential waste system after six months from the date of the interview, in accordance with our retention of records procedure.

Privacy Notice

Please refer to the Trust's Privacy Notice for job applicants for information about how we use any personal data about them we hold.

This can be downloaded here: <https://www.swale.at/page/?title=Privacy+Notice&pid=33>

Overview of Swale Academies Trust

Since its creation in September 2010, Swale Academies Trust has developed into one of the South East's leading Multi-Academy Trusts.

Our purpose is to develop good and outstanding schools and ensure the rapid improvement of schools with challenges.

As the Trust has grown and developed, we continue to ensure that effective school support and leadership is maintained. The Trust's approach to school improvement is based on a combination of CPD, capacity building and collaboration, with a relentless focus on teaching and pupil progress, in order to effect rapid and sustained improvements in outcomes for young people.

The Trust is an organisation which is driven by the belief that all children deserve a good quality education where they are seen as individuals and above all are exceptionally well cared for.

Swale Academies Trust - Schools

Primary

- Beaver Green Primary School, Ashford
- Istead Rise Primary School, Istead Rise
- James Dixon Primary School, Bromley
- Langney Primary Academy, Eastbourne
- Parkland Infant School, Eastbourne
- Parkland Junior School, Eastbourne
- Regis Manor Primary School, Sittingbourne
- Shinewater Primary School, Eastbourne
- South Borough Primary School, Maidstone
- Westlands Primary School, Sittingbourne

Secondary

- Meopham Secondary School, Meopham
- Peacehaven Community School, Peacehaven
- The Eastbourne Academy, Eastbourne
- The Holmesdale School, Snodland
- The North School, Ashford
- The Sittingbourne School, Sittingbourne
- The Turing School, Eastbourne
- The Whitstable School, Whitstable
- Westlands Secondary School, Sittingbourne

Central Support Services

- Human Resource Team
- Finance Team
- ICT Team
- Estate Management
- Governance and Communications



Swale ACADEMIES TRUST

