



# WYCHWOOD

SCHOOL • OXFORD

## Teacher of Religious Studies

Part-time

September 2026

Information for Applicants



# Welcome from the Head

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I joined Wychwood in September 2022 and have had the pleasure of working with an incredibly talented, dedicated staff and committed Board of Directors to shape the vision of the school. I am looking forward to being able to implement the future strategy which will have a positive impact on our young people, our staff and the wider community.

Wychwood is one big family which celebrates individuality and nurtures potential for each pupil to make their mark in the world. As you walk onto our site there is a sense of kindness, dynamism and positivity which pervades the classrooms, the boarding areas and every corner of the school. What underpins these qualities is the respect and care which can be seen between staff and pupils as well as within the pupil body itself.

We are more than just a school: we are a close knit friendly community with a big vision and we hope you take the time to look at our website to discover more about us.



*“Wychwood is one big family which celebrates individuality and nurtures potential for each pupil to make their mark in the world”.*

*Mrs Jane Evans*





## About Wychwood

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Wychwood School is a co-educational day and boarding school for pupils aged 11-18 set in the heart of Oxford. It is an academically strong and pastorally outstanding day and boarding school. Wychwood encourages every pupil to be ambitious, aspirational and creative. Challenging and supporting each and every pupil to find creative ways to solve problems, explore and develop their curiosity and providing the opportunity to experience a wide range of activities.

We have a wonderful family atmosphere and spirit where every single member of staff is valued and considered an essential part of our combined aim: to achieve academic excellence through creativity of thought by providing education of the highest quality in a well-rounded and happy environment.

Wychwood focuses on innovation, collaboration, creativity, and leadership to deliver added value to all its pupils, striving to inspire the great minds of tomorrow. The entrepreneurial spirit is cultivated in every pupil as pupils are encouraged to question, innovate, and create, paving the way for breakthrough ideas and game-changing solutions.

Wychwood educates for life; for the real, modern, and contemporary life, whilst fostering a love for lifelong learning.



## Why work at Wychwood?

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Based in the northern sector of Oxford and close to many historical features of the city including the University of Oxford, Wychwood provides more opportunities than most to a rich variety of academic enrichment, material, venues, and speakers. Close transport links to London and all that the capital city offers further adds to the attraction.

Wychwood has a palpable, shared spirit that celebrates individuality. The shared ethos here is such that, as soon as you enter the school, there is a tangible feeling of warmth, care and positive, meaningful engagement. We are a very friendly, collaborative team of diverse and creative people, highly committed to educating individuals in a supportive and nurturing environment. We enjoy meeting and welcoming new members of staff to our team, drawing on the strengths and experience of the whole staff body for the future development of the school.

# Education at Wychwood

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At Wychwood, we enrich the pupils' education through creative approaches to our learning styles and empower the pupils to face challenge 'head on' with confidence. We aspire to instill a sincere love for learning that they will enjoy throughout their lives.

We lay the foundations in the younger years for subject knowledge and understanding with all pupils studying a broad and varied curriculum. As the pupils move through the school creativity, curiosity and resilience flourish as pupils develop as learners.

Active learning is important and pupils are encouraged to do rather than simply read about others doing.

We strongly believe it is the academic progress that each individual makes which is vital and the individual, tailored and personalised education which is offered to each pupil that enables each one to aspire to their dreams and achieve more than they thought possible.

Academic progress is most easily achieved when pupils are happy and feel safe in their environment

To complement our academic approach to learning, we ensure that pupil's personal development opportunities are rich and varied, enabling confidence to be developed and an understanding by each pupil that it is fine to get things wrong. We support them in learning how to keep trying when things are difficult

Resilience is key in education, the pupils will face a fast-changing world outside of Wychwood and they need to be ready to face that change, adapt their plans and be creative in their approach. This, alongside leadership skills development ensures our pupils are ready for the world and the experiences ahead.



## **The Role:** Teacher of Religious Studies

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### **Nature of the Post:**

Wychwood School is seeking a Teacher of Religious Studies who is truly passionate about helping young people navigate the big questions of life, faith and philosophy. We are looking for someone who does not just teach from a textbook, but who can bring world religions and ethics to life, making ancient traditions feel relevant to the modern world our pupils live in today.

As a vital part of our teaching team, you will create a classroom where curiosity is encouraged and every voice is heard with respect. We want an educator who prioritises empathy as much as academic rigor, helping pupils build the confidence to explore different belief systems and think critically about the world around them. Beyond the curriculum, your goal will be to spark a genuine interest in the human experience, guiding our pupils to become thoughtful, open-minded people who appreciate the rich diversity of our global culture.

### **Contract:**

Part-time, permanent. The successful candidate will work according to a fixed weekly timetable.

### **Reporting to:**

Deputy Head

### **Remuneration:**

Wychwood has its own pay scale which compares favourably with other independent schools

### **Other Benefits:**

- Company Pension Scheme
- Cycle to Work Scheme
- Generous fee remission for children of staff members
- Free lunch during your working hours in term-time
- Free parking
- Free use of the sports gym
- Invitations to school productions throughout the year

## Academic Responsibilities

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- To promote a love and appreciation of Religious Studies as an academic discipline,
- To ensure pupils have an appreciation of the value and wonder inherent in Religious Studies.
- To plan, teach, assess and evaluate lessons in Religious Studies in accordance with the requirements of the appropriate specifications.
- To produce, maintain and update schemes of work appropriate to each year group and key stage.
- To select and use appropriate and varied resources, equipment and techniques.
- To set and mark regular written assignments; to keep detailed mark sheets and pupil records.
- To ensure thorough assessment of pupils' progress including the marking of preparation constructively, the giving of positive and supportive feedback and the setting and marking of regular tests and examinations.
- To draw up schemes of work, evaluating and amending them in the light of experience.
- To produce written course information where it is required.
- To encourage pupils to monitor their own progress, whether by individual tutorials or written self-assessment.
- To ensure that school assessments and examinations are reviewed after each examination session to help pupils identify and eradicate errors in knowledge, practice or examination technique.
- To promote active and independent learning by methods specific to the pupil in question.
- To model and encourage the use of a variety of study skills, revision techniques and learning approaches to maximise performance.
- To maintain up-to-date knowledge of developments in education especially in Religious Studies.
- To report termly to parents in writing, completing them by the published deadlines. The reports should be positive, summative and formative.
- To produce written reports for staff on progress on a timely and termly basis.
- To mark and comment on entry papers in a timely and professional manner where appropriate.
- To organise and lead field trips to fulfil public examination requirements and in other year groups to promote interest in Religious Studies.
- To organise and lead pupils' educational visits or attendance at conferences where appropriate.
- To liaise with other teachers and progress tutors about the pupils' progress.

## Professional Responsibilities

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- To attend INSET and other training courses as required e.g. preparation for inspections and personal professional development.
- To attend staff meetings and read the minutes.
- To carry out staff duties such as taking prep and weekend duties.
- To attend parents' meetings for those pupils taught and those meetings where information is required by parents for the next stage of education.
- To supply the examinations officer with all relevant and accurate data to allow public examination and coursework administration pre and post-results to be carried out effectively and efficiently.
- To prepare and support pupils applying for Further Education.
- To share cover for absent colleagues.
- To be part of the progress tutor and form teacher teams as required.
- To observe all Health and Safety requirements in order to maintain a safe environment.
- To be involved in the extra-curricular life of the school.
- To ensure appropriate standards of behaviour of the pupils at all times.
- To attend faculty meetings regularly and to undertake any tasks reasonably required by the Head of Faculty.
- To undertake any other task reasonably requested by the head.

## Person Specification

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- Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) or equivalent recognised teaching qualification.
- A degree (or equivalent) in Theology, Religious Studies or related subject.
- Evidence of ongoing Continuing Professional Development (CPD).
- Thorough understanding of current teaching methods, assessment practices and curriculum development.
- Proven ability to plan, teach and assess challenging and engaging lessons.
- Excellent behaviour management skills to ensure a safe, purposeful and stimulating learning environment.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills to build effective relationships with pupils, parents and staff.
- Reliability, flexibility and a willingness to contribute to the school community.
- Be familiar with requirements such as record keeping, report writing, lesson planning, parents' evening etc.
- The ability to look beyond the day-to-day and plan the long term "next chapter" for the department.
- Experience in mentoring, coaching or managing teachers to improve department standards.
- Analyse pupil performance data to identify trends and implement improvement strategies.
- The ability to differentiate lessons to support both high potential learners, and those with SEND or EAL needs.
- A commitment to the safeguarding and wellbeing of all pupils.

Wychwood is committed to a diverse and inclusive workplace. We are an equal opportunity employer and do not discriminate on the basis of race, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, age, or any other legally protected status.

We are committed to providing an accessible environment for all candidates. If you require adjustments due to a disability or neurodiversity (such as alternative interview formats or sensory considerations), please let us know.

### To Apply

Please complete an application form by clicking **[Apply Now](#)**.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Head's Executive Assistant, Claire Pursey, on **01865 557976** or **[c.pursey@wychwoodschool.org](mailto:c.pursey@wychwoodschool.org)**



# WYCHWOOD

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*It is the duty of independent schools and in particular boarding schools to promote and safeguard the welfare of children in their care. Wychwood School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers, the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), and online and open social media checks. At Wychwood we are aware that pupils may suffer physical, sexual, domestic, emotional or other forms of abuse either at home or away from the school, or within school itself. There are clearly laid down and recognised policies and procedures for dealing with abuse which are available to see on request. The school follows the DfE statutory guidance given in the latest version of Keeping Children Safe in Education.*