

Bedford High School

A Specialist Business and Enterprise College



Work Hard – Be Respectful – Take Responsibility

Teacher of Humanities

Vacancy Information booklet



Teacher of Humanities at Bedford High School

We are looking to appoint a well-qualified, talented, and energetic teacher of Humanities starting September 2026 – this role would be ideal for any candidate who has a specialism in Geography, History or PSHE.

History

At Bedford, our vision for the History department is to have every student leave us with the knowledge and skills they need to have a deep appreciation of world history. We want to enable students to gain a deeper understanding of the world in which they live and the developments over the course of history that have created that world. We teach a 3 years KS3 curriculum that covers events from the Norman Conquest of 1066 through to modern day, post-World War II events, covering a range of topics to give students a broad understanding of the historical context of the world in which they live.

At GCSE we follow the Edexcel History syllabus and cover Medicine Through Time, Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, the American West, and Weimar and Nazi Germany. We look to provide students with an understanding of the big picture of history with a more detailed focus on key events in national and international history covered over KS3 and 4.

We encourage pupils to think critically about the information they are presented with daily, considering the importance of understanding the provenance of the sources they are presented with as we believe this is an essential skill for them to possess in the modern world. Above all we aim to foster within our students a love of the subject that prompts a desire to explore the topics we study and to allow pupils to further explore history independently. We are looking to appoint a member of staff who shares these values and who is dedicated to ensuring that students get the best learning experience possible in History.

Geography

Our department vision is that every student should leave Bedford as competent geographers. Within this they will become 'global citizens' where they are proactive in their part in making the world a more sustainable place, and contribute to this in a positive way regardless of aptitude or socio-economic background. Students will embed skills that enable them to be critical thinkers to analyse data, adapt to varying situations and implement them in a positive way.

At Bedford High School, KS3 students have Geography lessons twice a week whilst Key Stage 4 students have Geography lessons five-times a fortnight. At GCSE, we study the AQA syllabus.

The Geography department at Bedford High School is an energetic and collaborative department consisting of a team of four enthusiastic and dedicated Geographers. We

collaborate on planning and good practice so that we can share ideas and resources. Our KS3 curriculum is well sequenced and planned, enabling us to fulfil all of the requirements of the National Curriculum, whilst delivering additional content that we feel passionate about. This means we play to the strengths of the teachers in the department, this ensures we have consistency in all Geography lessons. We then can spend more time on delivering Quality First Teaching, and spend less time on preparing resources.

We have also introduced some experiences outside of the classroom. In recent years, we have introduced KS3 trips to Chester as part of a wider Humanities focus. Here students collected primary data to gain essential Geography fieldwork techniques. We also run regular fieldwork trips at KS4 to Formby to conduct sand dune investigations. We have also had trips to Bowness in the Lake District studying the effects of tourism. We have also provided enrichment within school in recent years setting up an eco-club that raises awareness of environmental issues around school.

PSHE

In PSHE curriculum at Bedford, we aim to equip students with the knowledge, value and skills to flourish as global citizens in a diverse and changing world. Our blended curriculum is designed to enhance the social, emotional, cultural and spiritual development of our students. Our goal is to give our students a range of voices and perspectives to understand the world they live in.

Through our units of study, we strive to provide students with the knowledge to question and evaluate information and misinformation, and to communicate successfully and thoroughly their views based on this. In RE, students will explore a range of religious beliefs, as well as ethical and moral dilemmas, and be able to form robust and equitable opinions that will enable them to thrive in a multicultural world. In PSHE, students will learn to safeguard their own wellbeing, establish healthy and safe relationships, and encounter practical and real-world scenarios to best equip them to become positive and thriving members of society.

Dear Colleague

Thank you for your interest in working at Bedford High School.

We are dedicated to offering our students a high-quality education in a well ordered and purposeful school environment. We relentlessly strive to help all students to reach their potential, equipping them with the character, skills and knowledge to flourish in life. We expect students to work hard, be respectful and take personal responsibility for their choices and actions

Students achievement is higher than the local authority average and our GCSE results are improving year on year. We are proud of what we have achieved to date, and this is largely due to the quality of our school workforce. We invest heavily into the professional growth of our staff and very few colleagues want to leave.

The successful candidate will be well supported at this school.

If you feel you have the necessary skills and qualities to undertake this role, we will be delighted to receive your application. Please complete the application form (we do not accept CV's) which is available on our website at www.bedfordhighschool.co.uk. Please return completed application forms to recruitment@bedford.wigan.sch.uk or by post to Mrs Claire Taylor, HR Manager at the school address.

I very much look forward to receiving your application.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. McCaffery', written in a cursive style.

Mr P McCaffery
Headteacher

Our School

Bedford High School was established in 1976 when it was formed by merging Leigh Boys' Grammar School and Manchester Road Secondary Modern School, which were located next to each other. The former grammar school buildings now form the U Block and the secondary modern buildings form the L Block.

Our School Values

Work Hard, Be Respectful, Take Responsibility.

Our School Vision

We relentlessly strive to help our students to discover, develop and demonstrate their potential. This is our core purpose. Our aim is for every 16-year-old student to leave us as a rounded individual, who feels excited about the opportunities the world has to offer and is equipped with the qualities, virtues, skills and knowledge to be happy and excel in life.

At Bedford High School we put staff first by developing, nurturing and retaining a high-quality workforce, where there is a high-quality teacher in every classroom delivering high quality lessons every hour, every day. There are many opportunities for staff across all departments to make an invaluable contribution to the success of the school, getting involved in different aspects of school life.

Staff Wellbeing

Our fabulous surroundings provide an excellent working environment, which in turn can have a positive impact on our employees' well-being. However, this isn't the only benefit to working with us.

- Membership to Greater Manchester Pension Fund or Teachers' Pension fund
- Employee Assistant Programme confidential advice and support service available by telephone, website and App supporting you and immediate family members 24/7 with legal information for issues that can cause anxiety and distress including debt management, consumer, property or neighbour disputes, bereavement support, medical information, online CBT and counselling sessions along with a Wellbeing portal which offers a virtual library of wellbeing information
- Committed Wellbeing Team with fully trained Mental Wellbeing First Aiders
- Cycle to work scheme
- Family friendly policies
- Staff rewards and recognition
- Dedicated off site wellbeing hour for all staff
- Gym facilities
- Continued professional development

All the wellbeing initiatives make for a good work life balance and make you feel appreciated in the work place.

Feedback from our staff wellbeing survey tell us that our staff...

There are many, many things that this school does better than many others that I have worked in.

I'm very happy here and feel respected and looked after.

Bedford is a great place to work.

Since arriving at Bedford I have found the staff to be friendly, welcoming, supportive and are a credit to the school.

Job Description

Role Title:	Teacher of Humanities
Job purpose:	<p>Under the reasonable direction of the Headteacher, carry out the professional duties of a school teacher as set out in the current School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document (STPCD).</p> <p>Implement and deliver an appropriately broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum for students and support a designated curriculum area as appropriate.</p> <p>Monitor and support the overall progress and development of students as a teacher/ Form Tutor</p> <p>Facilitate and encourage a learning experience which provides students with the opportunity to achieve their individual potential.</p> <p>Contribute to raising standards of student attainment.</p> <p>Share and support the school's responsibility to provide and monitor opportunities for personal and academic growth.</p>
Reporting to:	Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, Faculty Lead
Responsible for staff:	None
Liaising with:	Headteacher, Senior Leadership Team, Governors, other members of staff teaching and support staff, LA, parents/guardians, external agencies
Grade of post/salary:	Teachers main pay scale
Hours:	Teachers full time hours
Contract:	Permanent
Disclosure level:	<p>All offers of employment are conditional subject to an enhanced disclosure with child barred list, appropriate overseas checks, medical clearance, relevant qualification certificates and references satisfactory to the school. In line with recommendations from Keeping Children Safe in Education Guidance we will carry out an online search as part of our due diligence for all shortlisted candidates, you will be required to complete a self-declaration of any criminal records or information that would make you unsuitable to work with children. At Bedford High School safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment and to adhere to the school's safeguarding policies and procedures.</p> <p>This post involves working with children, young people or vulnerable adults and is therefore exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act.</p>
Base:	Bedford High School
Date:	March 2026

TEACHING

- Teach, students according to their educational needs, including the setting and marking of work to be carried out by the student in school and elsewhere.
- Assess, record and report on the attendance, progress, development and attainment of students and to keep such records as are required.

- Provide, or contribute to, oral and written assessments, reports and references relating to individual students and groups of students.
- Ensure that ICT, Literacy, Numeracy and school subject specialism(s) are reflected in the teaching/learning experience of students
- Undertake a designated programme of teaching.
- Ensure a high quality learning experience for students which meets internal and external quality standards.
- Prepare and update subject materials.
- Use a variety of delivery methods which will stimulate learning appropriate to student needs and demands of the syllabus.
- Maintain discipline in accordance with the school's procedures, and to encourage good practice with regard to punctuality, behaviour, standards of work and homework.
- Undertake assessment of students as requested by external examination bodies, departmental and school procedures.
- Mark, grade and give written/verbal and diagnostic feedback as required.

STRATEGIC/ OPERATIONAL PLANNING

- Assist in the development of appropriate syllabuses, resources, schemes of work, marking policies and teaching strategies in the curriculum area and department.
- Contribute to the curriculum area and department's development plan and its implementation.
- Plan and prepare courses and lessons.
- Contribute to the whole school's planning activities.
- Contribute to extra-curricular provision, assisting with or running clubs throughout the year.
- Contribute to and support all shows and performances throughout the year.

CURRICULUM PROVISION

- Assist the Head of Department, the Deputy Head Teaching & Learning, to ensure that the curriculum area provides a range of teaching which complements the school's strategic objectives.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

- Assist in the process of curriculum development and change so as to ensure the continued relevance to the needs of students, examining and awarding bodies and the school's mission and strategic objectives.

STAFFING

- Take part in the school's staff development programme by participating in arrangements for further training and professional development.
- Continue own professional development in the relevant areas including subject knowledge and teaching methods.
- Engage actively in the performance management review process.
- Ensure the effective/efficient deployment of classroom support
- Work as a member of a designated team and to contribute positively to effective working relations within the school.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

- Help to implement school quality procedures and to adhere to those.

- Contribute to the process of monitoring and evaluation of the curriculum area/department in line with agreed school procedures, including evaluation against quality standards and performance criteria. To seek/implement modification and improvement where required.
- Review from time to time methods of teaching and programmes of work.
- Take part, as may be required, in the review, development and management of activities relating to the curriculum, organisation and pastoral functions of the school.

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

- Maintain appropriate records and to provide relevant accurate and up-to-date information for SIMS, registers, etc.
- Complete the relevant documentation to assist in the tracking of students.
- Track student progress and use information to inform teaching and learning.

COMMUNICATIONS AND LIAISON

- Communicate effectively with the parents of students as appropriate.
- Where appropriate, communicate and co-operate with persons or bodies outside the school.
- Follow agreed policies for communications in the school.
- Take part in liaison activities such as parents' evenings, review days and liaison events with partner schools.
- Contribute to the development of effective subject links with external agencies.

MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES

- Contribute to the process of the ordering and allocation of equipment and materials.
- Assist the Head of Department to identify resource needs and to contribute to the efficient/effective use of physical resources.
- Co-operate with other staff to ensure a sharing and effective usage of resources to the benefit of the school, department and the students.

PASTORAL SYSTEM

- Be a Form Tutor to an assigned group of students.
- Promote the general progress and well-being of individual students and of the Form Tutor Group as a whole.
- Liaise with a Pastoral Leader to ensure the implementation of the school's pastoral system.
- Register students, accompany them to assemblies, encourage their full attendance at all lessons and their participation in other aspects of school life.
- Evaluate and monitor the progress of students and keep up-to-date student records as may be required.
- Contribute to the preparation of action plans and progress files and other reports.
- Alert the appropriate staff to problems experienced by students and to make recommendations as to how these may be resolved.
- Communicate as appropriate, with the parents of students and with persons or bodies outside the school concerned with the welfare of individual students, after consultation with the appropriate staff.
- Contribute to PSHCE and citizenship and enterprise according to school policy
- Apply the behaviour management systems so that effective learning can take place.

SCHOOL ETHOS

- Play a full part in the life of the school community, supporting its distinctive mission and ethos and encouraging staff and students to follow this example.
- Support the school in meeting its legal requirements for worship.

- Promote actively the school's corporate policies.
- Comply with the school's health and safety policy and undertake risk assessments as appropriate.

Health and Safety

- To coordinate a healthy and safe working environment in school and on activities and trips;
- Appropriate supervision levels and ensure that they are adhered to;
- High standards of behaviour and discipline within the area on a day to day basis

Additionally

- To perform the duties and responsibilities in keeping with the 'Professional Standards for Teachers'.
- To ensure that children are safeguarded at all times.
- To perform any such duties as deemed reasonable and appropriate at the request of the Headteacher.

Whilst every effort has been made to explain the duties and responsibilities of the post each individual task undertaken may not be identified.

Employees are expected to comply with any reasonable request from the Headteacher to undertake work of a similar level that is not specified in this job description.

The school will endeavour to make any necessary reasonable adjustments to the job and the working environment to enable access to employment opportunities for disabled job applicants or continued employment for any employee who develops a disabling condition.

This job description is current at the date above but will be reviewed on an annual basis and, following consultation with you, may be changed to reflect or anticipate changes in the job requirements which are commensurate with the job title and grade.

All staff at Bedford High School, teaching and support, have a crucial role to play in setting standards. Through a professional, caring and sensitive approach based on mutual respect, we achieve a great deal.

Person Specification

Role Title:	Teacher of Humanities
Salary:	Teachers main pay scale
Reports to:	Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, Faculty Lead
Date:	March 2026

Attribute	Essential/Desirable		Assessed by...				
	Essential	Desirable	Application Form	Letter	Reference	Lesson Observation	Interview
Qualified Teacher Status	✓		✓				
Degree	✓		✓				
Recent participation in a range of relevant INSET	✓		✓				
Successful experience of teaching in a UK secondary school	✓		✓				
Contribute to the whole school's planning activities.	✓						
Contribute to extra-curricular provision, assisting with or running clubs throughout the year.	✓						
Contribute to and support all shows and performances throughout the year.	✓						
A clear vision of the place of the department in the curriculum of an Enterprise College	✓			✓			
Knowledge and understanding of current developments in the subject area	✓			✓			
Evidence of high-quality classroom practice	✓				✓	✓	
A clear understanding of the issues surrounding the teaching, learning and assessment of KS3 & KS4 in the subject area	✓			✓			✓
To be competent in a range of ICT applications	✓						
Commitment to support and develop the values of Bedford High School, its pupils and staff	✓			✓			
Commitment to promoting the equality and diversity agenda within an inclusive School	✓			✓			
Commitment to ensuring the highest standards of safeguarding are implemented within the school	✓			✓			
Ability to exercise sound management of pupils in an inclusive school context	✓			✓		✓	

Attribute	Essential	Desirable	Application Form	Letter	Reference	Lesson Observation	Interview
A willingness to support the schools aim of strengthening links with the community		✓					✓
The ability to build and maintain effective relationships, communications and relate well to students and adults	✓					✓	✓
The ability to develop effective teamwork	✓						✓
The ability to work under supervision	✓					✓	
The ability to anticipate and solve problems creatively	✓			✓			✓
Attribute	Essential	Desirable	Application Form	Letter	Reference	Lesson Observation	Interview
The ability to demonstrate loyalty and confidentiality	✓				✓		
The ability to prioritise and manage time effectively	✓				✓		
The willingness to be generous in time and spirit	✓			✓			✓
A sense of humour and a positive outlook	✓			✓			
Energy, enthusiasm and flexibility	✓			✓			
A determination to succeed	✓			✓			
Ability to work in accordance with all of the school's policies	✓			✓			
A committed lifelong learner willing to undertake further training to suit the needs of the role	✓			✓	✓		
Professional appearance and conduct	✓						
Letter/application form are fully completed and error-free	✓		✓	✓			
Strong support/positive recommendation from referees	✓				✓		
Legally entitled to work in the UK	✓		✓				✓

What to expect

If you feel you have the necessary skills and qualities to undertake this role, we will be delighted to receive your application form. Please complete the application form, we do not accept CV's and return to Mrs Claire Taylor, HR Manager at the school address or by email to recruitment@bedford.wigan.sch.uk.

It is important that you tell us about your skills and experience relevant to the role. Please ensure you answer all the questions on the application form and explain any gaps in employment or educational history, as the information you provide will be used in our shortlisting process.

Once we have received your application it will be reviewed and evaluated. If we feel that you may be suitable for the vacancy that you have applied for you may be invited to attend an interview, the format of which will be confirmed as part of the invitation.

Due to the high volume of applications we receive, if you do not hear from us within 4 weeks of the closing date then on this particular occasion your application will have been unsuccessful. We are not able to provide feedback on applications that have not been shortlisted for interview.

Should you wish to visit school please email us at recruitment@bedford.wigan.sch.uk and we will arrange a suitable time.

For more information on our school and to take our virtual tour please visit our website www.bedfordhighschool.co.uk

The interview process

Deadline for applications: Wednesday 22nd April at 9am

Interviews: Date to be confirmed, but will be held early for the right candidate. Early applications are encouraged and we reserve the right to close the vacancy early and interview before the closing date if a suitable candidate is found.

Start date: September 2026.

Due to the nature of different roles within Bedford High School, we operate two separate streams for selecting the very best candidates.

For support staff positions the interview process will consist of a formal interview with senior staff members, written and/or verbal tasks and tour of school.

For teaching positions, the interview process will consist of teaching an observed lesson, interacting with students, a formal interview with students, formal interview with senior staff members and tour of school.

All interviews at Bedford High School involve a member of staff appropriately trained in Safer Recruitment.

If you are successful in securing a position at Bedford High School, you will receive your conditional offer letter and relevant documents and information about the new starter process from our Human Resources team. All offers of employment are conditional upon all pre-employment checks satisfactory to the school. A start date will be confirmed in writing on completion of our safer recruitment process.

Our commitment to safeguarding

All offers of employment are conditional subject to all satisfactory pre-employment checks which include an enhanced criminal record with child barred list through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), appropriate overseas checks, medical clearance, references and verification of your qualifications satisfactory to the school. When completing application forms all candidates must provide a full employment history and any gaps to be clearly identified. At Bedford High School safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment and adhere to the school's child protection policies and procedures. All candidates must be legally entitled to work in the UK and comply with the Immigrations, Asylum and Nationality Act regulations. Applications from all sections of the community are welcome.

This post involves working with children, young people or vulnerable adults and is therefore Exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act.

Shortlisted candidates will be notified by email of the interview arrangements. Please ensure your correct email address is provided on your application form.

In line with recommendations from Keeping Children Safe in Education Guidance we will carry out an online search as part of our due diligence for all shortlisted candidates. Shortlisted candidates are also required to complete a self-declaration of any criminal records or information that would make you unsuitable to work with children.

As we receive many applications for posts, we regret that we will only be able to contact those applicants who are shortlisted for interview. Therefore, if you have not heard from us within four weeks of the closing date, please assume you have not been shortlisted for interview on this particular occasion.

We would like to thank you for your time and interest in working in our school.