

TEACHER of GEOGRAPHY

Permanent Contract

Required for: September 2022

Candidate Information



“The central aim of Dene Magna is that every learner shall achieve their maximum potential and enjoy the process”



Part of the Forest of Dean Trust (April 2020)



Dear Candidate

Re: Teacher of Geography

Firstly, can I take this opportunity to thank you for taking an interest in teaching Geography at Dene Magna School. This vacancy has arisen because a member of the Geography Department is relocating to sunny Devon and whilst we are very sorry to be saying goodbye to them, it enables us to present this exciting opportunity to you!

Hopefully, in reading the supporting information, you will see a little of why we are all so proud of our school. Having been the Headteacher here for 12 years, my love for Dene Magna keeps growing. It is a unique place with a team of great staff and superb students, who work together to push us all on to be the best we can be.

Dene Magna School is a successful, oversubscribed and high achieving 11-18 School and is the founding member of the Forest of Dean Trust, which also includes Drybrook Primary School. We are located in the most beautiful setting and we are an easy commute from Cheltenham, Gloucester, Hereford, Bristol and surrounding cities.

Dene Magna is a perfect place to study Geography. The Forest of Dean is a superb Geography classroom and there is a great opportunity for the right candidate to continue to bring the subject alive for our highly committed and likeable students. Each student at Dene Magna is hungry to learn and come to a greater understanding of the world around them as they seek to meet our central challenge of discovering the wider world and cherishing their wonderful locality. We are looking for someone who is committed to creating the best experiences and opportunities for each and everyone of our students.

At Dene Magna we are rightly proud of our broad and balanced curriculum. Geography is given a high profile role in achieving this aim with ample time given to the subject at KS3 and a strong and growing GCSE and A-Level cohort. You will be joining a forward thinking school and a great team which is led by Sam Buckley.

Dene Magna School has an excellent reputation for developing teachers and we place quality teaching and learning at the heart of everything we do. This means that regardless of the stage you are at in your teaching career our talent pathways will continue to develop you. Our induction programme is clear and well structured and you will be given the opportunity to see lots of us teach as you get to know what makes our students tick.

We are looking for a Dene Magna person, who is reflective, passionate about young people and open to learning with others and those around them, along with the ability to inspire, motivate and lead a team of staff. You will be welcomed, nurtured and supported in your role so, if you feel this is you, then please get in touch or pay us a visit to discuss this more.

This is an opportunity not to be missed and we can't wait to hear from you.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Brady
Chief Executive Officer of the Forest of Dean Trust
Headteacher of Dene Magna School

INTRODUCTION TO THE GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

This is a fantastic opportunity a passionate teacher of Geography who aspires to develop their pedagogy to the highest level.

The successful candidate will have the skills and subject knowledge to teach across all year groups, with a commitment that students are captivated by the subject to ensure that they make great progress and thoroughly enjoy their lessons.

At KS3 we offer a broad and balanced curriculum which underpins the requirements of the National Curriculum. We deliver a range of exciting and diverse topics that combines both traditional and contemporary geographies such as Plate Tectonics and Conflict in one hour lessons three times a fortnight. The schemes of work offer a range of engaging and thought provoking activities to inspire a love of the subject. Lessons and schemes of work are planned to provide students with substantive knowledge of geography and equip them with the tools to commit this to their long-term memories. At KS4 this inspiration and deep and powerful knowledge underpins our recent move to the AQA specification for Geography. Students at KS4 are taught in five one hour lessons across a fortnight in fully equipped subject specific classrooms. These classrooms all benefit from a range of subject specific resources and the use of interactive whiteboards.

Geography at KS5 is growing in popularity at Dene Magna. We teach the OCR specification which allows the department the flexibility to select topics, in addition to the core topics, thereby allowing for a range of engaging topics suited to each staff member's specialisms. Lessons at KS5 are delivered at the new 6th Form campus which is 10 minutes away from the school. The classrooms benefit from the latest in interactive board technology and Chromebook, in addition to essential departmental resources.

The geography department offers a range of fieldwork opportunities beyond the requirements of the GCSE and A Level specification in order to allow students to see geography come alive in real life. For example in year 8, students undertake a rivers study fieldwork in the wonderful Forest of Dean which is literally on our doorstep. At KS4 and KS5 we offer a variety of different fieldwork opportunities within the Forest of Dean, Gloucester and beyond. As a department we are looking to strength and broaden our fieldwork opportunities at all key stages. You will be given the opportunity to help develop this.

The Department is incredibly proud of its past achievements but is constantly looking to the future. The successful candidate will need to be a team player with enthusiasm for both geography education and teaching and learning, high levels of subject expertise, determination to succeed and a sense of humour.

This is a fantastic opportunity for you as well as the students and school and we look forward to meeting you.

OUR GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

Sam Buckley (Head of Department)
Sam joined us in September 2021

Abi Bingham
Abi has been teaching Geography with us since 2017

Lily Edmonds
Teacher of Geography (outgoing)
Lily joined us in 2021

THE REST OF OUR HUMANITIES TEAM

Gareth Evans:	Religious Education.
Charlotte Lee:	Religious Education and Sociology.
Lynne Adam:	Head of History.
Adam Harrington:	History, Politics and PP Lead.
Jon Walters:	History and Assistant Headteacher.
Chloe Eldridge:	History Teacher

JOB DESCRIPTION

Title: Teacher of Geography
Contract: Permanent: Full time
Salary: MPS/UPS

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

- Responsible for the planning & delivery of high quality lessons
- Use data effectively to plan lessons and monitor student progress
- Contribute to the development of effective teaching and learning styles/strategies within your department
- To ensure all students in your teaching groups are challenged, for example those with special needs, gifted and talented and those in receipt of Pupil Premium
- To contribute to and develop schemes of work as directed by HOD
- Work alongside your department to develop effective school improvement plans
- To support the whole school initiatives including Literacy, Numeracy & PSHE
- Set ILT (homework) in accordance with school policy
- Provide regular written feedback to students regarding their progress
- Have effective strategies in place to ensure students meet targets and achieve in line with their abilities.
- Ensure you work in accordance with the Health and Safety policies and practices, including risk assessments
- To promote team work and a positive spirit within the department
- To embrace all CPD programmes already at Dene Magna (Reflective Practitioner Programme, Coaching and Lesson Study)
- To keep up to date with new initiatives and national developments in your subject.

OTHER SPECIFIC DUTIES

- To engage with and continue personal development
- To be a form tutor
- To engage in the performance review process
- To undertake any other duty as specified by HOD not mentioned in the above
- Whilst every effort has been made to explain the main duties and responsibilities of the post, each individual task undertaken may not be identified
- Employees will be 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
- Employees are expected to be courteous to colleagues and provide a welcoming environment to visitors and telephone callers
- 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 application or continued employment for any employee who develops a disabling condition
- To represent Dene Magna in a professional manner
- Adhere to Dene Magna policies.

ACCOUNTABILITY

- Work to fulfil requirements of Teachers' Standards (QTS, main scale or UPS)
- Regularly analyse and interpret data on the progress of your students in this subject and take appropriate actions in the light of analysis
- Act as a role model for young people; inspiring them
- Ensure that all groups of students, including those in receipt of pupil premium, make outstanding progress
- Evaluate your own lessons to ensure they focus on effective and consistent high quality teaching and learning
- Attend training where needed
- Observe teaching and work with colleagues to develop the very best lessons
- Promote independent learning within your lessons.

SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION

As a school we are committed to safety awareness and we undertake the following procedures:

We have DSL at enhanced level and will require a List 99 clearance, an enhanced DBS check and the prohibition register will be checked for all staff. Our Child Protection Policy can be found on our website under Policies.

JOB DESCRIPTION (continued)

As a Trust we provide:

1. Competitive salary and clarity in the performance management process.
2. The opportunity to take on short or long term roles within the Trust that help us in our journey.
3. The ability to work with teachers and children from other countries as part of Dene Magna's International School offer.
4. Dene Magna's Reflective Practitioner Programme.
5. Comprehensive new staff induction.
6. Full support for CPD and a career mapping tool to facilitate this.
7. Free onsite parking.
8. On site canteen.
9. Free use of the onsite Gym at Dene Magna.
10. A 'Secret Buddy' system to allow us to keep an eye on one another and appreciate the things we do that others might miss.
11. A Duvet Day for staff who have been with us for more than one term.
12. A termly prize draw for staff.

This information is not necessarily a comprehensive definition of the post. It will be reviewed at least once a year and may be subject to modification or amendment at anytime after consultation with the holder of the post.

The duties may be varied to meet the changing demands of the Trust at the reasonable discretion of the Trustees.

This information does not form part of the contract of employment. It describes the way the post holder is expected and required to perform and complete the particular duties.



Safeguarding Information

Dene Magna School and the Forest of Dean Trust are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and would expect all staff to share this commitment. The school believes in equal opportunities and encourages all staff and children to be treated similarly, unhampered by artificial barriers or prejudices or preferences.

As a Trust we are committed to safety awareness and we undertake the following procedures:

We have DSL's trained to an enhanced level. All staff will require an enhanced DBS check, section 128 check and the prohibition register will be checked. We also have staff trained in Safer recruitment.

Our Child Protection Policy can be found on our website under Policies.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

The successful candidate will possess all or most of the following attributes:

QUALIFICATIONS	
• A good honours degree	E
• Qualified teacher status	E
EXPERIENCE	
• Experience of teaching 11-18	D
• Feedback confirming reflective practice and development toward excellent teaching	E
• A track record demonstrating a commitment to high standards, continuous improvement and quality assurance	E
• A track record of effectively leading/motivating students and developing team approaches	D
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	
• Evidence of commitment to own professional development	E
• Evidence of keeping up to date with educational thinking and knowledge	E
• A strong commitment to the quality professional development of staff	E
• A potential to develop leadership and management skills in the future	D
KNOWLEDGE	
• Knowledge of the Geography curriculum at KS3-5	E
• A good understanding of the use of target setting and tracking data	D
• An understanding of the use and potential of ICT to develop learning	E
PRACTICAL AND INTELLECTUAL SKILLS	
• A commitment to placing teaching and learning at the heart of your work	E
• A commitment to promoting the ethos of Dene Magna with accent on high achievement for all	E
• Ability to empathise with the needs of students and to be firm but fair and effective	E
• Ability to prioritise and manage time effectively	E
• An effective communicator and motivator of students	E
• A team player with the ability to establish good working relationships with staff, students and parents	E
• The ability to set clear expectations and parameters and to hold other accountable for their performance	E
• The ability to challenge underperformance	E
• A commitment to safeguarding the needs of young people	E
PERSONAL QUALITIES	
• A commitment to ensure each student maximises their potential and enjoys the process	E
• A positive role model to students	E
• A sense of humour	E
• An ability to communicate and work with a range of adults	E
• Hardworking and a team player	E
• A reflective practitioner who wants to continue learning	E

D = desirable E = essential



HOW DO I APPLY?

The next step for you in joining us on this exciting journey is to complete the application form and send this along with a detailed covering letter explaining why your skills and experience would make you the perfect candidate to teach outstanding Geography lessons at Dene Magna School.

If you have any questions or would like to take the opportunity to come and visit us prior to you submitting your application please contact us at vacancies@FODT.co.uk or Tricia Lloyd on 01594 546030.

We can't wait to hear from you!

Deadline for applications is: 6 June 2022, 2PM,

Interviews will be held w/c: ASAP

OVERVIEW OF OUR RESULTS

The successful candidate will work in an outstanding and supportive Humanities department, teaching Geography to KS3, KS4 and KS5 classes.

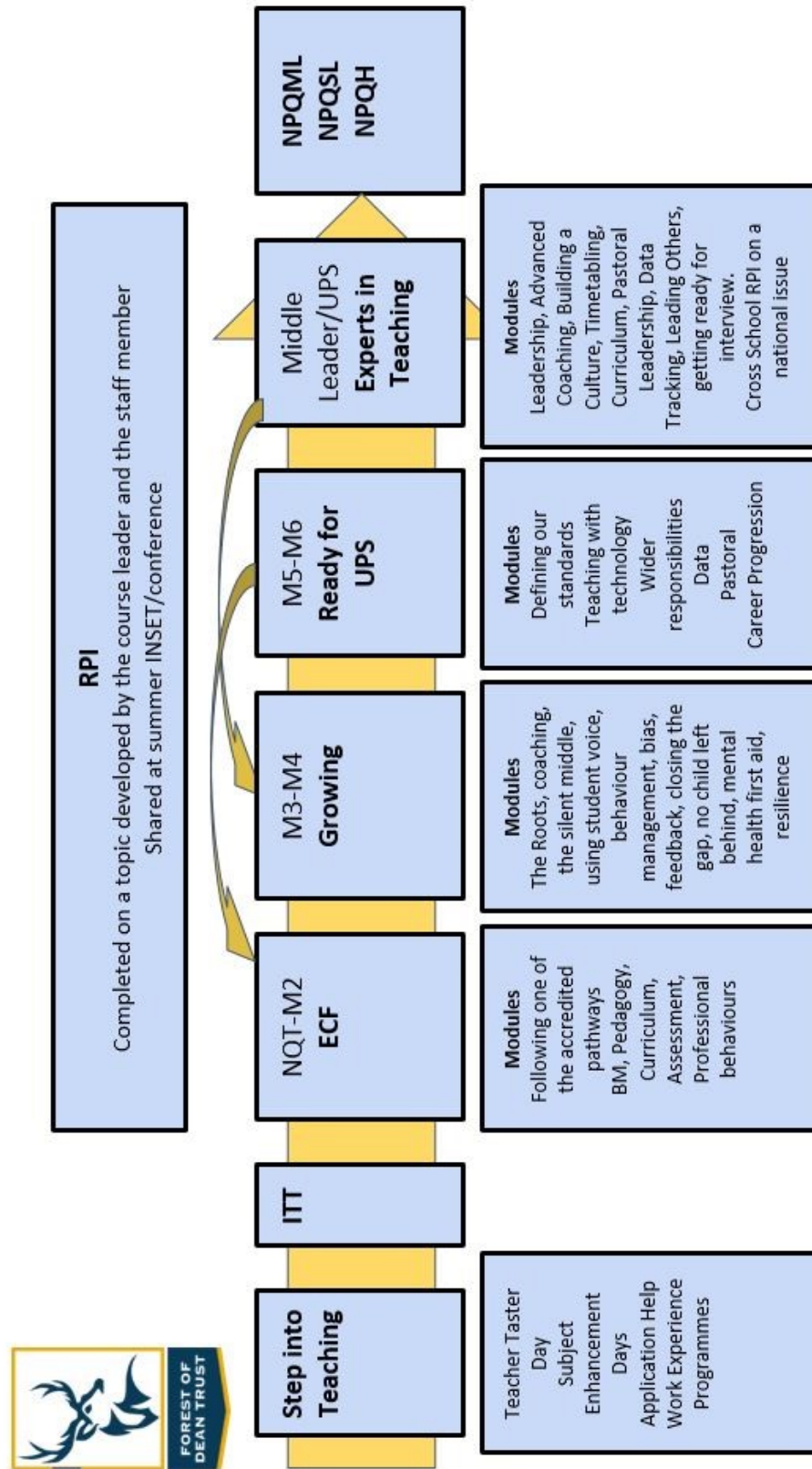
Geography is a popular and high achieving subject in which students make the highest levels of progress, which is demonstrated by our GCSE results over the last 3 years!

Exam data overall:

GCSE Geography	No of Students	% 7-9	% 5-9	% 4-9
2019	79	8%	42%	63%
2020	64	16%	47%	73%
2021	70	14%	53%	63%

Geography A Level	No	% A*-A	% A*-B	% A*-C
2021	5	20%	60%	60%

HOW WE SUPPORT YOUR GROWTH





OUR VISION, VALUES AND ETHOS

We work with our community and know that raising aspirations and supporting the pursuit of dreams is not straightforward. We listen, challenge and support and we know that everybody experiences a different journey. There is a genuine partnership between students, staff and parents/carers to support the pursuit of our vision. We have a relentless focus on excellent teaching and learning and, alongside our house system and a healthy dose of fun, we know that our community continues to thrive.

Our school is founded upon the collective pursuit of our leading aim and our students know what that leading aim is. We know that life throws us many challenges and we aim to work in partnership so that we can learn about what lies ahead and prepare ourselves for our role in not just modern Britain, but the world. Progress is rarely linear, in life and school, and we are passionate that our broad and balanced curriculum complements our pastoral care and pedagogy.

Dene Magna is built upon excellent relationships, honest conversations and unwavering support to get the best out of each other. Staff work together to improve their teaching, students are actively involved in leadership across the school and parents are listened to and supported in our shared journey.

The modern world is a complex place and we seek to equip our students with the skills to thrive and to make a difference. We acknowledge that teenage years are a minefield to navigate and we support parents/carers in their journey, but we relish the opportunity we have been given to influence the lives of young people in the Forest of Dean.

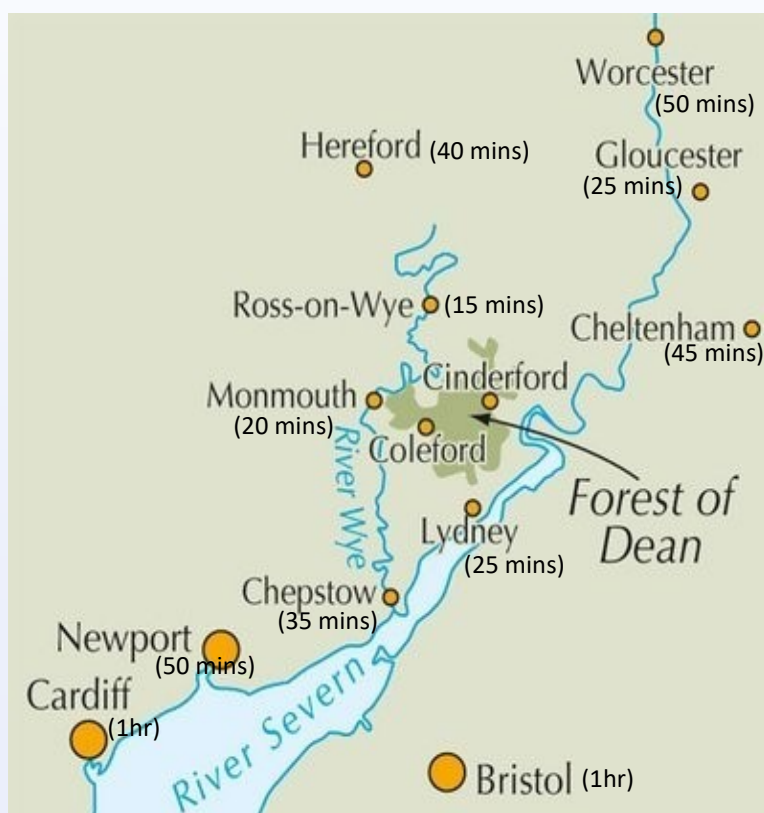
If you visit Dene Magna you will see that there is a simple, common-sense approach to working with young people that is founded on giving and getting respect. Our staff love their jobs and we work hard to instil that love of our school into our students and the wider community. We are very serious about our role within the community and we are an active presence within it.



ALL THROUGH JOURNEY...

Being part of the Forest of Dean Trust means children have not only excellent provision for their early years but also a seamless transition to secondary school at Dene Magna School and further education at Dene Magna's Sixth Form.

TRAVELLING TIMES TO GET TO US (approximate).



DENE MAGNA SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

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Gloucestershire GL17 0DU

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