

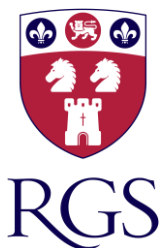
KEY STAGE 2 CLASS TEACHER

Full Time – Fixed Term Maternity Cover

JOB INFORMATION



RGS



KEY STAGE 2 CLASS TEACHER (Fixed Term- Maternity Cover)

Newcastle upon Tyne Royal Grammar School
Required from November 2023 until May Half term 2024



THE POSITION

For maternity cover, we seek to appoint, from November 2023, an inspiring and committed teacher to our busy and exciting Junior School.

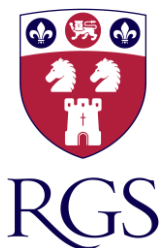
The school is academically selective, and boys and girls are highly articulate, high-achieving and amazingly well motivated, busily involved outside the classroom as well as in it. The role will involve taking over teaching responsibility for, in the main, Year 5 and 6 Maths and English in classes of 24 children but could involve working across a range of subjects in lower Key Stage 2.

A 'willing to go the extra mile' approach is a fundamental requirement of all teachers at this school: even the most senior members of staff are actively involved outside the classroom, not merely in their own specialist activities but in a huge range of extra-curricular sporting, artistic, wellbeing and cultural work. Attendance at special events (Open Morning, Y5 Exam Day, Information Evening etc.) is expected. Parts of the job description may change in line with the experience and expertise of the successful candidate. Applications are invited from those who are willing and able to make their own distinctive contribution to this ethos.

Job Description: Key Stage 2 Class Teacher Junior School- Maternity Cover

Closing Date: Monday 2nd October 2023

Contacts: James Miller (Head of Junior School) (j.n.miller@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk)



THE SCHOOL

Thomas Horsley, the original settlor of the Royal Grammar School Newcastle (RGS) pledged his legacy to the School in 1525. Almost 500 years later, RGS continues to flourish as the premier independent school in the North East of England and as one of the country's leading schools, and the Sunday Times' North East Independent School of the Decade 2020. Most recently, RGS was awarded the Sunday Times' 2023 North East's Top Independent Secondary School for Academic Performance. We regularly lead all northern schools in national league tables and pride ourselves on academic excellence, a high level of pastoral support, involvement in a wide range of sports and other co-curricular activities, and our commitment to bursaries and partnerships.

RGS has grown substantially in recent years. There are now some 1,340 students, over 260 of whom are in the Junior School. The Sixth Form of 350 students is one of the largest in the independent sector. We became coeducational 20 years ago and girls now comprise 43% of the school.

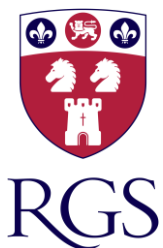
The school is based in the heart of the city, immediately opposite Jesmond Metro station. The school occupies over 30 acres of land and has state-of-the-art facilities, including five brand new art studios, a new library, a new Sixth Form Centre, a 25m swimming pool, two Sports Halls, a Performing Arts Centre, outdoor football/rugby pitches at Mooracres, an artificial turf pitch for hockey and the former County Cricket Ground.



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THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Coursing through the veins of the Junior School community are our 4 Superpowers. We expect the children, the staff and the parents to practice and demonstrate these qualities as often as they can in their everyday lives:



Sharing the site of the Senior School, the Junior School caters for boys and girls aged 7-11 with three parallel classes in Year 3 and Year 4 (approx. 20 per class) and three classes in Years 5 and 6 (approx. 24 per class), to give a total school roll of 270 presently. Selection is based on performance during Assessment Days for Year 3 entrants and an entrance Examination and Activity Day for Year 5 applicants.

The majority of the teaching takes place in the purpose-built buildings of Lambton House, for Years 3 and 4, and Brandling House for Years 5 and 6. Dedicated art & design technology rooms in Lambton House and a science lab and computer suite in Years 5 and 6 before transfer (without further assessment/selection) to the Senior School.

We aim to nurture a love for learning which helps our pupils make excellent progress across KS2, but more importantly, helps them to develop qualities that are crucial in the real world: curiosity, open-mindedness, resilience, resourcefulness collaboration and reflection.

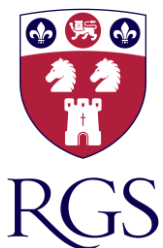
In the Junior School, we encourage children to develop their abilities through active participation, and we pride ourselves on the wide range of activities and extra-curricular opportunities on offer. Sometimes it seems as if Junior School students are never in school!



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We have a comprehensive programme of outdoor activity. Currently Year 5 have a residential visit to the North Pennines, whilst Year 4 have a wonderful week in the stunning location of Patterdale in the Lake District. Year 6 spend the second week of the autumn term under canvas up in the Cheviots, at Kirknewton near Wooler and Year 3 have an overnight stay in the Centre at the same place in the summer term. Further afield students travel at Easter to ski in the French Alps and we are hoping to launch a Year 6 Sports Tour in the near future.

In sport, we want all boys and girls to participate, whilst also aiming for excellence, and there are inter-house competitions and school teams for rugby, hockey, football, netball, cross-country running, swimming, cricket, rounders, athletics, chess and gymnastics. These sports have clubs during the week (before, during and after school) and there are further clubs for fitness, fundamental movement and fencing. Teams compete at the highest levels. The school regularly has National Champions at gymnastics and swimming, and regional and HMC champions in rugby, hockey, chess and athletics.

Performing Arts in the Junior School are also of major importance, and the quality of music and dance performers and performances is tremendous. For example, the annual Dance Championship provides opportunity for display in all genres for boys and girls to celebrate their keenness for artistic movement; and the House Music event always showcases phenomenal individual talent.

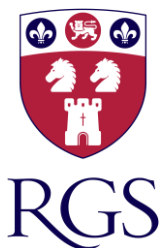
The RGS Junior School has 19 members of teaching staff, and three teaching assistants. There is some staff cross-over into the Junior School from Senior School staff in Music, Dance, and PE/Sport. Junior School staff are supportive, and the Staff Room is friendly and mixed in outlook with male and female colleagues of all ages. There is a very strong team spirit: this extends beyond the Junior School to the whole RGS staff which regularly comes together for staff training days and social events.



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PERSON SPECIFICATION

The successful candidate will demonstrate experience and expertise in most of the following:

QUALIFICATIONS

- Degree and relevant teaching qualification e.g. PGCE, QTS.
- Appropriate safeguarding training

KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

- An excellent teacher / classroom practitioner, particularly with Y5/6 Maths and English.
- An ability to teach Computing would strengthen an application.
- An excellent track record in pupil progress and the ability to differentiate, stretch and challenge.
- An understanding of child development, the primary curriculum and principles of good practice; child-centred philosophy and approach.
- An understanding of the wellbeing and mental health issues facing students.
- Ability to inspire students.
- Understanding of current safeguarding and welfare responsibilities.

SKILLS AND ABILITIES

- A commitment to promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children.
- Good to Excellent ICT skills with experience in the following:
 - Office 365
 - MS Teams
 - CPOMS
 - iSAMS
- Excellent team working skills.
- The ability to challenge and support a range of students from the most to the least able.

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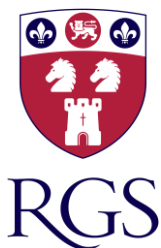
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PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

- Commitment to the RGS Junior School superpowers: able, strong, calm and kind.
- An exemplary degree of personal integrity and maturity.
- Strong organisational and administrative skills with the ability to remain calm under pressure and work to tight deadlines, managing competing priorities.
- Highly motivated, effective and energetic.
- Good interpersonal skills.
- Empathy and commitment.
- Have a strong sense of self-awareness and be willing to learn.
- Resilient, cheerful and well organised.
- Common sense.
- A willingness to be involved in the wider life of the school.





LIVING IN THE NORTH EAST

Whilst the North East is beloved and popular with so many, we know that not everyone will have had first-hand experience of it, so this is a short introduction to a city and region which we love, and believe you will too. Newcastle is a medium-sized city with an historic centre and a vibrant life of its own. There's culture and arts in the form of the award-winning BALTIC Art Gallery and The Sage, alongside several theatres that attract national touring productions. There's music from classical to club and we are home to the Royal Northern Sinfonia. There's also a growing food culture with some fantastic restaurants.

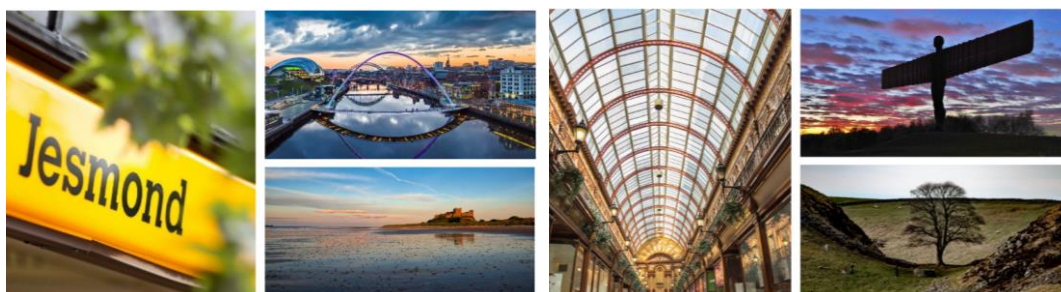
If you like sport then there's certainly no shortage of top-class entertainment: from Premier League football being played at St James' Park and EFL at the Stadium of Light to first class cricket at Durham (a mere half hour away), and great rugby at the Falcons, not to mention basketball and even ice hockey, and then there is the annual Great North Run. The North East has also produced some of the country's finest athletes in track and field and there are clubs aplenty to get involved with, most famously in Gateshead.

The coast and the hills are minutes away from the city centre. By car you can be in the middle of nowhere in 45 minutes, the Scottish Borders is only an hour away and the Lake District an hour and a half. The coast is served by the Metro (our version of the Tube), but some of the country's best beaches are up the road in Northumberland, less than 40 minutes by car. There's mountain biking, road cycling, climbing, and endless hill walks in stunning countryside. There are green spaces all over the city too, with plenty of parks for children and dogs alike to run around.

There are three local teaching hospitals, two universities in the city with another three close by. Some pioneering medical work goes on at the RVI, Great North Children's Hospital and the Freeman Hospital.

History abounds with more castles than you could count and sites of interest for almost every period of English (and border) history. Add that to a proud, independently minded and very friendly local population and we have most things you could want.

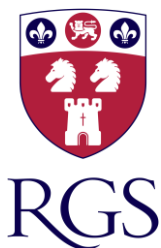
There are excellent primary schools in the region and city as well as some good secondary schools too, but staff do get a discount at the RGS. There are also a number of good competitor independent schools as well.



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MAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Working Hours - Normal working hours will be those necessary to carry out the duties of the post.
- This is a fixed term position with the school which is expected to run until approximately May 2024.
- The salary will be determined by the RGS Teachers' Scale.
- The school is part of the Teachers' Pension Scheme and all teachers are automatically included in the Scheme. The school also offers an alternative to the TPS, The Aviva Pension Trust for Independent Schools (APTIS) which is a defined contribution and salary exchange scheme administered by AVIVA. There is provision for life assurance and income protection for those who choose to join the APTIS scheme. Further information on the APTIS scheme and salary exchange will be made available on appointment.

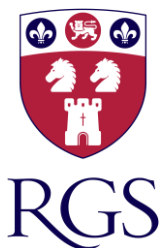
WHAT WE OFFER

- During term-time, staff are provided with a free lunch, if on site.
- The school offers an optional healthcare plan for all staff which includes optical, dental and physio cover, access to telephone GP consultations and a host of other benefits (terms and conditions apply). Further information will be available to the employee once in post.
- As with all RGS employees, the employee will be encouraged to become involved in the wider life of the RGS community.
- It is the school's policy is to allow all eligible members of staff to educate their children at the school at concessionary rates, subject to their children meeting the academic entry requirements and subject to a place being available.
- Ongoing educational support and development of all staff with the provision of external and internal training courses, and our middle leaders training programme for existing and aspiring managers.
- We offer an interest free travel loan for a corporate Metro travel pass after a qualifying period. Further information will be available upon starting in post.
- We offer a Bike to Work scheme for qualifying members of staff. Terms and conditions apply. Details will be shared upon starting.

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- Opportunity to see free school productions in the Miller Theatre located in our Performing Arts Centre.
- Free use of a well-equipped gym, fitness suite and swimming pool.
- Access to our onsite confidential counselling service.
- We offer access to the school medical team (1 doctor and 2 nurses) for triage medical advice and free flu vaccinations.
- Invitation to join staff clubs and wellbeing activities during term-time.
- Staff social events throughout the year.
- Supportive and friendly community.
- Opportunity to join in with RGS tradition and become a member of the Stowell, Collingwood, Horsley or Eldon House.

HOW TO APPLY

Candidates are advised to read the 'Information for Applicants' with particular care before applying.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to email or to call James Miller (Head of Junior School) on 0191 281 5711.

If, having looked through the website (www.rgs.newcastle.sch.uk) and read this job information pack and the Information for Applicants, you think this particular post would suit you, please say so (and why) in:

1. A covering letter and
2. A fully completed RGS application form.

You must complete the application form, even if you want to also attach a CV. Please email all documents to jobs@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk by the closing date.

The closing date for this role is 9.00am Monday 2nd October 2023

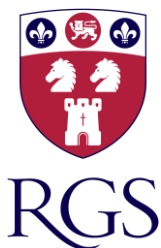
Interviews will be held shortly after the closing date. We will hope to make the appointment as soon as possible following interview, offering the post and gaining acceptance.

Reasonable travel expenses will be considered to attend an interview if candidates live

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outside the local area. This is normally up to a maximum contribution of £100 on provision of receipts. If your expenses will be significantly higher than £100 and an overnight stay is required, please note all expenses will need to be booked and approved in advance. If you plan to claim expenses, please contact the Head's Secretary, Sandra Ellis S.Ellis@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk in advance of your interview, who will talk you through the policy and advise on eligibility for reimbursement.

Safeguarding and Safer Recruitment

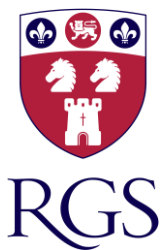
RGS is committed to the safeguarding of children and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, volunteers and those working in school to share this commitment. The school applies the Government's Safer Recruitment procedures to all candidates. More information regarding the checks can be found in the Information for Applicants and 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (September 2022).

Equal Opportunities

We are looking to appoint staff from a wide variety of backgrounds. Not just because it is the right thing to do but because at the RGS we recognise that those different experiences provide fresh perspectives, opportunities to challenge existing beliefs and provide opportunities to act as excellent role models for our diverse student body. We are committed to creating an inclusive and diverse school culture and our staff are at the heart of this. We are proud to be an equal opportunities employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment regardless of age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief and marriage and civil partnerships. Whilst all applications are considered on merit, we would particularly welcome applications from black and minority ethnic candidates who are currently under-represented in our staff community.

We encourage all candidates to complete an 'equal opportunities' form with your application. This will be sent directly to the HR team for monitoring purposes.

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CONTACT DETAILS

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Tel: 0191 281 5711

General enquiries: communications@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk
James Miller (Head of Junior School) (j.n.miller@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk)
www.rgs.newcastle.sch.uk

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