

**TEACHER OF
COMPUTER
SCIENCE
(Partnerships)**

Fixed Term

**JOB
INFORMATION**



RGS
NEWCASTLE

TEACHER OF COMPUTER SCIENCE (Partnerships)

Newcastle upon Tyne Royal Grammar School
Fixed Term (2 years) required from September 2025

This role is intended to be full time however candidates who can offer at least 0.6 will also be considered and the school will discuss options around how this could work during interview.



THE POSITION

We have an exceptionally exciting and unique opportunity for an experienced Teacher of Computer Science to join our RGS Partnerships Team. The role will be two-fold: teaching students in our school but principally working with students and teachers from other local schools on Computing Partnership projects.

This is a fixed term, 2-year post, with scope to continue beyond 2 years if demonstrable impact leads to continuance of funding. The successful candidate will work alongside our existing team of 6 Partnership teachers across STEM and Sport. We anticipate the role will either backfill an existing member of the department, or directly deliver local Initial Teacher Training content, as well as fulfil the local element of a national cross-sector Computing project, encompassing teaching Computer Science GCSE to students in state schools. As such, this role is not suited to a new teacher to the profession, but rather someone with deep experience of the curriculum across all Key Stages from 3 to 5.

The expectation is that you will be based at RGS and will teach around 0.1 / 0.2 at our school. The remaining 0.8+ of teaching time will be dedicated to projects aimed at raising attainment and improving access to opportunities among children from local state-funded schools. There will also be an expectation that some activities will help to improve the skills of non-specialist Computing teachers in partner schools. You would be expected to demonstrate an entrepreneurial flair in making the most of the role: we are looking for a tech superstar who can inspire, motivate, and innovate!

The role is intended to be full time, but we also welcome candidates looking for at least 0.6 of a Full-Time-Equivalent role. The postholder would be under the guidance and support of the Head of Computing, while reporting to the Director of Partnerships.

Being 'willing to go the extra mile' is a major part of the role for all teachers at the RGS, not merely in specialist activities but in a huge range of co-curricular sporting, artistic and cultural work. We are keen to invite applications from those who would like to make their own distinctive contribution to this ethos. We very much value colleagues who are willing to contribute to our co-curricular program.

The RGS has its own salary scale (which is above national pay scales for teachers).

The Partnerships role also involves:

- In conjunction with the Director of Partnerships: building on significant links with both primary and senior schools across the North East region, linking with the teacher(s) operating in each school, providing opportunities for all ages in these in these schools. This will require working to state school term dates (which are longer than RGS term dates).
- Upskilling non-specialist teachers through a bespoke CPD offer.
- Building a program that will provide students with:
 - a range of theoretical and hands-on activities that will enable them to explore ideas in Computing, whilst developing their problem-solving skills.
 - Opportunities to gain a deeper understanding, appreciation of and confidence with the skills relevant to their curriculum level.
 - Offer support to partner school students in between the physical sessions provided by the teacher, encouraging students to explore some of the ideas further in their own time.
 - Providing opportunities to link some of the work to local industry; offering students opportunities to visit relevant firms in the region and for them to be addressed by professionals in the tech sector.
 - There would be a budget allocated to the position to cover resources and associated costs, such as travel and expenses.



THE SCHOOL

In 1525, the Mayor of Newcastle, Thomas Horsley, wrote his will, in which he generously gifted his estate to fund a grammar school. Five centuries later, Horsley's vision lives on in the Royal Grammar School, Newcastle's corridors and classrooms, and his philanthropic spirit drives the RGS's commitment to education.

Few schools can claim a 500-year history. Over the years, the RGS, has continued to flourish as the premier independent school in the North East of England and as one of the country's leading schools - consistently topping the regional table for academic excellence.

Today, RGS is a fully co-educational school with over 1,300 students aged 7-18 (Years 3 to 13). Its academically selective places are highly sought after. The school has more than 250 students in the Junior School, which shares the same outstanding site as the Senior School. Its Sixth Form is one of the largest in the independent sector, with more than 340 students.

While RGS prides itself on academic excellence, the school is also known for its emphasis on a holistic education. The school's 'There's More to Life' approach informs its holistic education, which is central to students' success, health and happiness.

RGS is based in the heart of Newcastle, 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 modern 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.



Academic Success

RGS is a special place, known and respected throughout the whole country as well as the North East. It's a place where aspirations are high, results are outstanding, and opportunities are endless. Our students go on to study highly selective courses at the most sought-after universities but also leave the school realising that life outside the classroom has been equally beneficial.

In 2023, RGS was named 'Independent School of the Year' overall in The Telegraph Group's national awards. Most recently, the school was again named North East Independent Secondary School of the Year for Academic Excellence 2025 by The Sunday Times' Parent Power Schools Guide.

Academically, the school is highly selective. Students are assessed for entry at the key entry points (Y3, Y5, Y7, and a handful at Y9, plus Sixth Form). The biggest entry points are Y3 (60 students), Y7 (c.75 students) and Y12 (c.45 students). Beyond the academics, in Junior School (Y3-6), entry is assessed through activity days, whilst at Y7, students are assessed through online tests and an interaction day. Sixth Form entry is through interview only.

Students sit baseline tests in Y7, Y10, and Y12 – the average GLA CAT score for both the current Y7 and Y12 is 117. We have several students who have the assistance of our dedicated Learning Support Team, which works across Junior and Senior School.



Co-curricular Activities

At RGS, students can choose from over 170 co-curricular activities, ranging from music, drama, and sports to unique options like e-sports and knitting. All students are encouraged to discover what excites and inspires them.

Sport is also a central part of life at RGS, with students actively participating in a variety of activities including hockey, cricket, and basketball, from early morning until late afternoon. RGS views sport as a fundamental vehicle for students to develop lifelong skills, character, resilience – and, above all, a love for daily movement.

While it may seem tricky to balance schoolwork with so many exciting co-curricular and sporting activities, RGS has found that students actively engaged outside the classroom often perform even better academically. Both programs are designed to help students develop essential life skills, from self-awareness to decision-making and self-organisation.



Pastoral Care

We understand that all of our students are unique and different, and we strive to treat them as individuals, aiming to tailor our care to meet their needs.

That is why pastoral care is another critical cornerstone of RGS's holistic approach. Student well-being is embedded throughout school life, from a dedicated Form Teacher and an allocated Tutor to easy access to the school Medical Team and counsellors who work together to help students reach their full potential.

THE DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY & COMPUTING DEPARTMENT

Following 6 years of exponential growth, the new Digital Technology and Computing Department is in spacious, purpose-designed adjoining classrooms, adjacent to the school IDT Office and close to Engineering, Design and Technology, as well as Art, Physics and Maths. This reflects our commitment to developing a truly creative and innovative hub in our brand-new building.

The department currently offers Computer Science in Years 7 and 8 as a compulsory part of the core curriculum. In Year 9, students can opt to continue the subject and we currently have four sets. There is also a GCSE in Computer Science with three sets, an A Level option group with 2 sets and an AS option too.

The department currently consists of three members of staff and is dedicated to a 'learning through play' pedagogy for all courses. The Department is well stocked with *Objects to think with* to support our current and developing teaching units including Lego Mindstorms & Spike Prime, Vex IQ, Arduino, Raspberry Pi, Picaxe, Microbits, Shrimps and Turing Tumbles. As a developing department, we have scope for the creation of new and innovative schemes of work that develop problem solving and creative thinking through Digital Technology and Computing.



Students in all year groups are great to teach and show a high level of aptitude for problem solving. Bebras results consistently show them to far exceed the national average.

Through collaboration with external educational bodies, the department also offers opportunities to share good practice nationally and internationally as part of several initiatives department member's support.

You would also be expected to support the development of extra-curricular Computer Science. Our STEAM Fabricarium runs every lunchtime and offers students an opportunity to play with technology on their own terms, and currently support teams in a variety of national competitions including First Lego league, VEX IQ Challenge, Pi Wars, First Tech Challenge, Cyber centurion, Raspberry Pi P and Bafta Young Game designer.

2024 EXAM RESULTS

Public examination results for Computer Science:

GCSE (%)	9	9 - 8	9 - 7
	51%	79.1%	86%
A level (%)	A*	A*-A	A*-B
	29%	86%	100%



PERSON SPECIFICATION

The following person specification indicates those areas of skills and personal characteristics, qualifications, training, and experience that we are looking for.

Qualifications and Training

- A degree in a relevant subject
- Courses of further study relevant to the post.

Experience

- Experience of teaching in a highly academic context
- Experience of teaching in the 11-18 age range.

Skills

- Experience in teaching GCSE and A-Level
- Ability to inspire young people to develop a love of learning.
- Ability to think originally and creatively and show initiative.
- Commitment to high standards of teaching and learning
- Ability to teach high quality lessons.
- Excellent organisational abilities
- Excellent project management skills
- High levels of IT competency.

Personal Characteristics

- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment.
- Ability to communicate effectively with external partners, parents, students, and staff in a variety of ways.
- Understanding of, and commitment to equality of opportunity for all
- Understanding of, and commitment to the ethos of the school as a community
- Tact, discretion, and diplomacy
- A genuine liking of people and the ability to show warmth, good-humour, empathy, and sensitivity.



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 Glass House, 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.

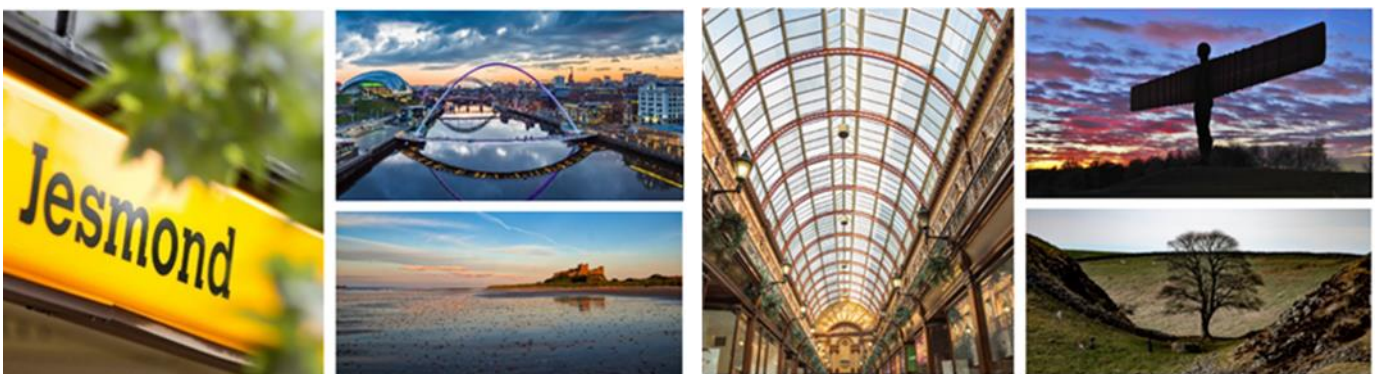
If you like sport then there's certainly no shortage of top-class entertainment: from Premier League football being played at St James' Park and EFL at the Stadium of Light to first class cricket at Durham (a mere half hour away), and great rugby at the Falcons, not to mention basketball and even ice 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 several good competitor independent schools as well.



MAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- This role is intended to be full time, however applications from candidates who can offer at least 0.6 of FTE will also be considered. We will discuss options with shortlisted candidates during interview.
- This is a 2-year fixed term contract with the school with scope to continue beyond 2 years if demonstrable impact leads to continuance of funding.
- The post will commence in September 2025 (or the next appropriate term) depending on the availability of the successful candidate.
- Working Hours - Normal working hours will be those necessary to perform the duties of the post. Due to the function of this partnerships role, the teacher's term dates will extend beyond the normal RGS term dates in line with schools in the maintained sector.
- Salary - The salary will be determined by the RGS Teachers' Scale.
- The Teacher will be required to comply with a range of RGS policies, particularly those regarding Data Protection, use of ICT facilities, Child Protection, Staff Code and Health and Safety, a copy of which will be made available.



WHAT WE OFFER

- During term-time, staff are provided with a free lunch, if on site.
- The school 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 under the APTIS scheme and increased flexibility regarding employee contributions and fund management. Further information on the APTIS scheme and salary exchange will be made available on appointment.
- The employee will become eligible for sick pay under the RGS Teachers Staff Sick Pay Scheme. Details of the scheme will be provided on appointment.
- As with all RGS employees, the employee will be encouraged to become involved in the wider life of the RGS community.
- Ongoing educational support and development of all staff with the provision of external and internal training courses, and our middle leaders training program for existing and aspiring managers.



- 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.
- Access to the school's library service and a wide range of reading materials.
- 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 or would like to arrange a visit to the school, please do not hesitate to email or to call John Smith (Director of Partnerships) on 0191 281 5711 or email j.smith@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk.

Please visit www.rgs.newcastle.sch.uk/join-us/work-with-us to access our application form and further information for applicants.

To apply for this post please submit the following to jobs@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk by the closing date.

1. A covering letter (please include whether you are applying for full time or at least 0.6)
2. A fully completed RGS application form

Note: You must complete the application form, even if you want to also attach a CV.

The closing date for this role is 9.00am Monday 03rd February 2025.

Interview Information

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, so applicants should arrive for interview with a clear idea of what would be involved in moving to the area (if necessary) and working at the RGS.

Reasonable travel expenses will be considered to attend an interview if candidates live 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 Keeping Children Safe in Education Safer Recruitment procedures to all candidates including appropriate pre-interview checks on shortlisted candidates and pre-employment checks pending any offer. More information regarding the checks can be found in our Information for Applicants [here](#), and '[Keeping Children Safe in Education](#)' (September 2024)

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 neurodivergence, age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief and marriage and civil partnerships.

We strive to achieve a diverse workforce, fully representative of our pluralistic society and the ethnic make-up of the student population in the UK. People of colour are under-represented on our staff team. We are keen to attract applicants from a diverse pool of candidates and determined to be a fully inclusive employer, and a great workplace for people of Black, Asian, and ethnic minority heritage as well as White heritage.

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.

CONTACT DETAILS

Royal Grammar School Eskdale Terrace Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 4DX

Tel: 0191 281 5711

General enquiries: communications@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk

Enquiries about this role: j.smith@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk

www.rgs.newcastle.sch.uk



Job Information: Teacher of Computer Science (Partnerships) Fixed Term

Closing Date: 9.00am Monday 3rd February 2025

Contact: John Smith (Director of Partnerships) j.smith@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk