

Hills Road Sixth Form College

Appointment of: Part Time Teacher of Politics
(Maternity Cover)

Location: Cambridge



Shape
the
future



Hills Road
Sixth Form College
Cambridge

Welcome from the Principal



Thank you for your interest in Hills Road Sixth Form College and in this post. We really hope that the information in this booklet will support you in making an application to our College and will provide all you need for deciding whether we're right for your next career step. We hope we are!

Choosing an institution where you find a fit in terms of ethos and values is hugely important. Hills Road Sixth Form College enjoys a strong national reputation, having topped Sixth Form College performance league tables for many years. But that doesn't make us complacent. We still want to improve the ways in which we work with young people to get the best for them and from them, whatever that might take.

We are therefore looking for a colleague to join us who shares that drive and wants to ensure that the department they are joining continues to achieve excellent outcomes. Everything we achieve relies on the quality and commitment of our staff team, whatever their role in the College, and we are keen to recruit colleagues for whom excellence comes as standard. Excellence is one of our six core staff values, together with Kindness, Integrity, Diversity, Respect and Community. We want you to know that you will be joining a diverse, welcoming community where you will continue to grow professionally. We are lucky to have colleagues here who are not only committed to our values but also to young people and the potential within each one of them to be brilliant at something they've not yet tried.

As a busy, vibrant community with around 2,970 young people, there's always a great deal going on and lots to be part of and take part in. Extra-curricular opportunities abound and we hope you will want to get involved with the extraordinary range of activities that is on offer. We have an on-site sports centre, including a fully equipped gym, plus squash and tennis courts, to which all staff colleagues have free membership, and our staff wellbeing programme includes access to on-site talking therapy, fitness and relaxation sessions. If you would like to talk through a prospective application or to explore the College's ethos and values a little more, please don't hesitate to make contact for an informal chat.

Finally, I do appreciate the time commitment involved in completing a job application and, if you do decide to apply, can I thank you for the investment of time you have chosen to make. Whatever the outcome, can I wish you all the very best with your future career, wherever that may be.

With very best wishes

Jo Trump
Principal

Teacher of Politics

Fixed term until February half term or Easter 2027 (maternity cover)

Part Time (Approx. 60% to 80%)

From £33,465 to £51,714 FTE, depending on qualifications and experience

Hills Road Sixth Form College is looking for an innovative and inspirational teacher of Politics who is keen to develop their pedagogy and subject expertise, and eager to make a meaningful contribution to a dynamic teaching team. Come and help us shape the future!

Recently rated 'outstanding' again, Hills Road Sixth Form College continues to enjoy a strong national reputation for excellence in education. In part, this is because we continually review and refine our practice to enhance the experiences of our students and staff. We also appreciate that academic success requires a happy, healthy and caring community, so our coaching culture ensures that the wellbeing of our students and staff is at the heart of all we do.

Whether you are an experienced teacher or an Early Career Teacher, there is a career for you at Hills Road. If you are excited by the opportunity to work in a team committed to the very best standards of education at a Sixth Form College where you can inspire highly motivated students to engage with your subject passions at an advanced level, we would love to hear from you.

We offer a wide range of competitive benefits including a generous pension scheme, free use of the college sporting facilities, free on-site parking, cycle to work scheme, as well as discounts on all our Adult Education courses.

Closing date: Tuesday 27th January at 9.00am

Interviews: w/c Monday 2nd February 2026

Details and an application form for the above post may be obtained from our website www.hillsroad.ac.uk

The college is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its students and staff and expects all members of the college community, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment. The college actively promotes equality and diversity and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.

Information for applicants

The Post

We are looking for a well-qualified, passionate and innovative teacher to join our highly successful and experienced Humanities department. We are particularly looking for a teacher who is committed to inspiring young people with a love for and a confidence in their subject, who is open to adopting a range of creative pedagogical approaches.

This post is offered on a fixed-term, part-time basis to provide maternity cover. It is expected to end on 19th February 2027, although the end date may change if the maternity leave period is amended.

Dependent on teaching experience to date, the post will be paid from £33,465 to £51,714 FTE. Full-time teachers teach a maximum of 20 x 65min teaching periods in the college week. This post will start on 12 periods of teaching (60%) and could increase in September depending on need.

The post is suitable for experienced teachers or Early Career Teachers.

For Early Career Teachers, an appropriate additional amount of remission is built into the timetable allocation for the first two years of teaching to support the gaining of QTS or QTLS status. All new members of the department are supported by the Head of Department who provides ongoing support and advice. For ECTs, this support would include induction into post-16 education. Additionally, there is a comprehensive induction programme for all new staff organised by Human Resources.

The job description and the person specification relevant to the post are enclosed.

The Department

The Contemporary and Classical Humanities department consists of the following subjects: Philosophy, Religious Studies, Politics and Classical Civilisation. The department, currently comprising three full-time and three part-time teachers, is an experienced, dynamic and diverse team. We are always looking for ways to develop further and come together, not just in department meetings, but also at break and lunchtimes where we share teaching ideas over tea and coffee (often with biscuits or cake!)

We are an extremely collaborative department; all teaching and learning resources are shared and available on the student and staff SharePoint sites. To facilitate communication and decision-making, the department holds regular departmental meetings, chaired by the Head of Department, supported by the Second in Department.

Students

Our students are generally extremely well-motivated and able, with the vast majority progressing to higher education courses, many involving the study of humanities subjects. The teaching is rewarded by the rapid development and achievements of our students, who readily acknowledge the high level of support they receive from their teachers.

There are currently the following sets, with approx. 24 students in each set:

Course	Current Awarding Body	Number of sets in Year 12	Number of sets in Year 13
Philosophy	AQA	3	3
Religious Studies	Eduqas	1	1
Politics	Pearson Edexcel	7	6
Classical Civilisation	OCR	2	2

Examination Results

In 2025, students continued to achieve excellent results as shown in the table below:

A level Results in 2025	% A*-B grades	National % A*-B	% A*-E grades	National % A*-E grades
Philosophy	59%	51%	100%	97%
Religious Studies	74%	56%	100%	98%
Politics	68%	58%	98%	98%
Classical Civilisation	65%	65%	100%	99%

Accommodation and Resources

The department enjoys their own base room and teaches in nearby classrooms. All teaching rooms are equipped with computers and have digital interactive whiteboards. All staff are issued with a college laptop.

Hills Road Sixth College operates a Bring Your Own Device approach with all students bringing their own laptops and devices to work on in the classroom. As such, most of our departmental and college resources are digital and, as a college, we strive to equip our young people with the digital literacy they need for the next step in their life.

I hope that we have been able to provide a flavour of the department through the details in this booklet. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries that I can help with regarding any details of the post or person specification.

I should like to thank you in advance for your interest in this post. We hope very much that you will be interested in joining us.

Theone Carter
Curriculum Director, Head of Department EBS
tcarter@hillsroad.ac.uk

Job Description

Teacher at Hills Road Sixth Form College

Purpose: To teach students within the college and to carry out such other associated duties as are reasonably assigned by the Principal or Head of Department, and to make a positive contribution to the wider life and ethos of the college

Reports to: The Head of Department

Main Accountabilities:

Set high expectations which inspire, motivate and challenge students

- establish a safe and stimulating environment for students, rooted in mutual respect
- set goals that stretch and challenge students of all backgrounds, abilities and dispositions
- demonstrate the positive attitudes, values and behaviour which are expected of students

Promote good progress and outcomes by students

- be accountable for students' attainment, progress and outcomes
- be aware of students' capabilities and their prior knowledge, and plan teaching to build on these
- guide students to reflect on the progress they have made and their emerging needs
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how students learn and how this impacts on teaching
- encourage students to take a responsible and conscientious attitude to their own work and study

Demonstrate good subject and curriculum knowledge

- have a secure knowledge of the relevant subject(s) and curriculum areas, foster and maintain students' interest in the subject, and address misunderstandings
- demonstrate a critical understanding of developments in the subject and curriculum areas, and promote the value of scholarship
- demonstrate an understanding of and take responsibility for promoting high standards of literacy, articulacy and the correct use of standard English

Plan and teach well-structured lessons

- impart knowledge and develop understanding through effective use of lesson time
- promote a love of learning and encourage young people's intellectual curiosity

- set homework and plan other out-of-class activities to consolidate and extend the knowledge and understanding students have acquired
- reflect systematically on the effectiveness of lessons and approaches to teaching
- contribute to the design and provision of an engaging curriculum and scheme of work within the relevant subject area(s)

Adapt teaching to respond to the strengths and needs of all students

- know when and how to differentiate appropriately, using approaches which enable students to be taught effectively
- have a secure understanding of how a range of factors can inhibit students' ability to learn, and how best to overcome these
- demonstrate an awareness of the physical, social and intellectual development of young people, and know how to adapt teaching to support students' education at different stages of development
- have a clear understanding of the needs of all students, including those with special educational needs; those of high ability; those with English as an additional language; those with disabilities; and be able to use and evaluate distinctive teaching approaches to engage and support them

Make accurate and productive use of assessment

- know and understand how to assess the relevant subject and curriculum areas, including statutory assessment requirements
- make use of formative and summative assessment to secure students' progress
- use relevant data to monitor progress, set targets, and plan subsequent lessons
- give students regular feedback, both orally and through accurate marking, and encourage students to respond to the feedback

Manage behaviour effectively to ensure a good and safe learning environment

- have clear expectations and routines for behaviour in classrooms and take responsibility for promoting good and courteous behaviour both in classrooms and around the college in accordance with appropriate college policies
- manage classes effectively, using approaches which are appropriate to students' needs in order to involve and motivate them
- maintain good relationships with students, exercise appropriate authority, and act decisively when necessary

Accountabilities that relate to all staff at the college

- demonstrate behaviour and values consistent with the person specification for this role
- promote equality of opportunity in accordance with the college's Equality and Diversity Statement
- To comply with all college policies and procedures. This includes those where each member of staff has an individual duty to act and for which the college can be held vicariously responsible for the actions of its employees:
 - equality and diversity
 - safeguarding the welfare of young people
 - health and safety

Person Specification for Teacher of Politics

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good honours degree in Politics or a related area • Relevant teaching qualification e.g., PGCE or willingness to complete a PGCE • Good level of competence with IT • Evidence of continued relevant professional development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An understanding of current development in post-16 education
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of teaching Politics at A level (which, for a current trainee, might include school/college placement experience) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of developing materials and schemes of work at A Level • A willingness to contribute to the college's wider curriculum. This may include the Extended Project or the college's Enrichment Programme.

In addition, the successful candidate will demonstrate, or have potential to develop, strengths in the following areas.

Classroom teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver lively, energetic and well-planned classroom teaching • Employ strong subject knowledge in facilitating students' learning and progress • Develop and use effective and varied resources in support of students' learning, including digital resources • Focus clearly on maximising student potential and encourage high levels of attainment by all students • Demonstrate strong and positive commitment to individual students
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply creativity to contribute to the on-going development of schemes of work
Professional Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make a positive contribution to the wider life and ethos of the college • Develop effective professional relationships with colleagues, knowing how and when to draw on advice and specialist support • Deploy support staff effectively where relevant • Take responsibility for improving teaching through appropriate professional development, responding to advice and feedback from colleagues • Communicate effectively with parents/carers with regard to students' achievements and well-being • Commitment to equality of opportunity • Commitment to collaborative teamwork • Good organisational skills and commitment to meeting deadlines • Flexibility and ability to undertake new activities • A willingness to support the enrichment and extension activities undertaken by the department • Confident and effective use of Information Learning Technology • Willingness to undertake appropriate staff development • Readiness and enthusiasm for taking initiative • Excellent written and spoken communication skills
Professional Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to equality of opportunity • Commitment to collaborative teamwork • Good organisational skills and commitment to meeting deadlines • Flexibility and ability to undertake new activities • Willingness to undertake appropriate staff development • Commitment to safeguarding the welfare of young people
Focus on quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to continuous improvement • Commitment to safeguarding the welfare of young people
Personal and Professional Conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treat students with dignity, building relationships rooted in mutual respect, and at all times observing proper boundaries appropriate to a teacher's professional position • Have regard for the need to safeguard students' well-being, in accordance with statutory provisions • Show tolerance of and respect for the rights of others • Support fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs • Ensure that personal beliefs are not expressed in ways which exploit students' vulnerability or might lead them to break the law

How to Apply

Applicants are asked to do the following:

- complete the online Hills Road Sixth Form College application form (Part 1)
- complete the online equality and diversity monitoring form (Part 2)
- write a supporting statement of application
- supply a brief CV

The online application forms (Parts 1 and 2) are available on the College's webpage for this vacancy. When completing Part 1, you will have the opportunity to upload your CV and provide a Supporting Statement of Application. Once you have submitted Part 1, you should then proceed to Part 2 (Equality and Diversity Monitoring form). All documents should be submitted by 9am on Tuesday 27th January 2026.

Please note that applications received after the closing date may not be eligible for consideration. If Human Resources have not contacted you by Friday 30th January, then unfortunately your application has not been successful.

Interviews will be held w/c 2nd February 2026.

Hills Road Sixth Form College will base its decision as to whether to invite you for interview solely on the details provided on your application and how well they match the criteria for this post.

In accordance with Home Office guidance, successful candidates will be required to evidence their right to work in the UK before commencement of employment. The successful candidate therefore must be able to demonstrate their right to work during the recruitment process.

Hills Road Sixth Form College is committed to ensuring equal opportunities in all aspects of employment and selects staff on merit, irrespective of race, religion, sex, disability or age. You are not obliged to complete the equal opportunities monitoring form, but any information given will help us to monitor the effectiveness of our equality and diversity policy.

If you have a disability, you are invited to request any special arrangements you may require for interview, or any adjustments you may anticipate would be needed in your working arrangements, by contacting the Human Resources Team on 01223 278063 (direct line). Further information about accessibility to the site can be found on our website under 'Equality and Diversity/Site Plan' and also from 'AccessAble: www.accessable.co.uk.

Thank you for your interest in this post and in the college. We do hope that you will decide to apply, and we should like to thank you in advance for taking the time and trouble to do so. For more information about working life at the college, please go to our website <http://www.hillsroad.ac.uk>



**Shaping the
future through
opportunity,
quality and
achievement**



**Supported
by a caring
and learning
community.**

