

Generations Multi Academy Trust Goffs Academy



Teacher of Geography

Required for January 2025

Information for Applicants





TEACHER OF GEOGRAPHY

The Geography Department at Goffs Academy is seeking to recruit a new colleague for an immediate start. The successful candidate for this position:

- Will have a passion for learning and teaching
- Believes in the right of every student to fulfil their potential
- Is or has the potential to be an outstanding practitioner, with the energy to inspire, motivate and challenge students

In return, Goffs Academy and the Generations Trust can offer you:

- A thriving, successful and hugely popular Department
- Opportunities to work in a range of settings and schools through the Generations Multi Academy Trust
- A school described by Ofsted as being one where “students work together exceptionally well,” and where “students are overwhelmingly enthusiastic about school”
- Outstanding, highly personalised professional development opportunities, including the opportunity to coach and be coached by others in the area’s School Direct hub school
- Outstanding career development including dedicated leadership development and coaching in a national “Leadership” school
- A forward looking, innovative and oversubscribed working environment

Whilst this is a full time position, a part-time appointment will be considered, for the right candidate.

Please contact the HR department on 01992 661456, or by email at recruitment@generationsmat.herts.sch.uk for further details.

Closing date for applications: 9.00am, Friday 18th October 2024

Interviews: Week beginning 21st October 2024

The Trust is committed to safeguarding children and young people.

All post-holders are subject to a satisfactory enhanced DBS check.



JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Teacher of Geography
Salary:	MPS/UPS Full Time (Part-time appointment will be considered, for the right candidate)
Purpose:	To deliver to students a balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum in your taught subject(s); to support subject developments; to monitor, assess and report upon student progress, and to contribute to raising subject standards.
Responsible to:	Head of Geography
Dimensions:	<p>Students:</p> <p>(i) To ensure that students' prior attainment data is used to inform planning and teaching of assigned classes</p> <p>(ii) To maintain records and monitor and report upon student progress and attainment in assigned classes</p> <p>(iii) To contribute to the development of effective teaching and learning styles as this relates to your taught subject(s)</p> <p>(iv) To ensure that the Climate for Learning strategy is effectively employed in the assigned classes</p> <p>Staff:</p> <p>(i) To assist the Head(s) of Department in ensuring that teaching in your subject(s) is of high quality and contributes to the department's improvement plan</p> <p>(ii) To participate in staff development activities provided within the department, faculty, and whole school</p>
Principal accountabilities:	<p>(i) To deliver, as directed, syllabuses, resources, schemes of work, assessment and marking policies and teaching strategies so that student need can be met</p> <p>(ii) To report student progress in your subject(s) to the Head(s) of Department and to parents/carers</p> <p>(iii) To contribute to the department improvement plans so that the quality of teaching and learning in your subject(s) can be continuously improved.</p>
Competencies:	<p>Passion for learning: creating a learning environment that supports students in their learning and encourages them to become confident, independent learners</p> <p>Challenge and support: caring for the students and expressing positive expectations</p> <p>Managing students: Directing, enthusing and motivating students so that effective learning takes place in an orderly learning environment.</p> <p>Confidence: show confidence and a willingness to take on challenges</p> <p>Team working: work with others in the department to achieve shared goals</p>
Knowledge and experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honours degree in a relevant subject • Teaching qualification

Other Specific Duties:

- To continue personal development as agreed at appraisal reviews.
- To engage actively in the appraisal review process.
- To address the appraisal targets set by the line manager each Autumn Term.
- To play a full part in the life of the school community, to support its distinctive aim and ethos and to encourage staff and students to follow this example.
- To promote actively the school's corporate policies.
- To comply with the school's Health and Safety policy and undertake risk assessments as appropriate.
- To show a record of excellent attendance and punctuality.
- To adhere to the school's Dress Code.
- To undertake any other reasonable duty delegated by the Principal

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 a manager 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 applicants, or continued employment for any employee who develops a disabling condition.

This job description is current at the date shown, but following consultation with you, may be changed by Trustees to reflect or anticipate changes in the job which are commensurate with the salary and job title.



PERSON SPECIFICATION



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TEACHER OF GEOGRPAHY

Essential:	Desirable:
<p>Qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualified Teacher Status, or working towards this • A degree in a related subject 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher degree e.g. MEd
<p>Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To have successfully taught Geography across KS3 and KS4 	<p>Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of teaching Geography at KS5
<p>Professional Expertise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent teacher • Able to work effectively as a Learning Manager (Form Tutor) • Behaviour for learning skills that engage and enthuse students and create a positive learning environment • Able to secure outstanding outcomes • Excellent organisational skills and time management • Understanding of how to make a positive contribution to a department 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience or desire to lead extra-curricular activities or clubs
<p>Personal Qualities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A commitment to the aims and ethos of the school • Relentless desire to raise student achievement at all levels • Solution focused attitude • Enthusiastic and inspiring teacher • Ongoing commitment to professional development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A desire to lead extra-curricular clubs and activities, educational visits/out of hours learning, and to be fully involved in the wider life of the school



INFORMATION ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT



THE GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT AT GOFFS ACADEMY



The Geography Department at Goffs Academy is a dynamic, friendly department staffed by five well qualified specialist teachers.

Geography is a popular subject across the school; we currently have four Year 11 classes and two A-Level classes. Students currently complete a three year Key Stage 3 course. Within Key Stage 3 we currently have three, hour-long lessons per fortnight. Our curriculum is designed to be interesting and imaginative and importantly provide sound preparation for future learning, including GCSE and A level courses. Topics currently studied at KS3 include, 'Where is the most dangerous place to live on the planet?', 'Investigating how safe the local area is from crime', and conducting a 'Microclimate' fieldwork project around the school site.

At both GCSE and A-Level, we currently study the AQA specification. The department secures positive outcomes at both GCSE and A-level with results in line with national average at GCSE and positive value added at A-Level. In the last set of public examinations in 2024, 70% of GCSE students achieved a 4+ and 19% 7+. At A-Level, 21% of students achieved an A*/A grade. This is reflective of both our dedicated staff and hard-working students.

The department passionately believes in the power of fieldwork to facilitate geographical learning. Opportunities for students to complete fieldwork are provided in every year group. Current fieldtrips include Year 7 Coastal Fieldwork to Clacton-on-Sea, Year 8 Crime survey, Year 9 River Infiltration study, Year 10 Coastal Fieldwork at Walton-on-the-Naze and Human Fieldwork at Stratford, London. At A-Level, students complete their NEA focus in East London choosing their individual topic. We have previously taken students to Iceland, which was a fantastic trip that we intend to repeat in the near future.





**INFORMATION ABOUT GOFFS
ACADEMY AND THE
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Welcome to our information pack about Goffs and the Generations Multi Academy Trust. We are a mixed 11-18 comprehensive Academy with approximately 1,600 students on roll, including a thriving and successful Sixth Form. Our Academy is extremely popular in the local area, with an average of over 800 applications annually for the 240 places available, and significant waiting lists for places across the year groups. On intake our students are of a level of prior attainment significantly above that of the national average. We are, though, a true comprehensive school and welcome a mix of students of all levels of prior attainment.

The school has been awarded the International Schools Award twice, Investors in People status three times, and has Sportsmark Gold and Artsmark Silver. We also hold the Secondary Geography Quality Mark, as well as being a designated Leading Edge School, and chairing the national Leadership Partner School network.

Professional Working and Learning Environment

Our school was among those named as part of a £2billion Government scheme, the Priority Schools Building Programme. As a result, Goffs received a completely new build and facilities, and moved into them in January 2017. The school has further invested in an additional new building, which opened in April 2022, which includes 8 brand-new classrooms, as well as a state-of-the-art fitness centre run by Lifestyle Fitness, with whom we work in close partnership.

This significant investment of funds by the Department for Education is a further recognition of the outstanding work being undertaken by the school, and represents another fantastic opportunity for our community. Our school building provides a light, modern, professional and fit for purpose working environment for all.

The Generations Multi Academy Trust

In early 2016, Goffs Academy received a direct approach from the DfE asking that they consider establishing a Multi Academy Trust and work in partnership with other schools. As a result, the Generations MAT, GMAT, was established from 1st September 2016, with Goffs as the lead school within the Trust. Subsequently, the Trust took over the former Cheshunt School and established Goffs-Churchgate Academy, which is now another thriving secondary. Goffs-Churchgate is a fully mixed comprehensive school from 11-16 years of age, with 605 on the roll. Recognising that not all children thrive in large secondary schools, the Trust made a deliberate decision to offer both a larger and much smaller secondary school for local parents to choose between. As such, the decision to cap student numbers at 600 is entirely deliberate, enabling us to maintain a strong sense of community where everybody knows everybody. Both secondaries enjoy extremely high levels of Year 6 applications, with both being fully over-subscribed. Flamstead End Primary joined the MAT from 1st January 2023, and is another highly successful, thriving and nurturing community, rated “outstanding” by Ofsted. All of the schools are within close proximity of each other and share many activities, including CPD for staff. One of the Trust’s fundamental principles is that no one school is in any way more important or successful than the other. As such, CPD and other events are rotated through all schools in the Trust, with everyone learning from and sharing with each other. This collegiate and collaborative approach

permeates our Trust.

From Spring 2023, the MAT opened nursery provision on the Goffs-Churchgate site, with subsidised and term-time only places for staff. The nursery is run by Ashbourne Nurseries - <https://ashbournedaynurseries.com/>

The MAT is extremely clear about its daily purpose, reflected in its motto of “No Set Destiny for Any Child.” All of our schools, leaders and staff fiercely believe in the life-changing nature of education and work tirelessly to that end, day in and day out. There is no set destiny for any of the children in our care; rather, our daily work across the piece allows children to forge new futures and destinies.

The MAT is extremely financially secure. Finances are overseen by a Chief Finance Officer with considerable financial expertise in the private sector, plus a highly experienced Finance Manager. The Trust deliberately created an Income Generation function, and extensive lettings and business development work now takes place across all sites in the MAT. This additional income – now yielding in excess of £500k per annum – underpins generous levels of staffing at both schools, plus many “extras” that would otherwise be unaffordable in the current funding climate. As one example, all teacher loadings were reduced from 19/20 as a direct result of the additional monies coming into the Trust via this income generation work.

We are looking forward to further widening our Trust and to working in partnership with both primary schools and further secondaries. Further information about GMAT can be found here: <https://generationsmat.com/>

Outcomes

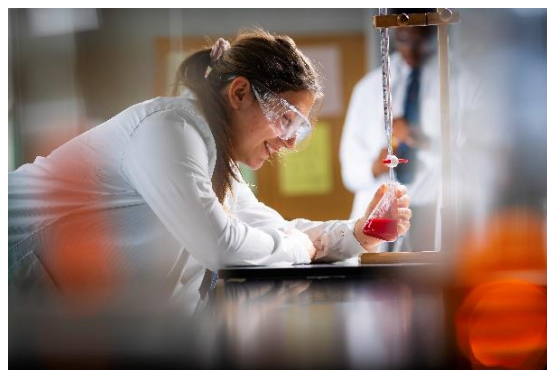
Our strategy for continuous school improvement has had huge success and we are actively committed to ensuring that our very popular and successful school, plus the wider MAT, continues as a centre of excellence in the community.

Exam results in 2024 were another year of huge success for Goffs. GCSE highlights include:

- Student progress outcomes which remain well above national average
- 72% of students achieved grade 4 or more in English and Maths and 52% achieved 5 or more in both
- English grade 4/5 or more: 82%/65%
- Maths grade 4/5 or more: 75%/59%

Crucially, students were well supported in progressing onto a range of exciting destinations. The majority of Year 11 students have continued their studies in the Sixth Form at Goffs, with all others securing a place in further education or training. 65% of Year 13 students secured a university or college place to start in autumn 2024.

At A Level, continuing the upward trend of recent years, students achieved another excellent set of exam results, including an overall 100% pass rate. The wide range of university or further education courses onto which students have progressed include Law, History, Geography, Maths, Finance, Physics and Biomedical Science, whilst many other students progressed directly into employment or apprenticeships. Our Sixth Form has an excellent reputation in the local area, over the past three years the numbers of students applying to join our Sixth Form has continued to increase, such that we now have approximately 400 Sixth Formers within our school community.



We are, of course, very proud of these outcomes. Equally, we are clear that they reflect the start of our journey, not the end. As such, we target set in the top 10% of all schools nationally and strive at all times to meet ambitious targets. We are committed to a cycle of continuous improvement and aspiration and are keen to appoint a colleague who shares that vision, determination and a restless quest for even higher outcomes. All of these factors combine to make Goffs a very exciting and rewarding community to be a part of.

Community

Goffs prides itself on its sense of community – both within the school itself, and in the wider locality. Visitors to our school unfailingly comment on a very real sense of community, coupled with warmth and pride. We are members of Cheshunt Extended Services (ChExS), offering a variety of extended school and community based activities for both students and parents. Our students actively support local charity work such as the Isabel Hospice and the Rainbow Trust, and maintain strong links with our local primary schools. In addition, our young Sports Leaders regularly work in primary schools. Goffs runs a 'G-Involved' Volunteering programme, where every Sixth Form student completes 20 hours volunteering during the course of the academic year. Students are rewarded through our annual Pride of Goffs Awards evening.

We firmly believe in every student feeling a strong sense of community and on entering the school, each student is placed in one of four Houses: Eagle, Falcon, Hawk and Phoenix. Each House is led by a team of student House Captains and has a clear sense of identity. Regular competitions and assemblies strengthen this sense of community. Each year the House Captains decide on a possible group of charities to support; students in every year then vote on their chosen school charity. Students within each House then arrange a variety of fund raising events throughout the school year. The House which raises the most money in the year for our school charity is awarded the Charity House Shield. Such work is indicative of Goffs students' ability to empathise with the needs of others, and further develops their capacity to work successfully in a variety of social settings.



We regularly bring visitors from the community into school to work with students, and maintain strong links with our local secondary schools as a partner school in the Broxbourne Partnership. The school building is used for evening, weekend and holiday classes, providing opportunities for a diverse range of users including the Greek School, and local dance and sports groups.

The Goffs Student Leadership Academy actively encourages leadership development through a series of student led groups. We currently have students enrolled in the Leadership Academy from Year 7 to Year 13, with groups including:

- Student Parliament
- Community and Charity Leaders
- House Leaders
- Sports Leaders
- Top Team

The student groups each have a member of Student Parliament who is responsible for coordinating the group and their projects. Students regularly report back on their work and the impact that it is having both in and outside our school community.

A variety of annual school trips give students the opportunities to sample different cultures, whilst an extensive programme of off-site visits provides opportunities for students to experience the diversity that exists within the UK including theatre, galleries and museum visits. Our overseas trips have included Germany, Spain, USA, Czech Republic, Paris, Berlin and Reykjavik, in addition to a student exchange with a school in Beijing, and annual ski trips to countries such as Italy, Andorra or Austria. In addition, we regularly host students from Spain as part of our specialism work.



Goffs is proud to be a truly comprehensive school, with students and staff from different religions and a number of languages spoken in the school. We recognise and celebrate what makes us unique and different, and acknowledge that we are also part of one community. Our aim is for everybody to feel valued and respected and we strive hard to ensure we create a positive culture within the school to enable this to happen.

Care, Guidance and Support

Successful learning takes place when students feel safe, confident, respected and valued, and are engaged. Goffs believes in supporting and nurturing all students in their quest to become successful learners. As such, we place a high value on pastoral care as an integral part of the life of the school.



We promote positive attitudes towards learning and provide a caring and supportive environment within our community. We were delighted to see Ofsted's comments that "students' behaviour and attitudes are outstanding" and that "students feel very safe, because bullying is extremely rare and they are very confident that any incidents that concern them will be dealt with swiftly and effectively." Continuously nurturing, supporting and developing our students is hugely important to us and significant investment is made in the school's pastoral structures, including our investing

in dedicated Learning Mentors for the school.

Staff Development

Goffs has an extremely strong reputation for staff development, across both teaching and support staff. Developing the next generation of school leaders, both middle and senior, and future Headteachers for those who wish to pursue this, is a responsibility that we take very seriously.

We have a full suite of staff leadership development which staff can join be they an ECT or highly experienced colleague, whilst Alison Garner, Chief Executive Officer of the Generations Trust, chairs the national Leadership Partner School network, a group that brings together schools dedicated to developing outstanding leadership skills throughout their communities, and which allows us to visit other network schools, to attend national conferences and to share best practice.

During our most recent inspection, the team described our whole staff CPD programme as “outstanding” and “the best they had seen”. In addition to innovative whole staff training, built into protected time within the fortnightly timetable, we disaggregate a number of hours for training every year. This allows staff development to be highly personalised as staff can opt for the training which best meets their needs, including the opportunity to do a research project in partnership with Cambridge University. All staff complete peer observations to observe best practice, and use our Iris camera technology as part of evaluating and improving their own teaching. Many use their disaggregated time to coach others or to receive coaching. Moreover, there are specific training sessions for ECTs and other interested staff which run every Wednesday after school.

We also place a lot of emphasis on ‘on the job’ training and support. A thorough induction scheme is available to all new staff, and mentors/buddies are assigned to guide you through those new routines. Finally, external courses can of course be booked if, on very rare occasions, we cannot cater for a particular training need in house.

Leadership Development

Goffs Leadership Academy encompasses both staff and student leadership development through a series of student led groups and staff leadership pathways.

All pathways are personalised for the individual and staff receive one to one support from a mentor alongside working on a whole school project. Both support staff and teaching staff are welcome to join the Leadership Academy at any point in their career.

A full suite of leadership training is offered with a range of sessions including:

- What makes a good leader?
- Leadership and staff motivation
- Leading and managing change
- Being a Lead Practitioner
- Strategic pastoral leadership – being a Director of Learning
- Strategic curriculum leadership – being a Head of Department
- Coaching and mentoring
- Using data in leadership
- Resilience in leadership
- How to make your applications stand out

In addition, we encourage aspirant Senior Leaders to take part in the SSAT ‘Stepping Up to Senior Leadership’ training programme, as well as supporting colleagues to undertake various NPQs (National Professional Qualifications). As part of the school’s commitment to develop future leaders,

a number of the existing Senior Leadership Team gained experience through an 'Associate' SLT position before gaining substantive leadership posts.

Staff Benefits

Alongside our very strong focus on outstanding professional development and promotion opportunities, we also offer a range of benefits including:

Competitive base salary with a tailor made development plan aimed at enhancing your future [earnings] potential through:

- High quality, personalised CPD
- Bespoke leadership development programmes
- Subsidies for Masters and Degree courses
- Secondment and shadowing opportunities
- As part of our Multi Academy Trust, "Generations", potential to work across more than one school to develop career enhancing skills and knowledge
- Supported Nursery provision with Ashbourne at any of their nurseries in the **Buckinghamshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Northamptonshire, and Bedfordshire area:**
 - 15% discount for all Trust staff
 - Term time only places are available
- Onsite car valeting at a reduced price for Trust staff
- Substantially discounted membership to Lifestyle Fitness's state of the art purpose built gym, at Goffs Academy

Additional financial incentives and tax efficient benefits, including:

- Exam marker payment of £400 plus 2 days paid leave to do the marking (1st year)
- Childcare voucher scheme
- Payments for staff taking weekend sporting fixtures: staff paid £200 for leading a minimum of six Saturday fixtures plus 6 weekly training sessions
- A daily allowance of £50 for school trips taken over a weekend or any school holiday
- A £1,000 Employee Referral Scheme (i.e. finder's fee) for any qualifying positions that you refer the successful candidate for: £500 on the person starting, and £500 if the person is still at the school 12 months later

Access to a wide range of health and well-being resources including:

- New, professional and fit for purpose £20million working environment
- Free use of gym
- Occupational Health & counselling support
- Free flu jabs
- Subsidised social events
- Free tea, coffee and milk for staff

Mark Ellis
Principal