



Stoke Newington School
& Sixth Form

Recruitment Pack

Head of RE and Citizenship - Maternity Cover

Required for – September 2025

Compassion



Ambition



Resilience



Excellence



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Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Applicant,

A warm welcome to Stoke Newington School (SNS) and thank you for your interest in the post for **Head of RE and Citizenship maternity cover fixed term for 1 year**. This is an exciting time to be working with us as we move forward to enhance our offer, so we achieve outstanding academic outcomes and close the gaps in student achievement.

We are an oversubscribed school with a diverse and enthusiastic student intake reflecting our local vibrant community. Our recent Ofsted inspection (July 2022) recognised us as a "Good" school with many strengths. Our students are "proud of the diverse nature and inclusive ethos of their school. Enthusiastic and committed teachers make lessons interesting for pupils," and "teachers have strong subject knowledge and are passionate about their subjects."

This is a key post for the school. You will be one of a strong team of teachers who are keen to develop consistently outstanding practice in teaching our diverse student intake. We expect you to be able and keen to teach across our full age range in Year 7 to Year 11 and to teach RE and Citizenship GCSE. Whatever age group you are teaching, we will expect you to be planning thoroughly for the engagement and progress of every student and to be promoting the enjoyment of RE and Citizenship.

We expect you to:

- Have a vision for excellent teaching for students age 11-18 and the skills to fulfil that vision
- Experience of teaching RE and Citizenship at KS 3, 4 and, preferably, post-16
- Have the creativity, experience, determination, organisational and teamworking skills to inspire our students and work well with all staff
- Want the very best for and from every student and every member of staff

You must have excellent interpersonal skills, a strong team ethic, drive, determination, energy, and the highest expectations of every student. You must be committed to excellent provision for our students in terms of classwork, homework and additional catch-up or enrichment classes.

We are committed to our pledge of being an anti-racist school and strive to have a workforce reflective of our school body. Applicants from Black and Global Majority backgrounds are strongly recommended to apply.

Best wishes,

Zehra Jaffer
Headteacher





Equality at SNS

We are incredibly passionate about creating a fair and equal community within our school. We set out these objectives to achieve and maintain an environment where every young person feels valued, cared for, and empowered to succeed.

Objective 1

Actively close gaps in attainment and achievement between pupils and all groups of pupils; especially pupils eligible for free-school meals, pupils with special educational needs and disabilities, looked after children and pupils from minority ethnic groups.

Objective 2

Reduce the incidence of the use of racist, homophobic, biphobic, transphobic and sexist language by pupils in the school.

Objective 3

Promotion of cultural understanding and awareness of different religious beliefs between different ethnic groups within our school community.

Objective 4

Monitoring and promotion of the involvement of all groups of pupils in the extra-curricular life of the school, including leadership opportunities, especially pupils with special educational needs and disabilities.

Performance

You can view and download the full 2022 Ofsted report [here](#). For performance tables and more statistics about our school, please visit our page on the [Department for Education website](#).

Staff Benefits

We understand teaching and working in schools can be hugely rewarding but can also be demanding. Our staff are totally committed to the young people, colleagues, and families in our community. We seek for all our staff to have a healthy work-life balance. Our staff benefits are one way we show our appreciation to our staff.



Development and Training

Quality continuing professional development is essential to ensure everyone maintains and enhances the knowledge and skills necessary for a positive learning environment. As practitioners, we seek to be well-informed about recent evidence-based research. At SNS, we allocate time to implement strategies so teaching practice maximise the learning in the classroom. The SNS Teaching and Learning Hub is the teacher training, professional development, and quality assurance element of our school. The Hub, led by the Assistant Headteacher leading on Teaching and Learning together with the Lead Practitioner and Early Careers teacher Mentor, provide support and expertise to staff and departments across the school.

Flexible and Family Friendly

We know it can be challenging finding the right work-life balance. We want the absolute best people to work in our school, and so we want to support flexible working. We are able to consider flexible and family friendly working opportunities to include part-time, term-time working and job-sharing arrangements. The number of part-time staff is above average for similar schools, and we always try to accommodate if the timetable and resources permit. It is important that staff who are parents, do not miss important milestone events, such as your child's first day at school or graduation. Where we can, we will support these important

moments. As part of our admission policy, staff members with children who wish to attend SNS are given a priority school allocation.

Pensions



Pensions are an important part of our life planning. We understand that and we want to make it as easy as possible for you to access the right pension scheme for you. When you join SNS, you are eligible to join the relevant pension scheme.

Health and Wellbeing

Balancing everyday life with the requirements for work and home can create pressures for all of us. Work is a large part of people's lives. Each member of the teaching staff is equipped with a laptop. However, it is vital to ensure that there is a productive, healthy environment that is conducive to a healthy lifestyle. We actively encourage emails to only be sent during 7am and 6pm of a school day, and not during the weekend. The school will operate a texting service to alert staff should there be a need in an emergency.

A subsidized lunch from our school canteen helps our staff through the day. The culinary offer is wide and highly popular with staff and students alike.

Optical expenses – we offer free eye tests for staff who use display screen equipment.

All employees are part of the Employee Assistance Programme. The Employee Assistance Programme is a 24/7 confidential service giving employees access to a range of support from lawyers, health, and wellbeing professional, financial and debt specialists, and counsellors. This free service can be used to support you with any personal or work-related issues that may be affecting your wellbeing.

Getting to Work

By public transport: Season ticket travel loans are available so staff members can take advantage of discounted annual fares for travelling to work by public transport.

By car: We have on-site parking. Applications will be considered on an individual basis. Please note, Stoke Newington School resides on a School Street which means you cannot enter Clissold Road between 8.30am-9.30am or 3pm-4pm. You can leave the road at any time.

Cycle Scheme: We encourage all staff to walk or cycle to work if possible. The school's Cycle Scheme provides staff members with the opportunity to purchase a bike of their choice, tax free. Spread across monthly payments deducted from your salary.

Discounts

Staff are offered a Vectis card, this is a discount card offering savings across retail shops, tourist attractions and holidays. Clissold Leisure Centre, immediately opposite our school, offers a 10% discount on their membership scheme.

SNS Staff Association

A strong sense of belonging is essential for us to thrive in the workplace. Our staff association holds events for staff, and their families, from weekly football, half-termly socials and Family Fireworks evening. In addition, such events as the Community Evening and our annual school performance are open to all staff and their families.





Job Advertisement

Head of RE and Citizenship - Maternity Cover

Required for - September 2025

Inner London Pay Scale plus TLR 2B £5,685

The School

This is an exciting opportunity to contribute to a successful and popular 11-19 inner-city comprehensive school. The school is especially committed to creative teaching and learning. We aim that every colleague has excellent professional development which leads to every student having an outstanding education. Stoke Newington School is dedicated to being anti-racist, and inclusive, by striving hard to challenge through our curriculum. We seek to inculcate and strengthen the knowledge, confidence, and skills for all in our community to challenge racism.

The Post

This is a key post for the school. You will be one of a strong team of teachers who are keen to develop consistently outstanding practice in teaching our diverse student intake. We expect you to be able and keen to teach across our full age range in Year 7 to Year 11 and to teach RE and Citizenship GCSE. Whatever age group you are teaching, we will expect you to be planning thoroughly for the engagement and progress of every student and to be promoting the enjoyment of RE and Citizenship.

How to Apply

If you are interested in joining our team please apply via [TES](#).

Alternatively, you can download an application pack from our [website](#). When completing your application form, please name your application file with your full name and the role you're applying for and submit to recruitment@sns.hackney.sch.uk.

The closing date for receipt of applications is **midday Tuesday 24th June 2025**.

Interviews to take place on **Friday 27th June 2025**.

We are an equal opportunities employer committed to ensuring diversity in our workforce. As employers we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. A DBS clearance is a statutory requirement for all positions.



Job Description

Title of Post: Head of RE and Citizenship, maternity cover

Salary: Inner London Pay Scale plus TLR 2B £5,685

Reporting to: SLT Member

Function of the post

- To teach Citizenship and RE including KS3 classes and GCSE level. Other subjects may also be taught as identified by the Headteacher.
- To be responsible for the planning, evaluation and curriculum developments in the Citizenship and RE department for years 7-13. To undertake quality assurance in the department. To be responsible for students' outcomes in Citizenship and RE GCSE.

Main Tasks and Responsibilities

- To always plan and teach high quality lessons and to maintain a stimulating learning environment.
- To implement the National Curriculum and relevant examination courses for RE and Citizenship across the age range.
- To pitch teaching at a suitably challenging level for all students in accordance with school targets
- To keep clear records in accordance with department and school policy, and to assess, monitor and report on individual pupils' work.
- To carry out quality assurance processes for RE and Citizenship.
- To help with the smooth running of the department by undertaking tasks as requested and directed by the head of department.
- To ensure all students make excellent progress through well planned, differentiated classwork and determined follow-up and support.
- To provide RE and Citizenship training for colleagues who are not subject specialists.
- To ensure all students make excellent progress through setting and marking challenging homework.
- To be a form tutor or associate tutor.
- To attend parents' evenings.
- To teach and lead on a range of RE and Citizenship related after school or holiday activities and clubs.
- To attend school meetings as directed by the department or by the Headteacher.
- To carry out all responsibilities in accordance with the school's and the Authority's equal opportunities policies.



Support for the school

- Be aware of and comply with policies and procedures relating to child protection, health, safety and security and confidentiality, reporting all concerns to an appropriate person.
- Be aware of and support differences and ensure all pupils have equal access to opportunities to learn and develop.
- To supervise and support the orderly movement of students around the school site.
- Contribute to the overall ethos/work/aims of the school.
- Establish constructive relationships and communicate with other agencies/professionals, in liaison with the teacher, to support achievement and progress of pupils.
- Recognize your own strengths and areas of expertise and use these to advise and support others.
- Participate in training and other learning activities and performance development as required.
- Be responsible for the provision of out of school learning activities within relevant discipline e.g. clubs, extra-curricular activities within guidelines established by the school.
- To undertake additional or other duties as may be appropriate to achieve the objectives of the post and as directed and deemed appropriate by the Line Manager.
- This is a description of the main duties and responsibilities of the post at the date of production. The duties may change over time as requirements and circumstances change. The person in the post may also have to carry out other duties as may be necessary from time to time
- Enhanced DBS check.
- Strong commitment to furthering equalities in both service delivery and employment practice.
- The postholder must always carry out his/her responsibilities with due regard to the school's policy, organization and arrangements for Health and Safety at Work.
- It is your responsibility to carry out your duties in line with Hackney Education policy on Equality and Diversity and be sensitive and caring to the needs of others, promoting a positive approach to a harmonious working environment.
- You must promote and safeguard the welfare of children, young and vulnerable people that you are responsible for or encounter.



Skills and Abilities

CRITERIA	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING		
• Qualified Teacher Status	✓	
• Excellent degree in a related subject.	✓	
KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE		
• Successful experience of teaching RE and Citizenship to students of all abilities.	✓	
• Knowledge and understanding of the recent developments in the syllabi for GCSE	✓	
• Knowledge of the importance of appropriate planning, assessment for learning and homework	✓	
PERSONAL QUALITIES		
• Ability to work hard under pressure.	✓	
• Ability to use I.T. effectively in teaching.	✓	
• Ability to be effective in record keeping.	✓	
• Good communication and organisational skills.	✓	
• Good interpersonal skills and a strong ability to work collaboratively.	✓	
• Excellent creative teaching ability.	✓	
• Ability to convey enthusiasm for RE and Citizenship at all levels.	✓	
• Commitment to personal career development.	✓	
• Capacity to be a strong tutor who values each student in their form group.	✓	

The duties outlined in this job description are in addition to those covered by the Local Government Terms and Conditions Document. It may be modified by the Headteacher, with your agreement, to reflect or anticipate changes in the job, commensurate with the salary and job title.