



## Teacher of Sociology

Full-time

## Application Pack





## Letter from the Principal

Thank you for your interest in Woking College.

Woking College is an oversubscribed and highly successful college of over 1400 students drawing students from more than 60 different schools. Our very successful strategic focus has, for many years, been to create the very best environment for high quality of teaching and learning alongside the widest range of enrichment activities enhancing the cultural capital of our students. Alongside this we place a very strong emphasis on maintaining our wonderful community, we have a more diverse College population than might be thought of as typical for Surrey but we are determined to maintain our inclusive ethos. We are fully committed to innovation whilst maintaining a humane and caring approach for all members of the College community which has resulted in the doubling of the student population in recent years. These approaches have been key to securing Grade 1 'Outstanding' in all seven categories in our October 2022 Ofsted inspection.

Woking College is enjoying record results, very positive value-added and an abundance of applications and quite rightly has a teaching and learning culture which is the envy of other institutions, indeed in recent staff surveys over 95% of College staff said they were proud to work at Woking College!

We have benefited hugely from an impressive transformation of the College's estate over recent years, with the completion of a new Sports Centre (2014), an Arts Block (2015) and a modern and larger Science Building (2016). A full size 3G pitch was completed in 2020. A £3m teaching block has recently been completed, and a further £3m project working collaboratively with an adjacent community centre will enhance our estate even further within this academic year.

We recognise the advantages of collaboration and have worked hard over the years to build and maintain close working relationships with other education providers and the Local Authority. The College has been a long-standing member of S7, the Surrey and Sussex group of Sixth Form Colleges, possibly the leading college consortium nationally, and we look forward to continued positive engagement with schools, colleges and the local community for the benefit of all.

With strong leadership from our passionate and committed senior leadership team, and with the support of excellent teaching and support staff across all areas, we look forward to the continued evolution of the College; we also look forward to meeting committed, engaging and passionate people who want to join us to further enhance the life-chances and choices of our students – which is of course our main mission as educators.

We very much look forward to receiving your application.

Brett Freeman  
Principal



*The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and successful applicants will be subject to Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks. The College is committed to equal opportunities.*

# The Role

Inspiring and enthusiastic member of staff required to teach A Level Sociology. We are looking for a full-time member of staff with dynamism and passion for Sociology. Our new teaching building has just been completed, with the Social Sciences department moving in over half-term. With a friendly, supportive team, and exceptional facilities, this is an exciting time to join our growing College.

Applications from ECTs and Teachers in Schools and Sixth Form College sectors are welcome. A full mentoring programme is arranged to introduce all new staff to sixth form college systems and procedures and to support and encourage professional development. We are looking for an exceptional candidate to join the team, and inspire our students. We expect high performance from all our staff and candidates should demonstrate their ability and suitability to both the role and the culture of the College.

**Start Date:** Tuesday 29 August 2023

**Salary:** £30,887 to £45,403 per annum, depending on experience (including fringe allowance)  
These figures include the recently announced pay increase

# The Department

The Social Sciences department is a large, successful area of the College which includes A Level Sociology, Vocational Health & Social Care as well as Vocational Children's Play, Learning & Development.

The department hosts a range of extra-curricular activities which have included educational visits and guest speakers from local universities to discuss their research with our students. Our expectations are high and our students value the support that the department offers to ensure they excel and meet their potential. This includes regular study support workshops, bookable 1:1s for personalised support, target setting and an intensive revision programme, as well as being focused on the development of exam skills and improving literacy.

As part of the Woking Way programme, the College offers the opportunity for wider learning through the short courses programme. This has recently included "Autistic Spectrum Disorder, the role of second-hand stigma and ambiguous loss: An in depth look into carrying out a social science research project" where students gained an introduction to academic research, and explore realistic, ethical and practical choices of topics relevant to the social sciences.



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# Why work with us?

Woking College has a strong sense of community in which everyone is valued; we look forward to welcoming new members of staff to join our team.

We have an inclusive ethos, and are proud of our diverse students and staff community. The College is committed to safeguarding, alongside our core values of inclusiveness, adhering to the highest personal, professional and academic standards, supporting individual wellbeing, supportive management and positive relationship and a sustainable future for all. We expect all staff, volunteers and others involved in the College community to share this commitment.

Following our grading as Outstanding at our recent Ofsted inspection in October 2022, Ofsted stated that:

*“Staff feel proud to work at the College. They are exceptionally positive about the culture leaders have created. They describe leaders as visible, approachable and highly focussed on staff wellbeing. Leaders celebrate achievement frequently in staff forums which helps staff to feel recognised, highly valued and a member of the Woking College family.”*

Staff survey results state that:

- ✓ 95% of staff are proud to work at Woking College.
  - ✓ 99% agreed that leaders are considerate of staff wellbeing.
- A positive approach to staff development; including regular cross-College sharing best practice sessions
  - Opportunities for staff training within the S7 consortium of Colleges & liaison with peers within the consortium
  - Regular whole-College communication including weekly staff briefings
  - Regular departmental meetings to ensure support and share departmental best practice
  - Excellent student behaviour and productive working relationships with the Student Union
  - Excellent links with local schools, businesses and universities
  - Welcoming, friendly and approachable community, a harmonious working atmosphere
  - Laptop for all teaching staff

## **Benefits include:**

- Free on-site parking
- Staff room with free hot drinks available to all staff, Friday cakes
- Onsite canteen with a range of healthy options to purchase, and a new Costa coffee shop
- Regular staff social events: bowling, staff quiz, summer BBQ, weekend walks/cycling, Christmas party
- College gym available for staff use, yoga classes, staff football (new 3G pitch)
- Free eye test vouchers
- Flu jab
- Cycle to work scheme
- Pension: eligible employees will be automatically enrolled in the Teacher's Pension Scheme, or the Local Government Pension Scheme (support staff), unless you decide to opt-out
- Employee support: staff have access to a confidential employee support helpline
- Location: Excellent train links from London Waterloo and the South Coast, walking distance of Woking station. Close to A3, M25 & M3 junctions



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# Application & Selection

Application forms are available to download from our website: [www.woking.ac.uk/about/staff-vacancies/](http://www.woking.ac.uk/about/staff-vacancies/) Please note that CVs will not be accepted on their own.

Please ensure **education** and **employment history** is completed fully, gaps in employment must be accounted for under the section entitled "Periods when not working". We would like to see your passion for the role and the College in your **supporting statement**, please use this opportunity to include personal skills, experience relevant to the post, and reasons why you feel you would be successful if this post.

Completed applications, or any queries regarding the role or your application, should be sent via email to Kirsty Crook (Personnel Officer): [recruitment@woking.ac.uk](mailto:recruitment@woking.ac.uk)

**Closing date: 9am, Monday 27 March 2023**

**Interviews: to be held on Wednesday 29 March or Thursday 30 March 2023**

Shortlisted candidates will be notified, invited for interview and references will be taken up immediately. Please note that it is not possible to inform candidates who have not been short-listed due to time constraints.

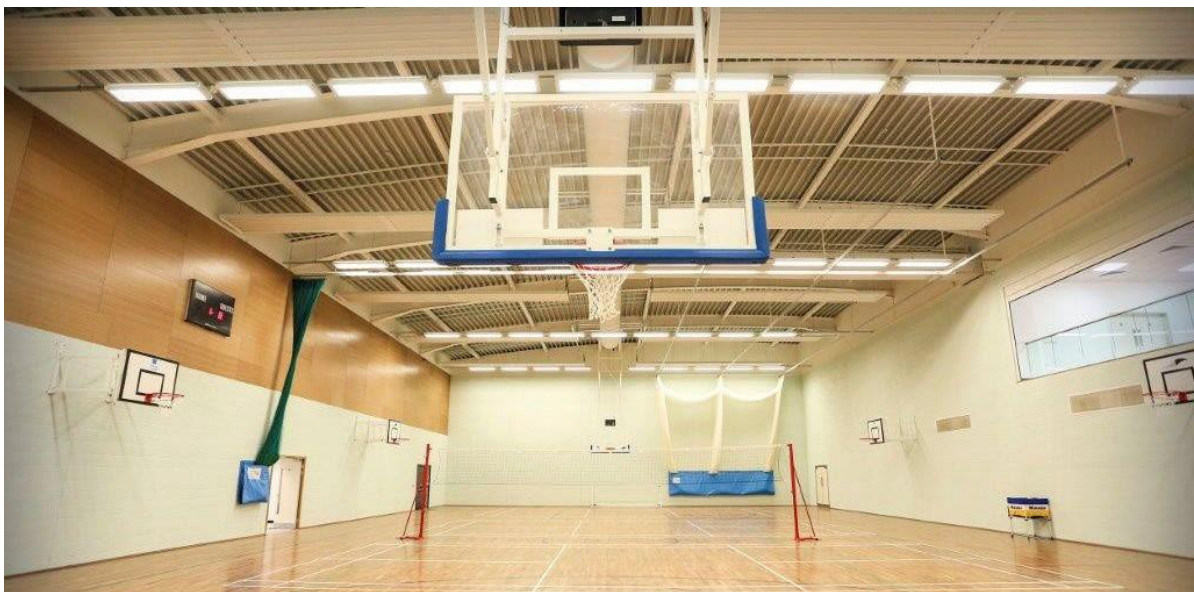
The interview process will comprise of the following, but may be subject to change:

- a guided tour of the College
- Interview with the Principal and senior staff
- Secondary interview with senior staff
- Informal meet with department members
- Observed lesson

The College encourages all candidates to be familiar with the following documents:

- Section 1 of the DfE paper on "Keeping Children Safe in Education" September 2022
- Woking College's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.
- In line with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) the College asks candidates to consider the Privacy Notice for Job Applicants

The documents listed above are available from the College's Staff Vacancies page, please use this link to access them <https://www.woking.ac.uk/about/staff-vacancies/>



# Job Description

**Post Title: Teacher (Full-time)**

**Responsible: Head of Department**

**Job Purpose: Teaching and developing within Curriculum Area(s) in the College**

## Job Responsibilities

1. To work with those teaching within the Department to create an environment in which the aims of the Department, Curriculum and College can be achieved.
2. To attend regularly meetings of the Department and, when requested, the Curriculum Area, to enable issues relating to the Department, Curriculum Area and College to be discussed.
3. To assist in the provision of appropriate courses and the promotion of activities to provide for and support the learning needs of students within the Department.
4. To fulfil one's own responsibilities as a teaching member of the Department, in accordance with the quality standards of the Department.
5. To promote:
  - i) the Department's contribution to the cross-curricular work in the College
  - ii) the opportunities offered by the Department to students not taking an examination course.
  - iii) the use of ICT in the classroom teaching and learning.
6. To work to improve one's professional performance by taking advantage of the department's opportunities to develop skills and broaden experience and participating in the College's appraisal arrangements.
7. To assist in managing effectively and efficiently the physical resources of the Department. In particular, to:
  - i) consider the use of accommodation and to make recommendations to the Head of Department for its continued and improved use
  - ii) suggest suitable items for departmental expenditure
  - iii) observe the College's health and safety policies and encourage safe working practices.
8. To assist in the arrangements within the Department for the induction of students and monitoring progress, offering guidance to students where necessary and liaising with parents where appropriate.
9. If required, to be a personal tutor, and subject to timetabling, to meet the responsibilities defined by the College for personal tutors and be answerable in that context to the Principal.
10. To assist in the arrangements made for students to receive advice on courses in Higher Education and Career opportunities related to, or progressing from those in the Department, ensuring that references are produced when requested.
11. To assist in the setting up and organisation of College examinations in the subjects covered by the Department and assisting, where necessary, the Examinations Officer in the supervision of public examinations.

12. To ensure that departmental records are kept up to date. To share in the recording and analysis of internal examinations, Alps and external examination results and, with the Head of Department, take whatever action is necessary to sustain and improve performance by students.
13. When necessary and appropriate, to represent the Department at meetings and to publicise the work of the Department at the various events in the College and its partner schools.
14. To act at all times in accordance with the College's Equality & Diversity policies.
15. To act at all times in accordance with the College's Safeguarding policy. Ensuring the safeguarding of students at the College, recognising one's own role in liaison with the designated safeguarding team.
16. To contribute to the safety policies of the College as directed by the Principal and to ensure that Health & Safety Regulations are observed within the Curriculum Areas and within the College in general.
17. To take part in the training programmes provided by the College and agree to the process of professional reviews.
18. To undertake any other particular duties which may be reasonably assigned to you by the Principal from time to time.

## Person Specification

The person appointed will be expected to have:

- An understanding and support for the ethos of the College.
- The ability to teach A Level Sociology.
- A commitment to the principle of continuous improvement and an empathy with the College's aim of providing quality education in a supportive environment.
- Suitable qualifications – educated to degree level in appropriate subject.
- Experience of working with or the ability to work flexibly within a department or teaching team.
- Positive interpersonal, organisational and IT skills.
- An awareness of the need for personal development, both as a member of a team and as an individual.
- Qualified Teacher Status.

The following are desirable for this role:

- A knowledge of the 16 - 19 curriculum, and an awareness of the needs of students in this age range.
- The ability to teach an additional subject.
- Ability to mark and assess written work with examination board criteria.

