



Teacher of English - Full Time

Required from September 2025 or January 2026

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Provided as a separate document on the website:

- Application Form

The Appointment

We wish to appoint an enthusiastic and well-qualified Teacher of English to start in September 2025 or January 2026.

The ideal candidate will have:

- a good honours degree in a relevant subject
- the ability to teach English across the 11–18 age-range
- experience of developing schemes of work that focus on helping pupils engage with interesting and challenging texts and demonstrate clear progression of knowledge and skills
- a passion for helping all pupils thrive
- experience in supporting pupils with SEND.

The successful candidate will be expected to-maintain the strong academic standards of the department while supporting the specific needs of each individual pupil.

Departmental Details

The Birkdale English Department team consists of six subject specialists. We enjoy an excellent working relationship and seek to provide the best learning experience for our pupils. We follow our own curriculum for Key Stage 3 which is closely linked to the national curriculum and which provides a strong basis for the GCSE course. Each year-group studies a Shakespeare play, modern drama, poetry, nonfiction, and whole novels. Though the study is rigorous, we are keen to make every aspect of the course fun and engaging. Teachers have considerable freedom to devise their own schemes of work and bring to the subject their enthusiasm for specific writers and texts: all members of the department are welcome to suggest texts and topics that can be added to the KS3 course.

Members of the English department organise various theatre and study trips, as well as several clubs that run weekly. We are reflective practitioners, keen to improve our teaching practice and find the best ways to engage our pupils.

Pupils are taught in mixed ability classes throughout Y7-Y11. We have recently introduced the Pearson Edexcel IGCSE for the first examination in 2025 which includes a 40% coursework element. At A-level we teach AQA English Language and English Literature (spec B), with healthy numbers of pupils opting for both subjects.

Job Description for a Teacher at Birkdale School

- Plan and prepare courses and lessons in accordance with published Schemes of Work.
- Teach the assigned pupils, including setting and marking of work and assessments in line with school policy.
- Assess, record and report on the development, progress and attainment of pupils in line with school policy.
- Promote the welfare and the individual needs of the pupils assigned, following the requirements of the school's policies on Rewards, Behaviour Management, Discipline and Sanctions, Health and Safety and Safeguarding and Child Protection.
- Under the direction of the Head of Department, make a full contribution to the work of the departmental team, and to departmental and whole school initiatives including Open Days.
- Contribute to the maintenance of the fabric of classroom and departmental areas through the creation and updating of displays.
- Contribute to the development and maintenance of electronic resources and virtual departmental areas.
- Attend parents' meetings as appropriate to the year group taught.
- Regularly attend assemblies, department meetings, staff meetings and INSET.
- Undertake a range of general duties to enable the smooth running of the school.
- Contribute to the school's programme of extra-curricular activities, some of which occur at weekends or during evenings.
- Act as a tutor to a form, being responsible for morning registration, overseeing and reporting on pupils' pastoral and academic progress and being active in helping the pupils to progress. Teach some aspects of the school's PSHE programme. (This section applies only to teachers taking on the role of form tutor).

Person Specification for a Teacher at Birkdale School

- Have a good honours degree and a teacher training qualification for the 11-18 age range or a general education degree.
- Be a skilled classroom practitioner, having a good subject knowledge and an awareness of teaching methodology.
- Be in sympathy with the strong Christian ethos of Birkdale School.
- Be able to work within organisational procedures and meet the required standards for the role including the DfE Teaching Standards.
- Be able to work collaboratively and supportively with school colleagues.
- Be able to relate effectively to parents and to pupils.
- Be able to communicate clearly and effectively orally and in writing, and have effective ICT skills for both teaching and administration.
- Have a clear understanding of excellence in teaching and learning.
- Be committed to continual personal and professional development and be reflective and able to learn from past experience.

- Be resilient and demonstrate an ability to work well under pressure.
- Display commitment to the protection and safeguarding of children and young people, and be able to form and maintain appropriate relationships.
- Be able to demonstrate an active interest in extracurricular activities and a willingness to be involved.
- Be able to demonstrate appropriate pastoral skills.

School Information

Birkdale is a very successful independent day school located in Sheffield for children aged from 4 to 18, amounting altogether to 770+ pupils. Birkdale is located on three sites in south-west Sheffield, the 11-18 (Y7 to Y13) Senior School, the 4-11 (Reception to Y6) Prep School and the playing fields at Castle Dyke.

Birkdale is the only HMC (Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference) school in South Yorkshire and the Head Master is also a member of the Society of Heads. The Head of the Preparatory School is a member of IAPS (The Independent Association of Preparatory Schools).

The Christian ethos of the school manifests itself in the particularly friendly and supportive atmosphere. A good proportion of the staff are committed Christians, although as a community Birkdale is open to all, whatever their beliefs.

There have been some exciting developments in recent years which include, the introduction of girls at Birkdale. While the Sixth Form has been coeducational for over 30 years, from September 2020 Birkdale began the process of moving to being a fully co-educational school. As of September 2024 Birkdale has welcomed girls throughout the Prep School and into Y7 at the Senior School.

Please visit our school website for additional information.

<https://www.birkdaleschool.org.uk/>



Key Terms and Conditions

- This role is primarily working during **term-time**. You may wish to note that the length of Birkdale's terms are slightly shorter than those of a maintained school and therefore the school holidays are longer. Term dates are on the school website.
- **Salary** will depend on experience and qualifications, and will be commensurate with the responsibilities of the role.
- **Pension:** Birkdale offers the choice of joining the TPS scheme, or an attractive private pension scheme from APTIS with Aviva.
- **Sick pay:** The company sick pay scheme, provides ex-gratia sick pay at the full rate for up to 3 months in any 12 months, with 50% income protection for extended sickness
- **Additional Benefits:** Death in service and access to additional wellbeing and health support including unlimited, 24/7 remote GP appointments, Unlimited mental health support, Physiotherapy, Personal training, Nutrition consultations and more.
- Teaching staff are entitled to a **remission of school fees** amounting to 71.6% for full-time staff and pro rata for part-time/ part year working staff.
- During term time, lunch is provided to staff on site.
- Car parking is available on site.

Application Procedure

1. A cover letter **addressed to Ben Bowles, Head** of no more than one side of A4 explaining why you would like this role and the skills and experiences you can bring to it (minimum font size of 11)
2. A completed Birkdale School application form which includes the names, addresses, e-mail addresses and telephone numbers of two referees

Closing date for applications – Wednesday 18th June 2025 (12 noon)

Interviews – Tuesday 24th June 2025

Email your application to: Ben Bowles, Head at Recruit@birkdaleschool.org.uk by the closing date.

To organise an informal discussion regarding the role, please contact the above email address.

Applicants who do not provide a Covering Letter and Application Form, as stipulated, will unfortunately not be considered. If you have any difficulties in providing this, please do not hesitate to contact the HR team at Recruit@birkdaleschool.org.uk

Pre-employment checks

Birkdale School are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our children and young people. All applicants must be willing to undergo the relevant pre-employment checks relevant to the role.

Current legislation applying to this post includes the The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) (Amendment) (England and Wales) Order 2008 and the Asylum & Immigration Act 1996. Therefore, the successful candidate will be required to prove their eligibility to work in the UK and undergo appropriate criminal record checks, including an application for an Enhanced Disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service. Details of the documentation etc needed in connection with all the above requirements will be sent to the shortlisted candidates. Prior to taking up appointment, we will then request a declaration about medical fitness, and proof of qualifications from the successful candidate.

Under the guidance set by KCSIE Birkdale School will conduct an online search for all shortlisted candidates.

Equal Opportunities Statement

At Birkdale School, we strive to create a supportive and nurturing environment for all individuals. We are dedicated to promoting equality and diversity, providing a level playing field for all of our staff and pupils. We aim to foster an inclusive culture, where diversity is celebrated and where everyone feels empowered, and encouraged to reach their full potential.

We welcome applications from all individuals, regardless of background, and encourage candidates from underrepresented groups to apply. If you meet most of the criteria but are unsure whether to apply, we encourage you to reach out—we value potential and a willingness to grow.