

Rutlish School



History and/or Politics Teacher Second in Charge of Department

Job Information Pack

Deadline: 10.00am on Wednesday, 19th November 2025



RUTLISH SCHOOL

Watery Lane, Merton, London SW20 9AD
Telephone: 020 8542 1212
Headteacher: Ms Laura Howarth

History and/or Politics Teacher–Second in Charge of Department

(The ability to lead on Politics is desirable)

Salary:	Inner London Pay Spine
TLR:	2B
Proposed Start Date:	January 2026
Contract:	Permanent

Rutlish School has an exciting opportunity in its' History Department for an enthusiastic, experienced teacher who has a genuine passion for the subject and enjoys working as part of a highly effective team. This post provides an opportunity to work in an outstanding school where staff make a REAL difference to the lives of young people.

What we can offer?

Experience of working in an “outstanding” oversubscribed school. In September 2024, Ofsted rated Rutlish as “Outstanding” in all five areas of judgement.

The School is set in a conservation area close to Wimbledon town centre, with excellent transport links; London Underground, British Rail, bus routes and the tram are all close by. There is also ample on-site free parking for staff coming by car. Other benefits of working for Merton include; membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme, access to the Employee Assistance Programme for you and your family, discounted membership to Merton leisure centres, employee discounts on a range of leisure activities, from days out to magazine subscriptions, as well as hair and beauty treatments, courses at Merton Adult Education, entertainment events and discounts at local restaurants. You could also benefit from Merton's cycle-to-work scheme and have free membership to the Old Rutlishians Association who have events such as live acoustic nights and comedy nights. The benefit of regular professional development.

If you have a commitment to achieving high standards and would like to join our dynamic team, then we look forward to receiving your application. A Job Information Pack and application form can be found on the school website www.rutlish.merton.sch.uk

Completed application forms should be sent to jobs@rutlish.merton.sch.uk by **10.00am on Wednesday, 19th November 2025**

No Agencies or CVs please as these will not be considered for shortlisting

We are committed to safeguarding the welfare of children, therefore all applicants are required to undertake an Enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service check.

We fully support the London Borough of Merton's Equal Opportunities Policy.

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History and Politics at Rutlish

Our historians will gain a deep, well-rounded and chronologically coherent understanding of local, national and internationally significant periods, events and historical aspects. The subject will fire students' curiosity to ask questions and know more about Britain's past and that of the wider world. Students will be encouraged to develop a chronological framework of British and world history that will enable them to make sense of the new knowledge they acquire. This will also allow them to understand the process of change, to see how we arrived 'here' and help them to make sense of the present. We want students to realise that the past is gone and history is constructed and contested. History's unique concepts help students to construct arguments and support them to become analytical citizens who can question human motivation and society with skill and confidence.

History is absolutely central to the learning of students at Rutlish. It is an exciting and vibrant subject with a creative and critical approach to developing literacy skills.

The department is located in the Centenary Building (Humanities) and teachers have their own well-resourced classrooms. The members of the department are History specialists and teach across the age and ability ranges. There is a strong team ethos and we enjoy our work. The department is committed to curriculum enrichment, both in the classroom but also with trips, attending conferences and inviting guest speakers to the school

Students are taught in mixed ability groups at all Key stages. At Years 7 and 8 students receive three hours of teaching per fortnight and at Year 9 this increases to four hours. At Key Stage 4 this increases further, to five hours.

At **Key Stage 3** the department's priority is to build on the knowledge and skills acquired by students in Early Years, KS1 and 2. Our focus is on building literacy, chronological understanding, similarity and difference and change and continuity and to introduce students to sources and historians' interpretations and to use these to develop their analysis and evaluation skills. In Years 7 and 8 the topics we cover include Medieval Realms, Empire, Slavery and Abolition, Protest and Democracy. In Year 9 they include Black Peoples of the Americas, the Russian Revolution, the Holocaust and the Cold War.

At **Key Stage 4** the department teaches GCSE through AQA. In Paper 1, our students study Germany, Conflict and tension in Asia and in Paper 2 Power and the people and Restoration England 1660-1685

At **Key Stage 5** the Department delivers both History and Politics and it is in part the increasing popularity of Politics that has given rise to this opportunity.

For **History** we follow the OCR History syllabus; The Later Tudors, the Russian Revolution and the Middle East plus a coursework module

For **Politics** we follow the AQA Politics specification: Government and Politics of the UK, Government and Politics of the USA and comparative politics and finally Political Ideas

We consistently achieve excellent results at all Key Stages which have been improving strongly over the past five years. Our focus is to maintain this positive trend.

Job Description



Post:	Second in Charge of the History and Politics Department (The ability to lead on Politics is desirable)
TLR:	2B
Responsible to:	Head of Department/Line Manager
Responsible for:	Raising achievement within the department against the context of the national agenda. Developing curriculum according to Ofsted criteria.

The key task of all teachers is to actively contribute to making Rutlish a healthy, safe, enjoyable and achieving school in which students are enabled to make a positive contribution and are prepared to achieve later economic well-being.

Key to succeeding in this is that all teachers are required to develop positive professional relationships with staff and students, contribute to establishing and maintaining high standards within and beyond the classroom and to deliver high quality teaching and learning, ensuring good quality planning, marking and record keeping.

General Duties of a second in Department:

As a Middle Leader, the Second in Department is expected to:

a) Model best practice across the range of expectations of all teachers, that is:-

- To play a full part in the corporate responsibility for ensuring the well-being of students and the positive, pro-active management of student behaviour when on the school site
- To undertake whole school duties on a rota basis
- To participate in staff appraisal
- To implement school policies
- To be prepared to undertake continuing training, seeing it as an essential part of their development
- To undertake duties as a tutor, including keeping an accurate attendance register, ensuring proper records are kept and attending to the welfare and guidance needs of the tutor group
- To liaise and meet with parents on a regular basis in order to discuss the progress of students taught and the progress of students in the tutor group where appropriate

b) Contribute to the educational progress of all students taught in the department

c) Lead, develop and enhance the teaching practice of other staff within the department

d) Be accountable for leading, managing and developing key elements of their subject area

e) Support the HoD in ensuring all aspects of Health and Safety are rigorously addressed across the department

f) Deputise for the HoD in his/her absence

Specific Responsibilities

- To support the HoD in the delivery of the National Curriculum across all age and ability ranges for History and Politics.
- To be responsible for Politics, including teaching new staff, particularly on coursework teaching and moderation as well as marking more generally.
- To be responsible for the development of Schemes of Work and Units and baseline testing for an agreed Key Stage. This includes the oversight of the process of assessment, the recording of results and the use of data in intervention planning.
- To work with the HoD to ensure that all work is monitored and scrutinised at regular intervals through learning walks, lesson observation and work scrutiny
- To support the HoD in all aspects of the Department Evaluation and Development Planning including attending line manager and HOD department meetings.
- To support the HoD in the mentor programme for the professional development of initial teacher training students.
- To meet fortnightly with HoD and Line Manager to discuss departmental progress and matters arising
- To undertake any reasonable duty as requested by the Headteacher, SLT or HoD.