



The Post

Required for September 2022, initially for a five-year contract, a full-time Chaplain to lead the worship and spirituality of Kent College in both the Prep and Senior Schools.

The Chaplain is a senior member of staff who shares with the Headmistress a special responsibility for the development of a stimulating and compassionate school community.

The Chaplain's primary responsibility is to minister to the spiritual needs of the whole school community both students and staff within the traditions of Methodism and for seeing that the Christian faith is proclaimed and explained in ways which respect the integrity and intelligence of all.

Attractive on-site accommodation in a beautiful rural location.

Areas of responsibility

Duties will include the following tasks and these duties can be expanded to cover other areas as requested by the Headmistress:

- Arranging the programme of collective worship including special services throughout the school year in both the Prep and Senior School
- Leading assembly in each the senior and prep schools at least once every week.
- Leading worship for the boarders during the week and at the weekends Providing support for both the boarding and residential community
- Leading and/or overseeing school Christian discussion groups.
- Encouraging the Christian nurture of individuals and where appropriate preparing candidates for confirmation.
- Leading a short devotion at the staff meeting at the beginning of each term.
- Organising the assembly and service rota.
- Overseeing the school's charitable activities through the school's Foundation
- Presenting an annual report to governors on the spiritual wellbeing of the school.
- Attending the annual Chaplains' Conference of the Methodist Schools and the annual Service of Dedication
- Nurturing the unique relationship between Chaplain and Headmistress: offering confidential support to the Headmistress.
- At all times working in accordance with the safeguarding policies of the school

These duties involve working collaboratively with the Headmistress, the senior leadership team and those with pastoral responsibility in the school.

Essential characteristics:

- To be well qualified, (to degree level) with proven pastoral and leadership skills
- To command respect amongst teaching and support staff particularly in any subject he/she will be teaching
- The ability to relate to children and young people as well as adults with the sensitivity to the needs, interests and anxieties of adolescents
- To be willing to exercise a pastoral ministry to the whole school community (including families of pupils and staff)
To be sensitive to the needs, interests and anxieties of all, committed to keeping children safe and to working in accordance with the school's statutory requirements for child protection and safeguarding
- Resilient and determined in supporting the needs of pupils, staff and parents
- To be able to plan thought provoking and inspirational assemblies and opportunities for school worship consistent with Methodist teaching and doctrine
- As a practising Christian, be willing to stand clearly on religious and moral issues in the school; setting a high personal standard
- Interested in the well-being of the school as a whole, not just in the specifically religious aspects.
- Self-disciplined in confidential matters, which might include matters relating to the school as well as pastoral situations
- Sensitive to issues of finance and public relations and to the pressures these impose
- Good administrative ability
- To be a team player, willing to work with others

Desirable characteristics:

- To be an ordained Methodist minister and normally to have held circuit experience. The school will also welcome applications from ordained deacons and lay ministers
- The Chaplain could also be a teaching role if applicant have the relevant experience and qualification. The teaching commitment would not exceed 40% and would be subject to change each academic year depending on the needs of the school.
- Previous school experience or involvement in youth work.