



Lay-Chaplain

Full or part-time, non-residential, permanent position

The School:

A Catholic foundation, More House School provides an exceptional, mainstream education for boys with Specific Learning Difficulties. Providing a transformative education recognised as 'Outstanding' in our March 2016 school Ofsted inspection, and in successive Ofsted inspections over more than a decade, we offer a specialised learning environment for 470 day and boarding boys from Year 4 to Year 13. Our pupils are taught to recognise their strengths and develop their self-belief so that they achieve independence and extraordinary results at GCSE and A Level, above the national averages.

All boys who attend More House are individually timetabled, with many receiving support through the on-site Learning Development Centre. The very broad curriculum affords opportunity to discover their strengths, challenging them to fulfil their academic and extra-curricular potential. Judged 'Outstanding' by Ofsted in its last four school inspections, our most recent inspection (March 2016) graded More House School 'Outstanding' overall, and as 'Outstanding' in each of the six sub-sections of the report. More House is CReSTeD approved, listed in their Specialist Schools category.

In addition to the core subjects, a wide academic curriculum allows boys to choose from 19 options for GCSE and a similar breadth in the Sixth Form, which includes A Levels, Level 2 BTEC and Level 3 BTEC qualifications. Results are astonishing, with pupils' results at GCSE, BTEC and A Levels well above the national averages. Class sizes are small and there is ample opportunity for boys and the staff to get involved in the school's extensive extra-curricular programme.

The school is set on a wooded hillside in twenty-five acres of stunning countryside on the Hampshire/Surrey border, and attractive modern facilities lie above the playing fields. In recent years the school has refurbished and extended its boarding facilities, refurbished its eight Science laboratories, built its School of Engineering and CAD facilities, and opened a new Humanities block and school Chapel. We are currently constructing our new school library and Media Studies centre.

About this post:

An inspiring and dedicated chaplain is sought to provide spiritual leadership, supporting the Headmaster in fostering a caring and thoroughly inclusive shared community bearing witness to God's love and mercy. Pupils and employees come from a wide social background, with nearly half of pupils' placements being funded by more than thirty different local education authorities. The school's Catholic population, as a percentage, is broadly similar to that of the national population; the school welcomes boys and staff-members of any faith, and those with no faith. The curriculum provides an insight into many different major religions, and pupils learn to understand and to respect those of different cultures and beliefs.

A practising Catholic, the new chaplain will devise and coordinate a wide-reaching chaplaincy provision that is rooted in the Catholic foundation of the school, but supports the diversity of the school's population. With the large school chapel as a base, the chaplain will seek to involve themselves in diverse aspects of school life, and will be expected to support and lead assemblies and prayer. A keenness to become involved in the academic life of the school by supporting in lessons or supervising cover lessons will be an advantage, and it is expected that the chaplain will participate in break and lunchtime supervision duties in common with the teaching and therapy staff



of the school. Working within the Humanities department to support the delivery of the Religious Education curriculum is also encouraged. Planning and coordinating the whole-school carol and Easter services is a significant aspect of the role, as is planning for the celebration of Mass in the school chapel, usually twice a term on a week-day morning. The Chaplain will arrange weekly meetings for the Catholics in the school to encourage and lead prayer, worship and the development of their faith. Attendance at school events is expected.

A comprehensive induction programme is offered, and ongoing professional development is supported through INSET days and training opportunities, in which staff-members are expected to continue their professional development and practice, supported by excellent internal and external opportunities.

The above list of duties is not exhaustive, and the post-holder may be required to perform such other duties as may be, from time to time, deemed necessary by the Headmaster. This is a non-residential post.

Relationships:

- The post-holder is responsible to the Headmaster in all matters, is supported by the Principal Deputy Head, Mr Andy Williamson, and the Deputy Head (Wellbeing), Mrs Ruth-Maria Hammond.
- The Chaplain will work closely with the Director of Music, Mr Mark Place, and with other departments in the school.
- The successful applicant must also interact effectively on a professional level with colleagues in order to support them pastorally and spiritually, and seek to establish and maintain productive relationships with all.
- The Chaplain will seek to strengthen links with local parishes and with the Diocese, engaging with the Diocesan chaplaincy support network.

Person specification:

1. You will be a baptised and practising Roman Catholic lay man or woman, committed to the spiritual and personal development of children and young people, and able to provide a reference from your parish priest.
2. You will be a good listener, able to display patience and understanding. You will be approachable, extending friendship to all, but demonstrating a secure, understanding of how to maintain appropriate, professional relationships with all adults and children within and associated with the school, in accordance with the school's Code of Conduct.
3. Above all you will enjoy the company and challenge of children and young people and have an easy and humorous manner which combines openness and engagement with challenge and formality. You may have experience of working with children and young-people.
4. You will have a degree in theology or religious studies, or other experience or evidence of further or higher-education study that suits you to the chaplaincy role in the Roman Catholic Church.
5. You will have good social skills, both with young people and also with adults (parents and staff), showing flexibility where needed but also the accountability and a high degree of reliability and formal organisation required in a school context.
6. You will have a good sense of the Church's liturgy and be able to recruit and enthuse boys to take part in school worship.
7. You will be confident in leading large and small, formal and informal, groups of pupils and adults.



8. You will be an articulate speaker with presence and the ability to present, credibly and enthusiastically, the challenges of the Gospel.
9. You will have good administrative and organisational skills, including scheduling events, making bookings, arranging itineraries and timetables, obtaining and conserving resources, delegating responsibilities and providing clear briefings and instructions. You will be able to demonstrate a high standard of written and spoken English, and competent basic I. T. skills.
10. You will have the freedom and willingness to work flexibly, including in the evenings and weekends, and to arrange your working days to ensure you have entitlement time off but are available for school events and activities as needed.

Hours:

Full or part-time considered, working generally during the working week (Monday to Friday inclusive) during term-time. Attendance at school events outside these hours from time to time, as well as a few in-service training (INSET) days towards the beginning or end of school holidays.

Salary:

According to agreed hours and experience.

To Apply:

To apply, please submit a completed application form to Mrs Secker-Barker, the Headmaster's PA, at hr@morehouseschool.co.uk or by post to:

More House School
Moons Hill
Frensham
Farnham
Surrey
GU10 3AP

Interested candidates are welcome to make an appointment to visit the school for an informal visit.

Those interested are asked to apply as soon as possible.

This post is subject to an Enhanced DBS clearance and the receipt of satisfactory references before a formal job offer is confirmed.

More House School is firmly committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.