



BLUE MOUNTAINS GRAMMAR SCHOOL

POSITION: WILDERNESS EDUCATION TEACHER
Part Time, 0.8FTE Three Term Contract

Position Wilderness Education Teacher

Appointed By: Headmaster

Responsible To: Head of Wilderness Education, ultimately the Headmaster

Key Working Relationships: Headmaster
Deputy Head - Teaching & Learning
Deputy Head - Head of Senior School
Head of Staff Services
Head of Wilderness Education
Faculty Members
Heads of House

Introduction

Blue Mountains Grammar School is a co-educational Christian School in the Anglican tradition for students from Pre-Kindergarten to Year 12.

Established in 1918, the School has a tradition of excellence, consistently achieving outstanding results across academic, sporting and performing arts disciplines. We pride ourselves on the unique School Community that exists – the sense of closeness and inclusiveness that parents and students alike come to value and appreciate about the School.

With professional and experienced staff, the School delivers excellent teaching and learning, wellbeing, leadership and co-curricular opportunities to meet the needs of our young men and women. This takes place within a nurturing Christian environment founded on love, care, respect, service and commitment to one another.

There are three campuses: the Senior School (Years 7 to 12) and the Junior School (Pre-Kindergarten to Year 6) are located at Wentworth Falls, and the Preparatory School (Pre-Kindergarten to Year 4) is located at Valley Heights.

Blue Mountains Grammar School is a dynamic and forward-thinking school with a reputation for producing well-rounded, confident and outstanding citizens equipped for a life in the 21st century.

Further information about the School is available on the main web site at the following address - www.bmgs.nsw.edu.au

The Department

The Wilderness Ed Department is a very strong feature of the School and offers excellent teaching and learning facilities and resources to deliver all stages of the Board of Studies Endorsed Syllabi to students at Blue Mountains Grammar School. The team of Wilderness Ed staff are a collaborative team of experienced facilitators of teaching and learning and outdoor education specialists.

Wilderness Ed is a very popular Stage 5 Board Endorsed Elective Course selected by approximately half the year group.



The Wilderness Ed Department prides itself on keen student interest, high standards of work, excellent student academic achievements, current and contextually relevant learning and a safe and innovative outdoor program. A desire to work in close collaboration with other teachers and a willingness to actively contribute to the full life of the School is essential.

The Position

The School is seeking an outstanding educator to join the Wilderness Ed Faculty who can connect with students and inspire them with creativity, initiative, innovation, a commitment to quality and a love of the outdoor environment. The successful applicant will be teaching Years 9 and 10 in the Senior Campus at Wentworth Falls and will also be involved in the Year Camp program and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Remuneration will be based on the Independent Schools NSW Standards Model (Teachers) Multi Enterprise Agreement 2017 according to qualifications and experience.

The following provides an indication of the responsibilities associated with the position:

Senior School Classroom Teacher - General Role/Purpose

A Senior School Classroom Teacher is responsible for the implementation of the Blue Mountains Grammar School Statement of Teaching and Learning through:

- Providing direction, supervision and care for students in the Senior School;
- Excelling in the classroom through the effective delivery of the curriculum;
- Maintaining professional standards;
- Effective classroom management;
- Building rapport with and enhancing the wellbeing of students;
- Emphasising the Christian ethos of the School.

Key Accountabilities

Teaching & Learning

- Teach classes as allocated;
- Plan and organise programs and lessons for effective teaching to occur using the relevant Teaching & Learning Programs;
- Differentiate the curriculum to cater for the range of abilities, interests and backgrounds of all students;
- Develop, construct and implement a balanced range of assessment tasks to provide students with the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge, skills and ways of working;
- Give the appropriate notice on all formal assessment tasks as per the assessment schedule;
- Evaluate assessment tasks to ensure they are fair, equitable and consistent;
- Maintain records of student achievement;
- Monitor the impact that teaching is having on student results;
- Provide timely and appropriate feedback to the individual student;
- Seek feedback on teaching and learning from students and adjust and improve teaching in light of this feedback;
- Focus on helping students achieve better results;



- Moderate student performance to ensure consistency of standards across the School;
- Report constructively through open communication with parents; by way of interview, telephone conversation, student reports and the maintenance of anecdotal records;
- Become informed about students learning characteristics and academic capabilities through examination of Individual Learning Profiles;
- Communicate regarding academic performance of students to the Deputy Head – Head of Senior School, Deputy Head – Teaching & Learning, Head of Department and Head of House and the Head of International Students (for FFPOS);
- Utilise the school's on-line learning management tool, iWise and FrogLearn.

Professional Standards

- Maintain a current knowledge of pedagogy and subject disciplines;
- Adopt evidence-based approaches to work;
- Attend professional development activities to improve teaching methods, wellbeing skills and knowledge;
- Work collaboratively as a member of the teaching team to ensure the best possible outcomes for students;
- Attend Department and Staff meetings;
- Maintain personal competency in the range of outdoor activities offered at BMGS;
- Maintain relevant qualifications and association memberships.

Classroom Management

- Apply effective behaviour management techniques which are based on recognised theories of behaviour;
- Support all School policies, in particular the Staff Code of Conduct; Child Protection; Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying; Social Networking; ICT, Computer, Telephone and Equipment Code of Use;
- Encourage students to meet expectations for appropriate behaviour;
- Deal with students in a courteous, firm, consistent and fair manner at all times;
- Take responsibility for managing inappropriate student behaviour;
- Be punctual, manage time, lesson planning and assessment schedules efficiently;
- Establish a learning environment where students feel safe and valued;
- Demonstrate strategies to create a positive environment supporting student effort and learning;
- Monitor student progress and liaise with the relevant Deputy Head – Head of Senior School, Deputy Head – Teaching & Learning, Head of Staffing Services, Head of Department and/or Heads of House regarding student individual learning needs.

Student Wellbeing

- Take responsibility for the wellbeing needs, duty of care and standards of behaviour of all students inside and outside the classroom;
- Report irresponsible or improper behaviour that is beyond normal classroom management techniques to the relevant Head of House or Deputy Head – Head of Senior School or Deputy Head – Teaching & Learning;
- Be active as a tutor in the House System in accordance with the role description.



Other

- Undertake other duties such as playground and bus-line duties, extra-curricular activities; attending school camps and excursions; open days; parent-teacher nights; assemblies; other School functions such as Presentation Nights;
- Supervise additional classes as required;
- Comply with the accepted dress code of the School as outlined in the Staff Handbook;
- Exhibit personal behaviour reflective of the ethos and Christian foundations of the School;
- Follow Workplace, Health and Safety procedures;
- Perform other reasonable duties as directed by the Headmaster.

Wilderness Education Teacher - Specific Role/Purpose

Wilderness Ed teachers lead safe high quality, outdoor education activities and programs that enable students to learn through active engagement with the natural environment in direct, guided experience. They lead and co-lead activity sessions, classroom lessons, extended camps and expeditions, uphold risk management and standard operating procedures and assist with trip preparation and the maintenance of outdoor equipment and facilities. Wilderness Ed teachers are mentors, who provide pastoral support and also contribute to the development of the outdoor program in alignment with the BMGS vision and strategic directions of the School.

Key Accountabilities

- Professionally lead/co-lead/instruct a range of activities, overnight trips and extended expeditions and year based camps to achieve identified aims and objectives;
- Carry out pre-trip briefings, plan and deliver activities, facilitate debrief sessions and ensure that all learning objectives are achieved;
- Implement risk management and standard operating procedures to ensure wellbeing and safety of staff and students;
- Assist with the maintenance of outdoor equipment and facilities to ensure wellbeing and safety of staff and students;
- Participate in student mentoring and formative aspects of the program;
- Assist with the day-to-day running of the camping program during the year;
- Collaboratively contribute to the ongoing improvement of the BMGS outdoor program including the development of the camping program Years 2 to 11, Wilderness Education and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Selection Criteria

Essential Selection Criteria:

- Cert IV, Diploma or Degree in Outdoor Recreation with recognised qualifications and current competency in canyoning, climbing, abseiling, canoeing, bush walking, caving, remote area first aid;
- Experience in leading best practice outdoor and life skills programs;
- Effective interpersonal communication and group facilitation skills;
- Ability to infuse the Christian ethos into teaching practice;



- Commitment to personal ongoing learning;
- Professional and personal integrity;
- Flexible, collaborative, proactive and innovative;
- Teaching qualification;
- An interest in health and fitness;
- Commitment to ongoing personal and professional development in natural environments;
- Light rigid vehicle licence;
- Wilderness Education Teacher - Specific Role/Purpose.

Privacy Guidelines

1. In applying for this position applicants will provide Blue Mountains Grammar School with personal information.
2. If applicants provide personal information, for example name and address or information contained on resumes, the School will collect the information in order to assess the application.
3. Applicants agree that the School may store this information for three months.
4. Applicants may seek access to the personal information held by the School if unsuccessful in obtaining a position. However, access may be denied if for example access would have an unreasonable impact on the privacy of others.
5. The School will not disclose this information to a third party without the applicant's consent.
6. If applicants provide personal information of others, they will be encouraged to inform them that they are disclosing this information to the School and why; that they can access this information if they wish; that the School does not usually disclose information to third parties; and that the School may store this information for three months.

Guidelines for the Application

- a) To apply for this position you must be eligible to work in Australia, e.g. hold an appropriate and current Australian work visa.
- b) Applications should have a covering letter, personal statements relating to your Christian philosophy and your approach to nurturing children.
- c) All applications will be acknowledged upon receipt.



- d) Applications must also include the following information:
- Personal details (a photograph is optional).
 - Qualifications (please include the date of each qualification and the name of the institution awarding the qualification). Short-listed applicants will be asked to bring original documents or certified copies of transcripts of qualifications to the interview.
 - A summary of your current position.
 - A concise summary of your employment history (beginning with the most recent position).
 - Membership of any professional associations.
 - Co-curricular involvement, interests and expertise.
 - Working with Children Check clearance details.
 - Names, positions and contact details for three (3) referees. Your present Principal should be listed amongst confidential referees (if applicable) as should the Minister of the Church you currently attend.
- e) Applications must be provided unbound. Please do not use display books, folders or staples to enclose your application.
- f) Applications close **5:00pm** on **Monday, 26th February, 2018**, and can be emailed to:

Ms Janine Hanrahan – PA to the Headmaster

(jhanrahan@bmg.s.nsw.edu.au)

Blue Mountains Grammar School

Locked Bag 3006

Wentworth Falls NSW 2782

In accordance with Child Protection legislation, applicants for child-related work must have a current Working with Children clearance, which will be verified online by BMGS prior to employment.

Please see www.newcheck.kids.nsw.gov.au