



Sidcot

Live Adventurously



TEACHING POST CANDIDATE
INFORMATION PACK

WHAT MATTERS WHEN CHOOSING A PLACE TO TEACH?

If it matters that you're teaching more than just standard lessons, that you are passionate about the development of the whole child and that you're committed to encouraging children to take a wider view of their world, then Sidcot may be the place for you. At Sidcot you'll find a school community that aims to put into practice the Quaker values of peace, equality and living adventurously. It's a place where children learn to be curious about the world and develop the confidence to live purposeful, engaged lives.

We are justifiably proud of how well our children perform academically, without the needs for SATS testing, but we are equally proud of their social skills, their emotional intelligence, their resilience and their determination to make a difference in the world.

We encourage the same outward looking attitude in our teachers. We want them to be motivated by the fact that we are all continually learning and developing throughout our lives. We want them to find in Sidcot a kind, supportive place, where they can do their very best work.

Teaching at Sidcot means joining a community of highly skilled, like-minded professionals who value the school for its determination to educate the whole person for a life of active, responsible citizenship. If you're interested in teaching at Sidcot, I look forward to hearing from you.

Hannah Farnie

Acting Head of the Junior School

"A rare breed of school which values individual worth above corporate success."

The Good Schools Guide



SIDCOT AT A GLANCE

Type of school:	Day and Boarding
Gender:	Co-educational
Year founded:	1699
Faith:	As a Quaker School we welcome students and staff of all faiths and none.
Age range:	3 to 18
Age range of boarders:	11 to 18
Number of students:	600
Number of boarders:	150
Educational programmes:	IB Diploma A Levels
Outstanding reputation:	Well known for excelling in the Creative Arts, Maths and Science
Extras:	Equestrian Centre
Setting:	Rural
Nearest airport:	Bristol – 7 miles
Nearest railway station:	Weston-super-Mare or Bristol Temple Meads
Nearest cities:	Bristol and Bath

QUAKERISM – WHAT MAKES A QUAKER SCHOOL DIFFERENT?

Since its foundation, the values of the Society of Friends have been at the heart of Sidcot School. Quakers believe in living life adventurously and letting their lives speak.

In practice this means an approach to teaching that encourages individual thought and exploration, whilst making sure all students have the support they need to grow as individuals with their full range of talents recognised and celebrated.

QUAKER MEETINGS

The Junior School has its own regular Meeting for Worship. Pupils come together and sit in silence and if anyone feels they want to speak, they do so. You'd be surprised how quickly our lively young pupils settle into the silence and learn to welcome the quiet space.

Meeting for Worship also helps to build pupils' confidence in speaking out. They get to voice their opinion knowing that they will be fully listened to, and, in turn, they learn how to listen respectfully to others.

Each Meeting has a theme, which is chosen by the Elders, a group of pupils from Year 6 who meet each week to organise the Meeting. Twice a year, the Elders get together with local Quaker groups for games, activities and discussions.

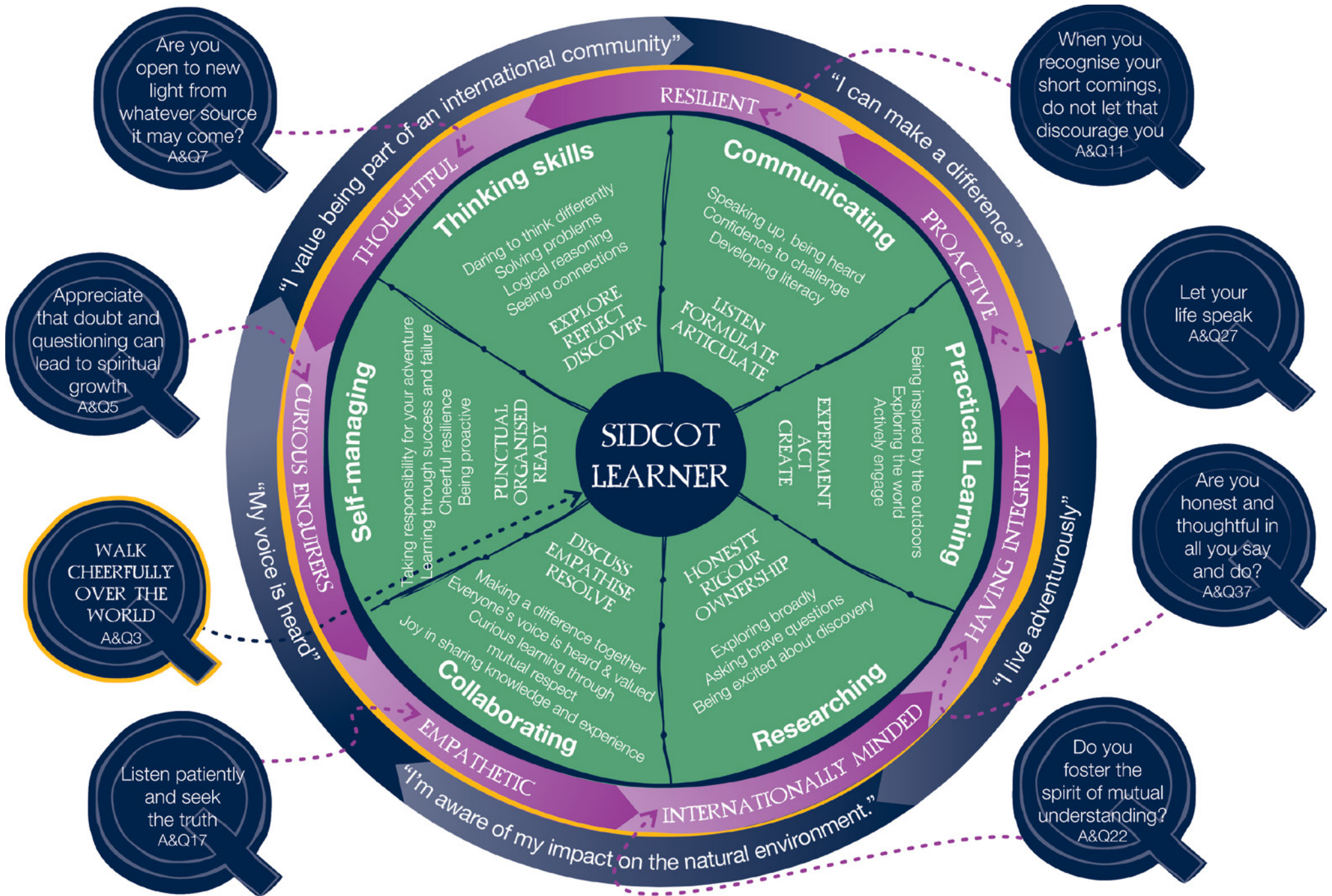
THE LEARNING WHEEL

A Quaker school is built on Quaker values. At Sidcot we have created 'The Learning Wheel' to show how these values come to life day by day in the School.

The Quaker values sit on the outer part of the wheel. Move inwards and you'll see how those values translate into action.

You'll see the learning wheel all over the school. In the classroom it guides our teaching and helps children to reflect on their learning experience. It's used as a reference point when recruiting new staff, and for evaluating our teaching practice.

It's also used as a resource for discussion amongst pupils and staff. Values are abstract; the wheel makes them concrete and gives us a language with which to discuss our aims and aspirations for life in the school.



Are you open to new light from whatever source it may come?
A&Q7

Appreciate that doubt and questioning can lead to spiritual growth
A&Q5

WALK CHEERFULLY OVER THE WORLD
A&Q3

Listen patiently and seek the truth
A&Q17

When you recognise your short comings, do not let that discourage you
A&Q11

Let your life speak
A&Q27

Are you honest and thoughtful in all you say and do?
A&Q37

Do you foster the spirit of mutual understanding?
A&Q22

PEACE & GLOBAL STUDIES

The Centre for Peace and Global Studies works to create a learning environment where students and staff are able to explore and understand how we embody the qualities of peace in the way that we engage with each other across the School community. We feel that it is important to help students make sense of the world around them.

Peace education is embedded throughout Sidcot. Our aim is to create a school filled with peacemakers and changemakers, we facilitate learning, give voices and ways to follow through on the things we say are important. We want students to be able to discern, to be able to ask questions about what they see and hear. To be awake to how actions support words, to look for the inconsistencies of behaviour and the rhetoric behind school policies.

Our teaching staff play a key role in creating a learning space where the energy is one of enquiry and that much lauded quality, curiosity – a place where all parties have something to learn and something to offer.

In KS2 we have a weekly Quaker Peace and Global Studies lesson as part of the curriculum. This is designed to introduce the younger members of our school to the values at the centre of our approach and also explore a range of local, national and international challenges that face our society.

THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

The Junior School is a very special place in which the children begin their educational journey at Sidcot. It educates children from the age of three through to eleven, in a beautiful building just across the road from the Senior School site. The Quaker ethos permeates every aspect of Junior School life enabling pupils to develop and grow into confident, accepting young people, with the desire to make the world a better place.

Early Years Foundation Stage

The journey for Junior pupils starts in our Nursery class, which provides a stimulating and enriching learning environment. Our experienced staff are passionate in nurturing the individual talents of the children within their care. The Reception class builds upon the foundations laid in Nursery and continues to enhance learning through exploring the interests of the class. This acts as a stimulus for a variety of educational experiences and helps the children to really engage in their learning.

Children in Nursery and Reception follow the Early Years Foundation Stage programme. The Nursery Class is considered the first Educational Year of our School and is not a separate Nursery or Day Care Unit. Pupils and staff also have access to many of the senior school's marvelous facilities and specialist departments to provide an enriching and stimulating education.

Key Stage 1

When children move into Key Stage 1 they continue to develop and grow by combining their learning through play, with a more structured approach that enables them to grasp the fundamental building blocks of the core curriculum subjects. The majority of lessons in KS1 are taught by the form tutor in order to develop a nurturing rapport between the teacher and the children within their care. Teaching is often topic based, so children enjoy an engaging and stimulating focus each term and trips and 'Wow' days offer enrichment and lasting memories to encourage a passion for lifelong learning. Specialist teaching is provided for French, PE and Music.

Key Stage 2

In Key stage 2 education continues to focus around the development of the whole child and we take a holistic approach to planning the curriculum, in order to provide creative and inspirational learning experiences for our children. Specialist teachers enrich children's learning experience in Music, Art, PE and Modern Foreign languages and enable the children to benefit from the extensive Senior School facilities. Our aim is to develop well-balanced, well -educated children who understand the importance of honesty, courage, humility, respect and integrity. It is an aim that we achieve through first class pastoral care and exciting skills based curriculum, which encourages the children to develop enquiring minds and become independent and resourceful learners. The educational experience for all our children is further enhanced by an excellent and extensive programme of extra-curricular activities which vary according to the season, but typically encompass a range of physical, creative, musical and technological activities.

Forest School

Our stunning environment lends itself to an enriching Forest school and environmental science programme, which all year groups access. Sidcot's 160 acres are used as a resource to enable exciting learning opportunities that encourage an understanding of the world around them and how they fit within it. The Forest School leader ensures a flexible approach to learning and will adapt programmes to address the children's specific interests and ideas, always ensuring that educational learning goals are being appropriately met. As a result our Forest School sessions become child led, and the programme is ever-evolving.

WHAT'S EXPECTED?

Sidcot School is a busy and lively day and boarding school with a strong sense of community. As a teacher, you'll be right at the heart of that community. You'll be part of a team of professionals whose energy and commitment brings to life the Quaker ethos of 'Living Adventurously.'

So, what does that mean in practice?

Junior School teachers have the responsibility for the education and pastoral welfare of the pupils in their tutor group. A proportion of lessons, PE, Music, Art and Languages are taught by subject specialists and teachers therefore are afforded planning and preparation time within their week. The proportion varies according to the year group.

We will ask you to apply your enthusiasm and talents to helping our children to step outside their comfort zone and try new things. At Sidcot we set out to educate the whole person so alongside your classroom work, you'll be involved in working collaboratively delivering our extensive programme of extra and co-curricular activities. This will include sessions after school and at weekends. You'll also deliver assemblies and be involved in a range of marketing and whole school events such as our Open Mornings, Taster afternoons and our annual Festival of Peace weekend.

All teachers have weekly timetabled playground duties and a prep session to cover after school, attend training courses and take part in the school's professional development programme.

BENEFITS

This is an excellent opportunity for someone who wishes to join a thriving day and boarding school, in one of the most attractive regions of England.

Sidcot rewards its teaching staff well by offering the following benefits:

- Competitive salary scale points.
- Longer holidays than the maintained sector.
- Eligible for membership of the Teachers' Pension Scheme.
- Remission of school fees subject to satisfying our standard Admissions criteria.
- Opportunity to take on additional responsibilities for which there are allowances.
- Free on-site parking.
- Free school lunches are provided during term time in the Refectory.
- Free use of leisure and sporting facilities.

For more information please visit the Sidcot website: www.sidcot.org.uk.

As part of the School's commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the role, including checks with past employers and a DBS Enhanced check.