



GIGGLESWICK
SCHOOL

Biology Teacher

Applicant Information Pack





The School

OVERVIEW

Giggleswick School is a co-educational boarding and day school situated in the stunning rural location of the Yorkshire Dales, within walking distance of the popular market town of Settle and just over an hour from both Leeds and Manchester.

The school demonstrates all the characteristics you would expect to find in an excellent independent boarding school. It is exceptionally good at discovering and nurturing individuals' strengths; it is a friendly, supportive community with excellent pastoral care; it provides a breadth of educational opportunities, subjects, and co-curricular activities; and pupils achieve strong academic performance. All of this is delivered by dedicated, high quality teachers and support staff.

What makes Giggleswick distinctive is participation. The school community delights in seeing growth through the experience of trying something new and being surprised at what one can do. Giggleswick's emphasis on wide participation has two other benefits: students not only do the things they excel at, but also learn how to seek and offer support within and between year groups. Participation is also true of the staff in school – they are widely involved in the interests and activities of the pupils, collaborating with them for mutual benefit and enjoyment. The school believes that both factors create the warm respect that exists between pupils up and down the school, and between all staff and pupils.





■ The School

HISTORY

Since the school was founded in 1512, Giggleswick has continued to grow and develop. In 1934, Catteral Hall opened as Giggleswick's preparatory school. In more recent times there have been many new developments including the Sharpe Library, a new dining hall, refurbishment of boarding accommodation, new science laboratories, and The Glover Art Studio. The Partridge teaching building was opened in 2003 which now houses Giggleswick Junior School. A new Sports Hall was opened in 2007, and the Richard Whiteley Theatre was opened in 2010, providing a high quality performance venue for the school's very successful drama department. Our next projects are redeveloping the music school, continuing to invest in our boarding provision, and extending the success of the Junior School.



LOCATION AND FACILITIES

Giggleswick is perfectly located on the edge of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, home to some of Yorkshire's most iconic scenery and attractions. Manchester, Leeds and York are all just an hour away, with the popular towns of Ilkley, Skipton, Kirkby Lonsdale, Clitheroe and Kendal all within the school's day and flexi boarding catchment area.



With spectacular limestone valleys, picture postcard villages and historic castles, it is a place that stirs the emotions and stimulates the senses. The school's idyllic setting gives life at Giggleswick a real sense of adventure and discovery, where children have the space and freedom to grow as individuals and develop a lifelong love of learning.



■ The School

The campus and facilities provide an impressive modern learning environment with Junior and Senior School sharing the 215 acre site. The Richard Whiteley Theatre hosts a full programme of live productions, music and dance, as well as being used for drama lessons and co-curricular clubs and societies. Other on-site facilities include the Chapel, The Glover Art Studio, an observatory, a swimming pool and a mountain bike trail. There is also a state-of-the-art multi-activity sports hall, fitness centre, tennis and squash courts, cricket, rugby and football pitches and a golf course.

ETHOS AND VALUES

There is a real sense of community throughout the campus with a happy, relaxed and purposeful atmosphere where pupils are polite and welcoming. The school promotes a real 'can do' philosophy through encouragement and support for pupils to have a go at a range of activities – and the pupils thrive on it. Day pupils are also fully integrated into the life and ethos of the school.



“The school successfully achieves its aims of providing a supportive and stimulating education. Its core values of participation, respect and excellence permeate throughout.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI), 2015



■ The School

GIGGLESWICK SENIOR SCHOOL

With 360 pupils aged 11 to 18, the Senior School is large enough to offer a wide variety of teaching and learning, but small enough to offer close tutorial support, small classes, and opportunities for everyone to get into teams or to take part in music, art, drama, outdoor pursuits and all the other activities we offer. The curriculum is deliberately broad, with choices offered as pupils get older and have the opportunity to be selective. The school has seven boarding houses, each with Senior House Staff, Matrons, and a full team of Tutors. Day pupils are fully integrated into the House system and are expected to commit to the extended school day of a boarding school.

BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

The Biology department at Giggleswick has a proven track record of examination success. The Biology department is particularly proud of its track record of achieving medical and veterinary places at top ranking Russell Group Universities. In 2017 at Biology A level 82% of the candidates achieved A* - B grade and in GCSE Biology we have a track record of 91% A*/A. Biology remains a popular A level option (1 or 2 sets). At present the Biology department has 3 full time teachers.

Year 7-9 pupils are taught 3 lessons per 2 week cycle. In years 10 and 11 pupils have 4 or 5 lessons per 2 week cycle. AQA specifications are studied for GCSE and A level. The Biology department undertakes a rich extra-curricular programme

including an annual sixth form visit to the Life Centre in Newcastle.

All A level Biology students undertake MOOCS. The department has a link to PBA ecology and undertakes research and fieldwork with them. We also have a range of guest speakers from surgeons to ecologists.

A Giggleswick pupil is...

CURIOUS
actively enquiring

SKILLED
adept and accomplished

AWARE
tolerant and compassionate

CREATIVE
innovative and original

PRO-ACTIVE
dynamic and enterprising

PASSIONATE
aspirational and spirited

RESILIENT
tenacious and positive

ASSURED
confident not arrogant



General Responsibilities

Key responsibilities will include:

- To teach Biology from KS3 to A level.

TEACHING DUTIES

- All full-time teachers teach in the region of 20 (55-minute) lessons a week and are expected to make a regular contribution to department clubs, clinics or workshops and the extra-curricular activities programme. Teaching contact time is reduced for a newly qualified teacher. A weekly emergency cover period and, where possible, a weekly departmental meeting is also timetabled.
- Teachers make a significant contribution to the co-curriculum: the Friday afternoon academic enrichment programme; the coaching of games or sport; the Outdoor Pursuits programme; and the Combined Cadet Force. This can include coaching, supervising, leading or training pupils on 3 or 4 afternoons each week, depending on academic teaching commitments.
- All members of staff are expected to attend regular staff meetings, INSET, Parents' Conferences and the monthly Tutor meetings that are held to discuss pupil progress.
- The school week has a regular pattern of Assemblies, Chapel and Tutor/Form periods which teachers attend. Teachers are also invited to support students at major school functions such as drama productions, the Spring Concert or Sports Day.

PASTORAL DUTIES

- All full-time teachers are attached to a boarding house and undertake an evening duty each week.
- The school has a strong personal tutorial system and teachers provide additional pastoral care and academic advice and support for up to 12 tutees.
- Teachers are strongly encouraged to support all aspects of the boarding life of the school. This can include making a contribution to the weekend activity programme for boarders on Saturday evenings or Sundays; supervising events or activities; attending Sunday Chapel services; by organising and leading trips; or sharing a pastime.

OTHER DUTIES

- Teachers are assigned to a duty team which supervises school duties such as meals and weekend duties (e.g. detention) approximately every six weeks.
- Once a year, teachers take part in an Exeat duty team to provide cover for the boarders who remain at school.
- All teaching staff are expected to follow the Staff Code of Conduct and to follow the policies and guidance laid out in the staff handbook.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- You have a legal duty to take reasonable care of your own health and safety and that of others and you are expected to be familiar with, and adhere to Giggleswick School's Health and Safety Policy.



■ General Responsibilities

CHILD PROTECTION

- Giggleswick School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. You will be expected to support this approach in the context of your role and to adhere to and ensure compliance with the school's Safeguarding policies and procedures at all times. If in the course of carrying out your duties you become aware of any actual or potential risks to the safety or welfare of children in the school s/he must report any concerns to the school's child protection officer or to the Headmaster.

SCHOOL VALUES

- Ensure your work, communication and approach conforms to the brand, values and style of the school. Keep up to date, and

comply with the Giggleswick School's Rules, Policies and Procedures at all times, as detailed in the school handbook.

“Pupils enjoy many opportunities to participate in sport, outdoor activity and the performing arts. Pupils and parents praised the range of co-curricular activities.”

Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI), 2015





The Person

EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

Essential

- Qualified Teacher Status or NQT
- Honours degree in Biology

Desirable

- Ability to teach A level Biology
- Ability to teach another Science subject

KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

- Experience of working with children and young people
- Teaching experience with a proven track record in achieving examination success.
- Experience of teaching Biology to GCSE as a minimum
- A secure knowledge of your subject, its place in the Curriculum, examinations syllabuses and assessment criteria.

SKILLS

- Good interpersonal skills, with the ability to develop positive relationships with young people.
- Strong organisational and IT skills
- Able to engage pupils in learning through active teaching strategies
- Able to communicate effectively orally and in writing

- Able to demonstrate effective planning and teaching skills
- Able to present confidently to a large group of students

PERSONAL QUALITIES

- Commitment to and flexible with the demands of the role
- Demonstrates fairness and consistency in all dealings with pupils
- Energy and enthusiasm
- Able to demonstrate the positive values, attitudes and behaviour we expect from our pupils
- Reliability and integrity
- Willingness to contribute to the co-curricular life of the school
- A commitment to personal professional development and taking responsibility for it
- A positive motivation to work with children and young people
- Emotional resilience

SAFEGUARDING

- Evidence of a commitment to promoting the health, welfare and safeguarding of children.



Terms of Appointment

We offer a competitive and desirable package that includes:

- An attractive salary, dependent upon the skills and experience of the candidate
- Assistance with accommodation may be available
- High quality working environment
- Eligibility to join the TPS pension scheme
- Where relevant, a generous fee remission to the children of the successful candidate
- Lunches provided free of charge during term time
- Free access to on-site facilities, including gym, sports courts and swimming pool
- Beautiful 215 acre campus

How to Apply

For further information and an application pack, please see our website www.giggleswick.org.uk or contact Abigail Thornton, HR Manager, on 01729 893096, or by email hr@giggleswick.org.uk

The successful applicant will take up the position from 1 September 2018.

The closing date for applications Friday 23rd February 2018.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment by complying with the school's Child Protection Policy and Staff Code of Conduct at all times. You should be aware that this job will be subject to all relevant safer recruitment checks including an enhanced check from the Disclosure and Barring Service.

