



THE KING'S SCHOOL
CHESTER

TEACHER OF PHYSICS

(from September 2018)



Discovering the *world*



Igniting *curiosity*



Seizing *opportunity*



Becoming *exceptional*

EVERY OPPORTUNITY. ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES.



Teacher of Physics



THE KING'S SCHOOL

King's is an academically selective, co-educational independent school originally founded in 1541 for the 'poor and friendless' children of Chester. Almost 500 years later, King's is a thriving, dynamic and forward-thinking school of 1100 pupils that is considered to be one of the very best of its kind in the country.

At King's we aim to make the very most of every individual student in the school, both academically as a selective school with a great tradition of scholarship, but also in terms of character development, confidence and wellbeing. This is achieved by a broad curriculum, extensive co-curricular programme, excellent pastoral care and highly committed and professional staff. We want our pupils to remember their time at school with real fondness whilst relishing the prospect of successfully making their mark on the world and leaving it a better place.

The school enjoys a spacious and well-resourced site on the southern outskirts of Chester, having moved from a city centre location in 1960. Our new, state-of-the-art infant school, Willow Lodge, was built 3 years ago with the Junior School being impressively extended a year beforehand. There is a major site development plan in progress for the Senior School that has recently started with the construction of a new £5million Sports Centre. The school retains close links with Chester Cathedral where it holds regular services, including a traditional Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at Christmas.

King's comprises the Senior School (ages 11-18), the Junior School (ages 7-11) and the Infant School (Willow Lodge, ages 4-7). There are currently 760 pupils in the Senior School (220 in the Sixth Form), 240 pupils in the Junior School and 120 in the Infants, supported by almost 250 staff (teaching and support). In 2017 the students achieved 81% A*-A at GCSE and 87% A*-B at A level. There are over 100 activities and clubs in the Senior School for students to choose from on a weekly basis. The major sports are football, hockey, cricket and rowing for boys and netball, hockey and rowing for girls. Drama, music and the CCF are also all particularly strong.

Further information about the school can be found on our website: www.kingschester.co.uk



Teacher of Physics



THE OPPORTUNITY

We require a well-qualified, dynamic and creative teacher of Physics for September 2018 to teach to IGCSE and A level. This outstanding department currently teaches around 60 sixth form students and has a good track record of preparing candidates for Oxbridge and Russell Group university entrance.

NQTs, recent graduates or experienced teachers are equally welcome to apply.

The successful applicant(s) will have the following attributes:

- a passion for Physics and excellent subject knowledge,
- the ability to stimulate students' curiosity, interest and enjoyment,
- a willingness to work as part of a team, promoting the work of the department and contributing to its smooth running and development,
- a strong commitment to the extra-curricular work of the department; we run an annual trip to CERN, speaker meetings and a number of clubs for all ages.

The successful applicant will be expected to contribute to all other duties normally shared by members of the department, such as marking, writing reports, setting work in case of absence, attending departmental meetings and appropriate administrative tasks.

All members of the teaching staff (with the exception of NQTs) are expected to take on duties as a Form Tutor.



Teacher of Physics

THE SCIENCE FACULTY

All departments at King's are part of a faculty structure, with Heads of Departments responsible directly to the four Heads of Faculty, who in turn report to the Deputy Head Academic. The Science Faculty, comprising Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science and Physics, is led by Dr Helen Faulkner.

THE PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

Departmental ambitions:

- To inspire all students to enjoy Physics and fulfil their potential in the subject through stimulation and challenge.
- To encourage students to appreciate and respect the challenges of the subject but at the same time to make it exciting and accessible to them.
- To instill a sense of perseverance and a determination to overcome difficulties.
- To inspire students to develop scientific understanding and curiosity through experimental investigation and consolidate this through data analysis and problem solving.
- To enhance students' learning in the subject using ICT to help explain experimental situations, to gather real and simulated data and to facilitate analysis using spreadsheet packages and other techniques.
- To develop a set of problem-solving skills founded on experimental design and development, systematic analysis and a sound understanding of mathematical modelling which can be transferred to a range of disciplines at School, University and beyond.

Staff

There currently are four full time staff and one part-time staff member. Teaching duties are shared across the whole range of year groups (Yr7 - Yr13). The department is ably supported by a full time and a part time technician.

Teaching

KS3 - Years 7 and 8.

Years 7 and 8 follow our own Physics syllabus, loosely based on the National Curriculum, which encourages good habits at an early age and provides a sound basis for studying the subject at a higher level, as well as inspiring students to apply key ideas to a range of different scenarios, including geophysics. Students are taught in unsetting groups.

KS4 - Years 9, 10 and 11.

We follow the Edexcel IGCSE course for which teaching begins in Year 9. Students may, from Year 10 onwards, continue their study of the subject to exam level, either as a Separate Science or as part of a Double Award course (in the case of a selected number of students for whom Separate Sciences are felt to be less suitable) after IGCSE options are chosen in Year 9. In the current Year 10, the first to pursue the above scheme, 89% of students are studying Physics in one form or the other. Apart from the Double Award group, sets are a function of other options chosen as opposed to ability.



Teacher of Physics

Sixth Form – Years 12 and 13.

We follow AQA Physics A Level 7408 in the Sixth Form, where currently 60 students are studying the subject, with three sets in each year group. Many of our Sixth Form scientists go on to study science or engineering courses at top universities, including Oxford and Cambridge.

Support in Mathematics is offered for the very small number who do not choose this A level alongside Physics, as well as extension lessons for those planning to apply for STEM subjects at university, especially those in which an entrance test or technical interview will be required.

Examination results

The department enjoys a strong record of examination success. Over the last five years, our average pass rates are as follows:

IGCSE	98% A*-C	81% A*-A
A Level	94% A*-C	60% A*-A

Enrichment and extra-curricular activities

In addition to preparing students for external examinations we are committed to enriching their experience of Physics. Students can enter for Physics Challenges, with several going on to compete in national Olympiads each year. The department takes students to various local events, including the Physics Olympics at Liverpool University and STEM National Challenges. Outside speakers give talks to whole year groups and visiting academics are invited to address the Science Matters group on their specialism. Lower Sixth students are encouraged to take part in Headstart courses and to win Nuffield Bursaries to pursue Summer school projects. A trip to CERN takes place in the Michaelmas term of the Upper Sixth. The department organizes and hosts a Physics Olympics outreach event involving over 100 visiting Year 9 pupils in which our own Lower Sixth physicists are heavily involved.

Resources

The department has the use of three dedicated Physics teaching laboratories all with computers and data projector. As far as possible, each full time member of staff conducts their teaching in one room. There are two prep rooms and substantial storage space in the labs; the department is well resourced and undergoing continual revision as to the use and storage of apparatus. We have a dedicated class set of 14 iPads to enhance general teaching and to facilitate electronic data logging and analysis.



Teacher of Physics



TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

The School will offer a highly competitive salary on our own salary scale which is pensionable under the TPS. A school iPad or equivalent interactive device will be provided, along with a relocation allowance where appropriate. Staff children may be educated at King's at reduced fees.

PROCESS

Candidates for this post should complete the application form which should be posted, faxed or e-mailed to The Headmaster, The King's School, Chester, CH4 7QL to arrive **not later than 12 noon on Wednesday 2nd May.**

hm@kingschester.co.uk

Fax: 01244 689501

Tel: 01244 689523

A curriculum vitae will **not** be accepted in place of the completed application form.

Interviews will be held on Thursday 10th May.

The Head of Department, Dr Steve Bosworth, is available to discuss the school informally with prospective candidates. He can be contacted via stb@kingschester.co.uk.

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. The successful applicant will be required to undertake an enhanced DBS check. All our appointments follow the procedures laid out in our Equal Opportunities and Child Protection policies.