



# SAINT AIDAN'S

## Church of England High School

### TEACHER OF SCIENCE (PART TIME — 0.4, 2 DAYS)

#### MPR/UPR

Required for 1st September 2018

(Start date of 1st June 2018 also possible)

#### Message from Headteacher

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in joining us at Saint Aidan's. I am proud to be able to lead the school, and believe that it will provide an ideal environment for you to begin or continue your career in the teaching profession.

The Governors are looking for a committed and inspirational part time teacher to join a highly capable, experienced and successful team in our Science Faculty. Science is thriving at Saint Aidan's under the leadership of Lisa Tilbury, Director of Science. In 2017 84% of students achieved at least one GCSE at Grade C or above in Science and 24% at least one grade A or above. All three sciences are taught separately from Year 7, and the majority of students take separate Science GCSEs. A number of students also take a GCSE in Astronomy. Applications from newly qualified teachers and experienced teachers are equally welcome, and the successful candidate will be able to grow professionally in a supportive environment.

The successful candidate will be able to teach at least one science to GCSE Level, ideally including GCSE Physics, and all three sciences to Key Stage 3.

I hope that, having read the enclosed information and looked at the information about the school on our website, you feel encouraged to apply.

Please complete the application form and include a supporting letter (no more than two sides of A4 please) which tells us how your skills and experience have prepared you for the challenges of this post, as well as giving us a flavour of your vision for teaching Science at Saint Aidan's. Please note that the first part of Question 7 of the Application Form asks for details of a faith referee. A faith commitment is not essential for this post so you should omit this section if you are unable to provide such details.

I look forward to receiving your application. Applications close at 12 noon on Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

Yours sincerely,

**Andy Smith, Headteacher**

*Aspire & Believe & Succeed*



**Andy Smith,  
Headteacher**

**Post:** Teacher of Science  
(Part time—0.4, 2 DAYS)  
MPR/UPR

**Line Manager:**  
Director of Faculty,  
Lisa Tilbury

**Start Date:**  
Required for 1st September  
2018 (Start date of 1st June  
2018 also possible)

**Closing date for  
applications:**  
12 noon on Monday, 26th  
February 2018

**Interviews:**  
Week commencing  
Monday, 5th March 2018

Electronic applications are  
accepted in Microsoft Word  
or PDF format.  
Please email to  
**recruitment@st-  
aidans.lancs.sch.uk**

# Aspire Believe Succeed

## School Information

Saint Aidan's is a successful and popular 11-16 co-educational Church of England school with 800 students situated in a very pleasant part of the Fylde in Lancashire. We draw our students from a wide area which includes the rural area of Over Wyre, as well as a number of areas on the edge of Blackpool and Fleetwood. The school is within easy reach of the cities of Lancaster and Preston and the town of Blackpool.

Our students achieve very well, and there is a real will in the school to improve even further. In 2017 77% of students achieved at least grade 4 in the new English and Maths GCSEs (the equivalent of a C grade) and our results place us among the highest performing schools on the Fylde coast.

The school's commitment to learning extends to staff as well as students; there is a well developed structure of support for new members of staff and a culture of "lifelong learning" among our teaching and associate staff. Our in-house CPD programme is important to us and we are continually looking to develop innovative approaches to teaching and learning, with an emphasis on the use of modern technology and collaborative learning. All teaching staff have access to an iPad, and all of our classrooms are equipped with interactive whiteboards or touch displays. Individual tablet devices are used by students in the classroom.

The school was inspected by Ofsted in October 2013 and was found to be a Good school with Outstanding Behaviour and Safety. This is a significant improvement on our previous inspection and is a marker on our journey towards being a school which is Outstanding in all areas. An inspection by SIAMS in March 2017 found us to be Outstanding in two areas and Good in the other two. Following several years of under-recruitment of students we are now full in Years 7-10, with many more first choice applications than places available for September 2017. The majority of our students travel to us by bus and choose



Saint Aidan's over schools nearer their homes because of our individual care for students, our calm and purposeful atmosphere, our high academic standards and our Christian ethos.

As a church school we have a strong emphasis on the provision of a stimulating, secure and caring environment within which all members of our community can develop their potential to the full. Relationships within the school community are characterised by mutual respect; this creates a safe environment where young people can grow and develop, and where learning is valued. There is a strong "vertical" pastoral structure, built around forms that contain students from all five year groups. Our collective worship draws staff and students together and encourages them to explore life's big issues. The school's ethos is distinctively Christian but is also inclusive of those of other faiths or none.

We work closely with our local primary schools, sixth forms, FE providers and universities. Further afield the school has many links with partners in Britain and abroad, including strong links with partner schools in South Africa and Germany. Students can participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities and educational visits in this country and further afield. All staff are encouraged to contribute to this programme.

Our school 'motto' is taken from John 10 v 10 - "I have come that they may have life in all its fullness". All we do at Saint Aidan's is aimed at making this a reality for our students and staff.



**Ofsted say that Saint Aidan's is a good school where the behaviour of pupils is outstanding.**



**What the parents think...**

**"My daughter loves her new school, she looks forward to going every morning and comes home with a smile on her face every night. Thank you to all concerned, you have done a brilliant job."**

**(Year 7 parent)**



**"The school has always been supportive to all our children. I think one of the reasons is the fact that the unique pastoral system allows the pupils at the school to develop friendships with others in different years; it also fosters positive relationships with their form tutor with whom they remain for the whole of their time at the school."**

**(Year 11 parent)**



# Departmental Information

The Science Faculty comprises 8 teaching and 2 non-teaching members of staff, and is well- resourced with six laboratories within the main school building. We also have a school pond on- site, which is very popular with our students in the warmer months.



The Science labs are serviced from a main prep. room by our two experienced Science Technicians who provide invaluable advice to support outstanding teaching and learning.

Science is of course, a practical subject, and with the arrival of Required Practicals at GCSE, the development of practical skills from Year 7 onwards is essential. Good use of scientific vocabulary, for example to describe the uncertainty in an experiment, is embedded from an early age.

Saint Aidan's students are extremely fortunate to be taught by subject specialists across all year groups. As our student numbers are expected to rise, we have a shortfall in Physics for next academic year, which has led us to advertise this post. We believe that subject specialists at Key Stage 3 are best placed to prepare students for the demands of GCSE.

At Key Stage 4 the department follows AQA GCSE syllabuses for Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Combined Science (Trilogy). All students at Key Stage 4 have a generous 6 hours of science each week, this includes 2 hours a week each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Many of our separate science GCSE students go on to study sciences at A Level.

At Key Stage 3, we largely follow the Collins scheme of learning. Students are taught science for a total of 3 hours per week, which includes 1 hour each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Each Science lab is equipped with an interactive whiteboard, and all students bring their own tablet to school each day. All students have access to digital text books for use in class or at home. Students are still required to make notes in their exercise books.

## **GCSE Results 2017**

1 or more GCSE Science A\* - C 84%

1 or more GCSE Science A\*-A 24%

	Number of Entries	%A*-C	%A*-A
Biology	83	99%	36%
Chemistry	83	100%	30%
Physics	83	100%	34%
Core Science	66	55%	0%
Additional Science	66	55%	0%





# Departmental Information (continued)

Promoting science through STEM activities is an important priority within the faculty. We aim to raise students' aspirations and view science as a realistic pathway towards a rewarding career. We have strong links with the Ogden Trust, taking part in inter-school competitions such as the Hovercraft Challenge and Young Physicist of the Year. Recent science trips have included attending The Big Bang Science Fair at UCLAN and we currently have a number of Year 11 girls applying for a Women into Science Programme at Cambridge University. In Year 7, we run half-termly science events in an after school club. So far this academic year we have made water rockets and bath bombs!



I am confident that the more you learn about us here at Saint Aidan's, the more you will want to become part of our family of staff and students. I have been so impressed with Saint Aidan's that both of my own children are students here.

The successful applicant will be joining us at a very interesting time. We have recently seen significant changes to the science curriculum and how it is assessed, both at Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. We are now at the stages of reviewing and refining our lesson planning and assessment, as we near completion of our first run-through delivering the new specification.

There is a strong team approach in the faculty, with all members contributing to driving student progress forward. We meet regularly to provide formal opportunity for support, debate and discussion. However, the day-to-day communication between staff, students and parents is key. We are a hard-working staff willing to trial new approaches to teaching and learning.

A warm welcome awaits you within the Science Faculty here at Saint Aidan's and we look forward to the successful applicant joining the team.

**Lisa Tilbury,**  
**Director of Teaching and Learning,**  
**Science**





<b>PERSON SPECIFICATION FORM</b> <b>POST TITLE: TEACHER OF SCIENCE</b> <b>PART TIME (0.4 - 2 DAYS)</b>	<b>Essential (E)</b> <b>or</b> <b>Desirable (D)</b>	<b>To be identified by:</b> <b>application form (F),</b> <b>interview (I),</b> <b>reference (R)</b>
<b>QUALIFICATIONS</b>  Qualified Teacher Status  Degree in Science or related discipline  Further study and / or professional development	E  E  D	F  F  F
<b>EXPERIENCE</b>  Successful teaching or teaching practice experience in Science	E	F/I/R
<b>KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS</b>  Up to date knowledge of the school Science curriculum  Ability to teach Science across the 11-16 age range, including GCSE Science  Ability to teach Science lessons of a consistently high quality, inspiring and getting the best out of young people  Ability to use ICT proficiently in the classroom  Ability to teach Physics to GCSE level.	E  E  E  E  D	F/I/R  F/I/R  F/I/R  F/I/R  F/I/R
<b>OTHER</b>  Commitment to own professional development  Commitment to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and young people  Willingness to support the Christian ethos of the school	E  E  E	F/I/R  F/I/R  F/I

# Aspire Believe Succeed

## Our School Values

### We aspire

- ♦ to give each one of our students the best possible education to prepare them for a successful and fulfilling life
- ♦ to build a community based on mutual respect and tolerance
- ♦ to open minds and provide a rich experience inside and beyond the classroom

### We believe

- ♦ in a school with the Christian faith and Christian values at its heart
- ♦ in the God-given potential of each of our students
- ♦ in the value of every member of our school community of all faiths and none

### We succeed

- ♦ by excellence in teaching and learning
- ♦ by fostering a purposeful and disciplined atmosphere where all can thrive
- ♦ by students, staff, parents and the wider community working together



Ofsted say that relationships between students and with adults are first rate.



What the students say...

“The lessons are all absolutely brilliant! My favourite has got to be IT because we research all sorts of fun and fascinating things and I am learning so much.”

(Year 7 student)



“Saint Aidan’s is a very welcoming environment where nobody is lost and we are all treated as one. It has provided me with many opportunities to push myself, not just academically but with self confidence too.”

(Head Girl)

Our school “motto” is taken from John 10 v10 –

**“I have come that they may have life in all its fullness”.**

All we do at Saint Aidan’s is aimed at making this true for our students and staff.

