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| **Teacher of Chemistry**  **UCS Senior School**  **Further Details**  ***Required for April or September 2018*** | UCS_RGB |

University College School was founded in 1830 to promote principles of liberal scholarship. That remains our first and over-riding aim. Intellectual curiosity, breadth of study and independence of mind combine to achieve academic excellence; they are not subordinate to it.

Initially located in Gower Street, as part of University College London, the School was revolutionary in its approach to education, having as a fundamental principle that religion, in any form, should neither be an entry requirement nor a taught subject, believing rather that faith is a matter for the family and the individual - a tradition that continues today. The UCS Foundation, now independent of the University, comprises three schools: the Senior School (850 pupils: 11-18), the Junior Branch (250 pupils: 7-11) and the Pre-Prep (130 pupils: 3-7).

All three schools are set in attractive locations. In 1891 the Junior Branch was established at Holly Hill, Hampstead, followed in 1907 by the School’s separation from UCL, and the acquisition of the Senior School’s current purpose-built accommodation in Frognal, opened by King Edward VII. The pre-preparatory branch, The Phoenix (acquired in 2002) is based nearby. All three schools have full use of the extensive playing fields (including a large all-weather pitch and two pavilions) in West Hampstead.

The Sir Roger Bannister Sports Centre was opened in December 2006. It comprises a Sports Hall, Swimming Pool, Dance Studio and Fitness Centre. In late 2007, construction was completed of new Centres for the teaching of Art and Technology and of Modern Languages. In September 2008, girls were admitted to the UCS Sixth Form for the first time. The coeducational Sixth Form now numbers over 300. Alongside all of these developments, a fund-raising Appeal succeeded in raising over £2 million, enabling us to reach our target of doubling the availability of fee assistance for pupils from less wealthy families. The Foundation is planning further improvements at all three of the Foundation schools as well as the Fields over the coming years.

UCS remains true to the liberal traditions of its founders and continues to work hard to foster independence of mind among its students and to value their individuality. Academic results are excellent: typically, above 90% A\*/B at A-level (25-30% A\*) and 90% A\*/A at GCSE (65% A\*). Approximately 20% of the Sixth Form progress to Oxford or Cambridge each year.

Music and drama are very strong at UCS and the school offers an excellent range of co-curricular activities. The school has a fine record in team games, with shared endeavour and good sportsmanship being held in high regard.

**The Organisation of UCS**

Whilst the Headmaster of UCS is in overall control of all three schools in the Foundation, day-to-day management and planning at the Junior Branch is in the hands of the JB’s own Headmaster and his deputies. Similarly, The Pre-Prep has its own Head who reports to the Headmaster of the JB.

Sixty boys each year transfer from the JB to the Senior School and are joined by thirty boys from outside feeder schools who win places through competitive examination. In Years 7 and 8 (Entry and Shell), these boys are supervised by a team of pastoral Year Wardens and form-teachers. In Year 9 (Lower Remove), they are joined by a further thirty entrants from Preparatory Schools and are allocated to the five Demes (or houses) which form the basis of the pastoral structure of the school until students leave at the end of the Sixth Form. Each Deme is managed by a Deme Warden and a team of form tutors. In September 2008 a sixth Deme was created to accommodate the female students who join the UCS Sixth Form. Boys and girls in the Sixth Form are supported not only by their Deme Warden and form tutor but also by the Head of Sixth Form, supported by a Deputy and a team of Assistant Heads who, between them, manage the Sixth Form Centre, university applications and other matters specific to students of this age.

Pupils from The Pre-Prep School who wish to gain entry to the JB must sit the standard 7+ Entrance Examination. Transfer from the JB to the Senior School is not dependent upon a further examination hurdle. There is, though, no formal GCSE condition placed upon promotion from the Middle to the Upper School.

Admission at all entry points is heavily over-subscribed. Whilst UCS operates within a highly competitive marketplace, our reputation as a happy, well-balanced environment that respects the individuality of each pupil allows us to retain the advantages of a highly selective school. We are particularly proud of our reputation for pastoral care and for extra-curricular activities, as well as our high academic standards.

**The Senior School Curriculum**

In Years 7 and 8, boys follow a full core curriculum with time devoted to Drama, Art, Technology, PSHE, PE and sport as well as to the more traditional academic curriculum. Boys study General Science in Year 7, and the three separate sciences from Year 8 onwards. There is no setting or streaming. This approach continues into Year 9, where the other language options are added to the curriculum. Mathematics is set by ability in Years 9, 10 and 11. All boys currently study ten subjects to GCSE (IGCSE in the case of a number of subjects), including English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, at least one science subject and at least one modern language. All pupils study four subjects in Year 12. They may choose to drop one of these in Year 13 when a number of pupils choose to take an Extended Project Qualification.

# Sports and Extra-Curricular Activities at the Senior School

The school’s principal sports are Rugby (Autumn Term), Football and Hockey (Spring Term) and Cricket (Summer Term). In addition, facilities and opportunities exist for Tennis, Athletics, Badminton, Cross-Country, Basketball, Swimming, Fives, Table-Tennis, Fencing, Aerobics, Dance, Netball, Karate and Squash. All pupils are required to play games as part of their normal curriculum and to represent the school as required.

There is a wide range of co-curricular activities and school societies. Music is particularly strong, with Choir, Orchestra, Wind Band, Chamber Choir, Chamber Orchestra, Concert Band, jazz and rock groups. The school has a fully equipped theatre that is heavily used for our own productions as well as by visiting professional actors and musicians. A large number of plays and musicals are staged each year, with opportunities for pupils to direct as well as to act and provide technical support. The Debating Society, Chamberlain Society (politics & current events), Comedy Club, Gunn Club (literature & creative writing), Film Club, Maths Puzzle Club, Fantasy Football League, Jewish Society, Chess Club, Voluntary Service Unit are all currently popular. School trips are arranged on a regular basis and UCS has close links with schools in France, Germany, Spain, Africa and India. UCS has a partnership with both the Westminster Academy and the UCL Academy and works closely with the London Borough of Camden on a number of projects. Pupils currently raise roughly £20,000 per year for a range of charities that they select themselves. There are regular overseas sport and music tours. Enrichment Week, Science Week and Activities Week annually broaden and embellish the UCS educational experience.

**The Chemistry Department**

There are six teachers in the Chemistry Department, which has its own set of dedicated laboratories in a wing of the school dedicated to the teaching of Science. The department is very keen to promote practical work at all levels and as such is extremely well resourced and benefits from the excellent support of two lab technicians.

In Year 7, boys are taught a Science course that combines aspects of all three sciences. Subject specialists teach separate sciences from Year 8 onwards and throughout Years 7, 8 and 9 students are taught in their form groups (numbering about 23 pupils each). Uptake for IGCSE Chemistry is extremely strong and pupils are placed in five groups of about 20 each. All classes follow the Edexcel IGCSE specification and in recent years more than 90% of our pupils have received A\*-A grades in IGCSE Chemistry.

The subject is consistently popular at A Level, where we follow the OCR A specification, and there are usually five teaching sets which are each taught by two teachers. More than 85% of our pupils have gained grades A\*-B in recent years at A level and we are fully committed to raising this figure.

The department is a dynamic and enjoyable place to work and there is a dedicated office in which each teacher has their own workspace. Teachers are also expected to contribute towards the provision of Chemistry-related activities outside the classroom. We run a Pyrotechnics Club for our Year 12 students and there are frequent visits to science institutions for lectures. The department also runs a weekly breakfast club for students to deliver presentations on any aspect of Chemistry that they find interesting. All students in Year 12 take part in the annual C3L6 Challenge and most Year 12 and 13 students enter the RSC’s annual International Chemistry Olympiad. The department also runs trips for each year group and is very keen to give students access to the broader applications of Chemistry.

**The Present Vacancy**

This vacancy is for a full-time post from April or September 2018. The successful applicant will join an experienced, successful and supportive department and will be equally enthusiastic about teaching General Science in Year 7 as about teaching A level Chemistry in Years 12 and 13. Although the precise balance of teaching for the successful candidate will depend upon his/her interests and experience it is sure to involve teaching throughout the age range with some work at IGCSE level and above. We expect to appoint a teacher who combines a strong intellectual interest in Science generally, and in Chemistry in particular, with an imaginative and flexible approach to classroom teaching. The successful candidate will be personally committed to developing a true appreciation of scientific method (with an emphasis upon practical investigation) in his/her pupils, as well as in preparing them for success in public examinations.

This is an outstanding opportunity to teach Chemistry to a high level in a congenial and stimulating setting. It should be attractive to both an NQT (UCS offers full statutory induction) or to a serving teacher seeking wider experience.

A willingness to contribute to the extra-curricular life of the school will be an additional and important recommendation. We expect all of our teachers to be form tutors or co-form tutors.

**Child Protection**

University College School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. The successful applicant will be required to undertake an Enhanced check for Regulated Activity from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) before a formal offer of employment is made. This is a requirement as the position is within a school working with children aged under 18. UCS will also undertake its own recruitment checks through contact with previous employers, referees, and others, to confirm applicants' identities and their professional records.

**Salary and Benefits**

UCS has its own competitive salary scale. The payment for this post will be dependent upon qualifications and experience, but will be above the national scale.

While the school does not offer accommodation, schemes are in place to assist members of staff with loans for house purchase. The school is similarly prepared to offer loans to help with daily travel expenses. In all cases, eligibility for financial assistance is carefully and independently scrutinised and every effort is made to assess the needs of individual applicants.

If admitted to the school, the sons and daughters of UCS staff may be educated at reduced fees.

All members of staff are entitled to membership of *UCS Active* (the private Health & Fitness Club based in the Sir Roger Bannister Sports Centre) at a heavily reduced rate.

**Arrangements for the Appointment**

In addition to completing the accompanying form, applicants should provide a full Curriculum Vitae and a supporting letter. The closing date for applications is **Friday 19th January 2018**. However, please note that we reserve the right to interview and appoint at any stage during this process; early applications are therefore very welcome.