EXETER SCHOOL



Teacher of Biology

(Maternity Cover) Full time

From September 2018

Exeter School seeks an enthusiastic and well-qualified graduate to join the teaching staff of this thriving department to cover maternity leave from September 2018. It is anticipated that the post will run until the end of the summer term 2019. Aside from a passion for teaching Biology, the applicant should be keen to contribute to the broader life of the school through cultural, sporting or other extra-curricular activities.

# Departmental Aims

The Biology Department seeks to harness pupils’ natural curiosity in the natural world, help them to optimize their academic success and provide an education that is both stimulating and relevant for all.

## The Department

The Biology Department is situated within the Science Centre which provides specialist accommodation for the 3 separate sciences, Electronics and Computer Science. The department consists of four laboratories, a staff work area and Head of Department’s office, and a preparation room. There is also a Sixth Form Science work room. Each laboratory is well equipped with basic apparatus supported by more specialist equipment from the prep room. ICT is used frequently, with each laboratory having a data projector and extensive software support.

Biology is a very successful department. It is a popular subject at A Level and has achieved over 90% A\*-B for the last three years. Outcomes at IGCSE are also consistently very good with over 90% of grades being A\*-A. Around 30% of Year 11 pupils take IGCSE Double Award Science and, for the past two years, over 70% of these grades have also been A\*-A.

The department offers an extensive range of extra-curricular activities for the students. These include a variety of visiting speakers, the Biology Olympiad and Challenge and a very well attended Medical Society with strong links to the Exeter University Medical School. On top of this we run an annual residential field trip for A Level pupils and attend various workshops at Exeter and Plymouth Universities.

## Departmental Staff

## The department is currently staffed by five full-time specialist Biology teachers. The Biology laboratories are very well serviced by one term-time Biology technician in conjunction with a full-time Chief Science Technician.

## The Curriculum

KS2 – The department provides specialist teaching for pupils in Year 6 at Exeter Junior School.

KS3 – The course followed is designed by the department and aims to provide enhanced coverage of the National Curriculum. KS3 is completed in two years (Years 7 and 8) and pupils receive one double lesson per week.

KS4 – The GCSE course begins in Year 9 and we now follow the Edexcel IGCSE specification. All pupils study either IGCSE Double Award Science or separate IGCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. In either case, pupils receive three periods of Biology per week.

A level –There are three or four sets (typically 35-45 pupils) in the Lower Sixth. Most students proceed to complete the full A Level. The department offers the AQA specification. The vast majority of students enter university with a significant number remaining in Science and an encouraging number of Medical successes.