



Teacher of Design and Technology

Permanent Full-Time

Closing date: Thursday 22 March 2018 – 3 pm
Interviews: Week commencing 26 March 2018



Dear Candidate

I am delighted that you have requested further information regarding the position of Teacher of Design and Technology at The Spires College. This is a full time, permanent appointment.

I joined the College as Principal in September 2014 and am committed to providing an excellent education for every child in our learning community. The Spires College has a very positive, friendly atmosphere. The staff care passionately about the well-being of the children and our students are vibrant, enthusiastic and affable. The concept of community is something that I believe is essential for a successful school and we all strive to ensure that every member of our community feels valued, but also contributes positively to College life. Our primary focus is, and will always be, developing superb teaching and learning across all areas of the College. Pedagogy underpins all we do and all staff at The Spires College are committed to their own learning as well as their teaching. At our recent inspection, the college was graded 'good' in all areas, which is a fitting acknowledgement of everyone's hard work over the past few years. The report offers a good balance between celebrating our students' successes and academic progress, with praise of the College's ethos of care and inclusivity: "A good and rapidly improving school with a culture of respect and aspiration".

The Department of Creative Arts and Technologies is a strong team with a wide range of skill sets. The successful applicant to this post will bring an additional range of strengths and support the excellent work that has started in growing design and technology subjects, both within the curriculum and beyond. She or he will be ambitious to play a role in enhancing the quality of teaching and learning in design and technology, ensuring that all of our students receive the excellent education that they deserve. This may be as a NQT, bringing a wealth of innovation and energy, or as an experienced teacher, bringing a highly developed understanding of pedagogy and practice.

Working at The Spires College is tremendously rewarding and this role is a fantastic opportunity to make a real difference to young people's lives as well as offering abundant prospects for professional development. As a College we are firmly committed to continuous professional development for all and we invest heavily in developing our staff at all levels.

You are very welcome to visit The Spires College to help you decide if this is the role for you; I'd be delighted to meet you. Please contact my PA for an appointment. I look forward to hearing from you.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Newton'.

Alex Newton
Principal





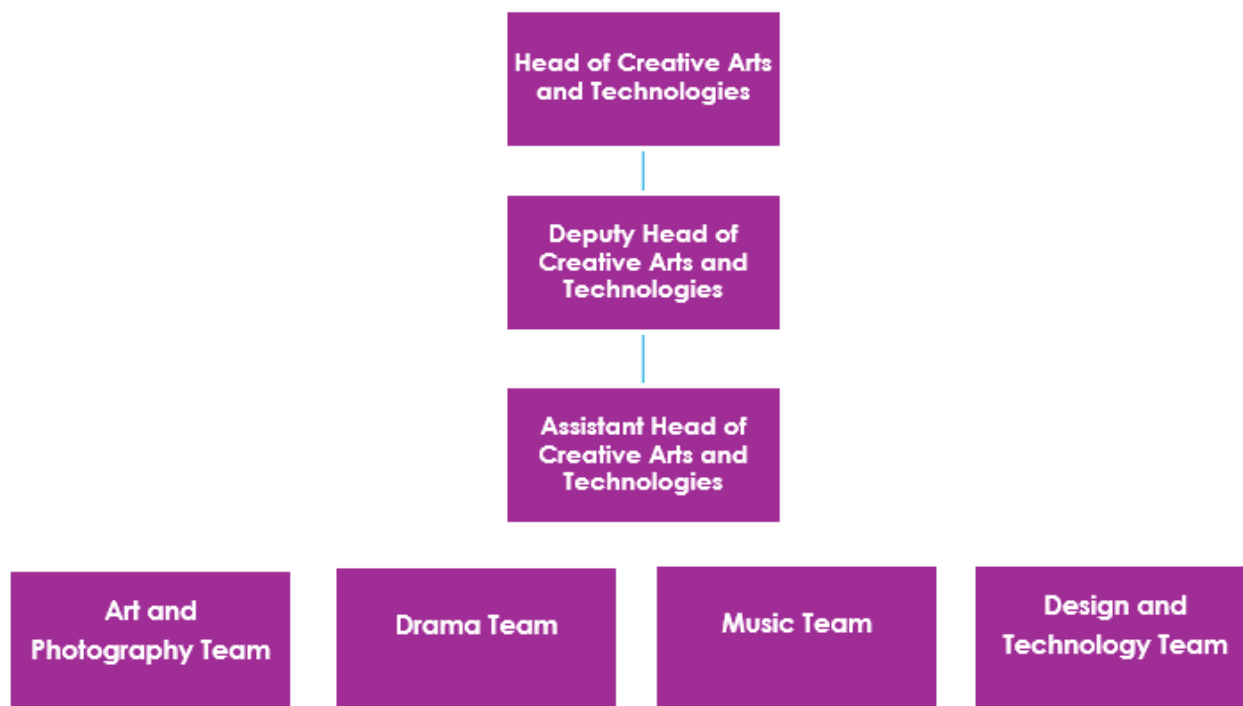
The College

The Spires College is a co-educational, 11-18 college with a bilateral stream. It is situated in the Plainmoor district of Torquay, within the Local Authority of Torbay. There are currently around 900 students on roll. We are a friendly, caring college which puts the needs of our children at the heart of all we do. Academic progress is obviously vital but we also place a high value on the provision of enrichment opportunities that help our students to grow into responsible, confident and considerate young adults. Underpinning all of this are excellent standards of pastoral support and care that allow children to feel safe and valued.

Torbay is an area with a Selective Grammar School system: parents can choose for their child to take the '11+' test if they wish for them to apply for a place at one of the selective schools in the area. The Spires College is one of very few schools in the country with bilateral streams. This allows us to take up to 60 students each year into a selective stream (out of a 220 PAN). Students who have reached a designated score in the '11+' test can apply to our selective stream to access a challenging academic curriculum.

We have a modern, purpose-built building offering fantastic facilities for both students and staff alike. All full time teachers have their own classroom. We are committed to the professional learning of our teachers to ensure classroom practice is as good as it can possibly be. Every teacher follows a personalised CPD programme based on individual needs and interests and every teacher is involved in research and professional reading.

The Department



Design and Technology sits within the Department of Creative Arts and Technologies. There are currently three design and technology teachers and two specialist technicians within that team.

At The Spires College we believe that Creative Arts and Technologies subjects play an exciting and leading role in enhancing the life, imagination and education of our students and the surrounding community. Through a continual focus on the highest quality teaching and learning in music, art and photography, design and technology and drama, we seek to build an aspirational, creative environment where students develop a love of learning and creativity through engaging and wide-ranging schemes of learning and extra-curricular activities.

Our vision is to foster an environment where independent and collaborative opportunities encourage each student in confident risk-taking so that they can express their individuality and pursue their ambition, however great. We believe that involvement in the Creative Arts and Technologies helps to foster a positive attitude in our community by developing a wide range of qualities such as cooperation, enthusiasm, passion, inspiration, tenacity and ambition. In our outstanding facilities, we help students to acquire an important sense of belonging as well as build the self-confidence they need to do well and make their first steps towards higher education and employment.

Creative Arts and Technologies teachers contribute to an extensive programme of extra-curricular activities both in and out of normal school hours.

Design and Technology

Design and Technology teachers and students at The Spires College enjoy superbly equipped teaching spaces. Facilities include fully equipped catering rooms, resistant material workshops, a purpose-built construction room and a computer suite. Students currently develop CAD/CAM skills using our laser cutter, vinyl plotter and CNC router. In addition, there is a large programmable oven in the catering room.



Curriculum

Key Stage 3 students have one hour of design and technology each week, rotating between food, resistant materials and systems and control units of work. Students learn to build on previous knowledge and skills through a cycle of research, generating ideas, development, making and evaluating. There are three rotation projects in Year 7 and six shorter rotation projects in Year 8.

Key Stage 4 students have the opportunity to study GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition, GCSE Product Design and BTEC Engineering.

In **Key Stage 5**, we currently offer AQA Level 3 Foundation Technical Level in Engineering.

Enrichment

The Design and Technology department offers a range of extra-curricular opportunities for all students including electronics, textiles and resistant materials clubs. High profile competitions have included The Spires College Bake-Off and The Spires College Masterchef competitions. Design and Technology students have been involved in a range of external projects including the MADE Project and Bloodhound Project. Last year we were very proud of our Year 8 students who won the inter-school challenge finals at the TechBay: Engineering Your Future event.





Job Description

Teacher of Design and Technology

Dates:	Apply by 22 March 2018 To start 1 September 2018
Accountable to:	Head of Creative Arts and Technologies
Salary:	MPS/UPS
Contract Type:	Permanent

Introduction

This Job Description outlines the purpose and key tasks required to indicate the level of responsibility. It is not a comprehensive or exclusive list and duties / specific tasks may be varied from time to time, without changing the general character of the job or the level of responsibility entailed. This will allow flexibility for the college to respond to changing priorities and also support and enhance individual professional development. It is the practice of the college to examine job descriptions periodically, update them and ensure that they relate to the job performed, or incorporate any proposed changes. This procedure will be conducted by the Principal/Line Manager in consultation with the post holder.

Terms and conditions for staff employed on teaching contracts are detailed in the current College Teachers' Pay and Conditions document.

Overall Purpose and Accountability

- ▲ To meet the requirements of the Teachers' Pay and Conditions document and to support students in attaining at the highest levels.
- ▲ To support and uphold the ethos, principles, policies and rules of the college in all respects and at all times.
- ▲ To provide high quality learning experiences that support students in achieving at the highest level possible and in developing their own capacity as independent and reflective learners.
- ▲ To support the Head of Department to develop an inclusive approach to Design and Technology so that all students are stimulated to accomplish their optimum performance.
- ▲ To assist the Head of Department to maintain standards of teaching and learning across the Design and Technology curricula.
- ▲ To teach across all key stages.

Key Accountabilities

Teaching and Learning

- ▲ Meticulously plan and teach engaging and challenging lessons.
- ▲ Meet the needs of all learners by consistently planning and teaching carefully differentiated lessons.
- ▲ Set and mark appropriate homework.
- ▲ Use regular, measurable and significant assessments of teaching.
- ▲ Complete all reporting on time.
- ▲ Closely monitor progress and attainment of their students and use it to inform planning and teaching.
- ▲ Provide content for and where necessary deliver high quality student interventions.
- ▲ Ensure that all students achieve college targets.
- ▲ Work alongside the Head of Department on self-evaluation, department improvement planning and Quality Assurance processes.
- ▲ Support the Head of Department in the implementation of high quality Schemes of Learning.
- ▲ Maintain regular and productive communication with parents about students' progress.
- ▲ Organise and participate in exciting and motivating trips and events.

School Culture

- ▲ Help create a strong college community, characterised by consistent, orderly, caring and respectful relationships.
- ▲ Help develop a college culture and ethos that is utterly committed to achievement.
- ▲ To become an effective Form Tutor (teachers will usually be required to perform the role of form tutor).
- ▲ Create and sustain a positive learning culture.

Health and safety

You will:

- ▲ Adhere to school health and safety policies/procedures and current statutory health and safety requirements.
- ▲ Attend training as and when required for the purposes of safeguarding children and corporate safety.
- ▲ Ensure school is immediately notified of any issues that may affect your right to maintain enhanced clearance to work on the school site (DBS).

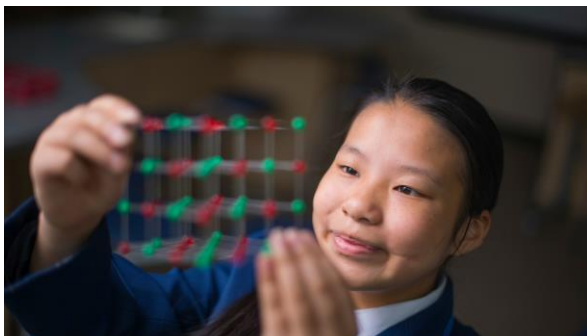
Person Specification

The following list is indicative of the kind of person we are looking for but **not all of these criteria are essential**. However, please do try to give evidence of how you fulfil the majority of these requirements in your application.

Beliefs	You hold a belief that the students of The Spires College must have access to the best educational experience possible.
	You are committed to raising standards in the school and believe in the potential of all young people to achieve highly.
	You are passionate about your subject and want to share this enthusiasm with others.
Qualifications	A good honours degree in a related subject.
	A teaching qualification.
	QTS.
	Qualification in an additional or related subject area.
	An up to date knowledge of the emerging issues in education and record of appropriate CPD.
Skills and Attributes	You are a good practitioner in the classroom and keen to continue learning.
	You are capable of planning and delivering innovative lessons and Schemes of Learning.
	You have the ability to inspire high levels of student performance.
	You can work under pressure and prioritise according to need.
	You have good communication skills.
	You can use data effectively.
	You have good behaviour management skills.
	You have the ability to think creatively to solve problems, pioneering new approaches as well as understanding which prior methods have been effective.
	You have a sense of humour and good interpersonal skills.
	You have high levels of energy and enthusiasm.
	You are ambitious and keen to prove yourself.
	You are a committed, highly competent, reflective and resilient individual.
Experience	You have experience of teaching Design and Technology through Key Stages 3 to 5.
	You have experience of using data to inform actions.
	You have experience of the role and responsibilities of a form tutor.



How to apply



Please complete an application form, which includes space for a supporting statement (please use font size 11 or 12 and double spacing for this). Your supporting statement should include your vision for this role and how your experience and skills will equip you to realise this.

The application form can be downloaded from our website and should be returned to Nadine Osborne, the Principal's PA, **by 3.00pm on Thursday 22 March 2018**, preferably by email to: nosborne@thespirescollege.com.

If you do not receive an acknowledgement of your application by the deadline, please contact the college.

Interviews will be held during the week commencing 26 March 2018.

If you would like to arrange a visit or have an informal, confidential discussion, please contact the Principal's PA via the email above or telephone number below.

The Spires College
Westlands Lane
Torquay TQ1 3PE

Tel: 01803 400660
www.thespirescollege.com

