April 2017

Dear applicant

# **SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

This letter attempts to give you a clearer idea of the nature of the department and, hopefully, something of the ‘feel’ of the school.

The Science Department at Sharnbrook Upper School has been a centre of academic excellence and learning innovation for many years – and the tradition continues! In November 2010, we moved into a superb multi-million-pound science centre, comprising 17 laboratories, a seminar room and large activity area. The department is very well equipped for experimental work, and we also have mobile units of laptops. There are 22 teaching staff, 6 laboratory technicians, a science HLTA and an administrator. We have trained our own teaching staff through the GTP scheme and believe in creating opportunities for strong staff professional development and progression. The department works as a close and very supportive team.

All students begin a **three** year GCSE programme in year 9. The top 40-50% follow a separate science GCSE route, whilst the remainder will take the new Combined ‘Double Science’ GCSE. All of our GCSE science courses are with AQA.

In the sixth form, biology, chemistry and physics are studied at advanced level. Numbers choosing to undertake science-based courses have always been very healthy and many students have received superb results, including winners of the Salters Horners Prize for physics, leading to university entry at all levels through to Oxbridge.

We are hoping to appoint an enthusiastic and committed colleague who has the desire to keep learning and progressing professionally. Sharnbrook is a school that is optimistic about education and the opportunities that we are able to offer young people; we hope to appoint staff who will share this optimism.

Whatever the outcome of your application, I hope you will have found this information interesting and, should you apply and be called for interview, that your visit to the school will be a valuable one.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Yours sincerely

Peter J Garbett

**Head of Science**