



Magna Academy Poole
an Aspirations Academy

Director of Science

Highly competitive salary: L6-10 (salary negotiable)

**with opportunity to become a Specialist Leader of Education
(with further salary enhancement)**

Applicant Information Pack



National Teaching School
designated by
National College for
Teaching & Leadership

National Support School
designated by
National College for
Teaching & Leadership

'To be able to dream about the future, while being inspired in the present to reach those dreams' Dr Russell Quaglia



Welcome to Magna Academy

Thank you for considering Magna Academy Poole for your next appointment. We seek an excellent Director of Science, who will lead the Science department into its next stage of development **(September 2018 start)**. **This position has arisen due to the promotion of the current post holder to Assistant Principal and designation as a NCTL National Teaching School and National Support School.**

This is an excellent opportunity for an ambitious practitioner, who wants to lead the rapidly growing Science curriculum area and make a real impact on further driving up attainment and progress in Science. You will also have the opportunity to support other Science departments as part of our Teaching School and Support School work.

Our Academy is a vibrant and exciting place to work and was graded as outstanding in all areas by OFSTED in June 2015. In 2016, Magna achieved a Progress 8 score of 0.52, **placing us well within the top 5% highest performing schools nationally.** We have a desire to be in the top 1%.

'This is an outstanding school. Teachers have high expectations of their students, who respond by producing excellent work.' (OFSTED, June 2015)

'Students make exceptional progress.' (OFSTED, June 2015)

'The behaviour of students is outstanding. They are exceptionally keen to learn, and show real enthusiasm in lessons.' (OFSTED, June 2015)

Magna Academy is different. Our teaching approaches have been **influenced by charter schools in US inner cities and innovations from cognitive science.** There are no unwieldy, impossible marking policies, no graded lesson observations and our students' behaviour is impeccable, supported by same-day centralised detentions. We also teach **a rigorous academic curriculum consisting of the best that has been thought and said.**

Central to the philosophy of our Trust is the innovative Aspirations Framework, which outlines the belief that for all students to have high Aspirations, **three Guiding Principles must be present: Self-Worth, Engagement, and Purpose.**

If you are able to visit, you will see a scholarly culture with impeccable behaviour, highly engaged students and silent corridors. At the same time, we are very outward-facing and humble. We know we haven't yet got everything right, and are driven to continuously improve and aspire to become one of the best schools in the country.

'To be able to dream about the future, while being inspired in the present to reach those dreams' Dr Russell J. O'Leary



The Science Department

The Science department is a dynamic team currently consisting of 8 teachers and 2 technicians. They are housed in a state of the art Science area with a mix of new laboratories, applied learning spaces and the capacity to adapt to different learning strategies. All rooms are equipped with SMART boards and essential practical equipment.

Students follow a five year GCSE plan from Year 7-11, with a key focus on practical skills and key knowledge in Year 7 and 8. For GCSE, students follow either a Separate Sciences pathway (AQA Chemistry, Physics and Biology) or the AQA Trilogy Combined Science pathway. We currently offer a post-16 suite of A Level Biology, Chemistry, Physics along with Level 3 BTEC in Applied Science.

The role is important to the continuing progress of the Academy. Further experiences and skill development will be provided to support your career development and promotion opportunities. Excellent further professional development is offered by the Academy.

What we offer:

We have very high expectations of our staff, but we value them highly, and treat work load very seriously. Our systems ensure you can really focus on your core purpose – teaching, in a sustainable way, unhindered by bureaucracy or poor behaviour.

- **Great students who behave impeccably – you can make a massive difference to them**
- **Tight, robust, no-excuses behaviour systems**
- **Highly visible and supportive senior leaders, who have your back**
- **Same day centralised detentions, including homework detentions (you do not need to organise, run or chase them at all), helping to underpin impeccable behaviour, so you are free to teach**
- **A feedback policy focused on whole class feedback – you do not need to mark exercise books – we do not have onerous and impossible marking policies**
- **A centralised homework system at KS3 – you do not need to check or mark KS3 homework**
- **No formal graded lesson observations – just ongoing ‘no-stakes’ feedback, helping you to continuously develop – we believe that trusting our staff with autonomy helps to develop a strong staff culture**
- **Collaborative planning with centralised, shared units of work and resources**
- **CPD starts as soon as you are appointed**
- **Excellent ongoing CPD, career development and promotion opportunities**

To be able to... *Dr Russell J. Quigley*



- **A professional progression model to enable great teachers to map a career path within the Trust**
- **State of the art facilities, and a very pleasant location in beautiful Dorset**

What we are looking for:

The successful candidate will be:

- **an excellent teacher of Science, with proven middle leadership experience, who will play an important role in leading Science into its next stage of development.**
- **someone who does whatever it takes to ensure the life chances of all our students are maximised. They will blend extreme personal humility with intense professional will.**
- **totally aligned to our values and mission. If you are the type of person who fits with our culture, you will love working here.**

This is an excellent opportunity for an ambitious practitioner, who wants to lead the rapidly growing Science curriculum area and make a real impact on further driving up attainment and progress in Science. You will also have the opportunity to support other Science departments as part of our Teaching School and Support School work.

As a rapidly growing academy, that will be at full capacity in 2019, **and as a newly designated NCTL National Teaching School and National Support School**, you would be joining us at a very exciting time and become part of a vibrant learning community that will offer you fantastic opportunities for CPD, career development, future promotions and for you to be able to make your mark.

There is the opportunity to be part of the curriculum planning team 2018/19 for the new all-through age 4-18 Bournemouth Livingstone Academy opening in September 2019.

We actively welcome visits and would be delighted to show you around our Academy in order to fully appreciate our excellent learning environment.



Next steps:

Magna Academy Poole offers an excellent opportunity for an ambitious, talented individual looking to develop their career. We would be delighted to show you around our Academy in order to fully appreciate our excellent learning environment. **We strongly advise a visit as this Academy is unlikely to be like anything you have ever seen. Please contact zchallis@aatmagna.org or 01202 604222 to arrange a visit or an informal, confidential discussion about the role.**

Learn more about Magna Academy at: www.aatmagna.org

Magna Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. The successful candidate will be subject to an enhanced DBS check before taking up the post.

How to Apply:

To apply, please click on the “quick apply” button to submit an online application.

Closing date for applications: 9am Monday 23rd February 2018.

Yours faithfully,

Richard Tutt
Principal