



RGS
WORCESTER

Physics Technician



The Science Faculty

The Faculty is comprised of three departments: Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Each department in the Faculty is extensively resourced with designated laboratories, a preparation room and an office. In total, there are 13 laboratories and seventeen teachers, 5 of whom are part-time.

The Science technicians support the Faculty aim of fostering a life-long interest in, and understanding of, Science and its central role in our daily lives, scientific research, industry and the environment. The successful candidate will be an integral part of the team that delivers this.

The Faculty is incredibly successful. At A Level, the most common grade was Grade A, whilst at GCSE, Grade 9 was the most frequent. Only 12% of grades were at Grade 5 or below.

In supra-curricular activities, just under 300 awards were achieved by pupils and students in 2023-24 across the various Olympiads and Challenges that were undertaken.

The Physics department undertakes a biennial trip to CERN, a Rocket Club, the Year Eight Faraday Challenge and oversees the Observatory which is located at RGS The Grange.

RGS Worcester

Introduction

The Royal Grammar School Worcester is one of the leading independent co-educational day schools in the West Midlands. The RGS Senior School has approximately 1000 pupils aged 11 - 18 years, including a Sixth Form of 250 students. There are a further 450 pupils aged 2 - 11 years in the two RGS Preparatory Schools, RGS The Grange (two miles north of Worcester City Centre in the village of Claines), and RGS Springfield (a two minute walk from the Senior School in Britannia Square). RGS Dodderhill with its 170 pupils joined the RGS Family of Schools in 2019 and is situated in Droitwich Spa, 5 miles North of Worcester. The Headmaster of the Senior School is also the Executive Head of the RGS Worcester Family of Schools and is a member of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference (HMC).

History

RGS was founded some time around 685 and lays claim to being the sixth oldest school in the world. The School has a rich history: RGS received its first Royal Charter in 1561 and was granted its 'Royal' title by Queen Victoria in 1869. From 1950 until 1983, the School was administered by Worcestershire LEA as a voluntary aided grammar school and the School reverted to independence in 1983. RGS became co-educational in 2002 and merged with the neighbouring girls' school, The Alice Ottley School, in 2007. The Senior School is now close to 50:50 boy:girl.

Facilities

RGS Worcester is situated a few minutes' walk from the centre of the City of Worcester and is convenient for rail and bus links. The School's older buildings are mostly pre-20th Century and five of them have been listed by English Heritage, the most notable being Britannia House, built in 1730, and the ruins of a Cistercian nunnery known as Whiteladies, dating from c.1240.

The School has superb facilities, which include a Sixth Form Centre, refurbished Science Block, Language Laboratory, Library, Fitness Centre, two Sports Halls, Dance Studio, Lecture Theatre, Art Block, Design Centre, Performing Arts Centre, a full-size floodlit all-weather pitch and several pavilions. Some of the playing fields are close by in the City centre and there are 50 acres of grounds at RGS The Grange as well as a new International Hockey Centre shared with Worcester Hockey Club situated between the two Schools. The School has use of the local swimming pool and shares a Boathouse with Worcester Rowing Club on the nearby River Severn. All classrooms are equipped with IT facilities to support digital learning.

The Governors have invested about £14 million in facilities over the last seven years.





Location

RGS Worcester is located in the northern part of Worcester and is easily accessible from the City as well as surrounding towns and villages. House prices in the area are extremely attractive compared to other cities and are equally favourable both as a first-time buyer looking for a flat or small house and those seeking a family home. There is also a strong rental market. For those looking to move out of London, Worcester offers considerable property opportunity.

Worcester is a vibrant and beautiful city overlooking the banks of the River Severn. The extraordinary Cathedral reveals the great history and tradition of the City and sits alongside modern shopping and leisure facilities. Worcester boasts extensive cultural activities and sporting life including the Worcestershire County Cricket Club ground in the centre of the City and Worcester Warriors' Sixways Stadium a few minutes drive from the School.

The surrounding area offers the outdoors life with the Malvern Hills and many other locations for walking, cycling, canoeing, rowing and other outdoor pursuits. A few minutes out of Worcester, visitors find themselves in rural villages and surrounding countryside. With its excellent transport links to Birmingham and London, Worcester offers something for everyone and is certainly an extremely attractive place to work and live.

School Aims

The aims of the School are to reach a high level of academic achievement, to be a caring and civilised society within a well-disciplined environment and, by placing emphasis on a wide range of sporting, cultural and other activities, to extend pupils in as many ways as possible. Overall, the aim is to offer a balanced and challenging education, which will stand pupils in good stead in their future careers and within the community at large. Our School film 'Worcester is green' (available on our website www.rgs.wor.org.uk) gives a flavour of our pupil-centred approach.

At RGS we take great pride in providing support for every pupil and ensure that each individual feels a part of the RGS Family. We aim to guide and encourage our pupils to seize the many opportunities that life at RGS provides.

We delight in seeing happy children enjoying their time at school but we also realise that adolescence can bring with it challenges and pressures. We work to equip our young people with the confidence, strength and self-belief that will allow them to realise their potential and lead fulfilling lives, both during their time at RGS and beyond.

We achieve this through our comprehensive programme of personal development and our diverse pastoral team, which works to connect with each individual.

Curriculum and Academic Life

Pupils follow a common curriculum in Years Seven to Nine. Normally ten GCSE subjects are studied in Years Ten and Eleven, the option arrangements allow a wide choice giving a balanced curriculum which does not prejudice subsequent career decisions.

The majority of Sixth Form leavers move on to Higher Education, gaining places at Russell Group Universities or top 25 ranked Universities, including a number to Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Each year a small number go to Drama, Music or Art Colleges. Some students opt for higher level Apprenticeships with companies such as Deloitte, Ernst & Young, the BBC and Jaguar Land Rover.

Pastoral Care

The strength of the pastoral care system and the pride pupils take in their school are distinctive features of RGS, as is the excellent spirit of co-operation between pupils, staff, and parents. The Form Tutor is an important figure in each pupil's school life, and there are eight Heads of Year who act as team leaders and who each have an Assistant Head of Year to support them. There is also a Head of Lower School and Head of Sixth Form who each oversee their specific Sections.

Immense care is taken over pastoral problems, and communication between staff and parents is frequent and constructive. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the well-being of all the pupils in our care, regardless of the age, gender, religion or beliefs, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or socioeconomic background. We provide a caring, positive safe and educationally stimulating environment that promotes spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

The safeguarding and welfare of our pupils is our priority and we recognise that all staff, including temporary staff, volunteers and Governors, have a full and active part to play in protecting our pupils from harm. We ensure that everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with the appropriate training to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns that we may have about pupils. Necessary steps are taken to prevent the employment of unsuitable individuals.

We also support the welfare and safety of all pupils by ensuring that safeguarding is included in the curriculum to help children stay safe, recognise when they do not feel safe and identify to whom they can talk if they have concerns.

We understand the crucial role that a school can play in identifying a safeguarding problem for a child and their family as it emerges, and that, by putting in place Early Help at this stage, we can often prevent problems from escalating into something more serious. We have invested heavily in our Early Help provision as a School and we can offer dedicated one-to-one support from a member of our experienced and trained Pastoral Leaders as well as with our fully qualified Nurses, School Counsellors, or Relaxation Therapist.





Sport

The School's sports facilities are extensive and reflect the Board of Governors' ambition and their sustained investment in RGSW Sport. The main school site features two Sports Halls, which include six indoor cricket lanes, a Fitness Suite, a Dance Studio, a floodlit all-weather pitch, and four netball courts. A short walk away are St Oswald's and Flagge Meadow playing fields, with the latter playing host to 1st XV Rugby, 1st XI Football and 1st XI Cricket matches, as well as Worcestershire CCC 2nd XI fixtures.

At RGS The Grange there are a further 50 acres of grounds and pitches and a full-size floodlit Astro. The most recent additions are two international standard water-based pitches at the Worcester International Hockey Centre, which the Schools shares with Worcester Hockey Club, a mile from RGS Worcester. The School also shares a Boathouse with Worcester Rowing Club on the nearby River Severn and our swimmers have use of the local swimming pool.

A unique aspect of sport at RGS Worcester is that our senior teams have the opportunity to play in high-profile local derby fixtures, experiencing Football and Rugby at Sixways Stadium, Netball at the University of Worcester Arena, and Hockey at Worcester International Hockey Centre, in front of crowds of up to 4,000.



Co-curricular Activities

RGS Worcester prides itself on its co-curricular provision. RGS Music is extremely strong with thirteen different ensembles, and over fifteen concerts each year, including performances in major venues locally and nationally. The breadth of the co-curricular Music provision is unusual with concerts ranging from informal 'tea-time' events to large orchestral and choral performances and staff often participate alongside the pupils.

In Drama there are opportunities both for musical theatre and serious drama. The School has its own theatre along with other performance spaces and both Music and Drama are part of a vibrant Creative Arts Faculty based in the Performing Arts Centre located in the heart of the School.

There are many other opportunities for pupils including a large Combined Cadet Force (Army, Navy and RAF Sections) and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme for pupils from Year Nine onwards. Debating is a particularly popular and successful school activity in all Sections of the School. A wide range of Academic Clubs and Societies is available and all pupils are encouraged to participate fully to develop their interests and enjoy a well-rounded education.



Admission

Admission is by the School's own examination held in January, mainly at 11+, but also at 12+ and 13+. Pupils are also admitted into the Sixth Form on the basis of Assessments, GCSE results and school reports. Academic Scholarships and means-tested Bursaries are available at 11+, 13+ and 16+. Art, Drama, Music and Sports Scholarships are also available at 11+, 13+ and 16+ and for Textiles and Design Technology at 13+ and 16+.



Working Conditions

Responsible to: Head of Physics on a day to day basis with overall supervision from the Head of Faculty

Location: RGS Worcester with occasional travel to other RGS sites as required

Attends: Departmental meetings for appropriate agenda items

General Purpose

The post holder will provide resources and equipment for class practical work, assessments and examinations and support the wider functioning of the Science department. They will work closely with all staff across the Science department to ensure they deliver the necessary support for excellent teaching and learning in Science.

37.5 hours per week during term time, 8.00 am - 4.30 pm Monday to Friday. You will be entitled to a 60 minute unpaid lunch break. Holidays should only be taken when the school is not in session. The job is full time, term-time only, with 10 additional days to be worked on agreed days during school holiday periods.

All technical staff are expected to work in any department at times when this becomes necessary; for example, when someone is absent.

The Technician is expected to adopt safe working practices as required by the current Health & Safety regulations and the RGSW Science Faculty Health & Safety documents.

The Technician is expected to keep up-to-date with Health and Safety regulations and advise the relevant Head of Department to ensure that each department complies with these.

All Technical Staff are expected to lock preparation rooms, store-rooms and laboratories when appropriate.



Key Tasks and Responsibilities

- Provide technical and clerical support to teachers and pupils including guidance on safety matters or potential problems with equipment.
- Carry out the provision of a teacher's lesson requirements within the department including:
 - ✓ Delivering equipment, including written risk assessments and hazard notices when necessary, to a room;
 - ✓ Assembling apparatus
 - ✓ Collecting apparatus having checked quantities, cleaning and returning equipment and material to storage.
- Maintain an inventory of materials and equipment, advise the Head of Department when stocks are low, and carry out associated stock taking duties.
- Complete order forms for items needed by the department in consultation with the Head of Department, check deliveries and invoices in conjunction with the Head of Department
- Obtain materials by local purchase.
- Prepare chemical solutions.
- Organise and store chemicals and equipment.
- Arrange and carry out the safe disposal of biological, chemical and radioactive material as and when needed.
- Arrange and carry out the construction, modification, maintenance and repair of departmental equipment.
- Trial practical activities and assist with the production of the associated risk assessments.
- Report any damage to laboratory furniture and the fabric of the building, problems concerning blocked sinks, power sockets gas taps etc to the Head of Department and/or Head of Maintenance.

Key Tasks and Responsibilities (Continued)

- Ensure that the department is kept clean, safe and tidy in accordance with Health and Safety requirements, by liaising with the Head of Department and/or the Head of Maintenance, and arrange for and carry out general laboratory cleaning of bench surfaces and laboratory sinks, and supervise the emptying of sink traps.
- Check that a risk assessment has been carried out for any technical activities and, if one is not available, advise the Head of Department that one is required.
- Ensure that at the start of each day a member of the Technical Staff checks that the laboratories and rooms they are responsible for are safe to use, that there are no gas escapes, floods, etc and that there is no evidence of unlawful intrusion.
- Ensure that at end of each day a member of the Technical Staff checks that, in the laboratories and rooms they are responsible for, there is: no escaping gas, no running water, all electrical apparatus are switched off unless required to be left on in which case a clear notice should be in evidence, all windows are closed, no hazardous substances or apparatus are left out, all lights are switched off and the doors are locked
- Arrange and carry out photocopying and other reprographic tasks; store, collect, check and repair textbooks; and mount displays of materials, visual aids and pupils' work when appropriate.
- If suitably qualified, carry out electrical safety checks on portable electrical apparatus located in the Science Faculty.
- Order, distribute and maintain a check on all Department stationery items.
- Assist to maintain and supervise the MFD's and printers in science. Specifically assist colleagues unblock jammed paper, stock the MFD's with paper daily, and report errors to the Maintenance Contractor if suitably trained.

Other

- Carry out other duties as may reasonably be requested from time to time by a member of the Science teaching staff, the Head of Department, the Head of Science and the Director of Finance and Operations.

The post holder should be aware that the above job description and latter specification is not exhaustive. The post holder should be willing to partake in all activities that positively contribute to the life of the school. Any changes to the above description will be done in a timely manner and in consultation with the post holder



Person Specification

Qualities and Skills (Essential)

Good communication skills and the ability to form good working relationships with colleagues

Good organisational and time management skills and the ability to work under pressure

Adaptability and flexibility in working practices and the ability to know when to use your initiative

A high degree of professionalism in your approach to work and tasks set

Ability to handle sensitive issues relating to students, keeping confidentiality as required

A recognition of the need for health and safety considerations within the department, and a willingness to promote safe working practices.

Knowledge and Experience

Significant working knowledge of a range of science equipment and facilities suited to school use **Desirable**

Working knowledge of relevant legislation, including Health and Safety **Desirable**

Ability to write and maintain clear and concise documentation for internal systems and procedures **Essential**

Physics background **Desirable**

Education and Qualifications (Desirable)

Minimum of 2 years relevant experience of working within school laboratories

Knowledge of COSHH / Risk Assessment / H&S issues

Level 3 Science related course or equivalent Knowledge and Expertise

Additional

Good administration skills **Essential**

Ability to work as part of a team **Essential**

Be computer literate and be confident in their use. Be willing to learn new computer systems **Desirable**

Be a role model for the young people in the Science department **Essential**





Process of Application

All candidates are required to apply via the TES online application form (no CVs will be accepted).

RGSW reserves the right to close applications early if suitable calibre apply, candidates may be called early to interview.

We particularly welcome applications from under represented groups including ethnicity, gender, transgender, age, disability, sexual orientation or religion.

A completed TES application form with the names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of two referees should be provided. All candidates invited for interview will be required to prove their identity and their entitlement to work in the UK, and the person appointed will be subject to an enhanced DBS check, Prohibition Check, Right to Work in the UK and other checks specified by the Department for Education and Independent School's Inspectorate.

Rehabilitation of offenders: This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and the amendments to the Exceptions Order 1975, 2013 and 2020. Which means that when applying for certain jobs and activities certain spent convictions and cautions are 'protected', so they do not need to be disclosed to employers, and if they are disclosed, employers cannot take them into account. Further information about filtering offences can be found in the DBS filtering guide.

The Governors of RGS Worcester are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service. Registered Charity No. 112064

'Welcoming, unaffected and academically on the up and up, while still valuing the breadth of opportunities outside the classroom.'

- The Good Schools Guide



