



GORDONSTOUN

Broader experiences, broader minds

TEACHER OF PHYSICS

1 September 2018 or earlier

Gordonstoun has been leading the way in character education for more than 80 years. Our uniquely broad curriculum provides challenge in the classroom, on the sea and on the mountain, on the stage and on the sports field, and enables students to discover the truth in our motto – Plus Est En Vous – there is more in you. Situated on the stunning Moray Firth, with its sunny microclimate, the school offers a superb quality of life for staff and their families

The School

Gordonstoun is located in an impressive and attractive 150 acre estate in the temperate climate of Moray. It is six miles from Elgin which has a British Rail main-line station. Inverness or Aberdeen, to which there are regular flights from most UK airports, are within one and two hours respectively, and there is straightforward access on good roads to Edinburgh, Glasgow and the rest of Scotland.

The Senior School has almost 500 students aged 13 to 18, most of whom are full boarders. The School has been fully co-educational for thirty seven years. Aberlour House, the Junior School situated on the same campus, has over 100 pupils aged 6 -13. Each year approximately 60 students join at Year 9 (13 plus) and 60 come into the Sixth Form. Approximately a third of the students are resident in Scotland, a third in other parts of the United Kingdom and a third in other parts of the world, reflecting our international ethos.

The School is also known for the wide range of activities, which it provides for its' students throughout the School. It has first-class facilities for these activities which include all the usual subjects and sports as well as outdoor education, expeditions and seamanship and a wide variety of rescue and community services. The creative life of the School as a whole, including Music, Art, Drama and Dance, is vibrant, well-developed and central to both the life and ethos of Gordonstoun. The School has significant and advanced facilities in Information Technology. There are many opportunities to contribute beyond the classroom and involvement in school life in the broadest sense is expected from all members of staff. The successful applicant will have skills and ideally qualifications to contribute to the broader curriculum.

The teaching staff come from a variety of backgrounds and is united in their belief in the holistic ethos of the School. There is a real community amongst the staff and Morayshire is a delightful place to live. Staff are deeply committed; holidays are long - four months in the year - but during term staff work throughout the week, including Saturday morning teaching and occasional weekend commitments. The variety and range of activities, coupled with a real commitment to work and the involvement of all staff in pastoral care, as tutors in a boarding house, reflect the School's family environment and its aim to educate the whole person.

Outline

Gordonstoun is seeking a dynamic, enthusiastic and innovative Teacher of Physics to join this excellent department. The ability to teach physics to GCSE and A level standard is essential and experience of delivering biology or chemistry to GCSE would be desirable. You will be someone who can enthuse students and promote the importance of science to the young people of Gordonstoun, in order to help them gain formal qualifications and aid them in taking their place as twenty-first century international citizens. All candidates should be registered or eligible for registration with the General Teaching Council for Scotland, as this is a condition of employment.

Science at Gordonstoun

Science is taught separately by specialist teachers in each of the science departments. The majority of students currently follow the Edexcel 9-1 GCSE Combined Science course, with a class in each of years 10 and 11 following separate sciences at GCSE (again following the Edexcel 9-1 course). The sciences are popular at A level. The physics department currently follow Edexcel's A level specification. Each of the science departments has a Head of Department and the teaching of science is managed by a Head of Science, who is one of the department Heads. Each department has its own suite of laboratories and the departments are well-resourced, each with a technician whose responsibility is exclusively to support that department's teaching staff.

Background

Teaching and Learning are the central activities in the School and all heads of curriculum areas play a key role in pursuing the highest standards of teaching and learning in their subject in line with the cultural ethos and mission statement of the School. This job description below outlines the responsibilities of the post of Teacher of Physics within the Science Department. It is intended to be a helpful document which gives as clear a guide as possible, not only to assist a colleague by acting as a checklist, but also to make other staff aware of what their colleague's responsibilities are.

Main Activities of the Teacher of Physics

Curriculum:

- To plan and teach excellent lessons.
- Build good relationships with all students.
- Be a leading classroom practitioner with a proven track record of success.
- Previous examining experience would be an advantage
- Needs to be committed to strategies to improve teaching and learning.
- Able to develop the skills of learners to equip them for the 21st century.
- Experience of teaching Physics at A Level or at an equivalent level.
- Knowledge and experience of recent developments in teaching, including use of ICT in the classroom.
- Mark and assess student work regularly.
- To establish and make explicit the aims and objectives of the Science Departments and to help to evaluate and develop curricula to meet these objectives.
- To ensure that appropriate differentiation of the curriculum is made to meet the needs of all levels of pupil ability.
- To promote teaching and learning styles which stimulate pupil interest and involvement in learning.
- To keep up with developments in Physics teaching through attending appropriate INSET.

Contribution within the Science Department:

- Be an exemplary teacher and to demonstrate excellent teaching skills and to be a practitioner of good practice.
- To inspire students and to provide enthusiasm in this curriculum area.
- To promote the subject beyond the classroom e.g. extra-curricular activities, wall displays.
- To provide counselling for and liaison with higher education in conjunction with the careers department.
- To promote cross curricular co-operation.

Students:

- To establish appropriately high levels of expectation of pupils at all Key Stages by setting down clear guidelines for establishing good standards of behaviour and achievement, including the careful presentation of work and the care of books and equipment.
- To follow and to contribute to the Science Department procedures for the monitoring and recording of student progress.
- To ensure the reporting policy is followed

- To adhere to the school's assessment, reporting and recording framework and to ensure that the agreed policy of the Science Department is followed by members of the team including the consistent awarding of Merits across the Department.
- To prepare students for external examinations which involve internal assessment and external moderation and to provide marks arising from these assessments to HoDs and HoS.
- To participate in internal moderation of external examination components which are assessed internally and moderated externally, within the Science Department.
- Help with the assessment of sitting of internal exams where appropriate.

Resources and accommodation

- To enhance the learning environment through the effective display of students work and other materials and through care of the environment.

Whole School Responsibilities:

- To further the tone and purpose of the School by example.
- To foster and support activities in the interests of the school community.
- To be a member of school committees and working parties as appropriate

Community Responsibilities:

- To ensure effective dialogue with parents in accordance with school policies
- To foster our relationship with feeder schools and higher education institutions
- To liaise with external agencies and employers as necessary
- To develop our relationship with other schools
- To write reports on individual students on their progress in science in accordance with the school reporting policies and timetables

Safeguarding children

- The post holder has a responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young people
- This includes children that they are responsible for and come in contact with. The post holder must adhere to and ensure compliance with the school's Child Protection Policy and Procedures at all times.

Conditions:

The salary will be at an appropriate point on the Gordonstoun salary scale

Teaching staff are eligible for membership of the Scottish Teachers Superannuation Scheme

These notes are for general information only and the appointment will be subject to signature of formal conditions of employment. Candidates wishing to be considered for this post should complete the school's application form and submit a letter of application outlining why they feel they are suitable candidates for this post to the Headmaster or email to recruitment@gordonstoun.org.uk

The closing date for applications is 5pm Friday 26 January 2018

