



John O'Gaunts Way
Belper
Derbyshire
DE56 0DA

Tel: **01773 825281**

Fax: **01773 820875**

Email: **belperschool@belperschool.co.uk**

Website: **www.belperschool.co.uk**

Head Teacher: **Martyn Cooper**

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Dear Colleague,

Teacher of Mathematics

Thank you for your interest in this post. I hope that the information about the school and the details of the post will prompt you to apply. Please use the section of the online application entitled "Personal Statement" to write your letter of application but disregard the other instructions within that section.

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic teacher who is able to share in the teaching of the 11-16 age and ability range with the potential to teach A-level. In this lively department, you could expect to work with colleagues who are both committed and keen to support one another in an atmosphere of good humour.

There are currently 11 teachers of Mathematics, many of whom are also group tutors. We see the role of tutor as central to the student's experience, so we expect to liaise with colleagues who are tutors right across the school in the normal course of our specialist teaching. In this way, the Department operates within a close-knit supportive school network.

In Key Stage 3, we continue to develop our schemes of work to meet the challenges of the new curriculum. In Year 7, we try particularly hard to break down any inherited anxieties about Mathematics, which students may bring with them and to establish confidence and enthusiasm in their approach to the subject. We try to engage the students in class discussions and also encourage them to discuss work with their peers. As a Department we believe that a variety of tasks and activities are important and this includes an investigational and problem solving approach to the subject as well as a consolidation of core skills. We are committed to the appropriate use of ICT and there are digital projectors in all teaching rooms.

In Key Stage 4, we follow the AQA linear course and aim to enter all students for GCSE Mathematics. At the start of Year 10 we broadly band the students into tiers so that they can follow the appropriate course of study and refine this at the start of Year 11 to give them the best preparation for the GCSE examinations. Our schemes of work continue to develop and we are always looking to add new ideas and resources. In 2014, the department secured their best ever GCSE results with 80% of students achieving grades A*-C in Mathematics and followed that up with 78% achieving grades A*-C in 2015.

Post-16, we follow the AQA Maths and Further Maths courses and continue to attract large numbers (in 2014, 66 students started AS Maths and 10 started AS Further Maths). Both courses include Statistics, Decision and Mechanics modules as well as Pure Mathematics and our A/A* pass rates have always been very high.

We also have a thriving Mathematical enrichment curriculum, encouraging students to take part in the UKMT Maths Challenges, as well as the whole school half-termly Maths Challenger! We have organised school trips for all ages to Mathematical events and, in the past have held masterclasses for students throughout Key Stage 3. We also have weekly drop-in sessions for post-16 students, which are very well attended and where students enjoy working with us to solve problems. In short, we are always striving to look for opportunities to raise the profile of Mathematics within the school.

Please read the person specification carefully for the post and if you think that teaching Mathematics in this sort of environment appeals then we would like to hear from you. Please complete the application form and submit your letter of application within the "Personal Statement" section as already mentioned. You should restrict your letter to two sides of word-processed A4 and address the following questions

1. What strategies do you adopt in the classroom to promote motivation in students and get them more interested in doing Maths?
2. How do you monitor the progress that your students make, both within a sequence of lessons on a topic and also in the longer term?

The closing date for applications is 18 May 2016 and interviews will take place 24 May 2016. The selection process is likely to include teaching an observed lesson, meeting students and a formal interview.

If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact me at the following address: apd@belperschool.co.uk. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Adrian Daly
Head of Mathematics