

MORPETH SCHOOL



Science Technician Application Pack

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Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your enquiry about the vacancy for the post of **Science Technician** at Morpeth School. We are pleased that you are interested in finding out more about working here.

We hope that our school website www.morpethschool.org.uk will give you a strong sense of the school. You will find the Job Description/Selection Criteria in this pack and an Application Form with any other details on the website. In your application, we are particularly interested in knowing how you think your skills and experience will match Morpeth.

If you have any issues accessing the recruitment documentation, please do not hesitate to contact our HR Officer, Pedro Cedenio (recruitment@morpeth.towerhamlets.sch.uk).

Completed applications should be returned to this address by Friday 26th 2026. Successful candidates will be contacted by telephone and invited for interview the following week.

Unfortunately, we are not able to contact unsuccessful applicants individually. If you have not heard from the School after 10 working days past the deadline, please assume you have not been shortlisted for interview.

Please note that as this post involves working with children, it is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, which means that all convictions, cautions and bind-overs (including those regarded as 'spent' for other purposes) must be declared if you are invited to interview. Please see the application form for further details.

Yours sincerely,



John Pickett
Headteacher



Morpeth is an eight-form entry, mixed, 11-19 comprehensive school situated in Bethnal Green, Tower Hamlets and we are very much a community. Our values are longstanding; they encapsulate the way we work and the way the school feels, where learning is excellent, every child is known and included and relationships are positive.

We are proud of our diversity – we represent the wider Tower Hamlets community – and recognise that in order to make everyone feel included and valued, this requires ongoing and explicit consideration.

We prioritise the development of trust and understanding between pupils from different backgrounds; all members of staff – teaching and support – work together regularly throughout the year to develop our practice. As a result, visitors frequently comment on how friendly the school feels and the excellent relationships between staff and between pupils and staff. We are over-subscribed both for Year 7 and the sixth form, and have a very strong track record of recruitment and retention of teaching and support staff.

We have over 110 teaching staff, 35 Teaching Assistants, and 70 other support staff who share a strong belief in what our pupils can achieve. Our teachers are subject specialists, passionate about those subjects and keen to develop their knowledge and practice. We also place great importance on learning beyond the classroom. There is an extensive programme of extra-curricular experiences and over 100 lunchtime and after school activities offered weekly.



We are fortunate in that the entire school has been rebuilt or refurbished to a very high standard over recent years, and we have been able to invest heavily in learning resources for pupils. Schools across Tower Hamlets have a long tradition of working closely together and in recent years this has been facilitated and strengthened by the Tower Hamlets Education Partnership.

What makes us different?

Our KS4 curriculum structure

When we reviewed our KS4 curriculum in 2010 we decided that the traditional model that we offered didn't feel sufficiently flexible or tailored to our students both in terms of context and inclusion. It was 'one size fits all'. We wanted to continue to provide a rich and broad curriculum where the arts are valued alongside core academic subjects but also one that could recognise students' individual needs.

The model we have now is one that is innovative, ambitious, dynamic and responsive to students' needs. We typically offer 25 optional examined courses. Alongside core subjects, students choose two options each year in Years 9, 10 and 11, courses being one year in length, and having the equivalent time of one-day a week per course. Students will take exams at the end of the year. The majority of students will study the EBacc subjects with significantly higher than national numbers taking GCSEs in creative and expressive arts, and design technology.



Our inclusive approach

We support students by:

- focusing on both systems and practice - we recognise that we need strong systems to provide structure however, in a school that views high quality relationships as the key driver in all that we do we place an emphasis on supporting colleagues' practice;
- understanding that behaviour is a two-way language of communication;
- being compassionate - making decisions about behaviour based on the context of every child and situation;
- being data-led - using both qualitative and quantitative data helps us ask the right questions about behaviour and inclusion, in the same way as progress and attainment.

We recognise that in order to prioritise the development of positive relationships across the school, we have to build it into our structures. In September 2023, we moved to a vertical tutoring system where pupils meet three times a week in coaching circles made up of 13 pupils from Years 7 – 11.

We have 80 circles, led by coaches from across our teaching and support staff and organised into five houses. The circles and houses are fundamental to ensuring every child feels that they belong to our community.

What do we offer?

We know that to provide the best support for our pupils, we need to have staff who feel happy in their role, trusted and well-supported. Teaching staff are able to work from home for some of their PPA time, we take a positive approach to requests for flexible working, we create regular opportunities for all staff to mix socially through weekly staff circles, free staff breakfasts and our Staff Association who run events and trips throughout the year. Teachers have autonomy to plan lessons within departmental agreed curriculum plans and we have regular subject teach meets within departments and professional learning groups both with a focus on developing pedagogy.

We have never believed in performance-related pay, but do believe in the importance of continual professional development and in regular scheduled opportunities for staff to discuss and reflect upon their professional development across the school year. We support and encourage the full breadth of professional development opportunities – formal and informal - from external CPD, to supporting Masters level qualifications including study days and a contribution to costs, providing coaches for NPQ courses and to ongoing high-quality internal training opportunities.

“A supportive community for students and staff”

“A school with a human face, diversity is appreciated”

“High professional trust and autonomy”

“I feel respected and appreciated”

“Supportive colleagues and an opportunity to grow”

“Excellent facilities and amazing SEN provision”

“Relational practice”

“Sense of community felt within the school”

“We teach each other something every day”

“A school that thinks about all communities and promotes equality and inclusivity”

“There is always a smile waiting for you”





Position:	Science Technician
Salary:	NJC Scale 3 points 5-6 Actual Salary: £26,859 - £27,242
Contract Type / Working Agreement:	Term Time Only, Full-Time
Required for:	September 2026
Closing date for all applications:	09:00am, Friday 26 th June 2026
Interview date:	TBC

An appointment as a Science Technician is an opportunity to join a highly successful team: talented, committed staff, enthusiastic, friendly pupils and a community of supportive families and external partners within and beyond Tower Hamlets.

We believe that our success derives from our inclusive, pupil-centered focus; our commitment to the continuous review of curriculum and pedagogy; our focus on professional development; and a strong belief in the need to work within a set of values which underpins all that we do.

How to apply:

Completed applications should be returned to recruitment@morpeth.towerhamlets.sch.uk

For full details and application pack see the school website www.morpethschool.org.uk or our job page on TES: <https://www.tes.com/jobs/employer/-1042684>

We are committed to safeguarding our students. Successful candidates will be required to abide by the school's Safeguarding Children policy and undergo an enhanced DBS check. The School may conduct an online search as part of due diligence checks in the recruitment process.

Science Technician – Job Description

Contract Type	Term Time / 39 Weeks
Duration	Permanent (upon completing probation period)
Working Hours	35 hours pw (08.00 – 16:00 Monday - Friday) 1-hour unpaid break
Working Pattern	Term Time Only (39 weeks per year)
Salary	Scale 3, points 5-6 Actual Salary: £26,859 - £27,242
Responsible to	Lead Science Technician / Head of Science

Main purpose of the job:

- To provide general, practical support in science laboratories
- To assist the lead science technician in the day-to-day running of the laboratories.

Main Responsibilities:

- To be responsible to the lead science technician in coordinating the use of practical resources and facilities, and provide assistance and advice in meeting the practical needs of the science curriculum, including liaising with teaching and support staff outside the department.
- Giving technical advice to teachers, technicians and pupils/students.
- To ensure the maintenance of a healthy and safe working environment through:
 - actively contributing to the assessment, monitoring and review of both health and safety procedures and information resources;
 - keeping up-to-date with current procedures and practices through continuing professional development;
 - the provision of technical advice and support on health and safety issues to teaching and trainee technical staff;
 - the safe treatment and disposal of used materials, including hazardous substances and responding to actual or potential hazards;
 - the healthy and safe storage and accessibility of equipment and materials.
- To assist the lead science technician with day-to-day organisation and development of any trainee staff to ensure that essential performance standards are achieved.
- To contribute to the design, development and maintenance of specialist resources and/or long-term projects.
- To support the lead science technician in ensuring the availability of suitable materials and equipment, helping to compile orders and liaising or negotiating with suppliers and finance departments. This will include sourcing, costing and suggesting economic alternatives to maintain stock levels.
- To keep records of stocks up-to-date
- To support the lead science technician in ensuring that both routine and non-routine checking, cleaning, maintenance, calibration, testing and repairing of equipment are carried out to the required standard.

As a member of a House or Year team

(Coaches and Tutors or attached staff)

Under the Guidance and direction of the Head of House (Years 7 – 11) or Head of Year (6th form), to:

- get to know the pupils well
- get to know families well through regular contact, sharing successes and participating in Meet Your Coach / Tutor days.
- plan sessions, reading through guidance notes in advance
- develop skills in facilitating a coaching circle
- promote high standards of work, behaviour, attendance and punctuality from members of the Coaching / Tutor Group
- keep an accurate and up-to-date register following school guidance re. attendance and punctuality
- write reports as required
- prepare initial drafts for references, testimonials and reports to outside agencies, as appropriate
- teach the CPSHE programme as required
- attend assemblies with the group and supervise their arrival, behaviour and departure
- participate in Head of House / Head of Year meetings

Science Technician – Selection Criteria

Please address these criteria in your application form and interview

- 5 A* - C grades at GCSE including English and Maths (or equivalent).
- An up-to-date knowledge of developments in practical science.
- A specialism in physics would be desirable.
- Knowledge and understanding of relevant health and safety issues.
- Experience in working in schools would be desirable.
- Proven ability to work independently, under pressure and remain methodical when problem solving. The ability to manage time effectively and meet deadlines.
- An ability to establish professional relationships with all members of the school community. An ability to interact well with staff, students and personnel from outside agencies as appropriate.
- A good level of IT skills and knowledge of common software used in a school. The ability and willingness to learn new software applications in order to support the curriculum.
- Excellent administrative, numeracy and communication skills, both verbal and written.
- An understanding of, and commitment to, the school's equal opportunities policy and aims and an ability to contribute to the implementation of these policies through the duties of the post.
- Commitment to the protection and safeguarding of children and young people.

Science Department at Morpeth School

The Science Department is a vibrant, committed and hardworking team. We have 13 teaching staff in addition to this post and 3 full-time technicians. Science is taught in 9 modern, well-equipped labs including a specialised 6th form lab.

At Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8) we teach mixed prior attainment classes. We follow a modular approach, based on our 'in-house' schemes of work with resources produced by the department. We place great importance on practical investigations, thinking skills and the use of ICT to support lessons.

At Key Stage 4 pupils currently either study the separate Sciences or AQA's Trilogy Combined Science course. At Key Stage 5 Science is a popular option and we teach Biology, Chemistry and Physics at A level and offer the BTEC Applied Science course. Many students go on to study either Science or related subjects at University.

The department works collaboratively, sharing good practice and supporting each other. The high level of enthusiasm generates creativity and we always welcome innovative ideas and approaches.

The department provides many extra-curricular opportunities for the pupils, including intervention classes for KS4 and KS5 and a range of trips and projects for pupils of all ages. We are particularly proud of our work in helping to lead the school's innovative work addressing the climate crisis.