

The Latymer School

Junior Physics Technician



Welcome

Thank you for considering applying for the role of Junior Physics Technician at The Latymer School, North London. We are seeking an exceptional candidate, who is eager to play a central role in reinforcing and developing the school's already strong position.

The Latymer School is a high achieving, selective grammar school with a great tradition of success. We aim to provide a first class education for all students. In the academic year 2023/24 our GCSE results were outstanding, with 39.3% of students achieving a grade 9, 66.7% achieving level 9/8, and 85.5% achieving level 9/8/7. At A Level 30.7% of grades were A*, 66.8% were A*/ A, and 86.3% were A*/ B. As in previous years, the majority went on to attend the country's top universities, and a large number were successful in their applications to Oxford or Cambridge.

As a school, we are clearly committed to developing pupils' intellectual abilities and celebrating academic achievement. We want students to have a real thirst and love for learning so that they are well equipped for life after Latymer. However, the school prides itself on much more than its exam results. As our mission statement asserts, we aim to provide 'a first class liberal education', develop 'lively enquiring minds', and encourage students to 'achieve their full potential and show consideration for others'. Staff at Latymer foster an academic environment that takes students well beyond the classroom curriculum. We provide an array of exciting and worthwhile extra-curricular activities in areas as diverse as music, drama, sport, and chess.

Although we expect applicants to demonstrate excellent subject knowledge, prospective applicants should not be daunted by the prospect of teaching high ability groups. We are an incredibly caring school and value our staff highly evidenced through the excellent CPD and support we provide. If you would like to find out more about the school we will be happy to arrange a visit prior to applying.

We look forward to welcoming you to our inclusive community and receiving your application for the post.

Joseph Gilford, Headteacher.







The Curriculum

We are a selective grammar school for boys and girls aged 11 to 18. We aim to provide a broad and stimulating education and maintain the highest of standards within the formal curriculum. While an outstanding education is often regarded as a building block towards adulthood and future employment, we also believe that students should enjoy learning, and value the relationships they build throughout their years at Latymer.

Latymer is proud of its outstanding musical tradition, which still inspires a wide range of music making, mainly as an extra-curricular activity, today. Drama, sport and outdoor pursuits are also very strong. Our field centre in North Wales (Ysgol Latymer at Cwm Penmachno), owned by the Foundation, is used as a base for Outdoor pursuits and field courses in Year 7 and we take Year 9 to Conwy in North Wales and all

staff have the chance to accompany groups.

Our aim is to enable each pupil to develop his or her talents and interests to the full, while experiencing a broad and balanced curriculum throughout Years 7-11. Courses offered challenge pupils to develop insight and independence of thought through an active and problem-solving approach, which relates learning to the real world and values both sound learning and intellectual rigour. At GCSE students take 10 examination subjects.

In the Sixth Form pupils currently take 4 AS-levels in Year 12. Some pupils will continue with 4 subjects to A-level, but most will carry on with 3. The majority of Sixth Formers progress to study degree courses at universities, or other forms of Higher Education in Music, Drama, Art and other areas. We have a tradition of students attending the top UK universities, including Oxford and Cambridge.

Pastoral Care

Every teacher takes responsibility for a form group, and stays with their form throughout their time at the School. Form tutors build close relationships with the students in their form group, but they will also be supported by Heads and Assistant Heads of Year. We pride ourselves on the quality of care we give to our students, and recognise that being part of an academic grammar school community can often be challenging. In light of this, we ensure that we support those children who find the academic standard demanding, as well as extremely gifted children.

Library and Learning Resources Centre

The School Library is a vital resource for teaching throughout the School. Some 17,000 volumes (which are constantly reviewed, 'weeded', and replenished) are housed in the handsome setting of the Ashworth & War Memorial Libraries. There is also a wide selection of periodicals. We are proud of the number of students from all year groups who use the library before and after school, during the day, and at break and lunchtimes.

Computer facilities include three computer rooms for general use, and another in the Technology area. All staff are provided with a laptop and the school has a wireless network throughout. All classrooms are equipped with interactive whiteboards.



The House System

The House system is embedded in the traditions of the school and is one of its strengths. It provides the structure for much of the extra-curricular activity in the school. House loyalty is fostered by the House identity of the 6 Forms in each year (Ashworth, Dolbe, Keats, Lamb, Latymer, Wyatt). Staff are allocated to Houses and are Form Tutors to pupils in their own House. Much of the House activity is run by Senior Pupils, elected by their House, under the supervision of Senior House Staff. Tutors, and Year Heads, progress with their form from Year 7 to Year 11. Sixth Formers are in smaller pastoral groups with experienced tutors.

Ysgol Latymer Outdoor Pursuits Centre

In 1966 The Foundation purchased a former primary school in the village of Cwm Penmachno, within the Snowdonia National Park. Since that time, the building has been developed into a comfortable and well equipped centre accommodating one standard form group (32) and accompanying staff. Each year every Year 7 pupil has the opportunity to spend a week in Wales, taking part in a variety of outdoor activities. Our Year 9 pupils undertake a similar experience in Conwy, Anglesey. These include hill walking, orienteering, mountain cycling, climbing, abseiling, horse riding, canoeing, kayaking, rafting and swimming. In addition, older students visit the centre for Outdoor Pursuits related to Duke of Edinburgh Award and GCSE PE. Both staff and pupils alike cite visits to the centre amongst their most enjoyable and memorable experiences of Latymer School life.





Leadership and Governance



The Governing Body

Latymer's Governing Body is ultimately responsible for the performance of the School, setting its overall strategic direction and ensuring that the highest standards of education, safeguarding and financial probity are maintained. Our experienced and talented Governors bring to bear their considerable professional experience in business, finance, the law, information technology, and a range of other professions, to provide constructive support and challenge to the Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team.

Further information about the Governing Body can be found on the school website.



The Science
Department



Staffing and Accommodation

The Science Department has 15 specialist teachers that all teach to AS and A2 level;

- 5 in Physics,
- 5 Chemists
- 5 Biologists.

The 4 Technicians, one of whom is the Senior Technician, are also specialists in one subject and work mainly in that Department.

The accommodation comprises 12 laboratories and although four are designated to each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, Year 7 and Year 8 teaching may take place in any. There are also 4 preparation rooms. All the laboratories and preparation rooms are modern and well equipped. All the laboratories have a computer, data projector and interactive whiteboards. Every laboratory has at least one computer linked to the school network and at least one laboratory on each floor has several computers to allow class experiments with "LogIT" data capture devices. School computer rooms or lap tops can also be booked for lessons.

Management structure

The Science Management team consists of the following members of staff:

Head of Physics

Head of Biology

Head of Chemistry

Head of Lower School Science

Senior Technician

The whole Department meets formally twice per term; with subject specific or key stage meetings occurring at regular intervals.



Teaching

Key Stage 3

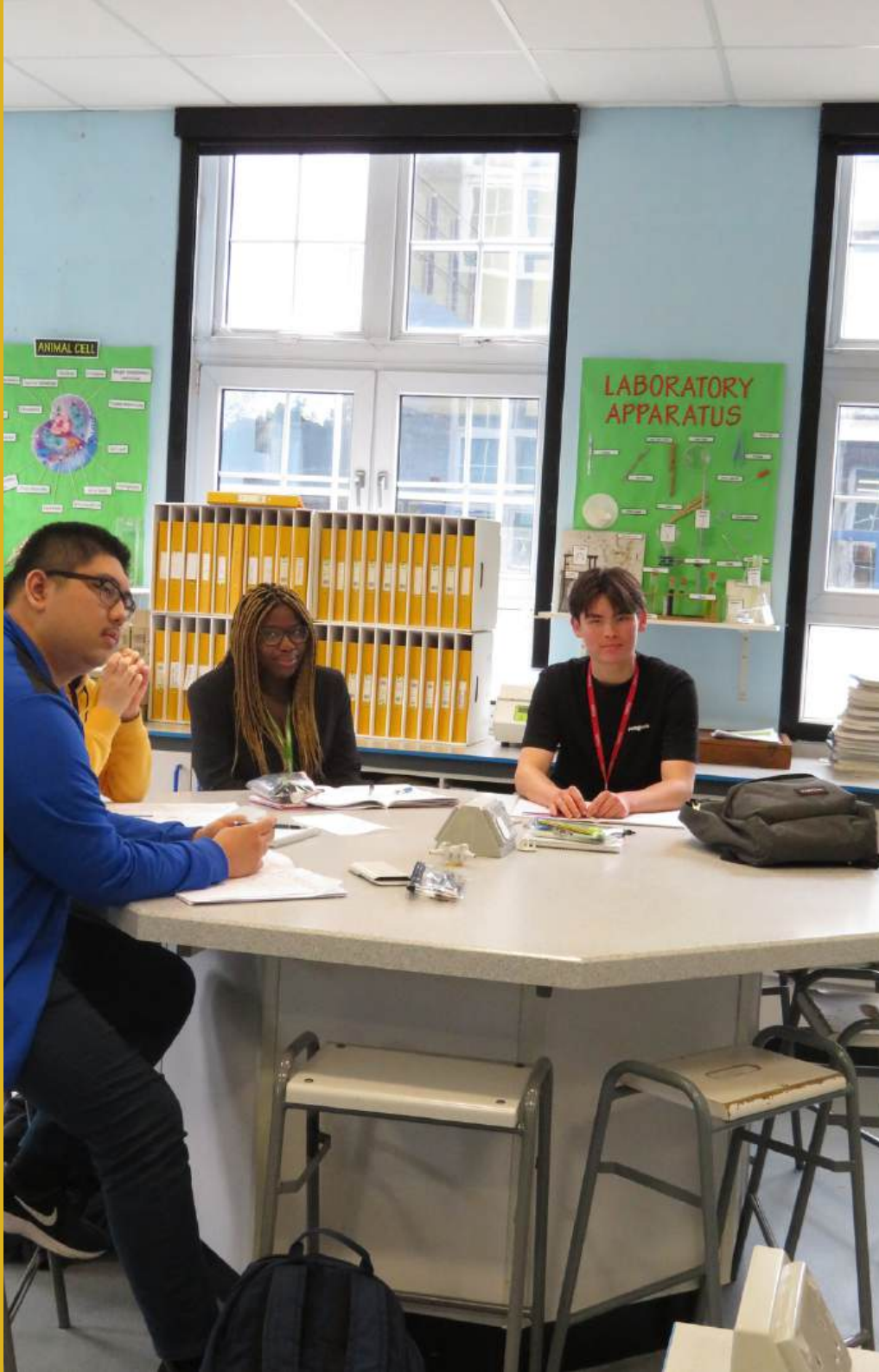
When students enter Latymer they are put into one of the six House registration groups, each with about 32 students. In Year 7 and Year 8 these are also the classes for Science, each taught by one Science teacher. At this stage there are ten 40-minute lessons, including some doubles, in a two-week cycle of 76 lessons. The Year 7 and 8 syllabus has been written by the Head of Lower School Science to allow for the inclusion of ICT, for the high ability of our students and for the range of their knowledge of Science on entry to Latymer (they come from a very large number of “feeder” primary schools).

Key Stage 4

The lessons are separated into GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics from the beginning of Year 9 with each taught by a subject specialist, and the school follows the AQA board specifications. From year 10 pupils are taught in classes of approximately 24, and each class is taught by a subject specialist. The grouping of the classes is done by GCSE subject choice, not ability.

There are 3 double lessons per two-week cycle in each of the sciences. The teachers and groups usually continue into Year 11.

The department's exam results are consistently high at GCSE and were excellent for 2023-24. Our most recent externally graded results in 2024 being 92.1% of students achieving grades 9-7 at GCSE.



Teaching

AS and A Levels

At AS and A Level the Sciences are popular options.

In Year 12, depending on student numbers, there are either four or five sets of about 18 students in each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

The specifications followed will be AQA Biology, Edexcel Chemistry and AQA Physics. In Year 13 most students continue to A Level.

The latest externally assessed results (2024) were outstanding with 16.7% achieving an A*, 56.4% A*/A, 78.2% A*/B and 93.6% A*/C).

The majority of A Level students proceed to degree courses having achieved the top two grades and there is a tradition of pupils proceeding to Oxbridge and other well established Universities to follow courses in Pure and Applied Science including Medicine and Engineering. Those students intending to follow courses in subjects not taught at school (e.g. Veterinary Science, Forensic Science, Medicine, Engineering) are encouraged to take external courses e.g. "Medsix", "Headstart" and "WISE".

Enrichment

Outside of the normal lessons the department organises a number of enrichment activities and visits, and many of these are led by the Year 13 pupils. There are 2 staff with TLR responsibilities for the enrichment programme with a significant budget available.

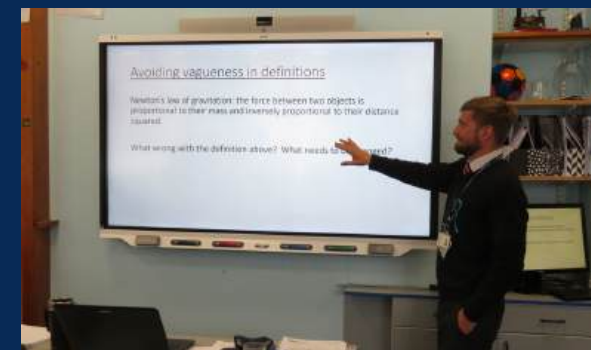
Job Description



This job description outlines the main responsibilities that are common to all Science Technician roles; to provide assistance in the Science Department under the overall direction of the Head of the Science Department and/or the Co-ordinator of Technicians. To work with a team of technicians to provide technical support to the Science Department. To co-ordinate 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 staff and support staff outside the department.

Practical:

- Preparation of resources, practicals and apparatus with them set up ready for students to use, to minimise disruption to learning up to A Level.
- To support the Senior Technician in ensuring the availability of suitable materials and equipment, helping to compile orders and liaising or negotiating with suppliers and the Finance Departments. This will include sourcing, costing and suggesting economic alternatives to maintain stock levels.
- Repair and covering of text books
- Carrying out risk assessments for technician activities
- Disposal of waste materials
- Organising, storing and checking the condition of chemicals, equipment and practicals being carried out
- Modifying apparatus and practicals
- Preparing standard solutions, purifying chemicals, treating waste
- Safe storage of apparatus and materials
- Collecting, checking and returning all equipment from practicals and demonstrations to stores and ensuring routinely benches and sinks are clean
- General laboratory cleaning of bench surfaces, sinks, white boards, spillages and fixed equipment
- General cleaning and repair of equipment
- Under the guidance of the Senior Technician, ensuring that both routine and non-routine checking, cleaning, maintenance, calibration, testing and repairing of equipment are carried out to the required standard
- Checking equipment and laboratories for deterioration and defects
- Liaising with other technicians about the Science Department
- To undertake from time to time such work as may be determined by the Head of Sciences or the Headteacher



Health and Safety:

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 and attending courses, if required
- Providing 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
- Giving health and safety advice to technical staff, teachers and students

General Duties and Responsibilities:

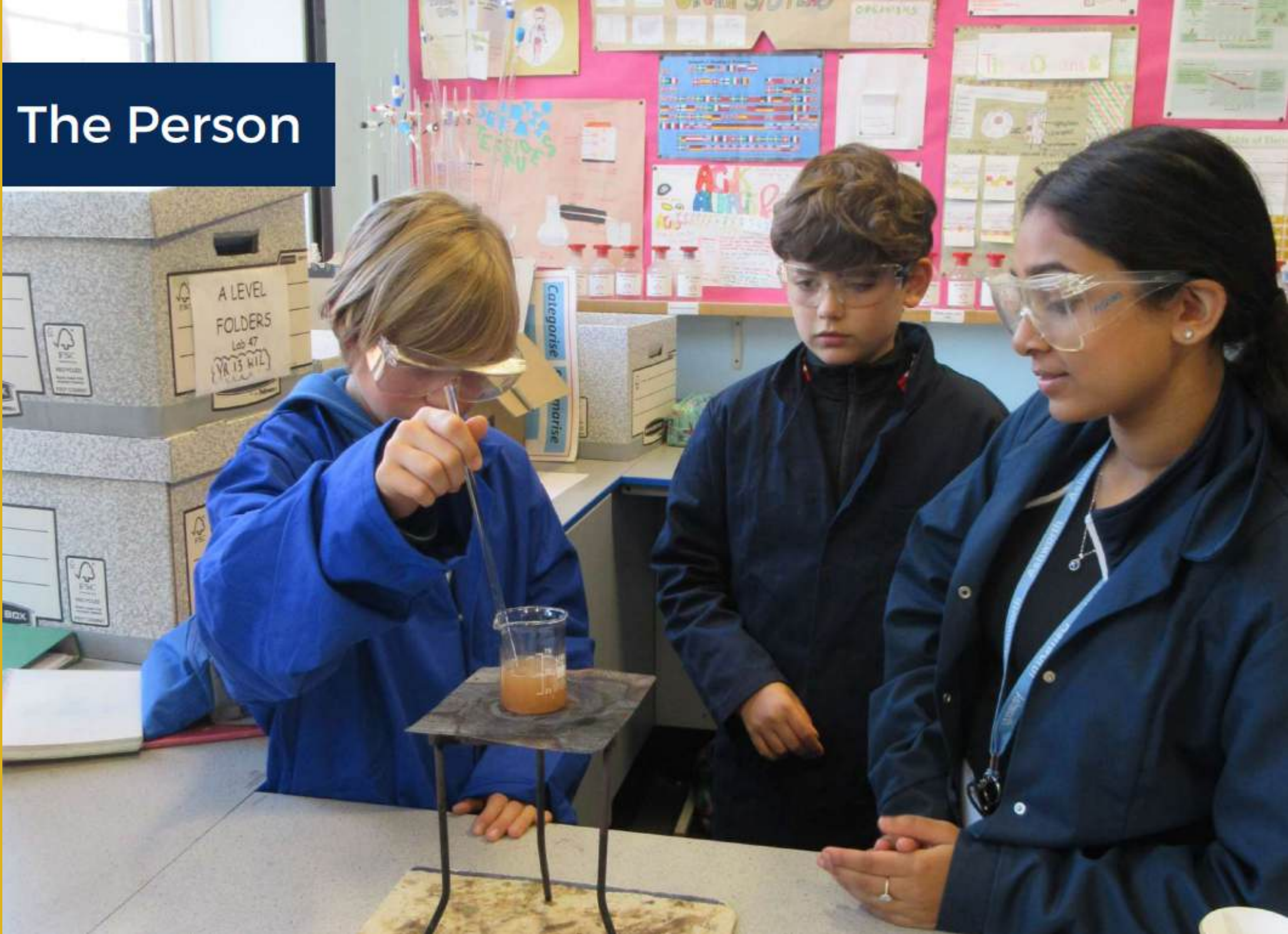
- KS3, KS4 and A Level Practical Preparation
- Assistance with KS3 curriculum, all sciences
- Keeping up to date with health and safety requirement and with developments in practical science. (Attending courses and reading publications)
- Giving technical advice to teachers, technicians and students
- Maintaining departmental computer records where required
- Maintaining lesson folders and setting up pupil folders Ongoing management, development and co-ordination of practicals related to the subject schemes of work
- To assist the Senior Technician with the day to day organisation and development of trainee staff to ensure that essential performance criteria are met
- Assisting in the training of trainee teachers by providing specialist technical advice and support
- Printing of lesson resources and exams
- Keeping the Prep Rooms tidy
- Ensuring laboratories are stocked with general practical and teaching equipment
- Carry out demonstrations as required and assist in practical lessons where requested

Person Specifications:

- Individuals should be:
- Patient, reliable and calm under pressure
- Punctual
- Efficient and organised
- Interpersonal skills Team player



The Person



We are seeking an individual for the role of Junior Physics Technician who can demonstrate the following qualities and experience:

Criteria	Essential	Desirable	Method of Assessment
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCSE / A Level Science 		Application form and references.
Commitment to Safeguarding Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has up-to-date knowledge of relevant legislation and guidance in relation to working with, and the protection of, children and young people. • Displays commitment to the protection and safeguarding of children and young people. • Values and respects the views and needs of children and young people. 		Application form, references, and interview.
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficient at preparing resources and managing inventory of materials and chemicals. • Knowledge of relevant health and safety regulations • Ability to hand and prepare physics apparatus • Experience in the use of ICT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous experience working in a school science department or another laboratory setting. • Proven record as a technician. 	Application form, references, and interview.

Criteria	Essential	Desirable	Method of Assessment
Special Aptitudes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to improving student learning and raising achievement. • Enthusiasm to inspire in students a desire to learn. 		Application form, references, and interview.
Interpersonal Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good ICT, oral and written communication skills. • Ability to work effectively as part of a team. • Ability to work on own initiative. • Ability to take responsibility for planning own workload and commitments. • Ability to work under pressure and keep to deadlines. • Ability to be sensitive to the needs of others. • Ability to be supportive. • Professionalism. • Good record of attendance and punctuality. • Willingness to reflect upon their experiences in a critical and constructive manner. 		Application form, references, and interview.

Application and Appointment Process

How to apply

To find out more about The Latymer School, please do take a look at the website at www.latymer.co.uk or contact the PA to Headteacher, Jackie Soday (SDYJ@latymer.co.uk) to arrange a telephone call with the Headteacher, if you have any questions.

If, after reading the information, you are interested in joining us please create an account at [mynewterm](#) and apply.

Closing date for this application is:
10am on Tuesday 3 June 2025

We reserve the right to shortlist and interview strong candidates on receipt of application and make appointments to the post before the closing date.

