



Leighton Park School is a successful, forward looking independent HMC day and boarding school for around 500 pupils aged 11-18. Set in more than 60 acres of magnificent parkland, the school has a Quaker heritage, committed to developing both the academic and personal qualities of every individual.

Head of Chemistry – full time

Leighton Park School is looking forward to appointing an able and enthusiastic Chemist to lead a small team of professional Chemists and teach at all levels throughout this co-educational, selective day and boarding school. We are looking to make an appointment to the department to start in September 2020. The position would suit either an existing Head of Chemistry or an ambitious and successful Chemistry teacher keen to develop their leadership potential. The candidate will be required to show evidence of leadership experience or potential and demonstrate excellent practice in teaching and learning, together with an enthusiasm and passion for the subject and excellent communication skills that enable this to be translated to pupil performance and staff motivation.

The Sciences at Leighton Park

The Sciences are well established at Leighton Park with a long tradition of strong results and a reputation for good teaching. A general science course is taught in Years 7 and 8 with the three separate sciences taught from Year 9. Pupils choose science subjects as part of the option scheme for GCSE; most opt for two, but several select all three. In the Sixth Form we offer both the A Level and International Baccalaureate programmes of study. The A level examining boards are OCR for both Chemistry and Biology and AQA for Chemistry. Psychology is also offered in the Sixth Form at both A Level and IB and it is linked closely with the Science department.

Good working links are also in place with other departments in the school. In all science teaching, the emphasis is on the delivery of enjoyable, accessible and modern science to pupils from a wide variety of cultural backgrounds. The school's Quaker ethos is very important to all that takes place in the laboratory and classroom. In addition to formal lessons, science-based hobbies are very popular with pupils and we are seeking to expand our provision of STEM based activities in all the Science disciplines.

The school's excellent library and ICT facilities provide pupils with additional opportunities for research and study outside the laboratory. The close proximity of Reading University campus allows full use to be made of open days and public lectures. Over the course of a year many visits are organised for students in all year groups.

The science departments welcome an active, well-qualified and enthusiastic member of staff who wishes to make positive contributions to the overall delivery of the sciences to all pupils, both through teaching and other initiatives.

The Chemistry Department

The department has 2 large, modern and well equipped laboratories. All are equipped with interactive whiteboards and there is a large preparation room, housing an impressive inventory of equipment. A highly skilled and dedicated technician provides professional support, preparing and maintaining practical facilities of the highest quality and reliability.

Chemistry is a popular subject at Leighton Park and students are extremely well supported by an extremely dedicated and professional teaching team of specialist Chemists. Staff from the other science departments also support the Chemistry teaching up to Key Stage 4. Recent Chemistry results at both GCSE and A level have been excellent and many students have successfully progressed to top universities to study Chemistry or Engineering related degrees.

GCSE	100% Pass Rate	9	17%
		8	39%
IB	100% Pass Rate	Level 7/6	
		100%	
'A' Level	100% Pass Rate	A/A*	33%
		B	33%

The department has membership of the Institute of Chemistry and benefits from their magazines and other materials. The applicant will be expected to foster a happy, cooperative attitude within the department, generating a positive and happy atmosphere in the classroom.

All teaching staff at Leighton Park are expected to contribute to the wider life of the school community firstly through their role as one of a team of tutors who oversee the pastoral welfare of a small group of students and deliver the PSHE programme and secondly through contributing to the school's extensive programme of extra-curricular activities.

Adam Ball
Head of Chemistry

January 2020