

ALLEYN'S SCHOOL

TOWNLEY ROAD, DULWICH, LONDON SE22 8SU

Independent day school for boys and girls aged 4-18

HEAD OF PHYSICS

for September 2018

Alleyn's is one of the country's leading co-educational independent day schools, committed to developing excellence within an ethos of strong pastoral care and a vibrant co-curriculum. Our holistic approach aims to nurture every pupil, enabling them to develop their potential while making friendships and enjoying life to the full.

Tracing our roots back to Edward Alleyn's College of God's Gift, founded in 1619, we moved to our own 30-acre site on Townley Road in 1887 and, in 1976, were one of the first such schools to go fully co-educational.

We believe that learning together in a supportive environment provides the best framework for boys and girls to excel at school, to discover new ideas, skills and enthusiasms and to prepare for university and the multi-gendered world of work and life in general. Links with local and overseas schools, universities and charities provide further opportunities to enrich that learning in different contexts and to make new and lasting friends.

Our community is warm, caring and inclusive. We are able to offer a range of bursaries and scholarships to support boys and girls most able to benefit from an Alleyn's education, irrespective of financial means.

We are proud of our pupils, who leave us with excellent examination results, places at some of the world's top universities and specialist centres of higher education, and also with a sense of confidence, mutual respect and social responsibility.

We also greatly value our committed and hard-working staff, whose dedication makes possible the achievements of our pupils.



Dr Gary Savage, Headmaster

Our Co-educational Community

Boys and girls at Alleyn's genuinely enjoy and appreciate each other's achievements and contributions and it is satisfying to see them grow in confidence as our co-ed community offers them a fabulous variety of ways to develop skills and cement lifelong friendships.

The Junior School is a member of IAPS, with pupils aged from 4 to 11. The Senior School is an HMC school with pupils aged from 11 to 18. This year there are just over 1,000 pupils in the Senior School, of whom 302 are in the Upper School (Sixth Form). Our main intake to the Senior School is at 11+ and there are further new places at 13+ and at 16+. We currently have six year 7 classes of 23 children, with smaller classes common at GCSE. Upper School teaching sets are never larger than 14 and are usually sized 8-12.

Exam Results

At Alleyn's we have a proud record of outstanding examination results and in 2017 our pupils continued that tradition. At A level, 92% of grades were A*, A or B, and 77% were A* or A grades. 41% were A*. Nearly 60% of our students achieved at least 3 A* or A grades and there was a 100% pass rate. At GCSE, 67% of grades were A*, 92% were A* or A, and 99% were A*, A and B. 34 students gained 10 or more A*s and 65% achieved all A*s or As.





Facilities

The School has approximately 30 acres of grounds with extensive playing fields. There is a recently resurfaced all-weather Astroturf sports area, a Sports Hall, and cinder running track. In 2009 a £13.5 million extension was completed providing additional facilities for teaching, pastoral care and the performing arts. More recently the swimming pool has undergone a £1.2 million redevelopment (completed in September 2014) and in 2016 a £3.5 million project to add a new wing to the Science building was completed. A major capital programme over the next decade includes a new Lower School (which is almost complete), and plans for additional facilities in the Junior School, Library, Archive and Sixth Form centre as well as a new Dining Hall.

The library is very well stocked and well used and individual Departments are all extremely well resourced. Networked computers are available throughout the school, with broadband internet access and WiFi across the site.

Curriculum

There is a common curriculum in Year 7. Subjects taught include Art, Biology, Chemistry, Computing, Design Technology, Food and Nutrition, Dance, Drama, English, Geography, History, Latin, Maths, Music, PE, Physics, Religious Studies, Spanish and our Alelyn's Learners' Programme. These subjects continue in Year 8 where there is some setting in Maths and a second language choice is introduced. There is a wide choice of subject options in Years 10 and 11. The current GCSE curriculum includes English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, a Modern Foreign Language and the three Sciences (the vast majority do the Triple Award) alongside a wide choice of options available to all students. The Sixth Form options system offers immense choice and flexibility. All pupils currently take 4 subjects in Year 12 and 3 or 4 subjects in Year 13 in addition to PSCHE and Enrichment

Pastoral system

Pupils have the same Tutor for their time in the Lower School (Years 7 and 8) under the care of the Head of the Lower School. In Year 9, they move to the Middle School where they join one of eight houses. The eight Heads of House are responsible for pastoral welfare from Years 9 to 13 in conjunction with the two Assistant Heads responsible for these years. Team games, music, debating and other inter-house competitions are organised through the House System.

The School has its own Chaplain and Assistant Chaplain and there are also two qualified counsellors available to pupils.

All members of the teaching staff are expected to play a full part in both the enrichment activities within their own department and the school co-curriculum more broadly.



Academic Enrichment

We are committed to academic enrichment, both inside and outside the classroom, providing opportunities for pupils to learn new things, extend their horizons and develop a lifelong love of learning and a keen appreciation of the life of the mind. To this end, we have introduced an integrated course in meta-cognition at Key Stage 3, increased the number and quality of visiting speakers coming into school and created new opportunities for pupils to develop their ideas in extended project work. We shall continue to extend this work over the coming years, providing intellectual stretch, challenge and enrichment for the entire Alleyn's community without compromising the co-educational warmth and co-curricular balance which makes us the successful and happy school that we are and wish to remain.

Co-curricular

Alleyn's Sport offers opportunities at all levels. The PE/Games curriculum throughout the School is varied, encompassing a wide variety of team games and individual sports. School teams run in a large number of major and minor sports. We encourage pupils to represent the School at one or more sports at any age group, so that during the course of a year well over three-quarters of the pupils in the School will have taken part in competitive sport.

In Music there are over thirty performing groups including orchestras, choirs, wind bands, a jazz band and numerous chamber groups. In Drama there are usually three or four main productions each year, with additional pupil-led Bearpit productions. Drama clubs are offered.

The vast majority of pupils join the CCF, Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme or the Volunteering programme in Year 10. In addition there is a very wide range of clubs, societies and other activities.



THE PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

Introduction

The Physics Department forms just one part of the large and dynamic Science Faculty at Alleyn's. Other subjects taught alongside Physics in the Science building include Biology, Chemistry and Psychology, each with their own specialist area and Head of Department, and overseen by the Director of Science.

The successful applicant will join a team of five other members of staff, all of whom share in the teaching of the subject throughout the school to GCSE and A Level levels. There is a Second in Department who is also the Key Stage 4 Co-ordinator and there is also a nominated Key Stage 3 Co-ordinator. The teaching staff are supported by two full-time, fully qualified laboratory technicians who form an essential part of the team.

All members of the department play an active role in the broader provision of Physics outside of the classroom by organising and leading lunchtime clubs, arranging internal lecture programmes, administering and supporting students in projects such as those of CREST Gold, UK CanSat, Cosmic Ray Muon Lifetime, and other research within the framework of the Institute for Research in Schools, as well as providing ad hoc support for students.

The examination results at both GCSE and A level are among the best in the school and a large number of students studying Physics at A level go on to study for university degrees in Physics and Engineering.

Curriculum offered

Physics is taught as a separate science throughout the school. In Years 7, 8 and 9 all pupils study Physics. The Alleyn's scheme of work in Physics broadly follows the Key Stage 3 National Curriculum and the teaching of GCSE courses begins in Year 9. We currently have six teaching sets in each of Years 7, 8 and 9.

The current Year 9, 10 and 11 cohorts are following the AQA GCSE Science courses with first exams in June 2018. Groups are currently mixed in Year 10 with all pupils following the Triple Award course throughout the year. Groups are then split into Triple and Combined Science (Trilogy) classes for Year 11. The Biology, Chemistry and Physics sections of the Combined Science (Trilogy) course continue to be taught by specialist teachers. As of September 2016, GCSE Astronomy is also taught as an after-school, extramural course.

Since September 2015 we have been following the new Edexcel A level specification and at present there are 37 students studying Physics in Year 12, and 25 in Year 13.

Facilities and Resources

The Science Building has recently undergone a major refurbishment and extension programme, providing new office space, new laboratories and a roof-top Observatory. Since September 2016 departmental accommodation has consisted of four laboratories plus shared use of a multi-purpose Science space. All laboratories are equipped with whiteboards and projectors connected to PCs and DVD players. Class sets of laptop computers and iPads are shared across the Science Department and there is internet access in all laboratories. All staff have iPads as part of a school-wide programme to facilitate blended learning.

POST OUTLINE

Following the appointment of our current Head of Department to a significant role in another top independent school, we are seeking to make a full-time appointment for September 2018 of an excellent, committed, enthusiastic and dynamic teacher as Head of Physics. The successful applicant will provide professional leadership and management of the Department to secure high-quality teaching, effective use of resources and the highest standards of learning and achievement for all pupils. To this end, she or he will possess excellent organisational and administrative skills, while at the same time being able to inspire pupils and staff alike.

What follows is not a comprehensive or exhaustive list, but some of the key tasks of this multi-faceted and challenging role.

The Head of Physics will undertake the following responsibilities:

To lead the teaching and learning in the Department by

- contributing to and taking responsibility for the high-quality teaching and learning of Physics throughout the Senior School, ensuring that all pupils (including the most able, those with SEND and boys and girls) make the best possible progress;
- leading and managing a team of subject-specialist teachers (including any Academic Interns with a Physics specialism) and two technicians;
- being prepared to teach some Key Stage 3 Chemistry or Biology, if appropriate;
- assisting the Director of Science in managing any Scientist-in-Residence, ensuring that all subjects within Science benefit from this role;
- taking the lead in ensuring the delivery of all elements of the Physics courses, including ensuring appropriate schemes of work are in place and that they are reviewed and revised regularly;
- ensuring structures and systems are in place to enable effective monitoring and tracking of pupils' progress;
- promoting the value of a broad understanding of Physics and Science;
- promoting creativity and a growing sense of independence amongst older pupils;
- overseeing the implementation of any new subject public examination course(s);
- holding regular departmental meetings to facilitate discussions where teaching and learning best practice is discussed;
- monitoring the quality of teaching and learning within the department including via lesson observations and performance management meetings, as well as identifying professional development needs and supporting colleagues in their professional development;
- being ICT literate and having experience of using appropriate software in the classroom;
- overseeing the Physics area of the School's VLE and website;
- liaising with colleagues in the Junior School to ensure that there is continuity in the curriculum;



- fostering an academic ethos and love of learning by taking the lead in offering opportunities for extension and enrichment of pupils in all year groups, including, but not limited to, the running of educational trips, and arranging of internal and external lectures, as well as contributing to internal Science clubs and events;
- collaborating with other departments on cross-curricular projects when opportunities arise;
- contributing to and promoting the collegiate philosophy which underpins departmental activities at Alleyn's, delegating responsibilities as appropriate; In particular the Head of Physics will work closely with the Director of Science and also the Heads of Biology, Chemistry and Psychology;
- organising the setting and marking of any Admissions and scholarship papers, as well as undertaking admissions and scholarship interviews with candidates;
- overseeing a programme of extension and support for Oxbridge candidates and students, and advising those who wish to study Physics at university, including preparation for any entrance examinations and interviews;
- contributing to a Faculty Handbook which includes an up-to-date programme of study, policies and schemes of work;
- ensuring that all Health and Safety requirements within the Department are implemented;
- being responsible for overseeing the writing of risk assessments for all activities and making sure that these are adhered to by all members of the Department;

To represent the Department in a leadership role by:

- attending the Heads of Department meetings and other committee meetings and academic information evenings as appropriate;
- being present in School on the A level results day and GCSE results day and dealing with any concerns as they occur on or after the result day;
- producing an annual report and an action plan with specific reference to examination data as part of the departmental review process;
- participating in the wider running of the School, contributing to pastoral teams and liaising with the Heads of Sections;
- contributing to the overall marketing and development of the School's reputation and promoting the profile of the Physics Department within the extended Alleyn's community;
- contributing to the Department's co-curricular activities and participating in the wider school programme of co-curricular activities, and supporting other members of the Department in the same;
- promoting and protecting children's welfare in all aspects of their contribution to school life and following school Health and Safety guidelines.

Alleyn's has its own competitive salary scale and accommodation may be available. If you have any questions about this post or about the Physics Department, please contact the personnel administrator (personnel@alleyns.org.uk).

Arrangements for the Appointment

Applications

The application pack can be downloaded from our website, www.alleyns.org.uk/vacancies. Candidates should complete all sections of the application form and submit it together with a completed Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form, full CV and covering letter (addressed to the Headmaster, Dr Gary Savage). All documents should be emailed to personnel@alleyns.org.uk.

Alternatively they can be posted to Dr Gary Savage, Headmaster, Alleyn's School, Townley Road, London SE22 8SU

The deadline for applications is **midday on Wednesday 7 February 2018**.

Interviews

Interviews will take place at the School during the week commencing Monday 19 February 2018 and will consist of an interview with relevant colleagues including the Headmaster. Shortlisted candidates will be asked to plan and teach a lesson and there will be an opportunity to have a tour of the School and to meet other members of the department.

Please note that references may be taken up before the interviews. If you would prefer to be contacted first please state this.

Safeguarding

Alleyn's School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Equal Opportunities

Alleyn's School is an Equal Opportunities employer and welcomes applications for all posts from appropriately qualified persons regardless of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, religion or belief.

