

**Appointment of a full-time
Graduate Teacher role in the Physics department
From September 2021 or January 2022**



THE KING'S SCHOOL is a leading independent co-educational boarding school, situated in the heart of the historic cathedral city of Canterbury in Kent.

The precincts of Canterbury Cathedral are part of a world heritage site, a centre of pilgrimage and study, and host to over 1 million visitors each year from many different cultures. This international dimension deeply influences the life of the city and the school.

The origins of King's date back to the arrival of St Augustine in 597 AD and the school's Christian tradition remains at its heart although pupils and staff subscribe to many different faiths and beliefs and none. Embracing this diversity, there is a desire to foster fairness, tolerance, courage, perseverance, mutual respect and understanding. The Benedictine tradition of developing mind, body and spirit within a community given to hospitality still influences the life of the Cathedral and the school lives out its life in that context. Thus, academic excellence and scholarship take their place alongside the school's commitment to physical and cultural endeavour. Sport is strong, with a number of boys' and girls' teams at national level. Music and drama are outstanding, both having the finest traditions and producing performances of the highest standards. King's Week, the school's own Festival of Creative and Performing Arts, puts on over 100 events at the end of the summer term.



The curriculum at King's is based upon strong academic roots. It emphasises and relies upon what is best in traditional school education: scholarly excellence supported by a caring pastoral and tutorial system, and a wide-ranging co-curricular programme. The curriculum is continually adapting and reacting to the changing demands of modern education: new subjects are added, new teaching techniques adopted, and there is an increasing awareness of the need to provide programmes of study that match individual needs and skills. The school does not gauge its success by exam results alone but by broader measures of educational attainment and personal development, helping pupils to achieve their potential and equipping them to play an active and responsible role in society as young adults.

Our family of schools comprises The King's School, Canterbury (KSC), The Junior King's School and, from September 2018, the International College. At KSC there are over 850 pupils equally balanced boys/girls, of whom about 80% are (full) boarders. There are six boys' boarding houses, seven girls' boarding houses and three mixed day houses. Junior King's occupies a fine rural site on the banks of the River Stour, in Sturry, two miles from Canterbury. There are over 375 pupils at Junior King's, of whom around 20% are (full) boarders.

The King's School occupies various sites around the Cathedral and its precincts. Many teaching departments and the majority of houses are in the beautiful ancient buildings around Green Court on the north side of the Cathedral. To the east of the Cathedral the St Augustine's site is home to five boarding houses, a medieval refectory, and the magnificent neo-Gothic school library (shown in the picture below). There are several major sites for sport: Birley's playing fields & pavilion, the King's School Recreation Centre and the International College Sports Hall are within easy walking distance of the school, with rowing at Westbere Lakes under two miles away. The King's School International College opened in 2018 as the third school in the King's family and in 2019 the King's International School opened in Shenzhen, near Hong Kong.



The King's School Library on the St Augustine's campus

The Role

We seek applications from those recently graduated or completing their undergraduate or postgraduate degrees this summer to teach Physics from January 2022 (a part-time position may be available from September 2021 for one term to prepare for this full-time role). Applicants should have a degree in Physics or a related subject and will have the opportunity of teaching across the year groups, certainly to GCSE, and perhaps to A level and beyond in the first year depending on experience.

A PGCE or equivalent is desirable but not expected for this graduate teacher role, and no teaching experience is necessary: we also welcome applications from experienced teachers as well as those making a change of career into teaching.

Physics at King's

Physics at King's is taught as a distinct subject by seven specialist teachers in dedicated laboratories, supported by two well-qualified technicians. The department is extremely well-resourced with apparatus and computing facilities, staff are provided with Microsoft Surface Pro laptops and there is strong Wifi throughout the school. A new-build Physics department at the centre of the school, including seven high-spec teaching spaces will be in use by Jan 2023. The appointee will be joining a dynamic, enthusiastic and successful team of committed teachers, who put the progress of the pupils at the heart of all that they do.

After an introductory skills-based course in Shell (Year 9), we begin to prepare pupils for the Edexcel IGCSE examination sat in the Fifts (Year 11). According to their ability and aptitude, pupils are entered for either Triple Award Science (typically 7 sets) or Double Award (typically 2 or 3 sets). Physics is popular in the Sixth Form and we usually have four or five teaching groups in 6b (Year 12), and four teaching groups in 6a (year 13). We teach the linear Eduqas A level specification with the practical endorsement requirement met by all.

Exam results at each level are excellent and King's students enjoy considerable success in gaining places on prestigious science-related courses at university, with physics, medicine, Natural Sciences, and engineering being well-trodden paths each year. The science department offers many enrichment opportunities for our more curious-minded or gifted scientists, as well as plenty of support for those who find science more of a mystery. Co-curricular science activities include:

- The Harvey Society (the school's science society, with visiting speakers)
- The Linacre Medical Society (which offers talks, workshops and visits)
- Young Scientists' Journal (an online science journal written and edited by teenagers around the world, founded at King's): www.ysjournal.com
- Olympiad competitions, Oxbridge and Extension Physics classes
- CREST projects with Years 10 and 11
- Peer mentoring schemes
- 'Saturday Smarties' – practical workshops with local primary school children with opportunities for teachers and Sixth Form pupils to lead

We are looking to appoint someone who is a personable communicator and who combines strong academic skills, energy and a genuine passion for Physics with good humour, patience, flexibility and initiative.

In addition to academic excellence, the school seeks to promote excellence in all of its varied co-curricular pursuits. All teachers at King's are expected to be fully involved in some capacity in this programme. They are also required to contribute fully to the pastoral care of the pupils through taking on a tutor group and duties in one of the boarding houses.

APPLICATIONS

Applications should be submitted online through the King's School website (www.kings-school.co.uk – Staff Vacancies), and should include a personal statement for the Headmaster and a CV by **9am on Monday 24 May**. Shortlist interviews are likely to take place later that week. If you have any difficulties accessing the internet please contact the School Office: reception@kings-school.co.uk; 01227 595501.

*Those considering applying but requiring more information, can contact the Head of Physics & Head of Science,
Miss Louise Comber, for an informal discussion: lmc@kings-school.co.uk.*

May 2021