

Job Vacancy

Teacher of Physics (Full time)

Closing date for applications:
Wednesday 19th February at
9.00am



A Word from the Headmaster

Thank you very much for your interest in the post of Teacher of Physics at Denstone College. I very much hope to welcome you to the College, and allow you to see what we consider to be an excellent place to work. At Denstone College, we believe that school should be a transformational, inspirational, life-changing experience where children grow into young adults ready to contribute to the world. It is my aim that children love being at school here; that they embrace the opportunity to find and pursue their passions, reaching their potential so that they leave well-equipped to take their place in society.

I see Denstone as a beacon of excellence across the Midlands. As such the College "shines the light", providing inspiration, discovery and understanding. It "enables the journey" by teaching the children to become ever more independent, resilient and confident. It "serves the community" not least by creating rounded and grounded, caring members of society but also in its further development of partnership schemes opening access to a Christian education. And it acts as a "reference point" whereby Denstonians current and old can reflect on the values that have been instilled here such as honesty, endeavour and kindness, and our beliefs of Achievement, Confidence and Happiness. The College was founded in 1868 by Nathaniel Woodard, as an independent school with the aim of providing education based on "sound principle and sound knowledge, firmly grounded in the Christian faith". This aim still holds good today and there is no doubt that our beautiful Chapel is central to it, resting at the heart of our community.

With a dedicated, talented and inspiring staff, fantastic facilities and as impressive a rural setting as you could find, we balance the pursuit of academic excellence with a broad co-curricular programme. There are all manner of opportunities within and beyond the classroom in order for the pupils to find what it is that inspires them. At Denstone College, the pupils are known, nurtured and challenged to realise their potential. ISI have recently confirmed something of which we are very proud: that the standard of academic achievement and of pupils' personal development are both considered to be "Excellent". Our pupils flourish within a vigorous but encouraging environment.

This post represents an exciting opportunity for an outstanding professional to join our excellent staff and support the school in going from strength to strength. If you are excited by the opportunity to become an important part of our success story, believe in young people and developing their potential and have a passion for outstanding education, please do apply for this role. I wish you all the very best with your application and I hope to meet you in person to share more of our ethos and the vibrant, friendly and energetic atmosphere which characterises our community. I look forward to answering any questions that you may have about the school, the education we offer and the post we are currently advertising.



About the College

Denstone is a co-educational, boarding and day, 11 – 18 school with over 600 students. Its stunning main building was begun in 1868 and took five years to complete with the school opening its doors in 1873. Recent years have however seen much investment in the site, with three new teaching blocks added over the last eight years along with additional sporting facilities, boarding accommodation and general improvement. In November 2017, the school was inspected by ISI and received 'excellent' judgements in all areas. A copy of the report can be found on our website at www.denstonecollege.org. Denstone is often described as a "success story", having more than doubled pupil numbers over the last fifteen years, alongside rising academic and co-curricular standards.



Mission Statement and Ethos

**Vision – to be the educational Beacon of Excellence
Across the Midlands (BEAM)**

- **To shine the light** - provide inspiration, discovery and understanding to our pupils by delivering excellence in the classroom and beyond.
- **To enable the journey** - create opportunity by promoting the highest possible standards of educational achievement in an environment where pupils are encouraged to realise their true potential becoming ever more independent, resilient and confident.
- **To serve the community** - remain true to the College's founding aims of widening access to a sound, Christian education.
- **To be the reference point** – whereby Denstonians (current and former) can reflect on our belief in Achievement, Confidence and Happiness, and the values instilled here of Honesty, Endeavour and Kindness so that they play a useful role in society, leading fulfilling and purposeful lives.



School Performance

Although an education at Denstone is holistic, teaching and learning are at the heart of what we do, and the results are impressive. These results are achieved with a relatively broad intake of pupils into the College, a fact reflected in our record of outstanding value-added, as measured by Yellis (at GCSE) and ALIS (at A Level).

Most of our pupils leave Denstone to go on to university, and we aim to prepare young adults for the world beyond. This means helping them achieve high grades and develop enquiring minds. All subjects are taught within specialist departmental areas providing first class facilities for pupils and staff; the recently completed Derbyshire classroom block is the most recent addition to the site, providing specialist accommodation for Mathematics and Modern Languages. A fair and flexible setting system, relatively small set sizes, regular formal assessments of academic progress across all subjects and a highly qualified and committed teaching staff all play their part in the continuing academic success of our pupils. Support for pupils with specific needs is provided through a thorough and highly effective pastoral system as well as specific programmes put in place to challenge all pupils, including a tailored programme for potential Oxbridge applicants in our Sixth Form. Our learning support staff also work hard to provide appropriate support for those pupils who have specific learning needs.

Academic success requires high standards, pupils are supported in an environment which applauds success, excellent teaching by committed subject specialists, and a level of academic and pastoral mentoring that genuinely cherishes the individual.



The Benefits of Working Here

People tell us that ours is an exceptionally happy and friendly working environment, with a sociable common room and a superb team of support staff committed to making the school as great as it can be. All of our people take pride in being part of the College from our wonderful caterers to our dedicated maintenance and grounds staff, working in all weathers to keep our site looking as impressive as it does.

And of course our superb facilities are available for use by staff and their families all year round. We have a challenging nine hole EGU affiliated golf course and professional facilities, which has its own club as well as being available for pupils. There are many tennis courts, a large sports hall, a climbing wall, swimming pool, CV gym and Performance Gym, with a superb Strength and Conditioning Department for the more energetic.

We are fully committed to staff development, both for those new to the profession (offering possibilities to study for a PGCE funded by the school whilst on the job) or for the more experienced practitioner looking for career development.

Those barriers to teaching resources so often encountered elsewhere do not exist here, with secretarial assistance for staff and access to essentials like stationery and IT peripherals.

Our financial packages are competitive and there is generous investment in pensions. Remission on fees at the College is available for the children of staff and in some cases it may be available for the final years at the Prep School.

There are countless benefits to living in rural Staffordshire, some of which you will find towards the end of this brochure, but the village of Denstone draws visitors from miles around in its own right. If you ever tire of the high quality fare served at no charge in our remarkable Dining Hall, then the national award-winning farm shop, the ever popular local, the Tavern and ten minutes away, the coffee shops and eateries of the local market towns are all at your disposal. Denstone and the surrounding villages offer lovely, affordable housing, and of course there is the potential for single and family accommodation on site.



Job Description



Teacher of Physics

Physics is a very popular subject at the College, with results well above the national average. 28 students in both lower and upper sixth groups now follow the AQA A Level course, now linear in light of government reforms. GCSE performance is healthy with 58% of pupils achieving grade 7 or above in 2019.

The first and second form (year 7 and 8) follow a curriculum which is based on the National Curriculum but with significant additions to develop enthusiasm and understanding. This has proved of benefit to pupils as they move up the school. After Christmas in the third form our pupils currently follow the AQA GCSE Physics course. All pupils currently follow separate sciences throughout Fourth Form (Year 10), with decisions made on exam entries in Fifth Form (Year 11). Separate sciences are currently timetabled for all pupils in all years at Denstone.

The department consists of two well equipped laboratories and two teaching classrooms, all with recently installed Smartboards. The department is keen to further enhance the use of ICT within lessons. There are currently five members of staff who contribute to the department's teaching, and excellent support is also provided by a full-time laboratory technician. Within schemes of work and specifications, the ethos of the department is to encourage innovation and a variety of teaching styles in teaching the subject, with a particular emphasis on experimental work across all age groups. The Physics department is part of a vibrant Science faculty which has enjoyed significant academic areas in the College. All sciences have enjoyed increasing 'A' Level numbers in recent years, with several students successful at securing Oxbridge places to read science-based degrees.

Denstone College has made significant strides in recent years, with expanding pupil numbers and a developing reputation for achievement in academic and other areas. This was confirmed by the most recent ISI inspection (November 2017) which judged the school to be "excellent" in terms of the quality of pupils' academic and other achievements and also pupils' personal development. The Science faculty has been at the forefront of recent developments at Denstone, and, with the College now a High Performance Learning Pathway school (www.highperformancelearning.co.uk), the successful candidate will have the opportunity to contribute significantly to this and other future teaching initiatives.

This position becomes available in September 2020 and will involve teaching a timetable of around 22 periods per week, up to and ideally including A Level. The ability to offer a second teaching subject such as Chemistry or Maths is desirable, with consideration given to candidates offering alternative specialisms.

All full time staff act as tutors within the College's House system, and a commitment to the activities and/or games programmes at the College is also expected. Life at Denstone is busy but also immensely rewarding!



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Duties and Responsibilities

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

The following duties shall be deemed to be included in the professional duties which you may be required to perform.

Teaching :

- Planning and preparing courses and lessons.
- Teaching according to their educational need, the pupils assigned to you, setting and marking work (including examinations) to be carried out by the pupils in College and elsewhere.
- Assessing, recording and reporting on the development, progress and attainment of pupils.

Other Activities:

- Promoting the general progress and wellbeing of individual pupils and of any class or group of pupils assigned to you.
- Providing guidance and advice to pupils on educational and social matters.
- Making records and reports on the personal and social needs of the pupils.
- Communicating and consulting with the parents of pupils.
- Communicating and co-operating with persons or bodies outside the College.
- Participating in meetings arranged for any of the purposes described above.
- Accompanying pupils on trips away from the College.

Assessment and reports:

- Providing or contributing oral and written assessment, reports and references relating to individual pupils and groups of pupils.

Appraisal:

- Participating in any arrangements that may be made for teacher appraisal.



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Further training and development:

- Reviewing from time to time your methods of teaching and programme of work.
- Participating in arrangements for your professional development.
- Undertaking such training as may be reasonably required by the College to enable you to adapt to the changing requirements of the College and your role as may be necessary to fulfil the College's statutory or regulatory obligations.

Educational methods:

- Advising and co-operating with the Head and other teachers (or any one or more of them) on the preparation and development of courses of study, teaching materials, teaching programmes, methods of teaching and assessment of pastoral arrangements.

Child protection, discipline, health and safety:

- Promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young persons for whom you are responsible and with whom you come into contact.
- Maintaining good order and discipline among the pupils and safeguarding their health and safety both when they are on the College premises and when they are engaged in authorised College activities elsewhere.

Staff meetings:

- Participating in meetings at the College which relate to the Curriculum for the College or the administration or organisation of the College, including pastoral arrangements.

Public examinations:

- Participating in arrangements for preparing pupils for and supervising them during public examinations and providing assessments.

Administration:

- Participating in administrative and organisational tasks relating to such duties as are described above, including the management or supervision of persons providing support for the teachers in the College and the ordering and allocation of equipment and materials.
- Attending assemblies, registering the attendance of pupils and supervising pupils, whether these duties are to be performed before, during or after College sessions.

Flexibility:

- You may be required to undertake such reasonable duties from time to time that the College may reasonably require.

These duties are not exhaustive and may be added to as reasonably requested by the Headmaster.



Teacher of Physics

Living in Staffordshire

We are blessed with a beautiful campus located close to the border of Derbyshire and Staffordshire. The campus is tucked out of sight, in a very pretty village, only ten minutes' drive from the market towns of Ashbourne (gateway to the Peak District) and Uttoxeter. The area is nationally renowned for its picture perfect villages and bustling market towns, walking trails, rock climbing, historic houses, arts and crafts events, festivals and other tourist attractions. Not to mention our close neighbour, Alton Towers!

40 minutes' drive away are the cities of Derby and Stoke on Trent, with their Intu shopping centres, a range of excellent independent shopping, theatre, contemporary dining and leisure. There are excellent employment opportunities and a range of national and multi-national employers including Rolls Royce, Toyota, and JCB, based in and around the region. There really is something for everyone here, from rural peaks to great transport links to metropolises such as Manchester and Birmingham.

As with many boarding schools, a good number of staff live on site in our own well-maintained staff accommodations. And the many villages in the vicinity provide good value housing, at a fraction of the prices you will pay in London and the South East. Living in Staffordshire, you dictate your own pace of life, and there is no daily grind of commuting.

What we offer as an employer

We want to attract the cream of the crop to work at the College. We seek passionate professionals to support our ambitious aims for the school, and of course our pupils. We aim to be an excellent employer and we are pleased to offer a number of benefits to our staff team. We have a very generous CPD budget and we actively invest in the highest quality of training for our teaching and support staff. The Governing Body (Denstone College Council) supports the Headmaster and Senior Management Team to promote high standards of educational achievement and to drive the strategic direction of the school. Most importantly, the Senior Management Team demonstrates its strong appreciation of the commitment of staff and this results in a highly motivated and dedicated team of talented staff who constantly strive for improvement.



Method of Appointment

Please apply by completing the appropriate application form and, in no more than two sides of A4, write a supporting statement which meets the personal specification and outlines:

- your reasons for applying for this position and a vision of what you will bring to the role;
- your experiences to date which you feel make you a suitable candidate; and
- an indication of your strengths, both personally and professionally.

All applications should be completed electronically and sent to hr@denstonecollege.net You are asked to give the names of two referees, one of which should be your current Head or employer. We will contact the referees of short-listed candidates prior to interview.

Recruitment Timeline

Closing Date – Wednesday 19th February 2020 at 9am

Interview Date - TBC

Start Date – September 2020

Achievement Confidence Happiness



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