



Teacher of Biology

Job Description and Department Information

The Science department is made up of a team of six full-time and one part-time teacher with the support of a full-time and a part-time technician. The Head of Science, currently also the Head of Physics, and other members of the department, including the Head of Biology, deliver the subject across the school from First Form to Upper Sixth. Girls are taught by subject specialists in Physics, Biology and Biology from the start of First Form onwards.

The department staff work as a cohesive team to provide a supportive environment where pupils develop the core skills associated with the modern Science curriculum and a knowledge and understanding of principles underlying everyday experiences; teaching is flexible and differentiated to match the range of abilities and learning styles of the girls. To aid interactive teaching and learning, the department makes extensive use of practical and project work and there is a wide range of ICT and other resources available for use in lessons and online via the school VLE. Staff also offer an extensive range of drop-in workshop support at lunchtime and after school so girls can seek help outside of lessons where necessary.

The department is located in a central position in the school on two floors of a spacious brand new building which has been in use since February 2017. There are eight state of the art laboratories, a departmental office and two prep rooms, one of which has a large staff work area.

Girls are placed in sets during the first term in First Form and although we follow a common scheme of work, there is differentiation according to ability. Prior's Field follows the Exploring Science curriculum for Science for Key Stage 3. GCSE work is introduced from the beginning of the Third Form. There is also the option for more able girls to take separate GCSEs in Physics, Biology and Biology.

At A Level, we currently follow the revised OCR A specifications for Chemistry and Physics and Edexcel for Biology. Chemistry and Biology are popular A Level choices and over half of the current Lower Sixth study at least one Science A Level. Physics is less popular although the numbers vary from year to year depending on girls' preferences. Girls studying Science A Levels have progressed on to an impressive range of University courses at top institutions in recent years, including pure science, medicine, veterinary science and engineering.

In addition to the mainstream curriculum, pupils are encouraged to participate in a wide variety of Science-related activities and visits while at school. A Fun Experiments Club is offered to Lower School girls as well as curriculum-based visits to broaden knowledge and experience beyond the classroom. Recent trips have included the Science Museum, Marwell Zoo, Intech in Winchester and talks for A Level and GCSE at the Institute for Education and the Royal Institution in London. The department also offers a number of opportunities to stretch and challenge our more able girls. These include participation in external events such as the Surrey Schools Problem Solving Challenge, Salters Festival of Biology and Top of the Bench competitions and the school has run a number of high-profile STEM events in recent years.

This role will report to the Head of Biology.

Responsibilities of this post:

- Teaching Biology up to and including KS5.
- Looking for opportunities to promote Biology outside the curriculum.
- Running at least one Biology workshop a week.
- Teaching another science discipline to KS 3 and ideally KS 4

Additional responsibilities of all teaching staff include:

- Supporting the ethos of a boarding school and working in accordance with the school's aims and policies.
- Maintaining good order and discipline among pupils, safeguarding their health and safety at all times when they are the responsibility of the school.
- Sharing with all staff the responsibility for on excellent pastoral care, on which the school places a high priority.
- Maintaining high standards of time keeping, attending assemblies, playing an active role in the life of the school, including the co-curricular activities programme, supporting school functions and attending year group social events, where appropriate.
- Carrying out supervisory and general duties as reasonably required, upholding good standards of behaviour and punctuality among pupils.
- Participating in meetings as required.
- Preparing and teaching lessons in accordance with agreed departmental and school schemes of work and teaching strategies.
- Knowing and adhering to all school and departmental policies.
- Setting and marking work regularly, including homework, according to school policy and in a style agreed within the department.
- Assessing, recording and reporting on the development, progress and attainment of pupils in accordance with departmental and school policies.
- Undertaking duties as a Form Teacher.
- Participating in arrangements for preparing and assessing pupils' work for public examinations.
- Contributing to the formulation and revision of departmental schemes of work, teaching resources, assessment materials and developing new courses.
- Contributing to the development of cross-curricular activities.
- Keeping up to date with current and future developments within the subject, and attending courses and other relevant meetings as directed by the Head of Departments.
- Contributing to the development of ICT within the department.

- Accompanying and/or organising relevant visits/trips.
- On taking up a new appointment, participating in the school's programme of induction and review of new staff.
- Participating in the school's annual appraisal programme.
- Participating in arrangements for staff development and INSET.
- Participating in administrative and organisational tasks related to all the above, including management and supervision of all ancillary staff when appropriate.
- Attending all required school functions, as directed by the Head: staff meetings, Parents' Evenings, homework duty, Open Days, Options Information Evenings etc. and preparing exhibits, demonstrations as required.
- Undertaking any other duties deemed appropriate by the Head within the context of the school ethos and the teaching programme.

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We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults and expect all staff to share this commitment. This post will be subject to an enhanced DBS check.

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