# November 2017

Dear Applicant

# Post as Teacher of Science

Thank you for your interest in this key post as a permanent, full time Teacher of Science which is available from either Easter 2018 (9 April) or 1 September 2018.

St Mary Redcliffe and Temple is a successful and heavily oversubscribed 11-18 co-educational, Church of England, comprehensive school of over 1650 students, serving families from the whole of greater Bristol and beyond. We are located at the heart of the city and have a diverse student community with considerable parental support. 48% of students in the main school are from black and minority ethnic backgrounds and 15% of students have been recorded as being entitled to free school meals (Ever6). We educate relatively high numbers of Children in Care. Our diversity is a strength and something we celebrate. **The** Redcliffe Sixth Form Centre currently houses around **600** students taken from our own school and from many other schools across the City.

The School is proud of its academic record and **84%** of GCSE grades were at grade C/Level 4 or above (up from 78%). **87% of students achieved a Level 4 or above (equivalent to a C) in English and Maths.** Sixth form results are also high with a 99% pass rate and 81% at grade C or above. 32% got A\* and A grades (up 5%). Most sixth form students continue on to Higher Education, including 9 taking up Oxbridge places.

The School was judged in January 2012 and again in April 2015 to be outstanding by Ofsted in each and every category. Ofsted judged Leadership and Management, Behaviour and Safety of Pupils, Quality of Teaching, Achievement of Pupils, and Sixth Form Provision, all as Outstanding. We were judged outstanding in three church school (SIAMS) inspections (2007, 2012 and March 2017).

Ofsted remarked that “Church school status makes an important and distinctive contribution to the school’s exceptionally positive values and beliefs. Leaders and the highly effective governing body ensure that students’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development are given the highest possible priority.” “The promotion of students’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural education is extremely impressive and contributes enormously to the welcoming ethos of the school. Equality of opportunity is vigorously promoted; discrimination in any form is not tolerated. Students are highly reflective about matters of faith and personal responsibility; their social awareness is remarkably perceptive.”

We are a National Support School (since July 2013) and a National Teaching School (since March 2014). I am a National Leader in Education. The 2015 Ofsted comments capture our passionate commitment to providing opportunity for all staff to develop. “Staff are encouraged to develop leadership roles, including working with, and helping to improve, other local schools. All leaders contribute extremely well to improving teaching and learning.” “The school invests heavily and

productively in ensuring that staff and leaders have every opportunity to develop their expertise for the benefit of students. Professional development for staff is extremely well planned and implemented; it is linked closely to teachers’ targets for improvement.”

Our Christian ethos is at the centre of our distinctiveness and success. We believe that daily worship helps us get our priorities right. The School has a clearly identified set of values that are reflected in our pastoral and curriculum practice. The School is committed to developing students as whole people and lifelong learners. To facilitate this St Mary Redcliffe and Temple School has developed the Alive model, which seeks to develop competencies, values and skills in our students to support their development as ‘fully alive’ learners. The role of the tutor is key and teachers are expected to be tutors in one of our Houses in the main school. Students in Years 8-11 are in mixed age tutor groups, which contribute to the ‘family’ atmosphere of the School.

The School was fortunate to be part of ‘Building Schools for the Future’ Wave 4 and we moved into a significant new block in early November 2010. This houses Music, ICT, Technology, Science, Art, English, Maths, Learning Resource Centre, PE and staff facilities. In addition we have a sports hall, as well as a gym and a swimming pool. Humanities and Languages are housed in a refurbished 1980s building which is also the base for Year 7 students. We also have a large Sixth Form block.

The Science team seek to deliver lessons which challenge all students by using a full variety of teaching and learning strategies.  The student lies at the heart of the assessment process and we use a wide range of formative, evaluative and summative approaches to support them in their learning.  We would welcome a colleague with a passion for science teaching who loves to see scientists of all abilities enjoying their science, learning actively and making rapid progress.  We provide a variety of development opportunities including outreach to other schools.

Science is a friendly department with a well-qualified, committed team of subject specialists, who enjoy working collaboratively. The department is well supported with three technicians and has a large number of dedicated rooms which are all situated together.

We seek to appoint a talented teacher able to teach all three subject areas to GCSE as part of a Combined Science GCSE course. The ability to teach Physics to KS5 would be an advantage.

There are about 100 students studying Physics at AS and A2 with a regular flow of students to university, including Oxbridge. The specialist Physics staff work well as a team and are dedicated to individual achievement and value developing each student as a fully rounded individual by teaching beyond the curriculum, e.g. one of our students was a member of the UK team that won the International Space Design Competition at NASA in Florida in 2016 (the first UK team to win for seven years). Two other students were on the European Team. The Physics team presently teach the OCR A specification, with all A Level teaching taking place in dedicated physics laboratories with the support of skilled and experienced technicians.

The closing date for receipt of application forms by my PA is as advertised, i.e. by 10am Monday 20 November 2017. When providing details of your referees you must include their e-mail address. Please return your application (and a Teaching Experience Sheet) by email to jobs@smrt.bristol.sch.uk. Interviews will be scheduled during week commencing 27 November 2017 (likely to be on Monday 27 November). We do not acknowledge postal applications. If you have not heard from us by 1 December 2017, please assume that your application has been unsuccessful on this occasion. Due to the large number of applications we receive for most of our posts we are unable to provide feedback on unsuccessful applications.

Yours sincerely



Elisabeth Gilpin

Headteacher