Physics - Subject Leader

The Role

We welcome your application for this position and if successful you will be joining our Science Faculty led by Max Cunningham.

Science Faculty

The Faculty aims to provide a stimulating, academically rigorous experience for all our students. We encourage team members to show initiative, creativity and innovation which is leading to an improvement in outcomes for all our students. The Faculty is committed to fully developing students' confidence in their own abilities and demonstrating that our subjects are rich, challenging and enjoyable. We want our students to be self-motivated, independent learners and we develop schemes of work that support this aspiration.

Accommodation and Resourcing

Our accommodation is exceptional, comprising a science suite of ten laboratories, all have been recently refurbished to a high standard. All of the laboratories have interactive whiteboards and visualisers which are networked with internet access. We also have 3 classrooms for non practical lessons. The Faculty has 60 chromebooks which are a bookable resource for the faculty. The Faculty received generous capitation in addition to the resources made available through Science College status. It is well stocked with all the apparatus and equipment – much of it new – required to teach science to the highest level and our teaching staff can rely on technical help of a very high standard from three experienced technicians.

Staffing

Faculty Leader:	Max Cunningham
Subject Leader for Chemistry and KS4 coordinator:	Kal Patel
Subject Leader for Biology and KS3 coordinator:	Jo Davies
Subject Leader for Physics:	Vacancy
Science data and intervention coordinator:	Phill Trueman

Subject leader for Physics

- Ensure effective communication and consultation with students and parents across the Physics department.
- To lead the development and implementation of medium term plans and resources, to ensure the provision of a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated KS3, 4 and 5 Physics curriculum.
- To monitor the quality of teaching and learning across the Physics department to achieve high standards and ensure consistency.
- Develop teaching and learning strategies to promote student-led learning and develop independent, resilient and confident Physics students.
- To ensure that knowledge of developments in the Physics curriculum and current understanding of how students learn most effectively is personally maintained and disseminated to other teachers.

Curriculum

Science is taught in sets where students of similar ability can be stimulated and motivated to achieve their full potential.

- In years 9 to 11 students study GCSE biology, physics, chemistry and combined science, taught by a team of teachers with appropriate specialist knowledge and qualifications.
- In year 7 & 8 students study "science" and have the same teacher throughout the year for all 3 subjects.

In Key Stage 3 the department uses a scheme of work and assessment system designed by our team of experienced scientists inline with the AQA KS3 model. In Key Stage 4 a variety of texts and revision guides are employed. Most KS4 students are entered for AQA Combined Science. About 90 keen scientists take 3 individual sciences at GCSE by choosing science in one of their option blocks.
Our post-16 students currently study GCE (OCR) Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Level 3 Medical Science.
We have developed an outstanding relationship with our partner primary schools and a wide variety of initiatives have been successfully introduced. These include weekly timetabled year 5 and year 6 visits, year 5 science clubs, production of resources, CPD, parents' evenings and, for prize winners, attendance at our Awards Ceremony.

Teaching and Learning

Shire Oak Academy is strongly committed to develop a culture of high quality teaching and learning. The Shire Oak Framework for Excellence is a self-assessment and development tool for teachers & Faculties underpinning outstanding teaching and learning across the Academy. We have regular teaching and learning CPD sessions structured around the Teaching and Learning Framework for Excellence. We also have a weekly teaching and learning bulletins in which staff share their excellent strategies and resources with their colleagues.

Future priorities for the Faculty

1. Improving Student outcomes
2. Ensure that staff and student wellbeing are at the heart of our decision making and practice
3. Promote high quality teaching through the SOA T&L Framework
4. Develop the curriculum to ensure that intent, implementation and outcomes align across all aspects of our academy
5. Strengthen the use of assessment to provide a secure understanding of how well students achieve

CPD

The Academy is committed to training and developing its staff. All teachers are involved in peer observation and development through the academy's Shire Oak Way Framework for Excellence Programme, Performance Management and Professional Development Communities. Twilight Training and Staff Meetings focus on sharing and developing outstanding practice.

Shire Oak Academy subscribes to the Equal Opportunities policies of The Mercian Trust as employers. We are also fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Safer recruitment practice and pre-employment checks will be undertaken before any appointment is confirmed. This post is subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.