



SAINT AIDAN'S

Church of England High School

TEACHER OF SCIENCE

Aspire & Believe & Succeed

MPR/UPR

Required for 1st September 2019

Message from Headteacher

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in joining us at Saint Aidan's. I am proud to be able to lead the school, and believe that it will provide an ideal environment for you to begin or continue your career in the teaching profession.

If you are appointed you will join us at an exciting time for the school. We had a successful Ofsted inspection in 2018 and our reputation in the local area means that we are increasingly oversubscribed. We are committed to continuing to work together to be the best we can for our students and our staff. If appointed you will have the opportunity to develop and grow professionally within a very supportive and capable Science Faculty and a thriving, friendly school with an inclusive Christian ethos. Applications are equally welcome from newly qualified teachers and experienced teachers, and from physicists, chemists and biologists. The successful candidate will be able to teach one science to GCSE Level, and all three sciences to KS3 students.

All three sciences are taught separately from Year 7. All KS4 lessons and most KS3 lessons are taught by the relevant subject specialist teachers. The majority of students study AQA GCSE Combined Science (Trilogy) and our more able students take separate Science GCSEs. A number of students also take a GCSE in Astronomy.

We have eight full time and part time science teachers and a modern suite of science labs. Science teachers have the support of two dedicated technicians.

Please complete the application form and include a supporting letter (no more than two sides of A4 please) which tells us how your skills and experience have prepared you for the challenges of this post, as well as giving us a flavour of your vision for teaching science. Please note that the first part of Question 7 of the Application Form asks for details of a faith referee. A faith commitment is not essential for this post so you should omit this section if you are unable to provide such details.

I look forward to receiving your application. Applications close at 12 noon on Wednesday 24th April 2019.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Smith, Headteacher



**Andy Smith,
Headteacher**

Post: Teacher of Science
MPR/UPR

Line Manager:
Director of Teaching and
Learning Science,
Lisa Tilbury

Start Date:
Required for 1st September
2019.

**Closing date for
applications:**
12 noon on Wednesday,
24th April 2019

Interviews:
Week commencing
Monday, 29th April 2019.

Electronic applications are
accepted in Microsoft Word
or PDF format.
Please email to
**recruitment@st-
aidans.lancs.sch.uk**

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School Information

Saint Aidan's is a successful and popular 11-16 co-educational Church of England school with 800 students situated in a very pleasant part of the Fylde in Lancashire. We draw our students from a wide area which includes the rural area of Over Wyre, as well as a number of areas on the edge of Blackpool and Fleetwood. The school is within easy reach of the cities of Lancaster and Preston and the town of Blackpool.

Our students achieve very well, and there is a real will in the school to improve even further. In 2018 53% of students achieved at least grade 5 in GCSE English and Maths. Our Progress 8 figure of +0.11 and our EBacc average points score of 4.50 made us one of the top performing schools on the Fylde peninsula.

The school's commitment to learning extends to staff as well as students; there is a well-developed structure of support for new members of staff and a culture of "lifelong learning" among our teaching and associate staff. Our in-house CPD programme is important to us and we are continually looking to develop innovative approaches to teaching and learning, with an emphasis on the use of modern technology and collaborative learning. All teaching staff have access to an iPad, and all of our classrooms are equipped with interactive whiteboards or touch displays. Individual tablet devices are used by students in the classroom.

The school was inspected by Ofsted in October 2013 and was found to be a Good school with Outstanding Behaviour and Safety. This was confirmed by a short inspection in July 2018. An inspection by SIAMS in March 2017 found us to be Outstanding in two areas and Good in the other two. Following several years of under-recruitment of students we are now full throughout the school, with many more first choice applications than places available for September 2019. The majority of our students travel to us by bus and choose Saint Aidan's over schools nearer their homes because of our individual care for students, our calm and purposeful atmosphere, our high academic



standards and our Christian ethos.

As a church school we have a strong emphasis on the provision of a stimulating, secure and caring environment within which all members of our community can develop their potential to the full. Relationships within the school community are characterised by mutual respect; this creates a safe environment where young people can grow and develop, and where learning is valued. There is a strong "vertical" pastoral structure, built around forms that contain students from all five year groups. Our collective worship draws staff and students together and encourages them to explore life's big issues. The school's ethos is distinctively Christian but is also inclusive of those of other faiths or none. This gives us a great responsibility as for many of our children Saint Aidan's provides their only experience of worshipping and growing within a Christian community.

We work closely with our local primary schools, sixth forms, FE providers and universities. Further afield the school has many links with partners in Britain and abroad, including strong links with partner schools in South Africa and Germany. Students can participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities and educational visits in this country and further afield. All staff are encouraged to contribute to this programme.

Our school 'motto' is taken from John 10 v 10 - "I have come that they may have life in all its fullness". All we do at Saint Aidan's is aimed at making this a reality for our students and staff.



Ofsted say that Saint Aidan's is a good school where the behaviour of pupils is outstanding.



What the parents think...

"My daughter loves her new school, she looks forward to going every morning and comes home with a smile on her face every night. Thank you to all concerned, you have done a brilliant job."

(Year 7 parent)



"The school has always been supportive to all our children. I think one of the reasons is the fact that the unique pastoral system allows the pupils at the school to develop friendships with others in different years; it also fosters positive relationships with their form tutor with whom they remain for the whole of their time at the school."

(Year 11 parent)



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Science Faculty

The Science Faculty comprises nine teaching and two associate members of staff, and is well-resourced with six laboratories within the main school building. We also have a school pond on site, which is very popular with our students in the warmer months.



The Science labs are serviced from a main prep. room by our two experienced Science Technicians who provide invaluable advice to support outstanding teaching and learning.

Science is, of course, a practical subject and with the arrival of Required Practicals at GCSE, the development of practical skills from Year 7 onwards is even more necessary.

Good use of scientific vocabulary is essential. We focus on developing literacy and numeracy skills within a Science context throughout students' five years.

Saint Aidan's students are extremely fortunate to be taught by subject specialists across all year groups. We believe that subject specialists at Key Stage 3 are best placed to prepare students for the demands of GCSE. As such, we are moving to having Heads of Subject within Science; hence the creation of this post.

At Key Stage 4 the department follows AQA GCSE syllabuses for Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Combined Science (Trilogy). All students at Key Stage 4 have a generous 6 hours of Science each week, this includes 2 hours a week each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Many of our separate science GCSE students go on to study sciences at A Level.

At Key Stage 3, we largely follow the Collins scheme of learning, but are in the process of reviewing this. Students are taught Science for a total of 3 hours per week, which includes 1 hour each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Each Science lab is equipped with an interactive whiteboard and computer, and all students bring their own tablet to school each day. All students have access to digital text books for use in class or at home.. Students are still required to make notes in their exercise books.

GCSE Results 2018

	Number of Entries	Grade 4 - 9	Grade 7 - 9
Biology	69	87%	28%
Chemistry	69	83%	22%
Physics	69	88%	28%
Combined Science	44	66%	0%



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Science Faculty (continued)

Promoting science through STEM activities is an important priority within the faculty. We aim to raise students' aspirations so that they view science as a realistic pathway towards a rewarding career. We have strong links with the Ogden Trust and Young Physicist of the Year.

Previous science trips have included the Big Bang Science Fair, Chester Zoo, The National Space Centre and the Lancashire Science Festival.

We often run science events such as pond dipping and making water rockets and bath bombs in after school sessions. This year our Year 7 Science Club was run by Year 11 Science Proctors.



I am confident that the more you learn about us here at Saint Aidan's, the more you will want to become part of our family of staff and students. I have been so impressed with Saint Aidan's that both of my own children are students here.

The successful applicant will be joining us at a very interesting time. We have recently seen significant changes to the science curriculum and how it is assessed, both at Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. We are now at the stage of reviewing and refining our lesson planning and assessment, as we near completion of our first run-through delivering the new specification.

There is a strong team approach in the faculty, with all members contributing to driving student progress forward. We meet regularly to provide formal opportunity for support, debate and discussion. However, the day-to-day communication between staff, students and parents is key. We are a hard-working staff willing to trial new approaches to teaching and learning.

A warm welcome awaits you within the Science Faculty here at Saint Aidan's and we look forward to the successful applicant joining the team.





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PERSON SPECIFICATION FORM POST TITLE: TEACHER OF SCIENCE	Essential (E) or Desirable (D)	To be identified by: application form (F), interview (I), reference (R)
QUALIFICATIONS Qualified Teacher Status Degree in Science or other relevant discipline Further study and / or professional development	 E E D	 F F F
EXPERIENCE Successful teaching experience in Biology, Chemistry or Physics	 E	 F//R
KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS Ability to teach Science lessons of a consistently high quality, getting the best out of young people Ability to teach Biology, Chemistry or Physics effectively to GCSE level Up to date knowledge of the school Science curriculum Ability to use ICT effectively	 E E E E	 F//R F//R F//R F//R
PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES Commitment to an ethos of high standards and success Ability to work as part of a team Energy, stamina and determination Capacity to inspire young people	 E E E E	 F//R F//R F//R F//R
OTHER Commitment to own professional development Commitment to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and young people Willingness to support the Christian ethos of the school	 E E E	 F//R F//R F/I

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Our School Values

We aspire

- ♦ to give each one of our students the best possible education to prepare them for a successful and fulfilling life
- ♦ to build a community based on mutual respect and tolerance
- ♦ to open minds and provide a rich experience inside and beyond the classroom

We believe

- ♦ in a school with the Christian faith and Christian values at its heart
- ♦ in the God-given potential of each of our students
- ♦ in the value of every member of our school community of all faiths and none

We succeed

- ♦ by excellence in teaching and learning
- ♦ by fostering a purposeful and disciplined atmosphere where all can thrive
- ♦ by students, staff, parents and the wider community working together



Ofsted say that relationships between students and with adults are first rate.



What the students say...

“The lessons are all absolutely brilliant! My favourite has got to be IT because we research all sorts of fun and fascinating things and I am learning so much.”

(Year 7 student)



“Saint Aidan’s is a very welcoming environment where nobody is lost and we are all treated as one. It has provided me with many opportunities to push myself, not just academically but with self confidence too.”

(Head Girl)

Our school “motto” is taken from John 10 v10 –

“I have come that they may have life in all its fullness”.

All we do at Saint Aidan’s is aimed at making this true for our students and staff.

