



Colyton
Grammar
School

Est. 1546

Working at Colyton Grammar School

Details of the post of
TEACHER OF BIOLOGY

Full time, Permanent

The purpose of this booklet is to provide background details of the post together with information about the school.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



TEACHER OF BIOLOGY FULL TIME, PERMANENT

The Post

As a selective school, we seek to develop a love of scholarship in our students, helping them gain the powerful subject knowledge, confidence and aspiration that will enable them to thrive as they take their next steps to university and the workplace. This post would suit someone who combines an excellent subject knowledge of Biology with the determination and enthusiasm to pass on a love of learning to highly able and ambitious students. We are looking for a teacher excited by the prospect of working with colleagues on the development of exceptional teaching through a world-class curriculum, and committed to continued professional development and improvement.

This post would suit an ECT, or a teacher seeking to broaden their experience. The successful candidate will contribute to teaching Biology to GCSE and A-Level.

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate:

The candidate should have:

- Confident subject knowledge
- Good teaching skills with the potential to be excellent
- A commitment to the broader life of the school community
- A concern to promote high student achievement
- A desire to contribute to a culture of curriculum development
- A commitment to further professional development and ambition to further career
- A genuine interest in young people and tutorship
- The desire to be a reflective practitioner and develop professionally

Selection arrangements

Closing Date: Monday 17 October 2022

Interviews: Wednesday 19 October 2022

An application should be made via [TES.com](https://www.tes.com)

The Assistant Head, Mr Miles Smith, would be happy to discuss the role with potential candidates. Email: msmith@colytongrammar.com

Potential candidates would also be welcome to arrange a visit to the school in advance of an application.

The School

Colyton Grammar School is one of the country's leading co-educational selective schools. We exist to help able students from all backgrounds achieve beyond what they might have thought possible, supporting them to do so with a culture of scholarship, humility and service.

The school is one of only a small number of secondary schools to have been judged Outstanding in five successive inspections, most recently in March 2020, and is consistently amongst the top 10% of schools nationally for attainment, and for the past two years of validated data has been ranked amongst the top 1% for progress at GCSE.

However, examination outcomes form just a part of the school's ambition for our students. We aim to empower them to develop as individuals through a broad range of experiences and achievements, laying the strongest foundations for happiness and success throughout their lives. We develop independent learners who are motivated by intellectual satisfaction, a commitment to continual improvement, and a sense of service to others, as much as by academic achievement.

We recognise the high ability of our students and are highly aspirational on their behalf. Our curriculum and teaching is based on the principle of 'high challenge; high support': we strive to ensure students are stretched to develop to their full potential, whilst supporting every student to help them rise to this challenge.

Central to our philosophy is the importance of classroom relationships. These are based on mutual trust and respect, creating a supportive, caring learning environment, and providing the conditions for exceptional teaching and learning. Staff have exceptional subject knowledge and students are inspired by their enthusiasm, within and beyond the curriculum. The school provides a very broad range of co-curricular opportunities, which develop life-long skills and interests, as well as social and personal skills.

Staff create learning opportunities which are interesting and engaging. Staff are exceptionally committed, reflecting a rewarding teaching environment, with a strong collegiate atmosphere, based in a sense of community, collaboration and mutual support.

The school prides itself on its engagement with pedagogical research and development, and is a leading figure working to support other schools in the area, most prominently as a Teaching School Hub, leading professional development and subject networks throughout Devon. We attach great importance to teachers' professional growth. Our professional development programme, described as a model of good practice by Ofsted, is tied to our core belief that we work hard, with humility, so that we and others can grow as people, professionals and scholars. To support this we provide a generous, bespoke programme of coaching and professional learning opportunities for staff, underpinned by a philosophy of evidence-based learning. A supportive, reflective and outward-looking approach ensures that we can all be even greater, with no limits on what we can achieve.

Science in the School

Background

The Science department is innovative, with an outstanding record of examination success. There is a well-balanced mix of experience, with well-qualified staff. Teachers are enthusiastic and the teaching programme is supplemented by thriving Science Clubs and a range of subject-specific extra-curricular activities.

The department has excellent links with local primary schools and the community as a result of a varied and engaging outreach programme.

There is a broad range of STEM activities that many of our students eagerly get involved in. Success has been achieved in a variety of national challenges.

Curriculum

Key Stage 3 (Yrs 7/8)

All students follow the national curriculum, although separate sciences are taught from Year 7. 15% of the timetable is allocated to the three Sciences.

GCSE

All students will follow separate sciences in Biology, Chemistry and Biology at GCSE. Success rates are amongst the highest in the country, all sciences are 93% Grade 7 and above.

GCE A-Level

The sciences are popular choices at A-Level. About 70% of the sixth form follow at least one Science subject at A-Level. Results are consistently impressive. 50 – 60% of students proceed on to Science degrees, a significant number gaining Oxbridge places.

The Staff

- The Department consists of 12 staff including a Subject Leader in each of Biology, Chemistry and Biology.
- The Science Department staff are highly talented and the quality of teaching across the department is excellent. New colleagues are fully supported and typically develop quickly as effective practitioners in this rewarding teaching environment.
- The department is well supported by a team of technicians, and offers an excellent environment for an ambitious and talented teacher to pursue professional development.
- The Biology Department staff are enthusiastic about the subject and this is reflected in the high numbers opting to take Biology A-Level each year. The staff will provide a friendly supportive environment for a teacher to develop professionally.

Facilities

There are nine well-equipped, modern laboratories, a seminar room and staff work areas. All classrooms are linked with the school's IT network and the school has several network rooms to support cross-curricular work. Laboratories are all equipped with an inter-active whiteboard. There is also an attractive and well-stocked library to support individual study.

Background

- The school was founded in 1546 by the Feoffees of Colyton and moved to its present site in 1929.
- The school is served by a wide rural area with students being drawn from more than 50 primary schools. There are five forms of entry. Students arriving at Colyton have typically achieved good Level 5 or better in primary school.
- The Lower Years Programme in Years 7 & 8 develops in students the foundational knowledge, the values and the habits of learning required for future success.
- The Middle Years Programme in Years 9, 10 & 11 encompasses eleven GCSEs alongside a range of additional components in the form of enrichment.
- Almost all students continue into the Sixth Form, where they typically study three A-Levels, alongside the Extended Project. Typically, about 98% continue on to university, with 15% gaining Oxbridge places. Students also complete a wide range of co-curricular, leadership and service opportunities as part of the Colyton Baccalaureate qualification.
- The school occupies an exceptionally attractive site. In the last decade there has been significant capital development in all areas of the school including new classrooms, a student wellbeing centre and a new drama studio.
- In addition, the school has invested heavily in a highly successful digital learning strategy. All students and staff are provided with their own devices and a blended learning approach is fully established.
- The school has a national reputation for its work with more able students and in especially with its work with more able disadvantaged students.
- Details of the last Ofsted report are available on the school website: www.colytongrammar.com

The Benefits of Teaching at CGS

- Teach highly able, intellectually curious, engaged students.
- Time to focus on your teaching: no formal graded lesson observations or strict marking policies; streamlined reporting; staff rarely used for cover.
- Excellent professional development opportunities, including through the Colyton Teaching School Hub, instructional coaching, NPQs.
- Support your teaching and assessment through a fully established blended learning approach: all staff and students are provided with a laptop.
- Work in a beautiful, well-maintained environment, close to coast and countryside.

Professional Development

The school has a reputation for high quality professional development with its programme recognised by Ofsted as a model of good practice. It is developed through:

- Its lead role as a Teaching School Hub in the South West Institute for Teaching hub (SWIFT);
- Partnership with South West selective schools through the South West Academic Trust (SWAT);
- Strong links with Higher Education (Exeter University is a partner with the school supporting school-based research);
- Induction and instructional coaching;
- Continuing Professional Development to support responses to national and school-based priorities;
- Consultative planning structures;
- A culture that is rooted in seeking continuous improvement.

The Local Area

The school is situated in the village of Colyford in East Devon, part of the East Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and just one mile from the Jurassic Coast, a UNESCO world heritage site. The school draws its students from a wide area, stretching across East Devon, Somerset and Dorset. Many staff commute from Exeter, or the nearby towns of Sidmouth, Honiton and Axminster, which provide excellent gateways to country, coast and town.

There is a unanimous feeling among staff that the area is a wonderful place to live.



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