

KS5 SCIENCE LEAD

REQUIRED FOR SEPTEMBER 2022 (flexible about earlier start)

This is a superb opportunity for an enthusiastic teacher to join our thriving Science Department.

Thank you for showing an interest in this post. We hope that the following information about St Helen's and description of the School and job description will help you to decide that this is an application which you wish to pursue.



WELCOME TO ST HELEN'S

St Helen's is a large, thriving all-through school and many of the girls who leave us at the end of Year 13 have been with us since Nursery or Reception. We are ambitious for every single girl: that she achieves her potential; that she leaves us to embark upon an exciting and fulfilling future, able to deal with whatever life throws at her with a calm, inner resolve and a sense of fun; that she is ready to go out into the world and make a difference. St Helen's has a long tradition of academic excellence which encourages girls to pursue intellectual curiosity beyond the curriculum. Our GCSE results put us very securely into the top 50 independent schools in the country each year. Sixth Formers go on to established, high-ranking universities including Oxford and Cambridge, with more than a third studying STEM subjects. However, we give our girls much more than just academic success; our co-curricular programme is rich and varied, and our pastoral care ensures that every girl is valued and cared for.

Within easy reach of central London, our school is set in 21 acres of lovely grounds and, just as we are proud of our students' academic achievements and their personal development, we are also proud of our facilities and buildings. We have invested over £20 million in a building programme over the last five years and have plans to do more.

St Helen's has a warm and lively atmosphere that makes it a really exciting place to work. Our staff and our girls look out for each other and encourage each other to be the best possible version of themselves. As such, you will play a vital role in supporting the school in the next stage of its journey and I look forward to receiving your application.

Alice Lucas, Headmistress

THE SCHOOL

St Helen's is an academically selective independent girls' day school of more than 1100 students aged 3-18, set in beautiful green space in Northwood, Middlesex.

It draws pupils from a wide area of north-west London, Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire with easy access by Underground from central London.

We aim to ensure that every pupil:

- is excited by learning and the opportunity to excel
- is intellectually curious and thinks independently
- is confident and able to lead as well as be a team member
- has integrity, celebrates diversity and respects others
- uses her talents, energy and enthusiasm for the benefit of the community
- has skills which enable her to become a leader of her community and profession

Our students achieve high academic standards, and we encourage them to develop lifelong skills in a diverse range of areas, both within and outside the curriculum, and to pursue their individual ambitions. The School is proud of its tradition of providing a balanced and forward-looking education through which its pupils can become confident, independent learners and leaders in their fields, their professions and their communities. Attention to the individual child is at the heart of everything we do and shapes the pastoral care, teaching and learning and the co-curricular opportunities on offer at St Helen's.

THE POST

St Helen's is seeking to appoint a KS5 Science Lead for September 22. This is a full time post and candidates must be able to teach at least one Science subject across the secondary age range including KS5.

JOB DESCRIPTION

To work with staff and students to help them achieve their full potential in all Science A Level subjects

Working with students:

- Tracking and monitoring progress of Science A Level girls and identifying any barriers to all girls making excellent progress across the Sciences.
- Coaching and mentoring to help the girls overcome barriers to their learning.
- Work with groups of girls to improve their confidence, understanding, motivation and ability in Science A Levels, and co-ordinating support in Science A Levels generally
- Collaborate with Oxbridge, Medicine and Uniprep teams to ensure our provision provides the necessary stretch and challenge, and that the girls benefit from the best possible preparation for successful applications to competitive courses and to develop the skills that will best help them to face any Uni challenges with confidence and resilience

Working with staff:

- Work with Science HODs to ensure KS5 Science Schemes of Work, resources and interventions meet the needs of the full spectrum of ability.
- Collaborate with our Futures and 6th Form team to widen the horizons of Science girls applying to university and supporting successful applications to a wide range of Science-related degrees.
- Overall monitoring of the Science Faculty's data and liaising with Assistant Headteacher: Sixth Form and Science HODs at each grade point to analyse and plan actions to support students and staff
- To liaise with HIP mentors in Science subjects to ensure students are challenged and maintaining their level of engagement with the programme
- To liaise with IN department to ensure targeted and effective support is in place for SEND students - and monitor its impact, and follow up where appropriate
- To work with Deputy Head: Operations and ESL to monitor the progress of Bursary students in Science A Levels and, in liaison with HODs and subject teachers, ensure they are on track to achieve their full potential, and to ensure they take full advantage of the co-curricular, Futures and academic offering at St. Helen's

Teaching:

- Teach a science subject across the secondary age range with an allocated timetable



THE PERSON

The successful candidate will have the following qualifications, experience and personal attributes

Essential

- Meets all the criteria for employment as a teacher at the school
- Significant experience of teaching A Level Physics, Chemistry and/or Biology
- Understanding of the knowledge, skills and techniques required to achieve excellent outcomes in A Level Science subjects
- Strong working knowledge of the OCR A Science specification
- Excellent knowledge of successful examination technique at A Level
- Experience of working with students to improve their outcomes
- Understanding of how academic data can be used to identify students who are in danger of underperforming
- Ability to lead and motivate others
- Knowledge of the full range of Science-related degree courses offered at university and how to apply successfully for these courses

Desirable

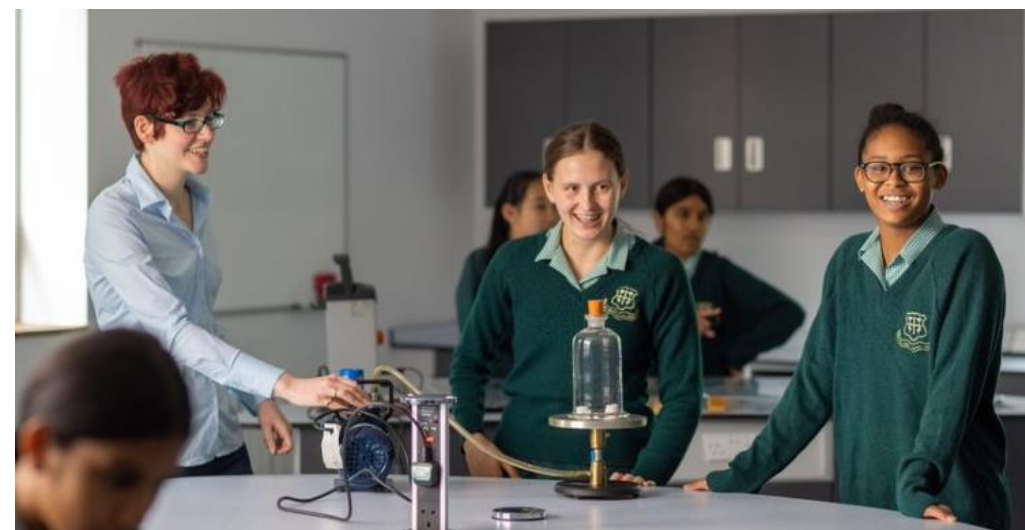
- Significant experience of teaching OCR A Physics, Chemistry or Biology A Level
- Proven track record of extending the ablest students at A Level
- Experience of using 1:1 and small-group interventions to drive improvement at A Level, including for students with individual learning needs
- Experience of academic leadership
- Experience of coordinating a team
- Ability to give careers advice and guidance to girls considering studying Science-related degree courses at university

The successful candidate will:

- Be an exceptional classroom practitioner and inspiring teacher
- Possess outstanding interpersonal and communication skills
- Have excellent time management and organisational skills
- Be creative, imaginative and energetic
- Be able to motivate others

The teacher should have knowledge and understanding of:

- Effective learning and teaching styles
- Theory and practice of providing effectively for the individual needs of all children (e.g. classroom organisation, planning, and teaching strategies which remove barriers to learning and which stretch and challenge able, gifted and talented pupils)
- Monitoring, assessment, recording and reporting of pupils' progress
- How assessment supports effective learning
- The need for high quality pastoral support to complement the academic experience of pupils aged 11-18
- The Legislation concerning Equality, Health & Safety, Individual Needs and Safeguarding / Child Protection



THE FACULTY

Science at St Helen's

The Science Faculty in Senior School is led by the Head of Science, supported by separate Heads of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. GCSE and A Level Science results in recent years have been outstanding and pupil take-up of all three Sciences at A Level is excellent. A significant number of pupils go onto study science related degrees, including Engineering, Medicine and Veterinary Medicine.

Science has its own building which consists of ten laboratories on two floors, ample preparation rooms, storage facilities, and offices. A new STEM building with



a Physics project laboratory was opened in 2020. All Departments are well-resourced with class sets of apparatus to carry out a wide range of Biology, Chemistry and Physics experiments and investigations. All laboratories and study areas are networked to the school system. ICT is rapidly being integrated within schemes of work, and we are actively seeking to develop and extend our use of ICT in the classroom. The Departments are supported by well-qualified, experienced laboratory technicians.

BENEFITS

- Competitive pay scale with opportunities for progression up the scale
- Membership the Teachers' Pensions Scheme
- 50% fee remission for eligible staff children
- Access to the School's swimming pool and fitness suite
- On-site parking and excellent public transport links
- Free lunch and refreshments
- Generous occupational sick pay
- A commitment to professional development
- A beautiful working environment – the School is set in a conservation site in excess of 20 acres.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Closing date: 8am 28th September 2021.

Please note that the School reserves the right to invite applicants for selection and appoint before that date.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to the school where they will be interviewed by the Headmistress, and members of the Senior Management Team, be observed teaching and meet members of the Faculty and Sixth Form Team.

The post is subject to various recruitment checks which will include:

- Enhanced DBS clearance
- A minimum of two references obtained prior to the selection day

- Proof of right to work in the UK
- If you have any queries about this position, please contact the School at recruitment@sthelens.london

