



Bishop Vesey's Grammar School

Inspiration and Excellence

Bishop Vesey's Grammar School

Established 1527

**Assistant Headteacher with
responsibilities for:
STEM
Raising Achievement
Student Experience**

Salary Range: L8-12

£50,151-£55,338

**Closing date for applications
Tuesday 13th October**

Post commences January 2021



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Working at Bishop Vesey's Grammar School *Established 1527*

We hope this document will serve to give you a brief insight into what working at Bishop Vesey's Grammar School might be like.

This brochure covers the following:

1. Our mission: Inspiration and Excellence
2. Community
3. Location of BVGS
4. STEM at Bishop Vesey's Grammar School
5. Leadership
6. You: personal specification and job description
7. Key Information



We look forward to meeting you.
Dominic Robson, Headteacher at BVGS.



Bishop Vesey's Grammar School
Inspiration and Excellence

Our mission: Inspiration and Excellence

Dear Prospective Applicant,

Thank you for requesting information about this Assistant Headteacher post. Should you decide to apply and be successful you will be joining a vibrant and exciting school, bursting with energy and enthusiasm. Above all, Bishop Vesey's Grammar School is a very happy and special place, which celebrates its 500th anniversary in 2027.

You will also find it useful to visit the School website www.bvgs.co.uk.

We are rated as an "outstanding" school, a badge which applies to all areas of the School's activities from our challenging curriculum to our extra-curricular offer of music, sport, debating and drama.

Bishop Vesey's Grammar School has been a single academy trust since 2012. The School expanded to 5 forms (2015) and then 6 forms of entry (2019) in response to increasing demand for grammar school places in the area. 20% of school places are reserved for boys in receipt of Pupil Premium and Free School Meals funding.

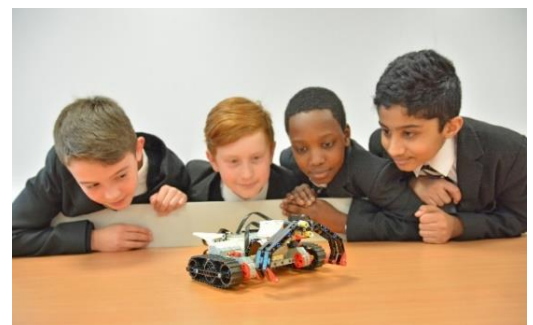
Our mission is to deliver inspiration for all our students. This is founded on:

- Inspirational teaching and outstanding learning. Academic excellence and scholarship
- Enrichment opportunities building leadership, independence and resilience.
- Our Rights Respecting School status, which celebrates inclusion and diversity.
- Nourishing and developing global citizens, who are well-equipped for life beyond BVGS.

Standards are consistently high. Since 2012, an average of 82% of 'A' level grades have been at A*-B and 70% of students go on to study at Russell Group (including Oxbridge) and Ivy League universities. Our students have thrived since the introduction of the new GCSE, attaining on average 71% 7-9 and achieving outstanding levels of progress.

If you feel that Bishop Vesey's Grammar School can provide the challenges and opportunities you are looking for, then we would be delighted to hear from you.

Yours faithfully,
Dominic Robson





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Community



We are proud to serve a diverse community of 1,300 students, who come from Birmingham and the wider Midlands. Our students are motivated, pleasant, courteous, well-behaved and enormous fun! They like school, and enjoy learning.

We place a high premium on service to others. There is a strong community service programme with students leading in sport, music, languages and science in local primary schools. Frequently we host events here at school, facilitating sport for up to 40 primary schools.

Every year our students raise lots of money for local, national and international charities. Our students are encouraged to lead. Sixth Formers (and younger students) organise a whole host of events from House Debating to Dodgeball, from House Spelling Bee to House Swimming. Every student is a member of a House and House competitions are fiercely contested.

Our staff benefit from a system of support: Heads of Department, Heads of Year, Line Managers as well as Staff Wellbeing Champions and a Staff Wellbeing Lead. This supportive system enables for an encouraging environment here at BVGS, where the individual is respected and listened to. Friday is Feel Good Friday when all teaching staff are encouraged to spread the 'feel good' mood by emailing home to a parent, commending one of their students for their hard work, tenacity or general excellent behaviour in class. We also encourage student gratitude for the work of their teachers.

We also have thriving alumni and parent communities, who generously support the work of the School.



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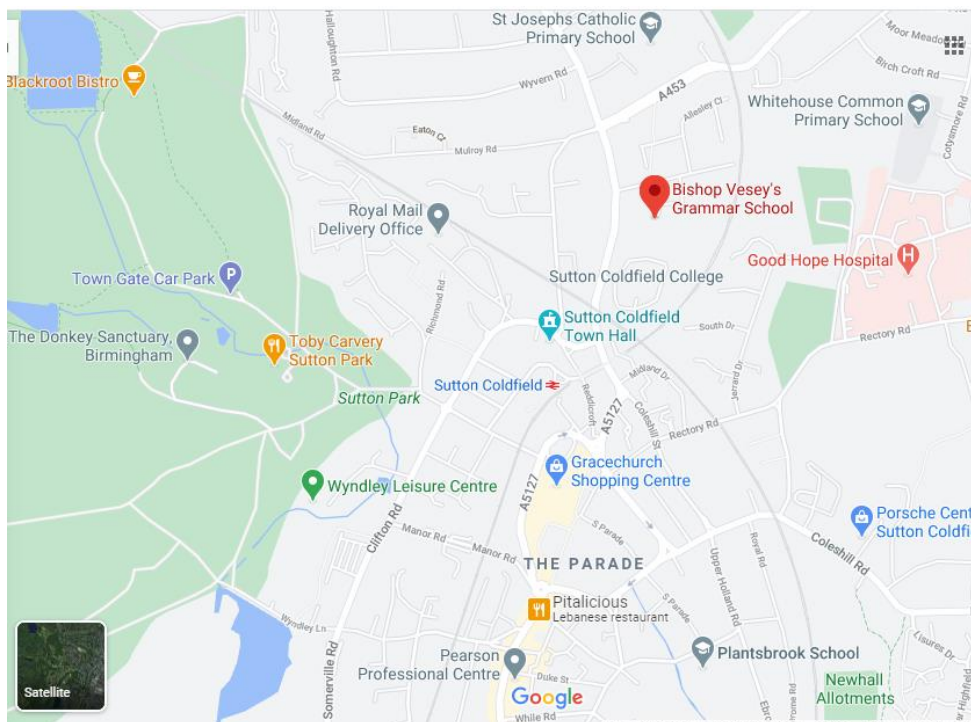
Location of BVGS

Bishop Vesey's Grammar School,
Lichfield Road, Sutton Coldfield,
Birmingham B74 2NH

☎ 0121 250 5400

☎ 0121 250 5420

BVGS finds itself within 5-minute walking distance of Sutton Coldfield Train Station and a 7-minute walk to the town centre, which has a Bus Terminal.



Sutton Coldfield

Offers a variety of retail, sport and green space facilities, including Sutton Park, one of the largest urban parks in England.

Birmingham and the Wider Midlands

Birmingham and the Wider Midlands has something to offer any prospective member of staff, whatever their interests. This area is renowned for its parks, national forest, fine National Trust houses, beautiful castles like Warwick, picturesque heritage towns like Lichfield and Stratford upon Avon.

With over a million people, Birmingham is one of the youngest and most diverse cities in Europe. It offers a vast array of cultural, leisure, shopping and sporting opportunities as well as a high quality selection of primary and secondary schools.



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STEM at Bishop Vesey's Grammar School



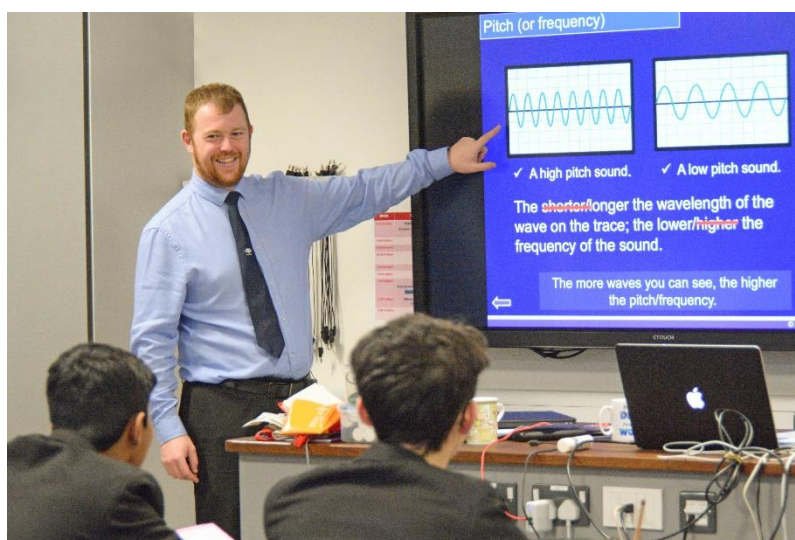
We have a designated STEM block facility to support the teaching of Maths, Physics, Design Technology and Computing, which opened in December 2016. The building has modern ICT facilities, including interactive touch screens in each of the 16 classrooms, specialist software and a bank of student laptops.

Biology and Chemistry are also taught on all three floors of the 1967 Extension Building.

The most popular 'A' Levels studied are in STEM, in particular Maths, Chemistry and Biology. Many of our students go on to study engineering, science and medicine at university.

Outside of lessons, our students participate in Biology, Chemistry and Physics Olympiads and UKMT Challenges. We also have a number of Arkwright Scholars.

Our STEM students have engaged in a broad supra-curricular offer, including launching weather balloons into near-space, and attending lectures at Birmingham University.





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Leadership

Our School is led by a strong team of senior staff and governors who are constantly striving for excellence, seizing all opportunities for the benefit of our students and our staff:

Headteacher: Dominic Robson

Deputy Head with KS4 Responsibility: Russell Bowen

Deputy Head with KS3 Responsibility: Ruth Hearn

Assistant Head and Head of Sixth Form: Dave Goodwin

Assistant Head and Designated Safeguarding Lead: Kate Steadman

School Finance and Business Manager: Graham Swindells

We are seeking to appoint a person with the skills, knowledge and experience to complement the team of teachers and leaders. Above all, we are looking for a committed individual with a genuine interest in providing the highest quality in every aspect of the role. Our students deserve the very best we can provide. We believe in the importance of a collaborative approach and a commitment to the team. The successful applicant will benefit from a wide range of experiences at our school and above all enjoy working with us.

We have a lot to offer any successful candidate and are committed to supporting them in their development as a leader:

New Staff Induction Programme – new colleagues benefit from a comprehensive programme of support and guidance.

Professional qualifications – we offer teaching staff the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding of education by offering a contribution to the cost of a Master's degree or an NPQ course.

Continuing Professional Development – we have a well-established programme of Professional Development, which provide staff with focused and personalised development programmes.

Leadership development – we encourage and enable colleagues to secure leadership experience, as well as develop their existing practice, to facilitate career progression.

Wellbeing – we have a staff wellbeing group as part of a whole-school commitment to ensuring that all staff thrive in their professional roles



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Person Specification

The successful applicant will be an inspirational role model with substantial experience of teaching and leadership. It is a wonderful opportunity to join a cohesive and highly successful SLT, potentially, as a step towards deputy headship.

We welcome applications from under-represented groups.

Person Specification

It is important that your application should address and evidence the majority of the criteria of the specification by means of the application form or supporting statement.

The successful person will need to possess most or all of the following:

- Good honours degree
- Qualified Teacher Status
- Outstanding classroom practitioner with experience of teaching a STEM subject to 'A' Level
- Up-to-date with the latest thinking on the Science of Learning.
- Well connected with Teaching and Learning Networks
- Experience of leadership and management of a team
- Excellent interpersonal skills with colleagues, parents and students including the ability to manage people, to defuse conflict and to solve problems
- Able to work under pressure, good time manager
- A high degree of professionalism
- High expectations: commitment to scholarship and the achievement of high standards by students
- Excellent skills in written and spoken English
- Experience of results tracking
- Good public speaking skills
- Good administrator with careful attention to detail
- Pro-active, determined and energetic
- A motivator and a leader
- Willing to work beyond the limits of the school day
- Willingness to contribute to BVGS's wide range of extra-curricular activities
- Commitment and enthusiasm for the BVGS values of Inspiration and Excellence.



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Job Description

Job Purpose

To play a major role, under the overall direction of the Headteacher in:

- Formulating the aims and objectives of the school.
- Establishing the strategy and policies through which they are to be achieved.
- Managing staff performance and resources.
- Promoting outstanding achievement, behaviour, leadership and teaching and learning across the school.
- Monitoring the strategy and policies.
- Carrying operational responsibility for the day to day management of the school.
- Attend Senior Leadership Meetings and all other relevant meetings contributing to whole school policy, the future development of the school and the welfare and process of individual students.
- Leading and supporting Big School assemblies in conjunction with SLT colleagues.
- Promoting the extra-curricular life of the school.
- Supporting the smooth operation of public and internal examinations.
- Undertaking any professional duties reasonably delegated by the Headteacher, including the promotion of the school by contributing to and attending public events in the school calendar.
- Promoting the safeguarding and welfare of people you are responsible for or come into contact with.

In addition, there are specific responsibilities to:

- ❖ Develop and lead the implementation of a whole-school STEM strategy.
- ❖ Lead on raising achievement, with a particular focus on raising the performance (and supporting staff to this end) of students affected adversely by the global pandemic and vulnerable and under-performing groups.
- ❖ Working in partnership with staff, students (through the leadership of the School Council) and parents, to lead on identifying areas of improvement required in the BVGS Student Experience and identifying and monitoring the success of an annual improvement plan
- ❖ Promote and organise opportunities in STEM related disciplines, for students across the key stages, that fall outside the confines of the taught syllabus.



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Key Information

Bishop Vesey's Grammar School is committed to Safeguarding and promoting the Welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. An enhanced DBS check, together with Identity, Right to Work, Prohibition Order, Pre-Placement, Medical and Verification of Qualification Checks are required for this post.

Closing date: Tuesday 13th October
Interviews will take place on Tuesday 20th October

