



Application Pack

Teacher of Science (Biology)

RIPLEY ST THOMAS
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY





School Chapel



Sixth Form Centre



School Farm



Main Entrance

Welcome



Dear Applicant

Thank you for your interest in the post of Teacher of Science (Biology) at Ripley. I hope the attached documentation will provide you with the information you need and that you will feel encouraged to apply for the post.

Ripley is a large and very successful school with a long history and great tradition. We were designated as Outstanding in all 31 categories in our most recent inspection. In addition, we were designated Outstanding in our recent Church School inspection and in the Ofsted inspection of our teacher training provision. There are currently over 1700 students on roll with 390 of those in the sixth form and there are around 180 staff. We are privileged to work with wonderful young people who are keen to learn and eager to achieve. The school serves a wide community with pupils coming from around 60 feeder primary schools.

Ripley is first and foremost a church school and all staff need to be fully supportive of the Christian ethos of the school. We look for teachers who will work hard and contribute to the whole school community. As a National Teaching School, we offer staff support and training of the highest quality. Teaching and Learning is our primary focus and all teachers work together on the craft of teaching.

If you would like to visit the school prior to applying please contact my Executive Assistant, Mrs Rees, on the school number. If you wish to make an application please complete the form and write a letter (no longer than 2 sides of A4 - font Tahoma 11) outlining how your skills and experience fit you for the post and how you will contribute to Ripley as an outstanding school.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. We expect all staff to share this commitment. Appointments made are subject to satisfactory references and to an enhanced Disclosing and Barring Service check.

Ripley is a very welcoming and close knit community and a great place to work! If you feel you would like to be part of this dynamic and successful academy and feel you have the qualities we are looking for I would encourage you to apply for the post.

Mr M Wood
Principal



About the subject

Science

Science is a popular and successful subject at Ripley with a large number of students studying the 3 sciences at A level.

There are a number of events run throughout the year which include visiting speakers ('Man in the Shed' from Brainiac), Biology field trips and stimulating science activities days. We have well-established industrial links with 'British Energy' and the 6th form have completed a BA Gold Crest Award project. This gives the students the opportunity to work alongside 'Engineering Ambassadors'.

Pupils in all year groups are encouraged to get involved in the support and development of others. Year 12 science students 'sponsor' our high fliers in years 7 and 8 through the 'Springboard Science Scheme' and are encouraged to assist in the classroom as part of the Aspire programme in the sixth form, for aspiring teachers.

It is a creative, dynamic and forward thinking department which aims to 'Bring out the scientist in everybody', our science motto, encompassing academic rigour and opportunity to excel.

Staffing

The Department is led by Miss Sutton, Subject Leader assisted by Mrs Harding, 2nd in Science, and Heads of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. There are currently 14 full-time Science teachers within the faculty. They are supported by 3 laboratory technicians working 5 days a week.

Accommodation

13 full size laboratories (seat 30), 1 classroom (seats 24 with demonstration bench) and opportunity to use the full sized lecture theatre. 2 preparation rooms, 1 dedicated chemical store, plus 2 additional store rooms and a science staff room.

Each laboratory has a data projector and wireless access to support the use of laptops. Two classrooms are fitted with SMART boards.

KS3

Key Stage 3 science is taught over two years with GCSE science beginning in Year 9. Teaching groups contain 30 pupils on average. We have a full range of supportive teacher/pupil resources including Doodle, an interactive online resource that pupils can access from home, Kerboodle and Activate.

KS4

Currently pupils in Years 10 and 11 follow the AQA Combined Science course, offered at both Higher and Foundation level. Higher level Separate Sciences in Biology, Chemistry and Physics are available as an option subject.



“
The academy demonstrates excellence in all aspects of its work
”

Ofsted

KS5

Chemistry and Physics follow the AQA Specification, Biology follow Edexcel A-level qualifications. All Subject Leaders are certificated for the leading of practical endorsement skills.

Science at A-level continues to attract students in large numbers and the department is well equipped to offer the very best of practical opportunity.

Job Description

Teacher of Science (Biology)

Responsible to	Miss A Sutton
Salary	MPS / UPS
Start Date	1 September 2019

Academy Mission Statement

As a worshipping community, witnessing to the Christian faith in all the school's activities, Ripley St Thomas Academy aims to develop to the full the academic, spiritual, aesthetic and physical potential of each pupil, encouraging in all its members a real and living faith in God.

We aim:

- To educate our pupils in body, mind and spirit, enabling them to live life to the full.
- To place equal emphasis on academic excellence, character development and wellbeing.
- To serve the common good by fulfilling our commitments to creation and community.

All staff are expected to model the following values, behaviours and attitudes:

- Actively supporting, articulating and promoting the Christian values and ethos of this Church of England Academy
- Putting pupils first and being positive about young people
- Committing fully to the safeguarding of pupils
- Having a commitment to excellence and high standards in everything we do
- Having, and communicating, the highest expectations of young people academically and personally
- Having a commitment to social justice and equality of opportunity

- Being committed to ethical behaviour: demonstrating integrity, honesty, resilience, professionalism, kindness and humility
- Behaving in a professional manner with staff and pupils at all times, treating all members of the school community with dignity and respect
- Contributing to the overall aims of the school by complying with and implementing school policies and by working collaboratively as part of pastoral and academic teams.
- A willingness to contribute to school life beyond the curriculum

To be effective in the classroom, all teachers are expected:

- To be accountable for pupil progress in the classes they are responsible for
- To have a secure knowledge and understanding of the relevant curriculum area and to keep up to date with current developments
- To plan and teach challenging, well-organised lessons and sequences of lessons across the age and ability range in line with the Ripley Learning and Teaching Policy
- To maintain the highest standards of pupil behaviour and conduct both inside and outside of the classroom and to follow the Academy Behaviour Policy
- To encourage resilience and hard work amongst pupils

- To keep up to date with the assessment requirements for the subjects taught, including those relating to public examinations
- To use both school and national data to evaluate the effectiveness of teaching, to monitor progress and to raise attainment
- To use assessment and prior attainment as part of teaching to diagnose pupils' needs, set realistic and challenging targets for improvement and plan future teaching
- To set and mark homework and to give feedback which is meaningful, in line with school policy
- To contribute to the work of the department as instructed by the Subject Leader in the development of syllabuses, teaching materials and schemes of work

To develop professionally, all teachers are expected:

- To be reflective practitioners and engage with further research and reading to inform and improve teaching
- To receive and act on feedback to build on strengths and improve performance
- To take ownership of their own professional development, engaging in professional development activities as appropriate to the teacher's career stage
- To contribute to the professional development of others as appropriate to the teacher's own career stage
- To develop knowledge and understanding of technology to support teaching
- To keep up to date on current teaching, learning and behaviour management strategies and know how to adapt them, including how to personalise learning to provide opportunities for all learners to achieve their potential



To manage young people effectively, all teachers are expected:

- To understand how young people develop and to make effective personalised provision for children with specific learning needs including higher prior attaining pupils
- To act in the capacity of a Progress Tutor.
- To manage pupils' behaviour constructively by establishing and maintaining a clear and positive framework for discipline, in line with the school's behaviour policy
- To promote the self-control and independence of pupils through a range of behaviour management strategies and through developing pupils' social, emotional and behavioural skills
- To know how to identify potential safeguarding issues and follow safeguarding procedure

To provide the best possible learning environment, all teachers are expected:

- To establish a purposeful and safe learning environment which enhances learning
- To be responsible for the safety of those working in the classroom; this includes ensuring that the room is free from clutter and untidy storage, that faults are reported according to procedures laid down; in the case of teachers of practical subjects, this includes awareness of the dangers of equipment and material being used, availability of first aid materials, and knowledge of procedures in case of accidents



Person Specification

Teacher of Science (Biology)

The successful candidate will demonstrate the following characteristics:

Essential criteria:

Training and Qualifications

- Qualified Teacher Status
- Degree (or equivalent) in a relevant subject
- Relevant and recent in-service training

Church Connection

- Fully supportive of Church school ethos and the school's mission statement

Teaching Experience

- Effective teaching experience either as a qualified teacher or a trainee teacher across the age and ability range.
- Awareness and understanding of children's development
- An ability to use ICT confidently in teaching
- Knowledge of a range of teaching methodologies
- Involvement in co-curricular activities

Professional Knowledge and Understanding

Applicants should be able to demonstrate good knowledge and understanding of the following areas:

- The subject curriculum 11 – 18
- The principles of effective teaching and assessment
- Current educational issues
- Knowledge and use of ICT in schools

Behavioural Competencies.

Applicants should be able to provide evidence that they have the necessary qualities and attributes required by the post. These qualities may be demonstrated in a letter of application, however, it is more likely that they will be more fully assessable during the interview process and from the references. Applicants should be able to:

- Demonstrate excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Build and maintain effective relationships
- Demonstrate personal enthusiasm and commitment to teaching
- Manage conflict
- Prioritise, plan and organise themselves
- Think creatively to anticipate and solve problems
- Listen to and reflect on feedback
- Develop effective teamwork

The ability to teach Sixth Form Biology would be an advantage



What We Can Offer

Ripley St Thomas CE Academy

What we can offer:

- A school with a distinctive Christian mission, ethos and strong traditions, dating back to 1864
- The opportunity to work in a school graded as outstanding in all areas by both Ofsted and SIAMS (Church school inspection)
- A highly achieving 11-18 school with consistently excellent results at GCSE and A Level
- Fantastic pupils who are hardworking, enthusiastic and impeccably behaved
- Supportive and aspirational parents
- A dedicated, enthusiastic and highly professional staff team
- A professional working environment in which all staff are valued, listened to and able to fully use their gifts and talents
- The opportunity to contribute to outstanding teacher training as part of the Ripley TSA SCITT.
- The opportunity to teach A Level in our large and growing Sixth Form
- Excellent teaching resources and facilities, from the Grade 2* listed Chapel to brand new buildings and facilities
- Extra-curricular sporting facilities for staff including fully equipped gym, swimming pool and running track

Career development recruitment incentives:

- A bespoke CPD programme for all staff, exciting career opportunities and individual teaching and leadership coaching
- Access through the Teaching School to a range of middle and senior leadership programmes



“
Students receive
outstanding
care, guidance
and support
”

Ofsted

Selection Process

About the application process

The process is split into three stages:

Application	Interview Tasks	Interview
<p>Through your application form, we are looking for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous experience as a great teacher • Your experience of implementing strategies to improve student achievement and successfully raising standards • What positive impact you could have on our Academy 	<p>Shortlisted candidates may be asked to carry out the following tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver a lesson • Pupil discussion activity • Subject knowledge assessment 	<p>The interview panel will comprise the Principal and senior staff.</p>

Key Dates

Monday 25 February at 9.00am

Deadline for receipt of applications is noon

Applications should be emailed to Mrs J Rees, Executive Assistant to the Principal: reesj@ripley.lancs.sch.uk, or posted to the Academy

Week beginning 4 March

Formal interviews will take place at Ripley St Thomas CE Academy

Friday 8 March

If you have not heard from us, please assume that you have not been shortlisted and accept our thanks for your interest and best wishes for your future career.

Lancaster

A historic and vibrant city

Lancaster is a historic city filled with character and culture. Located in the North West of England, Lancaster provides everything you would expect from a modern, northern city with a vibrant nightlife, thriving arts scene, beautiful open parks and great shopping. Small yet vibrant, the city is well connected via the M6 and West Coast Mainline, with the Lake District and Manchester within a one hour drive and London just two hours away by train.

Proud to be one of England's Heritage Cities and small enough to explore on foot, you can follow the milestones of Lancaster's rich history all the way back to the 12th Century.

The city centre is home to a number of natural and open green spaces – from canal-side walks to Williamson Park (the perfect picnic spot on a hot Summer's day), as well as the impressive Ashton Memorial overlooking the city to Morecambe bay and the fell tops of the Lake District.

Reputably known as the 'Northern City of Ale' Lancaster is home to over 30 pubs serving local, regional and national cask ales. Eating, drinking and nightlife in Lancaster boasts a number of cobbled street cafés and a host of different international cuisines – from Mexican, Italian and Spanish to French, Thai and Japanese sushi. Come the weekend, live music fills most of the pubs and wine bars throughout the city.

Creative and independent, Lancaster's established arts scene includes the Lancaster Music Festival and the annual Jazz Festival as well as performances in the city's two theatres and a plethora of live music including guitar, electronic, classical, jazz and folk.

A must-visit if you haven't already, Lancaster's heritage twinned with a perfect twist of contemporary culture makes it one of the North West's hidden gems.



**Named UK's 4th
most affordable
city to live***



**Manchester
Airport just one
hour away**



**Historic and
vibrant city of
culture and arts**



The Historic City



Crook O'Lune



“
Outcomes for
all groups of
students are
outstanding
”

Ofsted

“
A distinctively
Christian vision and
set of values have a
profound impact on
the lives, wellbeing
and flourishing of
learners and adults.
”

SIAMS 2017



RIPLEY ST THOMAS
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY



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**BEST SCHOOL
MUSIC DEPARTMENT
2017**

