

# The Ferrers School

## Now Recruiting – Senior Science Technician

**Principal - Mrs Angela Smith**

The Ferrers School Address: Queensway, Higham Ferrers, Northamptonshire, NN10 8LF

Email: [mail@theferrers.org](mailto:mail@theferrers.org)

Telephone: 01933 313411



The Ferrers  
School

PHYSICE

# Senior Science Technician

## Welcome to The Ferrers School

Our unwavering commitment to school improvement has ensured that The Ferrers School is a thriving and vibrant learning community. We are committed to providing a high-quality educational experience and put learning and individual achievement at the centre of everything we do. We share a collective sense of pride in the transformation and rapid improvement that has taken place. We are a school that is really going places! Following our most recent Section 5 Ofsted inspection, we are delighted to have been rated a 'Good' school in all areas.

We believe that our students should experience the broadest curriculum possible, with exposure to a wide range of subjects and experiences. Our curriculum aims to develop and nurture knowledge and skills through rich content and expert teaching. The taught curriculum runs hand in hand with the school's commitment to 'Extending the Boundaries of Learning' which includes personal development, careers education, information and guidance, 'PLEDGES' and Session 6, all of which equip students for life beyond school.



The Ferrers School is part of the successful Meridian Trust, a group of primary, secondary and special schools. Many of the schools in the trust are growing and there is a need to develop capacity, expertise and excellence in our staff body. We are currently working very closely with our colleagues at Sharnbrook Academy and as a school we look forward to playing a key role in the development of Meridian Trust's free school due to open in Weldon, Corby in 2023.

The Ferrers, like the Meridian Trust, is also driven by our ability to adapt to the changing educational landscape led by determined staff who bring our community alive with their enthusiastic personalities, unshakeable work ethic and their commitment to delivering exceptional learning experiences for our children. What makes The Ferrers School, and the Trust, different is that we know how to nurture and bring out the very best in our talented staff.

### What we can offer you:

- a philosophy of 100% achievement and inclusion
- a commitment to extending the boundaries of learning enabling all young people to become well-rounded individuals
- a purposeful and caring learning environment, where every individual is known, valued and supported
- motivated and engaged students, and ambitious, dedicated and professional staff

"Leaders and governors have established a positive school culture. Their clear vision has united staff".

"Leaders have ensured that all staff receive high-quality professional development. Staff say that they strongly value these opportunities". **Ofsted report July 2021**

Should you wish to join us, please complete the application form and submit a supporting statement which should be no longer than two sides of A4. We would highly recommend a visit to the school.

**Mrs Angela Smith, Principal**



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## Welcome from our CEO, Mark Woods

Thank you for your interest in joining the Meridian Trust family.

The success and growth of our Trust has been based on remaining focused on some critical principles:

- Every child is known, equally valued and supported to achieve their potential in all our academies. Every community we serve benefits from the facilities and services we provide.
- Our staff benefit from strong networks, excellent career opportunities and a human approach where they are equally valued and supported.
- We ensure that well-run schools retain and develop their distinct contextual identity, while sharing and contributing to our common values, practices, curriculum approaches and operational systems.



Since 2011, thanks to the fantastic work of our staff, our Trust has grown from 1 to 28 academies whilst retaining our focus on working within an area that enables easy movement between our schools. From first developing an application in 2007 to open schools in the new town of Northstowe, we have been committed to the vision of being an all-through and all-inclusive Trust. Our Trust currently consists of 14 primary schools, 12 secondary schools and 2 special schools. We are also currently developing 3 free school projects within our region.

Meridian also plays a key role in the wider development of education in the region. We are the home to the Cambridge and Peterborough Teaching School Hub and operate a vibrant Initial Teaching Training provider that trains upwards of 100 teachers annually. In addition, our commitment to the local community as an extension of our village college ethos means that we host a range of activity in our schools, including providing leisure and educational opportunities.

If being part of a dynamic, compassionate and dedicated group who believe we can really improve young people's life chances and opportunities by working together appeals to you, we very much look forward to receiving your application.



Meridian  
Trust



## A Brief History

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Meridian Trust, formerly known as Cambridge Meridian Academies Trust (CMAT), is a values-led Trust and has risen to be one of the highest performing academy groups in the country. Our Trust was first formed as an educational trust to create a federation of schools in 2006 with a desire to provide high quality and dynamic education for everyone, right in the heart of our community. Through various government policies, our commitment to collaboration has remained consistent.

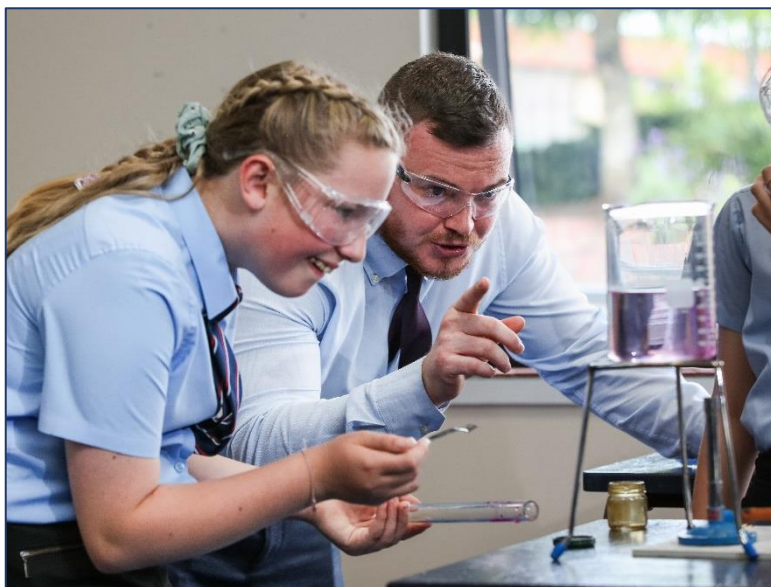
Meridian Trust was formed in 2011 to deliver more widely on that clear vision to provide high quality and dynamic education for all at the heart of the communities we serve. Our

steady growth since then reflects our commitment to the communities we serve and our track record of success. The period since 2018 has seen an increase in speed of growth as many long term projects matured and our relationship with Sharnbrook Academy Federation emerged.

We are currently a family of 28 academies (including 14 primary, 2 special and 12 secondary schools). The secondary schools include a University Technology College, an Upper School, four 11-16 schools and six 11-18 schools. We also have 2 new secondary free schools in development. All within 20 miles of Cambridge and Peterborough and the main communication routes between. We merged with Cambridge Primary Education Trust to become the Meridian Trust in April 2022. As a lead partner in the Cambridge and Peterborough Teaching School Hub and an ITT provider through the Cambridge Partnership we retain a strong commitment to growing and supporting staff throughout their training and career development. We have a proven track record of school improvement and transforming the lives of children and young people over the last 10 years.

Students thrive in Meridian Trust academies as a result of the implementation of our values, our successful and proven systems and our commitment to valuing people. We are among the highest performing multi-academy trusts in the country for student progress. No trust academy has ever undergone an OFSTED inspection resulting in anything other than an improved outcome. Our academies are well-run and our staff benefit from excellent access to professional development.

Our commitment to the education system goes beyond just our own academies. We operate 'The Cambridge Partnership', one of the largest initial teacher training providers in the country which has recently merged with the SAF ITT, and 'Leadership East' these further strengthen our capacity and commitment to professional development. We also provide support through various SLAs to a number of other trusts and academies.





## Our Mission

To help all our students to be the very best they can be.

We express this through our motto,

**“Aspire, Achieve, Acclaim”**

- ❖ **Aspire** – we have the highest aspirations for our students, and we expect them to have high expectations in all that they do.
- ❖ **Achieve** – we want all our students to achieve their best in all that they do. We set challenging targets and constantly seek ways to raise levels of achievement for all.
- ❖ **Acclaim** – we celebrate and reward the achievement of our students. We foster a climate in which success is recognised and celebrated to support students’ aspirations and achievements.

Our vision is to send our students out into the world as confident, motivated, aspirational and high achieving young people who will make a positive contribution to the local and wider community as responsible and ambitious citizens.

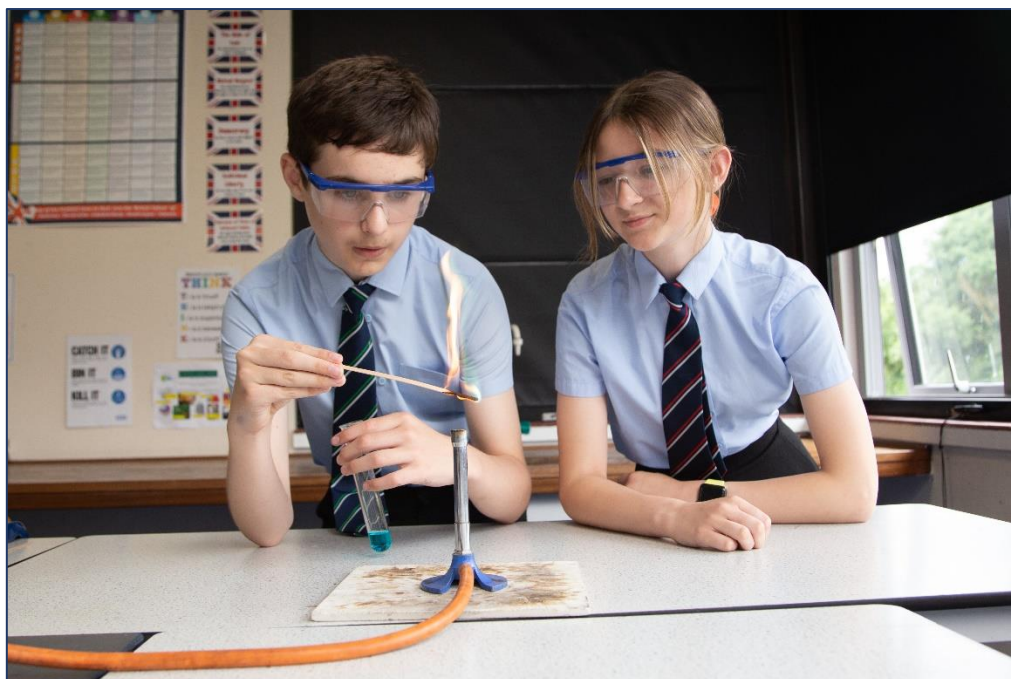
## Our Values

- ❖ **We are committed to the pursuit of excellence** - There is a culture of continuous self-improvement, informed by systematic benchmarking against the best practice nationally, and modelling of our best practice for, and in, other schools.
- ❖ **We value people** - There is a single-minded commitment to value, and know, every student, engage with parents and develop all of the staff.
- ❖ **We are committed to the achievement of all** - ‘Every Child Matters’ (ECM) translates to ‘Every Child Achieves’ (our 100% philosophy) in recognition of the links between genuine access to achievement and self-esteem and motivation.
- ❖ **We provide a high-quality learning experience** - There is a recognition that schools need to remodel themselves in terms of workforce, team structures, use of ICT and resources to focus on the individual and specific needs of every child.
- ❖ **We extend the boundaries of learning** - The Academy is outward looking; positively engaging with other schools, organisations and events locally, nationally and internationally to expand our horizons and experiences.





## The Department



The successful candidate will be joining an enthusiastic and supportive team, with a wide range of experience. At present, there are eight members of staff with a vast range of qualities and experiences. The Curriculum Leader is supported by a Key Stage Coordinator and two very supportive and able laboratory technicians. We have nine fully equipped laboratories. All staff have their own individual laboratories which are on one floor level and close to the science prep room. All have promethean interactive smartboards.

In Year 7 and 8, students are taught in broad ability groups which are reviewed every year. Students start the GCSE course in Year 9 and we follow the AQA trilogy and triple course. Each group at GCSE has three teachers to enable specialisation although all staff are expected to teach across all disciplines of Science at GCSE with the support of other colleagues. A Levels are taught across the consortium with two other schools, but as The Ferrers has the largest number of students, nearly all the lessons are taught at this school. Biology and Physics follow the AQA specification whilst Chemistry follows the OCR specification.

Curriculum development is on-going in science and we would like to appoint someone who is willing to contribute to these changes. Our ethos is always based on teamwork, and we work well together both formally and informally, offering advice and support no matter what level of experience we have. All staff have a laptop and ECTs receive support both in terms of a reduced timetable but also an effective training programme. The Ferrers has experience of successfully training graduate teachers, PGCE students and ECTs.



## Job Description

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Weeks: 39 Weeks  
Hours of work: 37 Hours  
Salary: Grade 6 (Actual salary £20,930 - £22,762)  
Responsible to: Curriculum Leader for Science

Role: To support the curriculum area with all practical lessons.  
Purpose of job: To ensure the provision of timely and effective technician support to all teachers in the department. To ensure the provision of appropriate resources to support the department in the delivery of their lessons by liaison with appropriate groups.

### Responsibilities and Accountabilities:

- Direct, supervise, support and organise the team to ensure the prompt servicing of all practical classrooms and practical teaching areas according to the needs and priorities of the Curriculum Leader and Teachers
- Co-ordinate the allocation and programming of the work(s) to support the team to ensure that the needs and priorities of the department/school are met
- Advise the Curriculum Leader on practical improvements to enhance the use and servicing of department areas, to support the delivery of the curriculum
- Maintain accurate records and maintenance plans to ensure the department is safe, compliant and functioning efficiently
- Under the Curriculum Leader, to co-ordinate the use of practical resources and facilities and provide assistance and advice in the practical needs of the subject curriculum, including liaising with teaching staff and support staff outside the department.
- Ensure and promote the maintenance of a healthy and safe working environment through:
- Actively contributing to the assessment, monitoring and review of both health and safety procedures and practices through continuing professional development
- The provision of technical advice and support on health and safety issues to teaching and technical staff.
- The safe treatment and disposal of used materials including hazardous substances and responding to actual or potential hazards.
- The safe storage and accessibility of equipment and materials.
- Maintain a relevant and up-to-date knowledge of technologies, tools and practices within the field. Where appropriate attend training and/or gain certification to meet the changing needs of the department.
- Have a working understanding of appropriate 'Technicians Guide' documents.
- Be aware of, promote and comply with all department/school/county instructions and procedures relating to Health and Safety at work, and to recognise the main responsibilities required under the 'Health and Safety at Work Act 1974' and associated legislation.



- Contribute to the design, development and maintenance of specialist resources and/or long-term projects and offer professional guidance, assistance and support to students and teachers on the practical aspects of the curriculum.
- Ensure the availability of suitable materials and equipment, helping to compile orders and liaising or negotiating with suppliers and finance departments. This will include sourcing, costing and suggesting economic alternatives to maintain stock levels. Keeping up to date records of stock.
- Work alongside teachers during lessons to aid the progress of students.
- With the support of the teachers, carry out class demonstrated on skills and processes.
- Ensure that both the routine and non-routine checking, cleaning, maintenance, calibration, testing and repairing of equipment are carried out to the required standard by supporting other department technicians.
- Support the department with the coordination of specialist subject events including the Values and Experiences days, Industry lunches, pamper days, visiting designers/speakers, trips and workshops.
- Participating in any training as and when required.

#### **Support to the School/Academy/Place of work:**

- Participate in staff events by arrangement.
- Attend Staff Meetings.
- Contribute and participate in Trust events and activities where possible.
- Develop and maintain effective working relationships with other staff and parents/carers.
- Adhere to the Trust values.
- Follow school policies, practices and procedures.
- Hours authorised by the school in excess of full-time hours will be paid at the overtime rate.

#### **Data security:**

- Act in accordance with legal provisions regulating confidentiality and security of data and information in accordance with GDPR regulations.

#### **Health and Safety:**

- Be aware of the responsibility for personal Health, Safety and Welfare and that of others who may be affected by your actions or inactions.
- Co-operate with the Trust on all issues to do with Health, Safety & Welfare.
- Contribute to the maintenance of a safe and healthy environment.

#### **Continuing Professional Development:**

- In conjunction with the line manager, take responsibility for personal professional development, keeping up to date with research and developments related to school/academy/place of work efficiency, which may lead to improvements in the day-to-day running of the Trust.
- Undertake any necessary and identified professional development taking full advantage of any relevant training and development available, particularly when related to the use of ICT, for data management and record keeping.





- Maintain a professional portfolio of evidence to support the Performance Management process – evaluating and improving own practice.

## Child Protection and Safeguarding

- The post holder will have a shared responsibility for the safeguarding of all children and young people. The post holder also has an implicit duty to promote the welfare of all children and young people.
- Inform the Child Protection Officer of any issues relating to the safety and well-being of students.

The post holder will undertake any other duties commensurate with the grade of the post, in consultation with line manager.

This job description is subject to review and may be changed following consultation with the post holder. It is not a comprehensive statement of procedures and tasks but sets out the main expectations of the Trust in relation to the post holder's professional responsibilities and duties.

**The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment.**

**All staff will be subject to an enhanced check with the Disclosure & Barring Service.**

### Person Specification: Senior Technician

Assessment Key:  
A = Application Form  
I = Interview

Education and Qualification	Essential	Desirable	Assessment
Good educational background with GCSE or equivalent in the English Language	✓		A/I
Experience	Essential	Desirable	Assessment
Experience of subject background	✓		A/I
Experience of working in the education sector		✓	A/I
Experience of working with young people		✓	A/I
Experience of working as part of a team	✓		A/I
Knowledge, Skills and Abilities	Essential	Desirable	Assessment



Knowledge of using different IT software such as Microsoft Office, Email. With training, use the school management information system	✓		A/I
The interpersonal skills to communicate effectively and professionally with staff, students, parents, and other outside agencies (by phone and in person)	✓		A/I
Ability to establish good working relationships with colleagues	✓		A/I
Ability to work as an individual, as well as part of a team	✓		A/I
Ability to work using own initiative	✓		A/I
Ability to always remain calm and professional	✓		A/I
<b>Personal Qualities</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
Highly motivated and enthusiastic	✓		A/I
Committed and reliable	✓		A/I
High professional standards	✓		A/I
Excellent timekeeping	✓		A/I
<b>Child Protection</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
Support the Academy policies on safeguarding and child protection	✓		A/I
<b>Other</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
Flexibility of working hours	✓		A/I



## Why Work for Us

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We care passionately about our staff, their well-being and professional development and this is reflected in the fact that we are an enthusiastic team, committed to working collaboratively and sharing the very best practice.

We can offer:

- a strong team environment that takes staff well-being seriously;
- a dedicated Senior Leadership Team who want to see staff progress and flourish in their career;
- an active teaching and learning research and development group;
- a post with the potential for future progression both within this role and the wider trust;
- support from the wider trust including numerous CPD opportunities;
- a full induction programme alongside weekly training sessions and staff meetings to ensure effective communication;
- a strong track record of staff development within the Trust;
- Access to a free Employee Assistance Programme, offering mental health and wellbeing support to staff;
- ample on-site car parking;
- Generous employer contributions to Local Government or Teacher Pension Scheme
- Free on-site parking
- Eyecare vouchers
- Cycle to work scheme
- Free tea and coffee making facilities



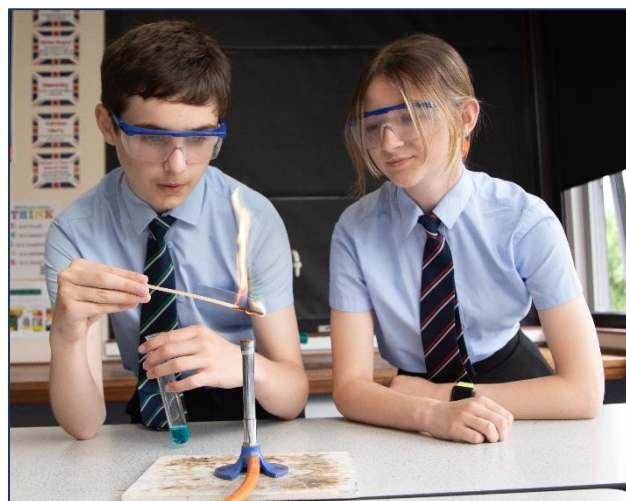
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## About Us

The Ferrers School is an 11-18 co-educational comprehensive which opened in 1980. We are proud of our site which provides a spacious campus for our students in the week, as well as a popular sports facility for the local community with lettings at evenings and weekends. Our site boasts a state-of-the-art all-weather 3G pitch; an expressive arts area which was fully refurbished in 2020 to incorporate a second dance studio, recording studio, music technology suite, media suite and a film studio. We have a fantastic library, used by students and staff in lesson time and during lunch. We also have a purpose built sixth form centre which includes a coffee shop, computer suites and private study areas.



We are a growing school with approximately 950 students on roll including over 130 in the Sixth Form. We are the local school of choice. We've seen a 37% increase in first choice places for admissions into Year 7 and expect to be oversubscribed in the coming years. In September 22, we are excited to be opening a brand-new post-16 provision, coming away from a long and successful partnership with two other local schools as part of The East Northants Consortium. We have taken this step because we believe that we will be stronger as a stand alone sixth form, working within the supportive post-16 community of the Meridian Trust.

Higham Ferrers is a small town of over 7,000 and lies on the edge of the Nene Valley close to the Cambridge-Northamptonshire border. The town itself has a long and interesting history; it was one of the first in England to receive a Charter and still retains its own Mayor. It has a beautiful main street of stone-built houses, and a large parish church which has the Bede House and a tiny 15th century grammar school building in its close. The ruins of a school founded in the 15th century and the site of a castle can also be found in the town.

Higham Ferrers, and its neighbouring town of Rushden, are served by two comprehensive schools which share the common 'catchment area' of the two towns. The two comprehensive schools draw students from six primary schools in Higham Ferrers and Rushden, including Higham Ferrers Junior School and Henry Chichele, with many transferring to The Ferrers School, in addition to students from the Rushden primary schools. Several students also transition to The Ferrers School from villages outside of the immediate area.

The area has good transport links to other local towns, for example, Bedford and Leicester from nearby Wellingborough and fast train services to London St Pancras Intl. The average journey time between London St Pancras Intl and Wellingborough is 47 minutes. On an average weekday, there are 48 trains per day travelling from London St Pancras Intl to Wellingborough. It is ideally located close to major trunk routes enabling easy access into and out of the county. There are excellent leisure facilities on our doorstep in the form of the food and retail complex 'Rushden Lakes', providing ample options for shopping, socialising and relaxing.



**The Ferrers  
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## How to Apply

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Applicants should send the completed form along with a covering letter of application to Alison Davies, PA to the Principal at: [ADavies@theferrers.org](mailto:ADavies@theferrers.org)

Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact us prior to applying and arrange a visit to find out more about our school.

Please contact Alison Davies to make an appointment.

Closing date for applications is 8.00am Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December

Interview date is Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December

We reserve the right to close the advert early if a suitable candidate is found. Early applications are encouraged.



**The Ferrers  
School**

**‘Aspire, Achieve, Acclaim’**



## Safeguarding

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Please note that we do not accept CVs – any received will not be taken into consideration during the shortlisting process. The Ferrers School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. In order to meet this responsibility, the school follows a rigorous selection process to discourage unsuitable applicants. This process is outlined below.

**Disclosure:** All applicants for employment are required to disclose any previous ‘unspent’ criminal convictions and any cautions which have not expired, or any pending prosecutions. In addition, the job you are applying for is exempt from the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (exceptions order 1975) which requires you to disclose all spent convictions and cautions Except those which are ‘protected’ under Police Act 1997 – Part V and the amendments to the Exceptions Order 1975 (2013) and are not subject to disclosure to employers on DBS certificates and cannot be taken into account. Guidance on the filtering of “protected” cautions and convictions which do not need to be disclosed by a job applicant can be found on the Disclosure and Barring Service website. The information you give will be treated as strictly confidential. Disclosure of a conviction, caution, warning or reprimand will not automatically disqualify you from consideration. Any offence will only be taken into consideration if it is one which would make you unsuitable for the type of work you are applying for. However, offences relating to children are likely to make you unsuitable since this is a “regulated position” under the Criminal Justice & Courts Services Act 2000. The school’s policy on the recruitment of ex-offenders is available on the school website. If you fail to disclose any relevant offences or give false information then it will disqualify any offer of employment, or result in summary dismissal if you are in post, with possible referral to the police. Confirmation of appointment is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced DBS Certificate.

**Shortlisting:** Only those candidates meeting the person specification criteria will be taken forward to interview. NB: CVs are not accepted.

**Interview:** Those shortlisted will take part in an in-depth interview process – candidates for teaching posts will be required to teach a lesson as part of the interview process. Candidates will be asked to address any discrepancies, anomalies, or gaps in their application form. We reserve the right not to take a candidate forward to formal interview if they are deemed unsuitable for the post.

**Reference checking:** References from the previous and current employer will be taken up for shortlisted candidates, and where necessary, employers may be contacted to gather further information.

**Probation:**

All non-teaching staff will be subject to a probation period of six months. The probation period is a trial period to enable the assessment of an employee’s suitability for the job for which they have been employed. It provides the School with the opportunity to monitor and review the performance of new staff in relation to various areas, but also in terms of their commitment to safeguarding and relationships with students. The information collected on the application form will be used in compliance with Data Protection regulations. By supplying information, you are giving your consent, if





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appointed, to the information being processed for all employment purposes as defined by statute. The information may be disclosed, as appropriate, to the governors, to Occupational Health, to the Teachers Pensions Agency, to the Department for Education, to pension, payroll and personnel providers and relevant statutory bodies. This form will be kept strictly confidential but may be photocopied and may be transmitted electronically for use by those entitled to see the information as part of the recruitment process.

When the recruitment process is completed, the application form will be stored securely for a maximum of six months then securely destroyed, unless you are employed as a result of this recruitment process, in which case this application form will be retained as part of your personnel record.