TEACHER OF PHYSICS

JOB DESCRIPTION

ABOUT JOHN LYON

Founded in 1876 as an Independent day school for local boys, John Lyon is one of the top independent day schools for boys in the UK. We pride ourselves on our broad yet balanced curriculum and ability to tailor an education to meet the individual needs of our students. Our ethos is to treat every boy as an individual, strive for academic excellence and provide outstanding pastoral care whilst offering a broad range of opportunities outside of the classroom. The School has consistent excellent results with ‘value added’ at all levels, GCSE, and A-Level.

The School campus is spread across six buildings in Harrow-on-the-Hill and is part of John Lyon’s Foundation. We have a clear set of values that are vital to our community. These values shape who we are, what we do and how we do it.



THE DEPARTMENT

The Department comprises five highly qualified Physics teachers. It has two dedicated Physics labs, access to six further Science labs, a separate office space for Physics staff, as well as a separate dedicated prep room. We have a full time Physics technician who is an experienced engineer and able to produce bespoke equipment.

Pupils in Years 7 and 8 have two forty minute lessons of Physics per week. Pupils are encouraged to experiment from the start, with practical work being built into the curriculum and forming a key part of their course. In Year 9 lesson time increases slightly to one forty minute and one hour lesson. In Years 10 and 11 this is increased to two hour lessons and one forty minute lesson. At GCSE Pupils opt for at least one separate Science but are encouraged to study 3. Physics is very popular at John Lyon and the majority of the current year eleven cohort opting to study it. There are four sets in both Year 10 and Year 11 with approximately 20 students in each. GCSE results are consistently high and last year 63% of students achieved grades 7, 8 or 9. Pupils study the Edexcel IGCSE specification.

At A-Level students study the OCR Physics A Course. Again, Physics is a popular subject, with 23 students in the Lower Sixth and 17 in the Upper Sixth. Students have 5 hours of lessons a week shared between two teachers. Last year 65% of students achieved A\* to B grade.

Within the department staff are keen to encourage the boys to get involved with science activities outside of the classroom. We encourage boys to enter national competitions such as the Physics Olympiad. Vibrant clubs and societies related to Physics enable boys to flourish beyond the curriculum. They include: Astronomy, Science Society (pupil led), Electronics, CREST Award, Micro;Bit Robotics, Primary School Science (whereby boys mentor local primary pupils) and STEAM (Science Technology Engineering Art Maths). Pupils compete in the compete in the national Rocket Car Competition and we run a varied and exciting set of lunchtime activities during British Science week.

There are additional opportunities for Sixth Form boys to develop their skills on the popular biennual residential visits to CERN. As well as taking part in a multitude of Science and STEAM focussed events in the School calendar, pupils are able to learn specifically from visits to The Science Museum, Science Live (GCSE), Science in Action (A-Level), Rutherford Appleton Laboratories, Thorpe Park STEM Fair and the Engineering Day at the IET. We are also fortunate to have a variety of visiting speakers who work with our pupils. Recently this has included Lord Robert Winston, Prof Mischa Dohler (Fellow of IEE, RAE, RSA and IET) and Jeremy Curtis (Head of Education and Skills at the UK Space Agency).

Boys are prepared for the Oxbridge, BMAT and UKCAT entrance examinations and there is a strong tradition of enabling boys to get into leading universities (including Oxbridge and Imperial) to study Natural Sciences, Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Medicine, Dentistry, Sound Engineering, Architecture, Psychology, Pharmacy and several other Science related degree courses.

PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES

A Teacher of Physics reports to the Head of Department and is specifically responsible for the learning and teaching of Physics, ensuring that each pupil is positively encouraged to develop his potential to the full.

**SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES**

* Planning and teaching lessons to the curriculum;
* Ensuring that assessment is both regular and thorough and that full records of pupils are kept;
* Undertaking development and training in the department and the school;
* Attending regular departmental meetings, and other meetings as appropriate with the Head of Department and Senior Teacher (Staff);
* Attending NQT meetings if appropriate;
* Cooperating with other Departments in the School;
* Cooperating with Department members;
* Liaising with Heads of Year and the Head of Department in matters concerned with pupil discipline and behaviour;
* Ensuring Health and Safety and Child Protection guidelines are followed;
* Creating and maintaining a stimulating environment in departmental rooms;
* Implementing all School policies, and all Departmental policies;
* Contributing to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils;
* Completing any other duties that may be reasonably asked by the Head of Department.

**ADDITIONAL SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES**

• Participating in and assisting with the organisation of trips and activities to enhance the teaching and learning of Physics within the School;

• To be available as a tutor to an assigned tutor group and to carry out related duties in accordance with the general job description of Form Tutor;

• To stimulate and sustain extra-curricular interest in Physics through clubs and competitions.

**GENERAL DUTIES**

* To embrace the School’s Values and encourage pupils to develop them;
* To carry out a share of supervisory duties and detentions in accordance with published schedules;
* To participate in appropriate meetings with colleagues and parents relative to the above duties;
* To contribute to the PSCHE programme when required;
* To attend whole School events e.g. Open Days, Speech Day etc;
* To provide cover and examination assistance as required;
* All staff are required to contribute to the School’s Extra-Curricular and Co-Curricular programmes.

It should be noted that a job description is not an exhaustive list of activities, and employees may be asked to carry out other duties commensurate with the grade of the post. The job description may also be amended to take account of changed circumstances, and employees will be consulted if this is necessary.

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PERSON SPECIFICATION FOR ALL TEACHING APPOINTMENTS

In making an appointment at the John Lyon School we look for the person who, at interview and by virtue of their qualifications, best demonstrates that he/she:

* is suitably qualified for the responsibilities of the post;
* has good interpersonal and communication skills with pupils and colleagues;
* has good listening skills and respect for all pupils;
* has the ability to form relationships and to motivate pupils;
* has the ability to generate enthusiasm for the work of the department;
* can demonstrate high standards in the necessary professional competencies required of teachers:
  + *subject knowledge and application;*
  + *classroom management;*
  + *assessment, recording and reporting students’ progress;*
  + *teaching effectively throughout age and ability range;*
* has confidence to contribute their own ideas and initiatives to the philosophy of the School;
* is willing to be involved in the wider activities of the School;
* has a practical understanding of administrative demands;
* has a commitment to personal and professional development.

The post holder’s responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young persons for whom s/he is responsible, or with whom s/he comes into contact will be to adhere to and ensure compliance with the School’s Child Protection Policy Statement at all times. If, in the course of carrying out the duties of the post the post holder becomes aware of any actual or potential risks to the safety or welfare of children in the school s/he must report any concerns to the School’s Designated Safeguarding Lead.

This position is subject to an ENHANCED DBS certificate in the event of a successful application. Copies of the School’s Code of Practice and Policy on the Recruitment of Ex-Offenders are available from the Personnel Department