

Briefing Pack for Applicants Curriculum Leader of Science



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

The school will undertake stringent and rigorous checks of identity and qualifications to ensure that we maintain the very highest standards of child protection for our students.



Contents

Section 1: Post Advertisement.....	1
Section 2: Letter from the Chief Executive – Bev Matthews.....	2
Section 3: Letter from the Headteacher – R Walkden.....	3
Section 4: About Ecclesfield School.....	4
Section 5: Job Description.....	7
Section 6: Person Specification.....	11
Section 7: The Appointment Process.....	13
Section 8: Visitors to Ecclesfield School.....	15

May we take this opportunity to thank you in anticipation of your application. If, however, you have not heard from us by the proposed date for the interview you should assume that on this occasion your application has not been successful. In that event we wish you every success in any future applications you make.

Section 1: Post Advertisement

Post: Curriculum Leader of Science

Salary: Teacher Pay Scale MPR/UPR plus TLR 1C (£12,724 gross per annum pro rata)

Contract: Full-time, Permanent

Start date: 17 April 2023

Minerva Learning Trust is an expanding Sheffield based multi-academy Trust with a vision of providing outstanding education for all the students within our schools. The Trust is passionate that all students should see their time at school as happy and fulfilling with their potential developed to the utmost. Ecclesfield School joined the Trust in December 2017 and, as a sponsored academy, is developing this partnership and making rapid improvements for our students and community.

We are a large expanding department with state of the art facilities looking to appoint a Curriculum Leader of Science. The post is a full-time position, 5 days per week working Monday - Friday, equating to 1.0 of a full time equivalent. The successful post holder will join a team of staff who are committed and enthusiastic in realising the vision of the academy and ensuring the best possible outcomes for our students.

Candidates are encouraged to have an informal discussion about the role with Richard Walkden, Headteacher. Arrangements for this can be made by contacting Jo Revill, PA to the Headteacher on jrevill1@eccoschool.com

The closing date is Tuesday 29th November 2022 at 9am and interviews will take place on Wednesday 7th December 2022.

The Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and safety of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful candidate will be required to complete an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

Further information is available by contacting Jo Revill via e-mail: jrevill1@eccoschool.com

The application form and information pack are available on the academy website. **Please ensure that you do not fill in a Sheffield City Council application form in respect of this vacancy as your application may not be considered.**

Section 2: Letter from the Chief Executive – Bev Matthews

Dear Candidate

Thank you for your interest in this role within Minerva Learning Trust. Minerva Learning Trust was established in October 2014 with the vision of providing outstanding education for pupils who are from a wide variety of backgrounds across the city of Sheffield. During 2017-18 the Trust expanded and brought together four secondary schools across Sheffield to create a new partnership of schools which supports the education of over 5000 pupils. In September 2020, Chapeltown Academy joined the Trust and enhanced the post-16 provision within the Trust in the north of the city and in September 2021, we were delighted that Woodthorpe Community Primary School became the first primary school to join the Trust. We resolutely believe that we are stronger together and that each school within the MAT has individual strengths and we celebrate the diverse and unique qualities of each particular school.

As a Trust our mission, vision and values are central to our work and are the driving force behind all that we do. Our vision of Outstanding Together, Working Together and Learning Together is underpinned by our core values of Inclusion, Independence, Respect and Success. Through our values we foster an ethos of collegiality, we ensure inclusion is at the heart of all we do and we work hard to ensure that every child succeeds, no matter what their background or circumstance.

We recognise that the commitment and care shown by all our staff is fundamental to the success of our young people. As such, we work hard to ensure that staff are supported, encouraged, developed, respected and listened to within an enjoyable and rewarding working environment. Our culture is one of professional trust, respect, honesty and integrity and we want our staff and students to work and learn within an environment that enables them to flourish and to work at their best.

The professional development of staff, including opportunities for research, is a key priority of Minerva Learning Trust. As such, we seek to enrich employee capability and maximise the strength and contribution of each individual who works with us. The Trust believes in investing in the learning and development of its employees through a range of opportunities which are aligned to the needs of the organisation and its young people.

This is an exciting opportunity to join the Trust. If you choose to apply you will be choosing to work alongside a team of dedicated professionals who passionately believe in the power of education to change the life chances of young people.

If you believe you have the experience, skills and ambition to support our aims and contribute to the delivery of the very best for our pupils then we look forward to receiving your application.



Bev Matthews
Chief Executive Officer

Section 3: Letter from the Headteacher

Dear Candidate

Thank you for your interest in this role and in our school. Ecclesfield School is a popular and over-subscribed all-ability, 11-16 school. Ecclesfield School adopted single academy status in 2014 and in 2017 joined a Multi Academy Trust. The school was recently inspected in the summer term of 2022, moving from 'Special Measures' to 'Good', and is fully committed to driving itself forward, whilst celebrating the success of the recent OFSTED inspection result, and continuing to deliver the schools mission to provide outstanding education for all students, staff and stakeholders within the Trust.

Here at Ecclesfield School we understand the power of education to transform lives, communities and society. In everything we do we aspire to achieve individual and collective excellence through nurturing every students unique potential to make sure when they leave and enter the outside world they are ready to succeed and make an invaluable contribution to the wider society.

Ecclesfield is a happy, creative, focused and aspirational community that is built on the strong foundations of our broad curriculum, our inclusive ethos, our highly qualified and knowledgeable staff and our enthusiastic students. All our staff ensure that our students are given the very best opportunities through their education. My belief is that people achieve the best outcomes when they enjoy what they are doing, feel safe and are rewarded for their commitment and success. Our philosophy is simple and is based around our core values of Work Hard, Be Kind, Aim High, Show GRIT.

We expect the very highest levels of behaviour and attitude to learning from our students, coupled with a real focus on building positive relationships. We take every opportunity to study a wealth of subjects at both Key Stage 3 and 4. Our wider school life gives students and staff the opportunity to travel all over the world, take part in shows, give back to the local community, be a part of a team, go out into the working world, experience other cultures and meet people from all walks of life.

Support and care are equally important for all members of staff. We have a well-developed Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programme at Ecclesfield School that is now supported further by the growing CPD offer from the Trust. Wellbeing is also rightly high on our agenda. We have clear well-being principles in place that guide our work in school and an annual action plan full of suggestions made by staff.

I look forward to receiving your application.



Richard Walkden
Headteacher

Section 4: About Ecclesfield School

OUR ETHOS

Ecclesfield School understands the power of education to transform lives, communities and society. We aspire to achieve individual and collective excellence in all that we do through nurturing every student's unique potential, expanding their horizons and promoting their understanding of the invaluable contributions they can make as citizens in a global society. We recognise the importance of students leading rich and diverse lives and actively pursue a curriculum and pastoral provision which enables them to flourish in this area.

By fostering our students' spirit of engagement, adventure and ingenuity, we will nurture all young people as fully-rounded individuals, providing them with the challenge and support they require to succeed.

ABOUT US

Ecclesfield School is a popular and over-subscribed all-ability, 11-16 school. Ecclesfield School adopted single academy status in 2014 and in 2017 joined a Multi Academy Trust. The school was recently inspected in the summer term of 2022, moving from 'Special Measures' to 'Good, and is fully committed to driving itself forward, whilst celebrating the success of the recent OFSTED inspection result, and continuing to deliver the schools mission to provide outstanding education for all students, staff and stakeholders within the Trust.

We have a truly comprehensive intake and aim to serve all of the school community in all of our work. Our intake is drawn largely from North-east Sheffield, including Ecclesfield, Chapeltown and High Green, though many students travel from further afield. Our standard student number per year is 350 and our current roll is 1750, making Ecclesfield one of the largest schools in the city. Ability on intake is broadly average. Around 25% of our students are entitled to free school meals.

The school has around 20% of students on the SEN register. The range of special needs in school is considerable; we have students with speech, language and communication difficulties, physical difficulties and some with moderate to severe learning difficulties. We also have an integrated resource for hearing impaired students who enjoy excellent support whilst accessing mainstream education. In addition, there are also significant numbers of students who have been identified as gifted and talented in a range of areas.

The Senior Leadership Team is comprised of eight colleagues – the Headteacher, two Deputy Headteachers and five Assistant Headteachers, supported by the Business Support Manager and Central Team for the Trust. Senior staff take responsibility for specific and targeted line management of key areas in the school. The school has distributed leadership model in which leaders at all levels increasingly take responsibility for raising standards of attainment and achievement.

Currently we have a teaching staff of over 100 who provide a rich balance of enthusiasm, energy, creativity and experience. Our team of support staff plays a vital part in the success of the school and all are important members of our community. We aim to involve all staff in the life of the school through communication, including daily briefings and regular meetings. Staff development is supported through a highly-effective professional learning policy, which lays emphasis on sharing

good practice internally and driving up standards in teaching and learning. All teaching staff belong to departmental teams led by Curriculum Leaders.

All teachers are involved in the student mentoring system, either as mentors for a whole vertical tutor group or in the school's one-to-one mentoring programme. Student leadership in the school is well advanced. The School and Year Councils have been in place for some time and we have a senior prefect group drawn from Year 11 and also a Head Boy and Head Girl. Prefects are also in place in Years 8-10, and these developments are beginning to encourage students to take more responsibility, to share more effectively in decision-making across the school, to provide positive role models for younger students and to contribute more widely to all aspects of school life.

The School is supported by a committed and supportive Local Governing Body, ready to scrutinise and challenge the work of the school. Led by the Chair of Governors, the Local Governing Body works through a series of committees, each supported by a member of the leadership group. The governors take on 'link' roles and are beginning to work effectively with a range of key personnel within the school. The Local Governing Body feed into the Minerva Learning Trust Board who have overall accountability for schools within the Trust.

The curriculum is organised within a 50 period, two-week timetable and we aim to use this vehicle to support and stimulate all students. As a result, a large number of activities and experiences are timetabled for students. These include a two-week period of work experience for all Year 10 students. Many subject departments organise trips and visits; these include trips to local museums, field trips, visits from theatre groups and curriculum-related visits to sites around the country.

At Key Stage 3, students follow a broad and balanced curriculum including the core and foundation subjects, Drama, Information Technology, RE, Art, Music, PE and Technology. All students study Spanish, French or German (with some students going on to pursue two languages at GCSE). In Year 7, with the exception of Maths, all subjects are taught for the year in mixed-ability teaching groups. Increasingly, the school is moving towards a two-year key stage 3.

At Key Stage 4 we offer a core curriculum of English, Mathematics, Science (combined trilogy and triple sciences), Science or Geography, PHSCE/RE and PE with three further option subjects available. These include Art, Business Studies, Drama, Computer Science, Music, P.E. and Religious Studies. Students can opt for Technical Awards in a range of subjects including Sport, Music, Health and Social Care, CIDA and Engineering. The school is well-placed to meet the demands of the English Baccalaureate with MFL, Science and Geography popular option choices. Our most recent performance indicators shows attainment in the EBacc running above the national level. We are confident that our current curriculum model, whilst under constant review, allows us to meet the needs of all students, preparing them fully for life beyond 16.

The extra-curricular life of the school is rich and varied, though this is an area we are always keen to expand. There are more than 170 homework clubs, lunch-time and after-school clubs and teams which offer the opportunity for students to develop and follow their interests and talents in music, drama, sport and academic areas. As a school that particularly values performing and visual arts there are a host of creative opportunities for students to take part in from music lessons and ceramics to the four annual school productions. In terms of sport, a wide range of teams and activities take place, achieving considerable local, regional and, on occasion, national success. There is a strong programme of residential, visits and foreign trips throughout the school from the ski trip and PGL water sports residential to language immersion trips.

We aim to enable all colleagues to fulfil their potential. We are partnered in Initial Teacher Training with Sheffield Hallam University and Sheffield University. We aim to support new colleagues, be they NQTs or more experienced teachers or support staff, via an induction programme and mentoring scheme which can be tailored to meet their needs. We are also partner members of the Sheffield Teaching School Alliance, centred at Silverdale School, and are looking to build upon our excellent reputation for Professional Learning by taking a leading role in the development of the training arm of the Teaching School Alliance.

We are developing a vibrant learning community in which all students and staff are able to thrive. Our strategic vision is to move this school forwards by retaining a complete commitment to our ethos, our community and the principles of a comprehensive education.

We look forward to your application and thank you for your interest in our school.

Further information about the school including access to the full Ofsted Report can be found on our website: www.ecclesfield-school.com

Section 5: Job Description



Minerva Learning Trust Job Description



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

POST TITLE	Curriculum Leader of Science
GRADE/SALARY	Teachers' Main Pay range MPR/UPR plus a TLR1C of £12,724 gross per annum pro rata
RESPONSIBLE FOR	The provision of a full learning experience and support for students
RESPONSIBLE TO	The Headteacher, within the framework of the Senior Leadership Team
PURPOSE OF THE JOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To oversee and direct the work of the subject including improvement planning review, liaison with other Curriculum Leaders as appropriate; to be accountable for leading, managing and developing the curriculum area. To raise standards of student attainment and achievement within the whole curriculum area and to monitor and support student progress. To be accountable for student progress and development within the curriculum area. To develop and enhance the teaching practice of others and lead on personnel matters within the department. To ensure the provision of an appropriately broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum for students studying in the area, in accordance with the aims of the school and the curricular policies determined by the Governing Body and Headteacher of the school. To effectively manage and deploy teaching/support staff, financial and physical resources within the curriculum area.
RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualified Teacher Status A good honours degree or equivalent (2:1 or higher) Ability to teach Science at Key Stage 3 and 4

Management of Resources

- Manage available resources of space, staff, money and equipment efficiently within the required limits, guidelines and procedures, including deploying the curriculum area budget, acting as a budget holder, requisitioning, organising and maintaining equipment and stock, keeping appropriate records.
- Identify resource needs and manage the efficient, effective use of physical resources.

- Co-operate with other curriculum areas to ensure a sharing and effective usage of resources to the benefit of the school and the students.

Data/Assessment

- Maintain appropriate records and provide relevant accurate and up-to-date information for SIMS, registers, etc.
- To complete the relevant documentation to assist in the tracking of students.
- To track student progress and use information to inform teaching and learning.

Management of Information

To ensure the maintenance of accurate and up to date information concerning the curriculum area on the management information system.

- To assist in the use of analysis and evaluation of performance data provided.
- To assist in the identification of exam entries within the curriculum area.

Communication and Liaison

- To ensure all members of the curriculum area are familiar with its aims and objectives.
- To ensure effective communication as appropriate with parents/carers of students.
- To liaise with partner schools, higher education, industry, exam boards, awarding bodies and other relevant external bodies.
- To represent the curriculum area effectively.
- Attend Curriculum Leader/middle leader meetings as outlined on school calendar and provide appropriate feedback to subject staff.
- Design, implement and evaluate communication systems for the subject.
- Coordination of communication with parents/carers in subject related issues including quality assurance of communications from subject staff.

Marketing and Liaison

- To contribute to the school's marketing activities, for example, the collection of material for press releases.
- To contribute to the development of effective subject links with partner schools and the community, attendance where necessary at liaison events in partner schools and the effective promotion of subjects at Open Days/evenings and other events.
- To actively promote the development of effective subject links with external agencies.

Pastoral System

- To monitor and support the overall progress and development of students within the curriculum area.
- To monitor student attendance together with students' progress and performance in relation to agreed targets; ensuring that follow up procedures are adhered to and that appropriate action is taken where necessary.
- To act as a Form Tutor and to carry out the duties associated with that role as outlined in the generic job description.
- To contribute to SMSC, citizenship and enterprise activities in line with school policy.
- To ensure the School's Behaviour Management System is implemented in the department so that effective learning can take place.

Safeguarding

- To be aware of and work in accordance with the school's child protection policies and procedures in order to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and to raise any concerns relating to such procedures which may be noted during the course of duty.

Teaching

- To undertake an appropriate programme of teaching in accordance with the duties of a standard scale teacher.
- To aim to deliver lessons, which are judged to be at least good.

Other Specific Duties

- To promote actively the school's policies.
- To engage in personal professional development as agreed and engage actively in the performance review process.
- To undertake any other duty as specified by STPCB not mentioned in the above.
- Whilst every effort has been made to explain the main duties and responsibilities of the post, each individual task undertaken may not be identified.
- Employees are expected to be courteous to colleagues and provide a welcoming environment to visitors and telephone callers.

General:

1. To be aware of, and comply with, Trust and school policies and procedures relating to child protection, health, safety and security, confidentiality and data protection, reporting all concerns to an appropriate person.
2. The above duties are not exhaustive and the post-holder may be required to undertake tasks, roles and responsibilities as may be reasonably assigned to them by the Headteacher and Local Governing Body.

3. This job description will be kept under review and may be amended via consultation with the individual, Headteacher and Local Governing Body as required. Trade Union representatives will be welcome in any such discussions.

Section 6: Person Specification



Minerva Learning Trust Person Specification



Post title: Curriculum Leader of Science

Minimum Essential Requirements	Method of Assessment
QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING	
A good honours degree or equivalent (2:1 or higher)	AF/I
A further qualification, degree, diploma, certificate in relevant subject	AF/I
Qualified Teacher Status	AF/I
Ability to teach Science at Key Stages 3 and 4	AF/I
KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE	
Excellent knowledge and experience of the Key Stage 3 and 4 subject requirements.	AF/I
Good knowledge of the assessment arrangements.	AF/I
Experience of delivering outstanding classroom management in secondary education.	AF/I
A thorough knowledge and understanding of the subject area.	AF/I/A
Knowledge of the requirements of the National Curriculum as applied to the subject area.	AF/I/A
Understanding of and the ability to apply a range of appropriate assessment techniques.	AF/I/A
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	
Evidence of a commitment to Continuous Professional Development	AF/I
Willingness to actively participate in professional learning.	AF/I
Willingness to stay abreast of national developments in education and contribute to developing resources and pedagogy to reflect the changing landscape	AF/I
SKILLS	
Ability to plan and teach engaging, motivating lessons with clear objectives and student learning outcomes matched to departmental schemes of work.	AF/I
Ability to teach to advanced level, although experience of this is not essential.	AF/I
Ability to effectively deploy a range of teaching and learning styles to suit the nature of the course content and the ability and attainments of students.	AF/I
Capacity to manage the learning environment and student behaviour in a manner, which is conducive to productive learning for all students.	AF/I

Ability to assess student achievements against course objectives and provide outstanding feedback, which enables students to maximise their talents and abilities.	AF/I
Ability to keep excellent administrative and student achievement records.	AF/I
Ability to relate well to students, staff and parents in a professional manner.	AF/I
Ability to use ICT as an integral part of teaching and learning programmes.	AF/I
QUALITIES AND ATTRIBUTES	
High expectations of self and others	AF/I
The ability to act on advice and be open to coaching.	AF/I
A commitment to extra-curricular activities.	AF/I
A continued interest in developments in teaching and learning.	AF/I
The ability to motivate others.	AF/I
The ability to establish effective working relationships with individuals, groups and organisations.	AF/I
The ability to remain calm and diffuse situations.	AF/I
The demonstration of a concern for excellence in one's professional work and the achievement of students.	AF/I
A commitment to support the school's aims, vision and ethos.	AF/I
Adaptability and resilience, with the ability to cope with periods of work pressure with good humour and a sense of proportion.	AF/I
Energy and commitment to professional responsibilities and to the betterment of all students.	AF/I
A willingness to contribute to the wider life of the school.	AF/I
EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND SAFEGUARDING	
An understanding of safeguarding issues and promoting the welfare of children and young people.	AF/I
A commitment to safeguarding students.	AF/I
Suitability to work with children.	AF/I
A commitment to equal opportunities.	AF/I
Ability to recognise discrimination and willingness to put Equality Policies into practice.	AF/I

Key: AA = Assessed activity
AF = Application form
I = Interview
R = Reference

Section 7: The Appointment Process

These notes are intended to guide you when making an application.

1. The Application Form

Complete the application form neatly, fully and accurately, including exact dates. The form may be typed or handwritten but if you do write it by hand please make sure that it is legible and that you use black ink. Indicate clearly on the front page the post you are applying for. You are requested to submit a concise application.

2. Education and Training

State your qualifications and any training you have undertaken relevant to the post.

3. Present Appointment

Make it clear what your present post is, which establishment you work in and who your employer is.

4. Previous Appointment

When completing this section, it is important that you offer a continuous record, or an explanation of any gaps to allow full account to be taken of your experience, for example, child raising, voluntary work.

5. Referees

Suitable referees are people who have direct, recent experience of your work and who are in responsible positions. We may need to contact them at short notice so please be specific with regard to contact addresses including e-mail and telephone numbers.

6. The Supporting Statement/Letter of Application

The supporting statement or letter is regarded as a very important part of your application. You should make statements that demonstrate how your qualifications and experience match the post. You should take particular care to demonstrate how you meet the person specification included as part of these details. **Please limit your supporting statement to two sides of A4 in size 11 font.**

7. Arrangements for Interview

Shortlisted applicants will be contacted as soon as possible after the closing date. Referees are contacted prior to the interview stage for teaching and support staff posts. We would ask that all shortlisted applicants read the safeguarding information on the school website prior to attending the interview.

8. The Interview

Candidates will be invited to spend a day visiting the school during which time they will have the opportunity to meet staff and students and see the school at work. Interviews are likely to take place in the afternoon.

9. Feedback

Feedback is offered to those candidates who are shortlisted and not recommended for appointment. It is hoped that this information will help you with future applications.

10. Selection for Appointment

Selection is made conditional upon the successful candidate meeting the Trust's requirements for health, physical capacity and conduct.

11. Arrangements for Applications

When you have completed your application, the completed form and covering letter should be e-mailed to jrevill1@eccoschool.com by the closing date.

Section 8: Visitors to Ecclesfield School

Approaching from the north

By car (via M1)

Visitors should leave the M1 at junction 35 and follow the signs for Rotherham/Chapelton into central Chapelton. At the mini-roundabout, take the first exit on the left, keeping the railway bridge to your right. This is Chapelton Road. The school is situated on the right hand side of this road at the top of the hill, about half a mile from the center of Chapelton.

By Train

Chapelton station is served by regular services from Barnsley, Leeds and Kirklees. Upon leaving the station, head for the mini-roundabout and turn right, heading up Chapelton Road. The school is situated on the right hand side of this road at the top of the hill, about half a mile from the center of Chapelton.

Approaching from Sheffield

By Car

Take the A61 through Hillsborough and continue towards approximately 1 mile until reaching the right-hand filter from the dual carriageway, sign posted Ecclesfield. Follow this road, crossing a mini-roundabout, through the housing estate for approximately two miles, until reaching a T-junction. Turn right. Ecclesfield Parish Church will be on your left hand side. Continue for approximately 600 meters until reaching the T-junction with Chapelton Road. Turn left. The school is situated on the left hand side of this road at the top of the hill, about 400 meters travel.

By Train

Chapelton station is served by regular services from Sheffield central station. Upon leaving the station, head for the mini-roundabout and turn right, heading up Chapelton Road. The school is situated on the right hand side of this road at the top of the hill, about half a mile from the center of Chapelton.