

WORKING AT HILLVIEW SCHOOL

# JOIN OUR TEAM

For Appointment of:  
*Head of Physics*



# WELCOME

Based in Tonbridge, Kent, Hillview School for Girls is an 11 to 18 girls' all-ability school with a thriving, mixed Sixth Form. We chose to become an academy in August 2011 and are one of the highest-achieving non-selective girls' School in Kent. Our dynamic Performing and Visual Arts specialisms have a profound impact upon learning and contribute to the purposeful, friendly and stimulating atmosphere that permeates the school. We foster self-esteem and high aspirations.

By encouraging a 'can-do' culture, our students become astute, ambitious and independent. Visitors often comment about how articulate and enthusiastic our students are. We believe in the pure potential of every child within the school, to develop, mature and thrive, leaving education fully ready for the world of employment. We place a high emphasis on education beyond grades, actively exploring a wide range of opportunities to develop the awareness and engagement of our students in the world around them.

Hillview is a fully inclusive school where independence is developed through an innovative education and inspirational opportunities.

Our vision is that: students unlock their pure potential to drive their future and thrive in society.

The pure potential belief is integral to everything that we do in school and the outcomes we expect for our students. The skills and beliefs at the heart of the pure potential graphic pull together the Performing Arts values, the desirable attributes of a future employee and awareness of the world. Hillview believes in success and achievement beyond grades and highly values the breadth of character and experience that enables our alumni to stand out from the crowd and secure a successful role in the ever-changing modern world. Through our inclusive Hillview society, we actively develop and promote the independent learner and thinker, encouraging students to try, make mistakes and learn for themselves.

We help students develop a range of transferable skills from teamwork, leadership and independence through to communication, self-expression and time management. Our strong pastoral system ensures that behaviour is excellent and there is a relaxed but purposeful atmosphere throughout the school here young people can thrive and feel supported.

We have a vibrant, mixed Sixth Form that provides a variety of pathways for students to extend their learning, gain work experience with one of our many industry partners and prepare for university or work.

We were selected by Tatler Magazine as 'One of The Best State Secondary Schools In 2017'.

Further details of the school, including breakdown of performance figures, can be accessed through: [www.hillview.kent.sch.uk](http://www.hillview.kent.sch.uk)

Applicants are warmly invited to visit the school before applying.



**THE 2ND  
HIGHEST  
PERFORMING  
NON-  
GRAMMAR  
SCHOOL IN  
KENT**

# JOB DESCRIPTION

**Job Title: Head of Physics**

**Location: Tonbridge, Kent**

**Duration: Full Time**

**Reporting to: MPS/UPS + TLR 2b**

**Line Manager:** Director of Science

## **Key Purpose**

To ensure KS3 and KS4 students' Physics skills are enhanced through regular tracking and appropriate intervention.

## **General duties and responsibilities**

To carry out the duties of a schoolteacher as set out in the *School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document*

- To continue to meet the required standards for Qualified Teacher Status
- To be fully involved in the department including the leading of extra-curricular clubs and activities

## **Responsibility:**

- To raise standards in Physics

## **Planning, teaching and class management**

- Provide clear structure for lessons and for sequences of lessons, which maintain pace, motivation and challenge
- Prepare sequences of lessons that ensure students are able to meet requirements for coursework within the set timescales
- Make effective use of assessment information on pupils' attainment and progress and in planning future lessons
- Ensure effective teaching of whole classes, groups and individuals, establishing high expectations of behaviour and attainment, so that teaching objectives are met
- Monitor and intervene when teaching to ensure sound learning and discipline and maintain a safe environment in which pupils feel confident
- Use a variety of teaching and learning styles to keep all pupils engaged
- Be familiar with the Code of Practice and identification, assessment and support of pupils with additional educational needs
- Evaluate your own teaching critically to improve effectiveness
- Be a safe practitioner

## **Accountabilities**

- Monitor and evaluate students' attainment in Physics, ensuring the Curriculum Leader for Science is aware of any issues and the implications for expected levels of progress
- Assist the Curriculum Leader and Curriculum Deputy for Science, to implement strategies across the department, to ensure all students make expected progress or better and tackle underachievement in Physics by the end of the year/ Key Stages
- Interpret comparative data regarding students' performance in Physics at end of Key Stages
- Monitor and evaluate the quality of Physics teaching across the Key Stages and arrange to observe and support colleagues in this respect. Provide coaching, model and share good practice to improve performance

- Monitor and be responsible for the objectives identified within the Department Improvement Plan relating to students' achievement in Physics
- Liaise with the SENCO and appropriate Learning Support Assistants in order to develop strategies for differentiation and improving students' understanding of Physics including RWCM
- Lead on the creation, consistent implementation and improvement of schemes of learning, which meet department requirements, and are accessible to and provide suitable challenges for all students studying Physics
- Develop, share and implement innovative strategies to further engage students with their learning in Physics at Key Stage 3 and 4
- Keep up-to-date with subject developments and innovations that lead to improvement in student performance

### **Leading and Managing Staff**

- Contribute to recruiting and selecting teaching staff to ensure high quality learning takes place
- Develop individuals to enhance performance
- Plan, delegate and evaluate work carried out by individuals so that high standards are maintained in both curricular and extra-curricular Computer Science
- Create, maintain and enhance effective relationships so that the potential of those in the team is realised
- Challenge practice that is found to be less than good in order to maintain high standards

### **Person Specification**

The following selection criteria are the skills and experience required for this position.

- Knowledge and understanding of the demands of the Science syllabuses
- The ability to work towards and achieve high standards in teaching across all Key Stages
- An ability to differentiate effectively and to use a variety of teaching and learning styles
- A commitment to developing teaching and learning styles in Science and especially Physics
- Confidence to be pro-active and a good role model
- A strategist, who can provide clear vision and high expectations
- A positive record of building strong working relationships, with a strong emotional intelligence
- The ability to think logically, analyse situations and recognise cause and effect
- The ability and experience of setting and meeting challenging targets for students, self, department and school
- Commitment to developing additional opportunities for learning: external links; extra- curricular clubs
- Experience of developing the long-term capabilities and potential of others
- Confidence and belief in own ability to be effective and to take on challenges
- The aptitude and energy to set clear expectations and parameters and to hold others to account for their performance
- The ability to lead and motivate others to achieve shared goals
- Commitment to continuous professional development
- To work with middle and senior leaders to ensure whole school improvement
- A positive outlook with a good sense of humour
- Experience of community engagement
- Leadership experience
- Experience of organising and conducting effective meetings
- Competence in the use of ICT packages

# THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

The Science Department at Hillview School for Girls has operated as part of an Academy since 2011. The department has Science labs and teaching classrooms situated in two buildings and consists of 8 laboratories, 3 teaching classrooms, 1 preparation rooms, stores and science staff offices. All laboratories are fully equipped with practical apparatus and dedicated ICT facilities with projectors.

## **Staffing**

The Department's staff includes the equivalent of 9 full-time teachers, all graduate specialists. They are supported by two full-time technicians. The current management structure comprises of a Head of Department/Head of Science, a Head of Physics/STEM and a Second in Science.

The Department is involved in initial teacher training where staff from the Department deliver some of the theoretical aspects of the training as well as the day-to-day practical mentoring of the trainees.

## **Courses**

Hillview School for Girls has a 2 week timetable that consists of 25 periods per week and each period is 1 hour in duration. In Key Stage 3, Year 7 and Year 8 classes have 6 periods of science and we follow the AQA 'Big Ideas' framework. The Key Stage 3 course is delivered over 2 years and it provides a solid foundation for GCSE sciences. There is a heavy emphasis on practical work and discovery as well as developing investigative skills. As part of Hillview's Accelerated Curriculum, Key Stage 4 students start their study in AQA Science, AQA Chemistry and AQA Physics courses in Year 9. All students follow the AQA Separate Sciences course. In Year 9 all pupils study all 3 Sciences and have the option of either taking all 3 or dropping one of the Sciences completely for their further study into Year's 10 and 11. In Year 9, 10 and 11 students have 8 periods per fortnight; split between the three or two Sciences over the three year course.

Sciences are an increasingly popular choice in the Sixth Form. We are looking to keep developing this interest with our KS4 students. We currently offer GCE Science, GCE Chemistry and BTEC Applied Science. Year 12 and 13 GCE students have 10 hours of study per fortnight with an additional fortnightly assessment hour which is supervised directed study time, while BTEC students have 1 hour less.

## **Extracurricular activities**

Each KS has its own homework club/drop-in sessions available to pupils to consolidate or receive help across all subjects. The Department is looking to expand the enrichment opportunities offered across the department. Key Stage 3 students can currently attend a very popular Science Club and have enrichment trips to Herstmonceux and Wakehurst. We run an Eco-School club where we are working towards the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award, and STEM opportunities are offered across the school. KS5 Students also have a number of visits during the year from University guest speakers and attend public lectures that focus on new advances in scientific research.

## **The Post**

We are seeking to appoint a committed member of staff with a passion for science, who is capable and enthusiastic about teaching across Key Stage 3 and 4 and who is able to lead Physics.

The school is committed to staff development and provides excellent opportunities for career development.

A key attribute of the successful candidate will be the skill to further develop the talents of highly committed and enthusiastic science teaching and support teams.



# THE APPLICATION PROCESS

A completed application form should be sent, by post or by email, to Mrs. A. Dennett (HR Manager)

[dennetta@hillview.kent.sch.uk](mailto:dennetta@hillview.kent.sch.uk)

Closing date for applications: Friday 23 February 2024

Interview date: To be confirmed.



Pure Potential

- Curiosity
- Unity Creativity
- Empathy Respect
- Self-belief Aspiration
- Courage Communication
- Commitment Resilience
- Excellence Employability
- Reflection Responsibility

INSPIRATION  
INNOVATION  
INDEPENDENCE  
INCLUSIVITY





# CONTACT US

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