

JOB Description

POST: Head of Physics

Job Overview

A Head of Department at St Thomas More Catholic Academy plays an active role within middle leadership, providing professional leadership for Physics across all key stages as well as a broad enrichment offer to inspire students.

A key role of the Head of Physics is to ensure high quality teaching and effective use of resources to raise standards of student achievement and to support student progress.

Core Duties

- To support the strategic direction and development of the department.
- To ensure the objectives of the department's improvement plan are supported.
- To lead on Physics curriculum development, high quality teaching and learning and enrichment opportunities.
- To assist in embedding accurate assessment and purposeful interventions for students and staff linked to monitoring performance.
- To support the effective systems of communication, including feedback about student's learning and progress to inform department's future planning and intervention.
- To support the effective behavioural management of students.
- To take a lead responsibility in the co-ordination of appropriate intervention for students within KS3 and KS4.

Responsible to: Head of Science
Responsibility for: KS3 and KS4 Physics

Support the aims & ethos of the school

- To lead by example in all areas of the Physics curriculum
- To ensure there is a positive learning culture within the department
- To support and promote whole school policies and procedures
- To track student progress
- To monitor behaviour and plan / support intervention
- To lead departmental meetings
- To ensure that risk assessments and Health and Safety regulations are observed
- To coordinate an inspiring enrichment curriculum in Physics
- To promote and drive rewards within the department in order to raise aspirations

1. Catholic Ethos

To actively promote, and act as a role model of, the Catholic ethos of the school, in accordance with the school mission statement.

2. Professional Attributes

Ensure the education of students is of paramount importance. Maintain a positive commitment to the education process. Forge positive professional relationships with colleagues and parents.

3. Leadership

- To promote teamwork and motivate all staff in order to ensure effective working relationships
- To provide opportunities for sharing good practice and CPD for all staff
- To promote the Catholic Ethos throughout the department
- To enforce the high expectations of students through high quality teaching
- Monitoring and tracking of departmental data / intervention
- To lead on an exciting and engaging extra-curricular offer and to drive attendance

4. Quality Assurance

- To participate and contribute to the performance management process
- To ensure that high standards of achievement, behaviour and work are encouraged and maintained
- To monitor and analyse achievement in Physics
- Complete MER documents as per academy calendar

5. Curriculum

Key Stage 3 Physics

- To plan an engaging and challenging curriculum for all
- To review / amend the curriculum
- To plan appropriate intervention for students within the department whose achievement is a concern
- To reward positive behaviour and contribution to the school
- To analyse and respond to the data in order to address any areas of need
- To lead on an exciting and engaging extra-curricular offer and to drive attendance

KS4 Physics

- To introduce and plan an engaging and challenging curriculum for all
- To review / amend the curriculum where appropriate
- To plan appropriate intervention for students within the department whose achievement is a concern
- To analyse and respond to the data in order to address any areas of need
- To provide KS4 Examination resources and resource packs
- To lead on an exciting and engaging extra-curricular offer and to drive attendance



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Teaching

- 1 Set high expectations which inspire, motivate and challenge students.
 - 1.1. Establish a safe and stimulating environment for pupils, rooted in mutual respect
 - 1.2. Set goals that stretch and challenge pupils of all backgrounds, abilities and dispositions
 - 1.3. Demonstrate consistently the positive attitudes, values and behaviour which are expected of pupils
- 2 Promote good progress and outcomes for students in line with college targets, by making full use of data and setting appropriate targets and monitoring progress through effective record keeping.
 - 2.1. Be accountable for pupils' attainment, progress and outcomes
 - 2.2. Plan teaching to build on pupils' capabilities and prior knowledge
 - 2.3. Guide pupils to reflect on the progress they have made and their emerging needs
 - 2.4. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how pupils learn and how this impacts on teaching
 - 2.5. Encourage pupils to take responsibility and have a conscientious attitude to their own work and study
- 3 Demonstrate good subject knowledge.
 - 3.1. Have a secure knowledge of the relevant subject(s) and curriculum areas and foster and maintain pupils' interest in the subject
 - 3.2. Demonstrate an understanding of developments in the subject
 - 3.3. Take responsibility for promoting high standards of literacy, articulacy and the correct use of standard English, whatever the teacher's specialist subject
- 4 Plan and teach well-structured lessons in accordance with the school learning policy.
 - 4.1. Impart knowledge and develop understanding through effective use of lesson time
 - 4.2. Promote a love of learning and students' intellectual curiosity
 - 4.3. Set homework and plan other out-of-class activities to consolidate and extend the knowledge and understanding that students have acquired
 - 4.4. Reflect systematically on the effectiveness of lessons and approaches to teaching
 - 4.5. Contribute to the design and provision of an engaging curriculum within the relevant subject area(s)
- 5 Adapt teaching to respond to the strengths and needs of all students. Ensure the effective and efficient deployment of classroom support where appropriate.
 - 5.1. Know when and how to differentiate appropriately, using approaches which enable pupils to be taught effectively
 - 5.2. Have a secure understanding of how a range of factors can inhibit pupils' ability to learn, and how best to overcome these
 - 5.3. Demonstrate an awareness of the physical, social and intellectual development of children, and know how to adapt teaching to support pupils' education at different stages of development



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- 5.4. Have a clear understanding of the needs of all pupils, including those with special educational needs; those of high ability; those with English as an additional language, those with disabilities; and be able to use and evaluate distinctive teaching approaches to engage and support them
- 6 Make accurate and productive use of assessment, in line with the school and department assessment policy.
 - 6.1. Know and understand how to assess the relevant subject and curriculum areas, including statutory assessment requirements
 - 6.2. Make use of formative and summative assessment to secure pupils' progress
 - 6.3. Use relevant data to monitor progress, set targets, and plan subsequent lessons
 - 6.4. Give pupils regular feedback, both orally and through accurate marking, and encourage pupils to respond to the feedback
- 7 Manage behaviour effectively to ensure a good and safe learning environment in line with the school behaviour policy.
 - 7.1. Have clear rules and routines for behaviour in classrooms, and take responsibility for promoting good and courteous behaviour both in classrooms and around the school, in accordance with the school's behaviour policy
 - 7.2. Have high expectations of behaviour, and establish a framework for discipline with a range of strategies, using praise, sanctions and rewards consistently and fairly
 - 7.3. Manage classes effectively, using approaches which are appropriate to pupils' needs in order to involve and motivate them
 - 7.4. Maintain good relationships with pupils, exercise appropriate authority, and act decisively when necessary
- 8 Fulfil wider professional responsibilities including active and effective performance management. Engage in self-evaluation strategies to support a continuous strive for improvement, including coaching, work scrutiny and observation etc.
 - 8.1. Make a positive contribution to the wider life and ethos of the school
 - 8.2. Develop effective professional relationships with colleagues, knowing how and when to draw on advice and specialist support
 - 8.3. Deploy support staff effectively
 - 8.4. Take responsibility for improving teaching through appropriate professional development, responding to advice and feedback from colleagues
 - 8.5. Communicate effectively with parents with regard to pupils' achievement and well-being

Tutor

Support the general achievement and wellbeing of students within curriculum areas and as a form tutor carry out related duties in accordance with the general job description of form tutors.



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School Structure

Work as a member of a designated team and contribute positively to effective working relations within the school. Participate in appropriate meetings with colleagues and parents related to the responsibilities of a teacher. Represent the department on any working parties and attend appropriate meetings.

Communication

Liaise with parents as appropriate.

Duties

Carry out a share of supervisory duties in accordance with published schedules.

Health and Safety

Be familiar with any health and safety regulations so as to ensure a safe environment.

Personal and Professional conduct (see Code of Conduct)

Uphold high standards of ethics and behaviour within and outside college. Maintain high standards in punctuality and attendance and work within statutory frameworks in line with school policy and practice.

- ❖ Treat pupils with dignity, building relationships rooted in mutual respect, and at all times observe proper boundaries appropriate to a teacher's professional position
- ❖ Have regard for the need to safeguard pupils' wellbeing, in accordance with statutory provisions
- ❖ Show tolerance of and respect for the rights of others

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



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