PRIESTLANDS SCHOOL

Learn more... Do more... Be more...





Information for Applicants

Science Teacher













Our vision is to offer an education of high quality which ensures our young people become creative, enthusiastic, hard-working learners who control their own success and contribute positively to the communities in which they live.

Learn more... Do more... Be more...



Priestlands is an exciting school in which to work and we are proud of its many achievements. We are committed to being a leading comprehensive school that serves the entire community, provides high quality education across the curriculum and has ambitious plans for its continued success and development. Our headline GCSE results and progress score consistently place us among the top schools in Hampshire and the New Forest and demonstrate that Priestlands is consistently delivering positive outcomes for all groups of students, year on year.

We are proud of our academic record and believe all children are capable of making exceptional progress. We encourage them to embrace challenge, pursue excellence and to be resilient in overcoming obstacles. Above all we want to ignite in our students a love of learning which will serve them well throughout their lives.

However, Priestlands is about far more than exam results as our motto, *Learn more… Do more… Be more…*, implies. Our aim is to develop well rounded young people who have the skills and attributes to be successful in life and make a positive impact in our community.

We are looking for someone with a commitment to education, a capacity for hard work and a passion for continuous improvement. We are also looking for someone who enjoys their work and has a keen sense of humour! If you would like to have an informal chat on the phone about the post, or even visit the school before application, please do contact me.

You can be assured that a warm welcome awaits whoever is appointed. Priestlands is a mutually supportive and friendly staff community, dedicated to the continued professional development of all staff.

I very much hope that having read the enclosed details, you will wish to apply for the post and become part of the Priestlands team. If so, please complete a Priestlands School application form (available on our website) and send it to me as soon as possible. We are happy to receive applications sent via email to hr@priestlands.hants.sch.uk and will consider applications as they are received. The deadline for receipt of applications is 12.00noon on Monday 30th January, but we reserve the right to close the vacancy early so encourage you to submit your application as early as possible.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact us. I look forward to hearing from you.

Peter Main

Headteacher





The Vacancy

Science Teacher (MPR/UPR)

Required April or September 2023



We are seeking to appoint a suitably qualified, dynamic and imaginative teacher of Science to join an excellent department that is well-equipped and thriving. We are recognised for our excellent induction programme and support, therefore newly qualified and early career teachers are particularly encouraged to submit an application. Applicants should already hold or be on track to achieve QTS in the UK.







This post offers an excellent experience for the successful candidate, who is likely to be someone who:

- is an excellent classroom practitioner, with a track record of securing good student progress at both key stages
- is a good communicator
- is able to enthuse others
- has high expectations of students and colleagues, and will raise standards
- has a coherent vision of Science in the curriculum and their special contribution to the whole curriculum
- has an understanding of quality in Learning and Teaching
- is seeking further promotion and career enhancement
- is confident, resilient, resourceful and has a sense of humour.

The Science Department

The Science Department is exceptionally well led and comprises a supportive, collegiate team which strives to ensure all students achieve their personal best. Over the last few years the department has produced excellent GCSE results and the school's current focus is to find the marginal gains required to ensure that all students achieve their very best. Educational research and, in particular, cognitive science, are not only embraced but form a clear departmental vision for further improving the standards in Science.

The Department is situated in the main building of the school and boasts excellent facilities. There are ten laboratories and a prep room, built around an attractive central courtyard. Each laboratory is well stocked with equipment, including ceiling-mounted data projectors and visualisers. The department also benefits from its own ICT suite.

The Department currently comprises ten teachers. There are two technicians who offer a high quality service to the Department.

The School is committed to broad balanced Science. Most study double-award Combined Science, leading to two GCSEs. Approximately 60 students in Years 10 & 11 study Separate Science courses.

The Department is committed to its own professional development, with teachers sharing a vision for teaching and learning in Science. Developing students' ability to 'explain' remains the priority for teachers, and the department has developed a clear vision for teaching and learning based on recent developments in cognitive science.

This post offers an exciting opportunity for an enthusiastic, dedicated and ambitious teacher to continue their development as a Science teacher as part of a supportive, successful and innovative team.

The Department is supported fully by the Senior Leadership Team and a Line Manager.







The School



Priestlands School, an 11-16 mixed comprehensive school, became an academy in August 2011. Serving the South of the New Forest, our catchment area covers an area of outstanding beauty, stretching from Beaulieu in the East, to Brockenhurst in the North, and Milford-on-Sea at its most westerly point. To the South lies the Solent, a very popular sailing area in the country.

We serve eleven primary and junior schools, although our intake includes children from other schools, including a number of private schools. Our intake pattern is eight forms of entry.

Our Facilities

Priestlands is situated on a large and pleasant campus, which we share with Pennington Infant and Junior Schools. The School is surrounded by some 25 acres of playing fields.



There are ten Science laboratories, Design and Technology workshops, ICT facilities throughout the school, as well as general classrooms. We also have a Learning Support Centre known as The Hub.

Our buildings include a Grade II listed building, which houses Art and Child Development. We re-commissioned our formerly derelict Grade II listed Coach House building and reclaimed the original Victorian Walled Garden where we keep animals, as well as growing fruit, vegetables and flowers.



We have access to an excellent indoor swimming pool which is part of the Lymington Health & Leisure Centre, currently run by Freedom Leisure. The school owns a gymnasium, synthetic turf pitch, sports hall and floodlit tennis courts, enabling us to offer a very wide range of sporting activities, and we are proud of our sporting record.

We have a modern contemporary study centre housing our Library, and which KS4 students can use after school to study independently to complete homework, research and revision.

There are ICT clusters in many subject areas, including Art, Careers, Design Technology, Maths, Music, Science, the Study Centre and The Hub. Interactive Whiteboards are installed in all History, Maths and Modern Languages classrooms. Ceiling-mounted data projectors can be found in all other subject areas.







The Curriculum



At KS3, students follow a common timetable, which includes English, Mathematics, the Sciences, ICT, History, Geography, Religious Education, a Modern Language (French, German and Spanish are offered), Technology, Performing and Visual Arts (Art, Drama and Music), Physical Education, and a tutorial PSHCE period.

We operate a condensed KS3 curriculum, so that all students complete their KS3 assessments at the end of Year 8, not Year 9. This has allowed the development of a more personalised and enhanced KS4.

At KS4, all students currently follow an extended core comprising: English Language and Literature, Mathematics, Science, Citizenship (Ethics and Philosophy, careers, enterprise and health), PE and tutorial work. Within Science, most students follow the Combined Science course with some taking Separate Sciences.



With the introduction of the English Baccalaureate, we refined our KS4 curriculum pathways, so that students intending to attend university are strongly encouraged to choose a Modern Language and Humanities subject.

Option subjects currently available include: Art (3D and Fine Art), Applied Business, Child Development, Computer Science, Design Technology, Drama, French, Food & Nutrition, Geography, German, History, Horticulture and Small Animal Care (non-exam course), ICT, Media Studies, Music, Photography, Physical Education (GCSE and OCR Sports Studies), Religious Studies, Spanish, and a non-examination Study Support course.

Students are taught mostly in mixed ability groups in Year 7, and may be 'set' thereafter, although subject areas use the opportunities offered by block timetabling to group children flexibly. Our intention is to develop more individualised styles of teaching and learning, and we offer increasing opportunities for students to develop independence and a sense of ownership of their learning. Special Needs provision is overseen by our Special Needs Co-ordinator. It is our policy that all teachers are teachers of children with special needs. For the most part, children are supported in mainstream lessons, withdrawal being rare

Pastoral Organisation

It is our intention that our curricular and pastoral work should be integrated. At present, almost all teachers are tutors, and all students have a tutorial lesson each week. The school is year-based, each year having a team of tutors and a Head of Year. Year groups also have an Assistant Head of Year (a staff development opportunity – unpaid but with a laptop!). Each year group has an assigned Pastoral Support Manager, an experienced member of the support staff who fields most phone calls, investigates incidents and supports and mentors students.



Heads of Years have responsibility for monitoring learning across their Year Groups. Year Teams rotate from Years 7 to 11, to maximise continuity.

In addition, a House System operates to provide opportunities for competition and to cement relationships across year groups.



All students wear the school uniform, which is modern, comfortable, affordable and practical. Our Behaviour Management Policy defines expectations clearly, provides opportunities to reward and recognise students who model Priestlands Values, provides a structure which can be fairly and consistently applied throughout the school. The Priestlands Values of the 3Rs, being Ready, Respectful and Responsible, are displayed throughout the school.

School Leadership



There is a regular pattern of meetings, which aims to provide ample opportunities for staff to participate in the decision-making process. We enjoy a close working partnership with our Governors, who are well integrated in the School's management structure.

We have approximately 160 members of staff, more or less equally divided between teaching and support, who are characterised generally by their enthusiasm, and commitment to Priestlands and its students. We are committed to the professional development of all staff, and aim to develop continually as a professional learning community.

Ofsted

Priestlands has had six successful Ofsted reports. At the last inspection (November 2016), under the new tougher framework, we were judged Good. The report said several things of which we are very proud, especially :

- "Pupils are friendly, polite and respectful of each other. They behave very well, they are knowledgeable about the risks of social media and confident about who to talk to if they have any concerns. They are proud of their school and the difference they make to school life."
- "Parents describe the school as 'amazing, with a real family atmosphere'."
- "Parents and pupils are very positive about the care and support that they receive, especially those who need additional help."
- "Pupils and parents are very enthusiastic about the many opportunities the school provides for learning outside the classroom."
- "Staff are hugely positive about the school and enjoy working there because they are well supported and are part of a highly motivated team."
- "Staff value the way that leaders have created a climate in which they can take risks and innovate."



Priestlands GCSE Results 2022



At Priestlands we pride ourselves on consistently delivering excellent outcomes at GCSE Level, year on year. We are proud of our academic record and believe all children are capable of making exceptional progress. We encourage them to embrace challenge, pursue excellence and to be resilient in overcoming obstacles. Above all we want to ignite in our students a love of learning which will serve them well throughout their lives.

The government baseline measure of Progress 8 demonstrates that students at Priestlands consistently achieve higher grades than their peers nationally. You can view more at: https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/compare-schools. The overall performance from the Class of 2022, who faced so many challenges over the last three years, was exceptional and included many individual successes. Priestlands' students did extremely well in the core subjects of English, Maths and Science sustaining high performance, whilst there were also record results in many other subjects with a significant number of the top grades 9-7 awarded.

	Achieving 5+ 9-4 (including English & Maths)	Achieving 9-7 in English & Maths	Achieving 9-5 in English & Maths	Achieving 9-4 in English & Maths	Achieving EBacc 9-5	Achieving EBacc 9-4
All students						
School 2022	77%	25%	64%	81%	23%	24%
School 2020	76%	19%	59%	79%	20%	22%
School 2019	75%	17%	55%	78%	18%	25%

2021 saw a very strong cohort leave with outstanding GCSE grades but, because of the unique set of circumstances (covid related) at the time, we decided, alongside other local schools, not to publish headline figures.

The Future



We want to continue to improve the quality of all that we do, especially the quality of the learning experiences we offer our students.

By becoming reflective practitioners, constantly reviewing and evaluating what we teach and how, we believe we can continue to develop as a school. We hope to provide good career development and opportunities for our staff.



The next few years will continue to be both challenging and interesting. We look forward to receiving your application.

Application Procedure



Please complete the application form on our website at https://www.priestlands.hants.sch.uk/vacancies/teaching-staff .

Please do not submit additional documentation at this stage

In the personal statement section of the application form (which may be presented as an attached letter if you so wish), I would ask you specifically to describe on no more than two sides of A4:

- your experience to date;
- your reasons for applying for the post and your suitability for it;
- your view of the challenges and opportunities which would await you in your first year in post.

Applications should be sent to the Headteacher as soon as possible. They will be considered as they are received and we reserve the right to close the vacancy early.

The deadline for receipt of applications is 12.00noon, Monday 30 January 2023.
Interviews will be held shortly afterwards.



Priestlands School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment. This post is covered by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exemptions) Order 1975 and you will be required to declare whether you have any criminal convictions. Priestlands School is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.

