



**BEACON
ACADEMY**

AMBITIOUS FOR EXCELLENCE

SCIENCE TECHNICIAN

Information for applicants
June 2024



MARK
Education
Trust

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Welcome to MARK Education Trust

After operating as a Single Academy Trust for several years, we were delighted to become a fully functioning Multi Academy Trust when Uplands Academy joined our first school, Beacon Academy, on September 1st 2022.

Our trust's motto is 'ambitious for excellence' and this applies to all aspects of its work, including governance. From September 1st 2022, our trust moved from being a multi academy trust operating as a single academy trust, to a fully functioning multi academy trust containing our two East Sussex based secondary schools, Beacon Academy in Crowborough and Uplands Academy in Wadhurst.

Our trust's mission statement is:

MARK Education Trust provides the best possible education for our students, preparing them for life, so they can stand equally alongside their peers, locally, nationally and globally.

The guiding values of MARK Education Trust are:

M – Motivated: to create exceptional, caring and safe educational establishments

A – Ambitious: high expectations of staff and students

R – Resourceful: ensuring efficiency and value for money

K – Knowledgeable: valuing learning for life

Our vision

MARK Education Trust will create:

- Schools with their own strong identity underpinned by shared values
- Schools with expertly taught broad and balanced curriculums which give students the knowledge they need to further their education and thrive in adult life
- Schools which through collaboration constantly improve so that they are recognised for their outcomes at a local, regional and national level
- Schools which are the school of choice for their community and the employer of choice for the best professionals
- Safe and happy environments which enable students and staff to thrive and succeed
- Governance, leadership and management which is robust at all levels, ensuring that the trust is fully accountable to its stakeholders
- A strategy of 'growth with care', ensuring that the trust is able to meet the needs of and invest in its own academies as well as the capacity to support further academies

Letter from our Executive Headteacher



Post of Science Technician

We are seeking applications from dedicated and hardworking professionals with a desire to work in a successful, thriving and supportive 11-18 Academy making a positive contribution to our Science department as a Science Technician. Previous experience is desirable but not essential as full training will be given for the right candidate. The successful candidate will have excellent interpersonal and organisational skills and a genuine desire to help contribute positively to the life of our young people. This role is a superb opportunity for anyone wishing to gain experience in a school environment, possibly as part of their career development.

Context

We are a split site, semi-rural, mixed 11-18 non-selective converter academy with approximately 1630 students, including over 250 students in our Sixth Form. We are situated centrally in Crowborough on the outskirts of the Ashdown Forest, an area of outstanding natural beauty. We are close to Tunbridge Wells and the South Coast. The vast majority of our staff travel to Beacon from a variety of destinations within the South East, including Brighton, Eastbourne, Lewes and Tunbridge Wells.

Our catchment area generates our truly non-selective intake, both in terms of ability and socio-economic background. We are an oversubscribed school. We draw students from more than 10 primary schools in Crowborough and the surrounding areas. We also attract applications from an increasing number of students outside of our catchment area, however, due to our oversubscription we are generally only able to offer places to those within our pre-defined community area.

Our sixth form provision is accommodated entirely at our Green Lane site, an 800m five minute walk from our main Beeches site which accommodates years 7-11. We are immensely proud that we retain a high proportion of our Sixth Form students from Beacon Academy as well as recruiting students from other local and international schools.

Vision, culture, expectations and outcomes

Our vision is to provide the best possible education for all of our students and to be ambitious for excellence in all we do. Whether a member of staff, trustee (governor) or student, we all work relentlessly to inspire and believe in one another to achieve our ambitions and succeed in life.

At Beacon Academy there is an expectation that as staff and students, we will work hard, be ambitious, self-motivated, inquisitive, resilient and determined to succeed. Our students work incredibly hard, are polite, respectful, well behaved, well presented and ready to learn. They are expected to be caring, considerate and tolerant in lessons, social time and whilst travelling to and from school. These areas are reinforced and adopted positively by staff and students alike – there is a tangible sense of pride in being part of Beacon. Our students are meticulously supported by our experienced, loyal, highly skilled and highly effective team of staff. This includes a dedicated, non-teaching Student Support Team consisting of a Head of Year (teaching staff) and an Assistant Head of Year (non-teaching staff) for each year group who support them throughout their time at Beacon Academy.

The rigorous focus on all of our students as unique individuals is paramount. There is an unprecedented determination and commitment from everyone who works at Beacon that they will succeed. We work diligently on our unapologetically high expectations and standards, allowing us to foster exceptional relationships in an environment that is consistently calm, safe, happy and orderly. I have no doubt that the combination of this with our broad, balanced curriculum and outstanding teaching contributes significantly to our sustained improvements across the board. Our latest A-Level and GCSE results are testament to this and to the teamwork of our phenomenal students and staff.

Exam Success

We consistently achieve well above average outcomes for our students. Progress 8 is the Government's main performance measure and reflects the value that schools add to the progress of their students in respect of their final GCSE grades, compared to that of their peers of similar prior ability across the country. In 2023 our Progress 8 score was 0.43. As ever, this is a reflection of our vision and our determination to consistently provide the best possible education for all of our students, and to become an exceptional school for our community, both locally and nationally.

We are incredibly proud of our Sixth Form students. In 2023, 90% of students who applied to University were successful in meeting the requirements for an offer, with 33% of those students leaving to attend a prestigious Russell Group University.

To apply

Once again, thank you for your interest in the post of Science Technician. Further details are provided in this pack on how to apply for this role. Completed application forms should be e-mailed to the HR Department at hr@beacon-academy.org

If you wish to have an opportunity to discuss this post informally, please contact our HR department on 01892 603000, or email hr@beacon-academy.org.

Beacon Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Please come and visit us at any time and see for yourself. To arrange a visit please contact the HR Department.



Anna Robinson
Executive Headteacher



Beacon Academy Examination Results and Student Destinations 2022-2023

Key Stage 5 - A-Levels only

	2022			2023		
	Beacon	National	E/Sussex	Beacon	National	E/Sussex
Average Grade	B-	B	B-	C+	C+	C+
Average Points	37.6	38.9	36.3	32.78	34.16	32.46
Progress Score	-	-	-	-	-	-
Achieving AAB or higher in at least 2 facilitating subjects	18%	21%	12%	15%	16%	9%
Grade and points for a student's best 3 A Levels	B 40.3	B- 38.25	C+ 34.73	C+ 34.89	C+ 34.68	C 31.27
Students completing their main study programme	-	-	-	-	-	-

Key Stage 5 - Applied General

	2022*			2023		
	Beacon	National	E/Sussex	Beacon	National	E/Sussex
Average Grade	Merit+	Dist-	Dist-	Merit+	Merit+	Merit+
Average Points	29.9	32.0	31.0	27.33	29.52	29.90
Progress Score	-	-	-	-	-	-
Students completing their main study programme	-	-	-	-	-	-

Key Stage 5 - Tech Level

	2022*			2023		
	Beacon	National	E/Sussex	Beacon	National	E/Sussex
Average Grade	Dist+	Dist-	Dist-	Dist	Merit+	Merit+
Average Points	41.6	30.6	30.3	35.39	28.50	27.24
Completion & attainment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Students completing their main study programme	-	-	-	-	-	-

Key Stage 4 - GCSE & Equivalent

	2022			2023		
	Beacon	National	E/Sussex	Beacon	National	E/Sussex
Attainment of the year group on entry to secondary school (KS2 APS)^	103.4	103.5	102.6	105	104	-
9-7	31%	26%	-	26%	23%	-
English & Maths 4+ Standard Pass	82%	69%	66%	77%	65%	63%
English & Maths 5+ Strong Pass	63%	50%	46%	60%	45%	41%
English 4+ Standard pass	90%	70%+	76%	83%	70%+	72%
Maths 4+ Standard pass	84%	65%	70%	85%	65%	69%
English 5+ Strong pass	77%	54%+	62%	70%	54%+	56%
Maths 5+ Strong pass	69%	47%	51%	70%	47%	48%
Entering EBacc	40%	39%	33%	42%	39%	33%
Ebac APS	4.98	4.27	4.06	4.77	4.07	3.81
Attainment 8	55.01	48.8	46.5	51.6	46.4	43.6
Progress 8	+0.63	-0.03	-0.11	+0.43	-0.02	-0.19

Job Description

JOB TITLE	Science Technician
PAY SCALE	Single Status Pay Scale 5
JOB PURPOSE	Under the overall control of the team leader, to co-ordinate the use of practical resources and facilities, and provide assistance and advice in meeting the practical needs of the science curriculum, including liaising with teaching staff, and support staff outside the department.
ACCOUNTABLE TO	Science Technician Team Leader

Main Duties and Responsibilities:

To ensure the maintenance of a healthy and safe working environment through:

- actively contributing to the assessment, monitoring and review of both health & safety procedures and information resources
- keeping up to date with current procedures and practices through continuing professional development
- the provision of technical advice and support on health & safety issues to teaching and trainee technical staff
- the safe treatment and disposal of used materials including hazardous substances and responding to actual or potential hazards
- the healthy and safe storage and accessibility of equipment and materials

To carry out health & safety and risk assessments relating to laboratory work and apply COSHH regulations and assessments.

To assist the team leader/senior technician with the day to day organisation and development of trainee staff to ensure that essential performance standards are achieved.

To contribute to the design, development and maintenance of specialist resources and/or long term projects.

To support the team leader/senior technician in ensuring the availability of suitable materials and equipment, helping to compile orders and liaising or negotiating with suppliers and finance departments. This will include sourcing, costing and suggesting economic alternatives to maintain stock levels. Keeping up-to-date records of stock.

This job description sets out the duties of the post at the time it was drawn up. The post holder may be required from time to time to undertake other duties within the school as may be reasonably expected, without changing the general character of the duties or the level of responsibility entailed. This is a common occurrence and would not justify a reconsideration of the grading of the post.

Job Description

Under the overall guidance of the team leader/senior technician, to ensure that both routine and non-routine checking, cleaning, maintenance, calibration, testing and repairing of equipment are carried out to the required standard.

To assist in practical classes and carry out demonstrations.

To set up and maintain audio visual aids.

To set up computers and data logging equipment.

Safeguarding

Beacon Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We expect all staff to share this commitment and to undergo appropriate checks, including enhanced DBS checks

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Person Specification

ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
<p>Qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GCSE Maths, Science and English 	<p>Qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NVQ 2 or equivalent in a relevant qualification Science degree
<p>Knowledge and experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good understanding of the learning and support needs of young people Good knowledge and understanding of working practices in an Academy / school or similar environment 	<p>Knowledge and experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of working in an educational setting Experience of working in a laboratory environment Working knowledge of ICT and its application in a Academy / school setting Experience of working in a school setting in the science department Good working knowledge of health and safety and COSHH relating to science Experience of working closely with students, parents/carers and teaching and support staff in a learning environment.
<p>Philosophy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working collaboratively with other team members Equality of opportunity The responsibility of contributing to whole team effort 	<p>Philosophy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An understanding of Academy status An understanding of Science as part of the whole curriculum.

Person Specification

ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
<p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excellent numeracy/literacy skills.• Excellent keyboard and data entry skills.• Effective communication skills to be able to develop open and constructive relationships with a wide range of young people and staff• Ability to prioritise effectively• Ability to relate well to people on all levels• Work constructively as part of a team, understanding school roles and responsibilities and your own position within these• Ability to identify own and others' training & development needs and co-operate with appropriate individuals to address these• Ability to relate well to children and adults• Ability to interpret advice/statute and to devise policy/practice in the light of these• Good organisation and personal management skills• Ability to use language and other communication skills that students can understand and relate to.	



Staff Testimonials

Beacon Academy is an amazing place to work because of the friendly and helpful staff, there is a strong culture of collaboration and support that allows everyone to develop their practice. The strong focus upon CPD provides everyone the opportunity to learn the latest cutting-edge developments in education and this is a major benefit for anyone wishing to further develop their practice. Our facilities and new technology allow us to provide engaging lessons to provide our learners with the perfect learning environment.

I would recommend Beacon Academy to anyone wanting to teach in a school that favours aspirational ethics and outstanding practice, because there are so many opportunities for ambitious staff who are keen to collaborate, develop and share best practice in order to progress in their career.

Senior Deputy Headteacher

I have thoroughly enjoyed coming to work at Beacon Academy. The commitment and dedication from the staff to ensure students are achieving, and going above in and out of lessons is amazing to see. As an NQT I received so much support from other members of staff and feel like I can ask anyone for help. The commitment and extra time given to the students is what makes Beacon such a good school to work in.

Teacher of Mathematics

Applications

Please note that applications will be considered as they are received and you are therefore advised to submit your application as early as possible, as some interviews may take place, and an appointment may be made, before the closing date is reached for this position.

If, like us, you are passionate about providing the best possible education for all students in a school with sustained improvement and a culture of high expectations and ambition, please ensure you:

1. Complete the statutory application form.
2. Provide a letter of application that is no longer than 2 sides of A4. It is recommended that your letter is structured according to the main headings of the person specification. Please include any achievement data that are applicable to the role you are applying for. If possible, this should be across 3 years; otherwise please provide your latest set of results.
3. Provide two references, one of whom must be the Headteacher from your current school or most recent significant employer.

Beacon Academy is committed to providing the best possible care and education to its students and to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. The Academy is also committed to providing a supportive and flexible working environment to all its members of staff.

The Academy recognises that, in order to achieve these aims, it is of fundamental importance to attract, recruit and retain staff of the highest calibre who share this commitment. Please refer to our Recruitment, Selection and Disclosure Policy and Procedures which supports our statutory obligation to comply with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023.

Further information can be found on our website.

Completed applications should be sent to:

Human Resources
Beacon Academy
North Beeches Road
Crowborough
East Sussex TN6 2AS
Telephone: 01892 603000
Email: hr@beacon-academy.org

