



CRESSEX
COMMUNITY
SCHOOL



Coop Schools
Cooperative Schools Network



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE

Second in Department - Science CANDIDATE INFORMATION PACK

SUMMER 2025

‘High Achievement for All is our Shared Responsibility’

Our vision is that all learners should have the chance to succeed, regardless of their background, abilities, or skills. All learners have the right to an outstanding education, to improve their knowledge, skills and ultimately their life chances. At Cressex Community School we are committed to ensuring outstanding provision is made for all our learners, wherever they are learning



CRESSEX COMMUNITY SCHOOL
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Summer 2025

Dear Prospective Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in this important post. We have a successful Science department going from strength to strength. The department is very well-resourced. Students respond well to expert teaching and are enthusiastic about the subject. We are looking for a knowledgeable and passionate Second in Science to join our team, someone who is willing to go the extra mile to inspire our learners and to work with the team on improving our results further still. The position will provide the opportunity to be innovative, working closely with other members of a very successful Faculty.

Facilities in the new building at Cressex are excellent. Each of the six state of the art laboratories and a prep room are all located along the Science wing; the labs all have interactive whiteboards. Classes have access to a number of ICT rooms and the school library, which may be booked for class use. In addition to this, our extensive grounds contain a pond, wooded areas, an “eco-dome” and gardens, all of which can be used for teaching purposes.

We are very pleased to offer visits to potential job applicants. Please contact me if you would like an informal conversation and/or a tour of the school.

Please apply by completing a Buckinghamshire application form. You should also write a personal statement indicating how your experience to date has prepared you for the post, and how you think you could contribute to the school (no more than two sides of A4, please). You can access the application via this link: <http://www.cressex.org/182/join-our-team>

We very much hope you will feel inspired to come and be part of the Cressex team.

With best wishes,

Khaiam Shabbir
Headteacher

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About Us

The School

Cressex Community School is a popular and successful secondary school with approximately 750 students on roll on the western flanks of High Wycombe. In 2010 we moved into an outstanding new building. Classrooms are large, bright, and equipped with the latest technology, including Promethean interactive whiteboards, and have plenty of storage space. Our sporting and other facilities are state-of-the-art, and staff are able to benefit from a free on-site gym.

Our Values

We take great pride in the quality of education we offer, and in our strong team-working among students and staff. Our student body is wonderfully diverse; at the time of the last school census over 30 different first languages were recorded. We have a number of very able students who perform excellently in public examinations. In 2023 and 2024, our students achieved the best results in the school's history in many subjects, with a high proportion of exams passed at the top grades, and an overall Progress 8 score of approx. +0.4. As an all-ability school, we are equally proud of the success of our lower attaining students.

All students achieved at least one GCSE pass; 99% gained five or more passes.

Why Join us?

Our most recent Ofsted inspection recognised us as a 'good' school with a number of outstanding features. The work of our staff:

“ improve the life chances of every pupil. ”

The staff at Cressex are highly skilled and committed to securing high achievement for all. We are a family-friendly school that actively promotes a healthy work-life balance through reduced marking volume (we have three Assessment Points per year instead of six); a four-day teaching period every Friday; two weeks' paid paternity leave, and many other benefits.



The Science Department

The Team

Our Science department goes from strength to strength. Students respond well to expert teaching and are enthusiastic about the subject. There are six fully equipped, state of the art laboratories, each with an interactive whiteboard, extensive display opportunities and plenty of storage space. The department also benefits from the services of two science technicians, allowing a wide range of practical learning opportunities to be offered.

The department is very well resourced to support learning. In Years 7 and 8 we follow the Activate programme of study which exposes students to a variety of experiences and provides a wealth of knowledge and skills. At GCSE we follow the new AQA specifications for combined science and triple science. We have recently moved to a three-year GCSE course, giving students additional time to master the content of the course ahead of the exam.

We encourage co-curricular learning opportunities for our students and Cressex scientists partake in a number of visits throughout the academic year. Our partnership with Johnson & Johnson facilitates a unique project and the opportunity to achieve a silver Crest Award. Our Science club is run in collaboration with local STEM ambassadors.

Our Results

In the most recent round of full GCSEs (2024) Science contributed to excellent results achieved by the school overall.



Our Students

Ofsted described our students as:

“**charming, confident, respectful and welcoming**”

Students' behaviour throughout the school is exceptional. Teachers have positive relationships with our humorous and well-mannered students. As a smaller-than-average but oversubscribed school, teachers really know students on an individual basis, and are able to help them develop over time. Successes are celebrated regularly, including the dissemination of students' excellent written work.

Job Description

Responsible to:

Head of Department

Job purpose:

To promote the highest possible achievement of students in Science through consistently high quality teaching and contributing to high quality leadership and management in the Science department.

Who we're looking for:

We are seeking a motivated and dedicated Second in Science who has excellent subject knowledge and high expectations for all students. You will be an engaging and enthusiastic classroom practitioner, delivering stimulating lessons. We are very pleased to offer visits to potential job applicants. Please contact me if you would like an informal conversation and/or a tour of the school.

Please apply by completing a Buckinghamshire application form. You should also write a personal statement indicating how your experience to date has prepared you for the post, and how you think you could contribute to the school (no more than two sides of A4, please). You can access the application via this link: <http://www.cressex.org/182/join-our-team>



Duties & Responsibilities

- a) to promote and safeguard the welfare of students according to school policies and procedures;
- b) to teach Science across the age and ability range;
- c) to set high expectations which inspire, motivate and challenge students;
- d) to promote the best possible progress and outcomes by students;
- e) to demonstrate good subject and curriculum knowledge;
- f) to plan and teach well structured lessons within a coherent curriculum that meets statutory and other relevant requirements;
- g) to adapt teaching so that it responds to the strengths and learning needs of all students



- h) to assess students' attainment and progress regularly and accurately, in line with the school policy, and update school and department records as required;
- i) to complete reports to parents/carers on students' attainment and progress in line with the school's procedures;
- j) to provide students with regular "formative" feedback to help them raise their attainment;
- k) to manage students' behaviour effectively to ensure a good and safe learning environment;
- l) to make a positive contribution to the wider life and ethos of the school;
- m) to develop effective professional relationships with colleagues, drawing, as appropriate, on advice and support;
- n) to deploy support staff effectively;
- o) to take responsibility for improving own teaching through appropriate professional development and responding positively to advice and feedback from colleagues;
- p) to communicate effectively with parents;
- q) to promote equal opportunities for all within the school community;
- r) to help to support the 'can do, will do' culture within all aspects of the service at the school;
- s) to carry out the professional duties of a school teacher, under the reasonable direction of the Headteacher, as set out in the current School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document (STPCD)

JOB REQUIREMENTS

Main Duties & Responsibilities (specific to the role of Second in Science)

- t) to plan and coordinate the Key Stage 3 Science curriculum, including producing and monitoring Key Stage 3 assessments and interventions.
- u) to assist the Head of Science in producing and monitoring Key Stage 3 assessment procedures in Science, ensuring they are effective and in line with school policy.
- v) to co-ordinate and support team members in developing enrichment activities to include the Johnson and Johnson project, CREST awards, Science week and educational visits.
- w) to support and develop others within the department to improve standards of teaching and learning.
- x) to supporting the training and induction of student teachers and new teachers, including Early Career Teachers.
- y) to support the Head of Department in carrying out department monitoring.
- z) to be responsible for managing the safe storage, use and monitoring of radioactive sources in the Science department.



What We're Looking For

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	• Qualified Teacher Status • Educated to degree level in Science or closely related subject • Evidence of Continuing Professional Development in the specialist area(s)	
Knowledge, Skills and Understanding	• Good subject knowledge making learning stimulating and motivating for students • Knowledge of National Curriculum requirements in Science and GCSE specifications • Able to promote good progress in individual lessons and over time • Able to plan effectively and organise time and resources • Able to foster excellent relationships with students, parents/carers and colleagues • Good communication, administration and organisational skills	• Leadership experience in a curriculum or pastoral area in a previous school
Personal Attributes	• Strong desire to support the learning and achievement of students from a range of backgrounds • Warmth, resilience, and a sense of humour.	
Other Requirements	• This post is exempt under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. Due to the sensitive nature of the duties the post holder will be expected to undertake a criminal record check as part of the recruitment process.	



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Why Cressex Community School?

Benefits, Opportunities and More



Coop Schools
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HASSLE-FREE COMMUTE

Easily Accessible

As you explore exciting career opportunities, we want to emphasise the convenience and accessibility of our school, particularly for those commuting via the M40.

Situated just a stone's throw away from the M40 motorway, Cressex Community School offers an ideal location for teachers seeking a smooth and hassle-free commute. Our prime location ensures that you can easily connect to our school from various nearby towns and cities, making your journey to work a breeze.

By choosing Cressex Community School, you'll find yourself in a nurturing environment that values the importance of work-life balance. We understand that a stress-free commute plays a significant role in your overall wellbeing and job satisfaction. With our proximity to the M40, you can enjoy a convenient travel experience, allowing you to arrive at work energised and ready to inspire young minds.

ON-SITE CHILDCARE

Discounted Nursery

Having Cressex Day Nursery conveniently situated on our school site significantly benefits our staff and enables them to avail discounted nursery rates. It provides a convenient and accessible childcare solution for those with young children, making it easier to balance work and family commitments. By offering discounted rates, we demonstrate our commitment to supporting our employees' well-being and work-life balance.

This initiative not only helps attract and retain talented staff but also fosters a sense of community within our school. With the assurance that their children are in a safe and nurturing environment nearby, our staff can focus on their roles with peace of mind, knowing that their little ones are well taken care of.



CPD Opportunities

The availability of continuous professional development opportunities with Johnson & Johnson is a valuable asset for our staff at Cressex Community School. Partnering with such a renowned and respected organisation offers our teachers access to high-quality training and development programs. By collaborating with Johnson & Johnson, we ensure that our staff stays updated on the latest educational practices and methodologies.

These opportunities empower our teachers to enhance their skills, expand their knowledge base, and incorporate innovative approaches into their teaching. The collaboration with Johnson & Johnson not only elevates the professional growth of our staff but also enhances the overall educational experience we provide to our students, fostering a culture of excellence and continuous improvement within our school community.

Johnson & Johnson





HEALTH AND WELL-BEING SUPPORT FOR STAFF

On-Site Fitness Suite

Our on-site fitness suite at Cressex Community School provides a convenient and accessible space for our staff to prioritise their health and well-being. Equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and amenities, the fitness suite offers a range of exercise options to suit individual preferences and fitness goals.

With personalised fitness plans, professional guidance, and access to fitness programmes and classes, our staff can engage in regular physical activity that supports their physical and mental health. The on-site fitness suite promotes work-life balance by offering flexible workout schedules and shower facilities, making it easier for our staff to incorporate exercise into their busy lives. By fostering a culture of health and wellness, we create a positive and active work environment, supporting our staff in their journey towards improved well-being.

BE PART OF A CO-OPERATIVE TRUST SCHOOL

Collaborative working opportunities

Collaborative working opportunities are one of the benefits of working in a Co-operative Trust School; our Trust partners are:

- Buckinghamshire New University
- The Henley College
- Wycombe Abbey School



INSPIRE THE NEXT GENERATION

Why Should you Apply?

The staff at Cressex are highly skilled and committed to securing high achievement for all. We are a family-friendly school that actively promotes a healthy work-life balance through reduced marking volume (we have three Assessment Points per year instead of six); a four-day teaching period every Friday; two weeks paid paternity leave, and many other benefits.

Remuneration for the role is very competitive and we offer bespoke, ongoing CPD opportunities.

How to apply

Please apply by completing a Buckinghamshire application form. You should also write a personal statement indicating how your experience to date has prepared you for the post, and how you think you could contribute to the school (no more than two sides of A4, please). You can access the application via this link: <http://www.cressex.org/182/join-our-team>

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