

SIXTH FORM SCIENCE TECHNICIAN

Permanent Contract (FTE 0.70)

Required for: Easter start

Candidate Information Pack



“The central aim of Dene Magna is that every learner shall achieve their maximum potential and enjoy the process”



Part of the Forest of Dean Trust (April 2020)



Dear Applicant,

At Dene Magna School, we are driven by our core belief that *“each and every learner shall achieve their maximum potential and enjoy the process.”* This ethos shapes everything we do and is central to the success and spirit of our school. We are exceptionally proud of our achievements as an oversubscribed and high-performing 11-18 school that also possesses the unique character, personality, and soul that make Dene Magna such a special place to work and learn.

As the founding member of the Forest of Dean Trust, alongside our partner schools, Drybrook Primary School and Forest View Primary School, we work closely together to provide an enriching educational experience for our students. Located in one of the most beautiful and tranquil settings in the country, Dene Magna is easily accessible from Cheltenham, Gloucester, Hereford, Bristol, and surrounding areas, making it an ideal location for your next career move.

At Dene Magna, we are seeking a passionate and dedicated individual who has a genuine interest in the education and development of young people. The successful candidate will place teaching and learning at the heart of their work and will be committed to fostering an environment where all students are encouraged to achieve their best.

We need someone who will actively promote the ethos of Dene Magna, with a strong focus on high achievement for all students. The ideal candidate will possess the natural ability to empathise with students' individual needs while maintaining a firm but fair approach to discipline and expectations. Your ability to connect with students, support their growth, and inspire them to reach their full potential will be key to your success in this role.

We warmly invite you to contact us for an informal chat if you would like to know more about the role and our school community. You can reach us at 01594 546030 or via email at vacancies@fodt.co.uk.

To apply, please download the application form from the vacancies page of our website and submit it along with a cover letter outlining why you believe you are the ideal candidate for this position. Please send your completed application to vacancies@fodt.co.uk by the closing date. Suitable candidates will be invited to interview accordingly. This is an opportunity not to be missed, and we can't wait to hear from you!

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Declan Mooney', written in a cursive style.

Declan Mooney

Headteacher of Dene Magna School

INTRODUCTION TO OUR SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

We are seeking an outstanding sixth form technician to work within the Science Department. The successful candidate will have the skills and knowledge to support the delivery of our Edexcel Biology, Chemistry and Physics A levels and help in the development of some new science AAQs. We are seeking an experienced and innovative technician with a passion for teaching and learning with a commitment to ensure our students make excellent progress and enjoy science at the sixth form.

In recent times, the Science Department has undergone significant change as Dene Magna opened its sixth form. We now offer A level Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science and Physics, and are in the process of developing new AAQs. The sixth form has 3 purpose built laboratories for Physics, Chemistry and Biology.

The sixth form has been judged as good in our most recent Ofsted inspection. The department has talented, dedicated and knowledgeable staff and most importantly, we are a friendly and supportive team. We have three Lead Teachers (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) and these deliver CPD sessions to help the department develop their teaching across all three specialisms. Similarly our technicians lead CPD in the practical aspects of science teaching.

Extra-curricular activities - The sixth form Science department currently runs Goldcrest and CanSat. Our current technician has been pivotal in the development and implementation of these.

OUR TEAM

We are so proud of the team who consists of:

Adele Clark - Head of Department

Catherine Allison - Lead Physics Teacher

Amanda Salisbury - Lead Biology Teacher

Chris Pike - Lead KS4 Chemistry Teacher and STEM Lead

Elizabeth Hammond - Lead KS5 Chemistry Teacher and STEM Lead

Anthony Tolley - Teacher

Catherine Aldred - Teacher

Kathryn Brown - Teacher

Declan Mooney - Headteacher

Tom Derrick - Assistant Headteacher

Mary Pope - Science-specialist HLTA

Matt Bullivant - Senior Technician

Jo Babij - Technician

Vacancy - Sixth Form Technician



JOB DESCRIPTION

- Title:** Sixth Form Laboratory Technician (Science)
- Contract:** Permanent. FTE (Full Time Equivalent) 0.70. 29.6 hours per week, term time only
- Salary:** Grade 5. Scale point range 11 - 14 (£27,269 - £28,624 per annum, £19,088 - £20,037 pro rata)
- Responsible to:** Senior Science Technician
- Based at:** Dene Magna Sixth Form in Cinderford

JOB PURPOSE

Our Science Technicians are responsible for:

- Ensuring that a safe, effective and efficient laboratory technical service is provided for use by students and teaching staff
- Providing technical advice and assistance in the classroom to support students and to assist teaching staff with the provision of learning activities
- Co-ordinating the use and development of practical resources and facilities within the Science department
- Ensuring that health and safety requirements and other relevant regulations are adhered to, including the completion and recording of necessary checks

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Main duties and responsibilities are indicated below. Other duties of an appropriate level and nature may also be required, as directed by the Head of Department.

- Establish and maintain good relationships with all students, parents/carers, colleagues and other professionals
- Ensure that staff in the Science department are aware of and comply with all health and safety requirements and other relevant regulations
- Liaise with the teacher in order to put in place requirements for practical school and public examinations
- Help to maintain appropriate classroom and corridor displays within the department
- Ensure that equipment is in good working order and that laboratories, preparation areas and storerooms are in a clean, safe and orderly condition
- Ensure the cleaning and maintenance of glassware, equipment and sinks
- Keeping up to date with current procedures and practices through continuing professional development
- Providing technical advice on health and safety issues and other relevant regulations to teachers and support staff
- The safe treatment and disposal of used materials, including hazardous substances, and responding to actual or potential hazards
- The safe storage and accessibility of equipment and materials
- Take a role in the design, development and maintenance of specialist resource and/or long term projects and offer professional guidance, assistance and support to students and teachers on the practical aspects of the curriculum
- Provide technical assistance to students, either individually when they are carrying out investigations or projects, or in-class assisting or advising students and staff on the practical aspects of the curriculum
- Carry out and update risk assessments in accordance with policies
- Collate information, statistics and prepare reports as required by the Head of Department and Headteacher
- Source suppliers applying the best value principles
- Ensure that financial procedures and activities are carried out within the department in accordance with policies and procedures
- Complete equipment and stock inventories as required
- Attend sixth form events as required
- Attend relevant meetings and training sessions
- Undertake first aid training and responsibilities if required
- Keep up to date with developments and changes in requirements and regulations and communicate appropriate information to colleagues

PERSON SPECIFICATION

The successful candidate will possess all or most of the following attributes:

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE	
• Studied to a standard pass at GCSE or equivalent, in English, Mathematics and Science	E
• Experience of working in a relevant discipline within a laboratory or similar environment	E
• Further/higher qualification of NVQ level 4 or equivalent in a science related discipline	D
• Experience of working with children/young people	D
KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS	
• Ability to build and form good relationships with students and colleagues	E
• Ability to work constructively as part of a team, understanding school roles and responsibilities	E
• Able to listen to and follow instructions as needed	E
• Ability to improve own practice/knowledge through self-evaluation and learning from others	E
• Verbal and written communication skills appropriate to the need to communicate effectively with colleagues, students and other professionals	E
• Good standard of numeracy and literacy skills	E
• Ability to operate a range of ICT equipment and other specialist resources	E
• Working knowledge of putting in place and monitoring regulations/legislation relating to laboratories such as health and safety and COSHH requirements	E
• Managing and monitoring a budget and providing required reports	D
• Working knowledge of relevant policies and procedures	D
PERSONAL QUALITIES	
• Initiative and ability to priorities one's own work and make informed decisions	E
• Able to follow direction and work in collaboration with line manager	E
• Able to work flexibly to meet deadlines and respond to unplanned situations	E
• Efficient and meticulous in organization	E
• Desire to enhance and develop skills and knowledge through CPD	E
• Commitment to the highest standards of child protection and safeguarding	E
• Recognition of the importance of personal responsibility for health and safety	E
• Commitment to the school's ethos, aims and its whole community	E

D = desirable E = essential

INTRODUCTION TO THE TRUST AND DENE MAGNA SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

The Forest of Dean Trust, established in April 2020, includes three schools: Dene Magna, Drybrook Primary, and Forest View Primary, all located in the scenic Forest of Dean with easy access to surrounding towns and cities. Dene Magna School, which is high-achieving and oversubscribed, opened a Sixth Form College in 2019.

The Trust prioritizes excellent student behavior, inclusion, diversity, and a strong sense of community. Staff across the Trust have opportunities to collaborate and develop their teaching practices, benefiting from high levels of support, resources, and professional development. The Trust also places a strong emphasis on staff well-being and work-life balance.

Dene Magna's curriculum is designed to meet students' needs, raise aspirations, and help them pursue their dreams through a focus on excellence and enjoyment. The school encourages a partnership between students, staff, and parents to support student development, with an emphasis on providing an inclusive, supportive, and challenging environment.

The central aim of Dene Magna is to ensure that every learner achieves their maximum potential while enjoying the learning process. The school fosters strong relationships, promotes leadership among students, and offers robust pastoral care. The school's approach is grounded in respect, communication, and a genuine commitment to preparing students for life beyond school, with a focus on developing skills to navigate the complexities of the modern world. Staff are passionate about their roles and work to instill a love for learning within the school and the wider community.

HOW DO I APPLY?

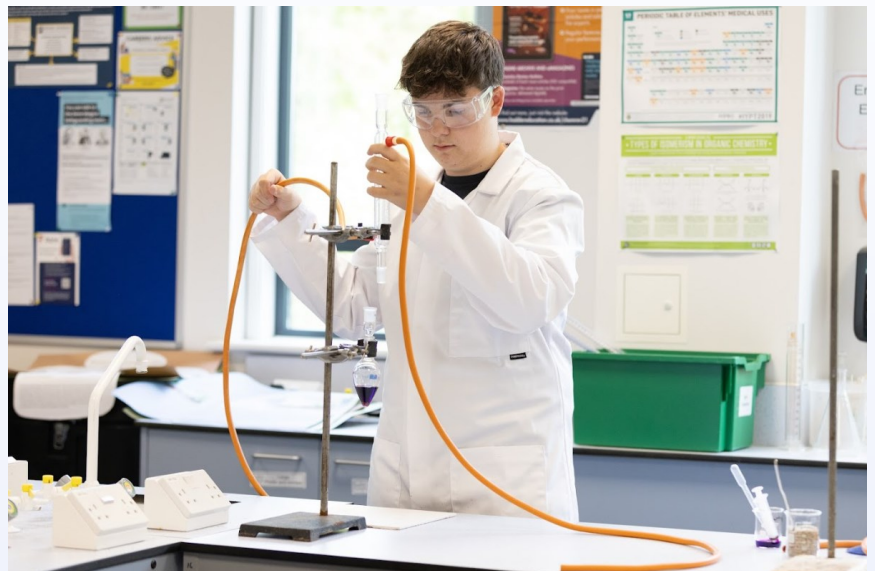
The next step for you in joining us on this exciting journey is to complete the application form and send this, along with a detailed covering letter explaining why your skills and experience would make you the perfect candidate for this position at Dene Magna School.

If you have any questions prior to you submitting your application or if you would like to come and visit us so we can share all the exciting things we are doing, please contact us at vacancies@FODT.co.uk or ring Diane Evans on 01594 542370.

We can't wait to hear from you!

Deadline for applications is: 17th January 2024

Interviews will be held: w/c 20th January 2025



TRAVELLING TIMES TO GET TO US (approximate).



Forest of
Dean Trust

DENE MAGNA SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

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