

TEACHER OF BIOLOGY

TMS/UPS - 0.6 FTE

Temporary, maternity cover contract with effect from 17 April 2023 until 14 April 2024 or earlier should the postholder return to work sooner

1. THE SCHOOL

Gordano School is a large and highly successful 11-18 comprehensive secondary school approximately eight miles outside Bristol. This includes a thriving Sixth Form of over 350 students that is strongly integrated into the school and offers significant opportunities for Post-16 teaching in over 30 courses. We are the sole secondary school serving the popular town of Portishead, and benefit greatly from being a central part of our community.

We view education as something bigger than just academic achievement. We have a record of considerable academic success, but believe that an education should be about preparing young people for their future lives in a complete sense. As well as consistently positive Progress 8 and Level 3 Value Added outcomes at GCSE and A Level respectively we place great emphasis on student leadership, an unparalleled extra-curricular programme and student progression to their next steps in a wide range of academic and vocational routes.

We value our membership of the Lighthouse Schools Partnership, the North Somerset Teaching Alliance and our role as a Teaching School in delivering high quality support and development for colleagues, both new to the profession and more established. Our size allows regular opportunities for progression into leadership roles.

We were judged Outstanding in all categories in our last Ofsted inspection, but, just as importantly, seek to be a very happy school community with a big heart. This has never been more evident than in the last few years, where we have been incredibly proud of the response of our brilliant staff, children and families in response to the Covid pandemic.

2. THE ROLE

We are seeking a dynamic Teacher of Biology (maternity cover) to join our existing team and help develop this dynamic, and successful Science Faculty. The person appointed will also be a tutor and responsible for a tutor group. This post would be equally suitable for NQTs and teachers with more experience.

The Science Faculty has a team of 20 staff, has consistently enjoyed high results at GCSE and A Level runs OCR Combined Science and Triple science at Key Stage 4 and OCR A courses at AS and A2 where we regularly have two or three classes in each year group. Teaching is in specialist subjects from Key Stage 4 & 5 and the school has a team of existing biology teachers and a dedicated biology technician.

3. ACCOMMODATION and RESOURCES

The science faculty is based in two purpose built Science blocks, with nineteen laboratories (two new in September 2019) served by two well stocked preparation areas. It is well resourced in equipment and textbooks but in particular by extremely detailed schemes of learning for all courses, electronic resources which are state of the art and highly trained and supportive technical staff. All laboratories have data-projectors and computers for use by staff.

4. THE SCIENCE FACULTY

All teachers are expected to teach across the age ranges and will have the opportunity to teach to A Level. In KS3 lessons teachers teach all three science subjects. At GCSE they normally teach one of Biology, Chemistry, or Physics although teaching more than one subject may be required depending on the needs of the school and on relevant experience. Specialist teaching teams at A Level are led by a Head of Subject in each of the three discrete disciplines.

5. CURRICULUM

What we stand for...

Our curriculum is personalised to the needs of individuals and is seen as an example of innovative practice. Central to our ethos is our teamwork, where sharing ideas creates a rich learning environment, it is our aim that not one child is left behind.

Key Stage 3

KS3 lasts two years. The SOL is exceptionally complete with learning resources for all abilities. The driving force for this is the latest educational research around engaging and effective science learning and thinking about science thinking.

Key Stage 4

Our innovative and personalised three year GCSE course is arranged so that all will study Science following the syllabus of: OCR Gateway for the Combined or Triple award. Pupils are normally taught by subject specialists. It is the responsibility of the Head of Science and Head of KS4 Science to ensure that the whole syllabus is covered. Students are assessed throughout each 'module'. Pupils are set in both Combined and Triple Science classes according to ability based on Key Stage 3 outcomes, end of topic tests and teacher recommendation.

Key Stage 5

Three subjects are offered at 'A/S' and 'A' Level - Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. In all subjects, as policy, teaching time is split between two teachers. The three disciplines are well supported at 'A' level (usually 2 or 3 sets in each year group for each subject) and are very successful.

6. THE SCIENCE TEAM

Isobel Barwick	Biology
Chris Beer	Head of Physics
Catherine Davies	Biology
Sylvia Fraser	Biology (Part time)
Oliver Grant	Biology
Rebecca Grist	2 nd in Faculty, Chemistry
Laurent Guilement	Physics
Christina Hogg	Chemistry
Roger Lloyd	Head of Chemistry
Stephanie Orme	Physics
George Pople	Physics
Catherine Probert	Biology
George Reakes	Biology,
John Stokes	Physics, Head of Science Faculty
Demi Summers	Chemistry
Clare Sykes	Physics
Elizabeth Vowles	Biology
Charlotte Waite	Head of Biology
David Weeks	Chemistry
Alain Williams	Chemistry
Gill Holmes	Technician
Kevin Gibson	Senior Technician - Chemistry
Sarah Holland	Technician - Biology

Julie Paines
Becky Vestey
Ben Warren

Technician - Biology
Technician - Physics
Technician

7. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

We are looking for a motivated and hard-working teacher of Biology to develop strong relationships with students and to be an enthusiastic member of the Science Faculty. Interested candidates should display the following:-

- ☐ Excellent teaching skills
- ☐ Good relationships with pupils and staff
- ☐ Commitment to using ICT as a teaching tool
- ☐ Commitment to high expectations and standards of work
- ☐ Willing to demonstrate commitment to the values and behaviours of Gordano School
- ☐ Passionate about the role of Science in the curriculum
- ☐ Able to enthuse, engage, motivate and challenge students and staff to raise standards achievement to all levels.
- ☐ A specialism in Biology

Gordano School offers an excellent benefits package including contributory pension scheme, a comprehensive employee assistance programme and benefits (offering discounts on shopping), cycle to work scheme and on-site parking.

For more information including an application form, please visit www.gordanoschool.org.uk

Applications should be submitted with covering letter and application form (curriculum vitae optional) to the Headteacher, Mrs Louise Blundell by:

Closing date: 9am Monday 6th February 2023

Interview date: Thursday 9th February 2023

****Early applications are encouraged. Gordano School reserves the right to interview and appoint prior to the closing date of the advertisement, should the School be able to identify an appropriate candidate.***

Gordano School supports Equal Opportunities Employment.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. Enhanced DBS checks are required for all successful applicants.



