

Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College

APPLICATION PACK FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE TEACHER



**Edith
Stein**
Catholic
Academy
Trust

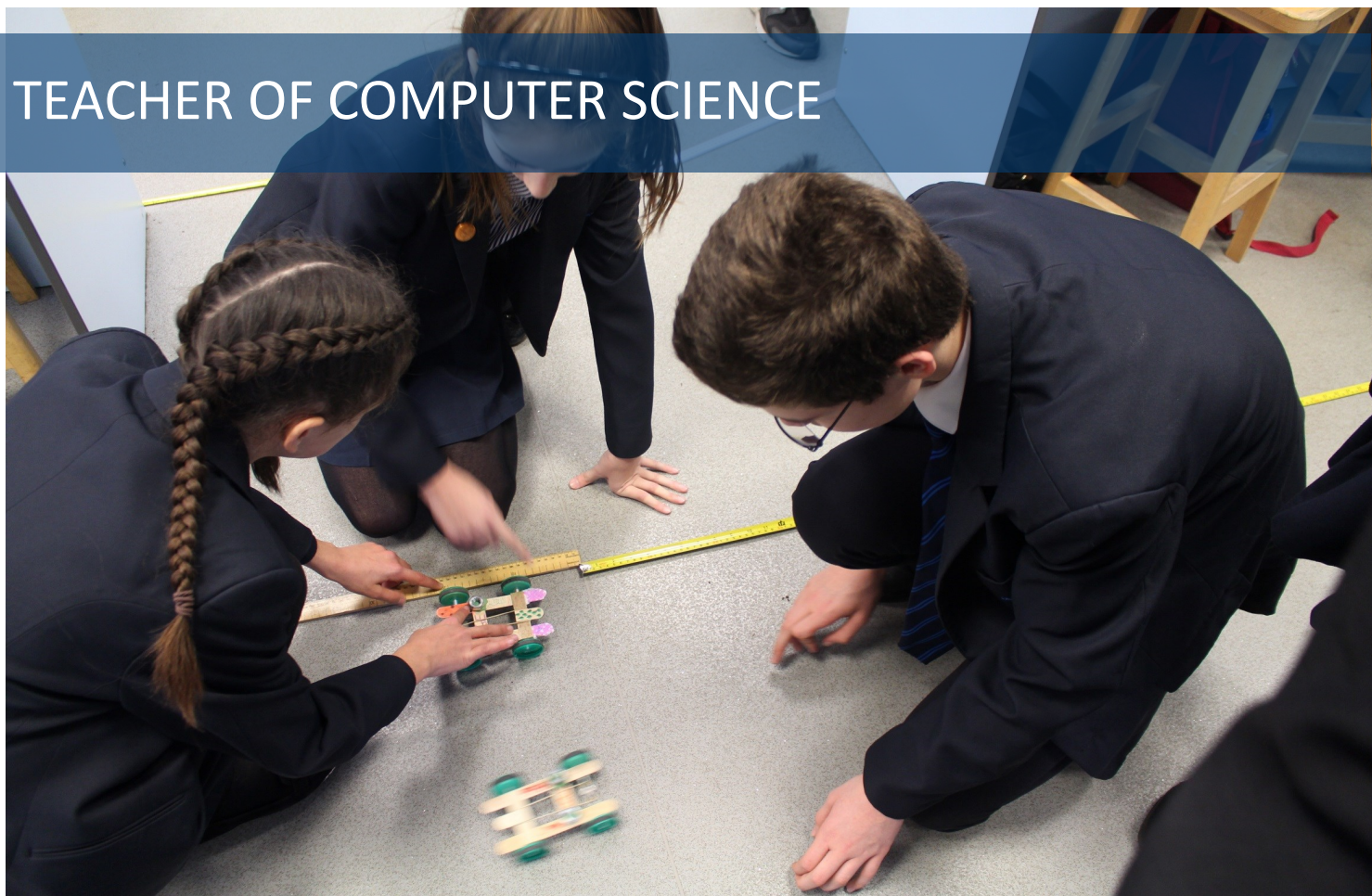
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**Oaklands Catholic School
and Sixth Form College**

TEACHER OF COMPUTER SCIENCE



Teacher of Computer Science

**Permanent, Full Time
September 2023**

**(part time considered
for the right candidate)**

MPS

(plus incentive for exceptional candidate)

This opportunity is one that I hope will capture your enthusiasm and I would like to thank you for your interest in this post. On our website you will find our vision and strategy for the school, this underpins all the work we do; the Computer Science Department is key to fulfilling this.

The Governors are looking to increase the curriculum footprint of the Department and we are excited about bringing new colleagues into an established team.

In this pack I have tried to ensure that you know something about Oaklands and Computer Science, at the same time making it clear that the Governors are looking for an

outstanding teacher who can demonstrate **exceptional classroom practice**. You will be required to teach up to GCSE and ideally A Level.

You can download the Application Form from our school website or the TES. This must be completed to apply for this post.

If you are a Catholic, you will understand the distinctiveness of Catholic schools such as Oaklands and this will be attractive to you. **You do not have to be a Catholic to work at Oaklands; the Governors welcome applications from candidates of differing faith backgrounds or none who can be supportive of the school ethos.**

This appointment comes at an exciting time for the Department: we have recently introduced A Level Computing and this is an area of potential growth. Moreover, numbers opting to study GCSE have grown for September 2023.

The aim of the Computer Science Department is to equip students with the skills necessary for 'problem solving' in the real world. Through the theory and practical project, students will have a solid understanding of programming and how computers work.

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THE ROLE



Our intention for the Department reflects the whole school mission that 'no one gets left behind'. We do this by ensuring students:

- use the skills of computing effectively, safely, with purpose and enjoyment;
- use a range of different software and programming languages;
- become autonomous and independent users of technology, making full use of computing skills to support cross-curricular learning;
- use the National Curriculum as a guide to subject development to assist pupils in achieving high level computing skills;
- extend and enhance pupils learning across the curriculum through digital literacy skills;
- develop specific knowledge and understanding of computers, programming, IT systems and eSafety;
- develop each pupil's computational thinking.

We are keen to explore a greater range of clubs for coding, robotics, apps and games; and entry into competitions.

Staff at Oaklands are committed to being at the leading edge of teaching and learning, providing a first class experience for its students. For staff, a friendly and supportive environment helps ensure that classroom activities are of the highest quality. Teaching is informed by a strong culture founded on the knowledge of the student.

The successful candidate must have relevant and up-to-date knowledge in relation to working with and protecting children and young people. All staff at Oaklands are expected to display a commitment to the protection and safeguarding of children and young people.

I hope this information is useful. However, if there is any further way in which I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Mr Matthew Quinn
Headteacher

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OUR JOURNEY



Oaklands is a Catholic Academy taking in boys and girls from 11-18, which has been established by the Diocese of Portsmouth for the education of Catholic children who live within the designated parish catchment area allocated to the school. In addition, Oaklands also takes in a number of children from other Christian denominations whose parents have specifically requested a Catholic education at the School, provided that they satisfy the criteria laid down in the Governors' Admissions Policy.

Oaklands has over 1,300 students on roll, including a Sixth Form College of 250 students. It is a well established comprehensive school, which is well supported by parents and highly respected in the community. Oaklands offers a full range of GCSE, AS and A Level courses. Students at all levels are provided with challenge and support as appropriate. The school's success is rooted in a strong academic tradition.

The school is part of a soft federation; working closely with other local schools, which provides an opportunity to share expertise and resources. The school was recently joined in the Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust by Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School.

The school will provide you with significant opportunities to help you develop your career.

We are on an exciting and imaginative journey; creativity is the heart of the school's approach, resulting in innovative approaches to:

- teaching and learning – encouraging questioning, reflection and challenge
- literacy and numeracy – using all subjects to develop these core skills
- curriculum design – establishing a common approach to assessment
- use of data – supporting individual progress and personalising learning
- growing school of leaders – developing leadership at all levels
- School Improvement – empowering staff to take responsibility for areas of change

The school stands within attractive and extensive grounds including woodlands and playing fields. Well-equipped specialist facilities are provided for all areas of the curriculum. In recent years the school has undergone a major refurbishment in many areas.

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PASTORAL CARE



The Chapel is a focal point the school's spiritual life. Oaklands is also fortunate enough to have a full-time Chaplain.

The aims of the school emphasise the importance of each student as an individual and the need to focus on and promote the spiritual, moral, intellectual, physical, social, personal and cultural development of each person entrusted to our care. To this end, the community endeavour to create a Christ-centred learning community whose primary aim is to ignite a passion for faith and learning. At Oaklands we recognise that students have special and different gifts, we aim to develop them in a climate where they can be shared and personal achievement can be maximised, where difference is not just tolerated but celebrated. Students need to work within an environment where they can develop their unique God given gifts and feel lovable, loved, capable and valued members of the community. This occurs within a warm and caring safe and open environment in which all children can grow in confidence and trust, and achieve their true all round potential.

The school also recognises its responsibility to foster a Christian atmosphere, to equip the young students in its care to face the adult world with confidence and to play a responsible

part in a society which is rapidly changing and holds a variety of different standards. This confidence is shaped through a deep understanding of the relationship between faith and culture. Students are encouraged to further their faith journey. To this end Religious Education, Form and Year Assemblies, Year Masses and Liturgical services, full School Masses, Residential Experiences and Community Service are all important aspects in the life of the school.

At Oaklands extra-curricular activities are an essential part of a young person's development and all students are encouraged to profit from the wide range of activities on offer. Whatever their talents and abilities, there are opportunities to succeed.

The successful pastoral system at Oaklands is built on the strong partnership between the school, home and parish enabling each student to flourish. We believe that parents have a key role to play in the education of their child. The Year Head and Form Tutors, through the pastoral curriculum at Oaklands, emphasise with students the importance of self-discipline and responsibility and also the importance of care, concern and respect for each other.

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PERSON SPECIFICATION



We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and inspirational Teacher of Computer Science with a clear vision to continue the success of the Department in the school and to help pupils to develop their skills and knowledge in Computer Science to the highest possible level within and beyond the curriculum.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential:

- Qualified Teacher Status*
- A good degree in Computing or a closely related subject
- A passion for Computer Science as an academic discipline
- Recent participation in a range of relevant in-service school related training
- Be able to contribute to the distinctive nature of the school
- Outstanding subject skill and knowledge
- Good classroom management
- Prepared and able to teach to Advanced Level
- Excellent communication, organisation and listening skills

- Has up to date knowledge of relevant legislation and guidance in relation to working with, and the protection and safeguarding of children and young people.
- Effective contemporary teaching and learning strategies for Computing
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Stamina and resilience and ability to work under pressure
- Committed to personal development
- Confidence

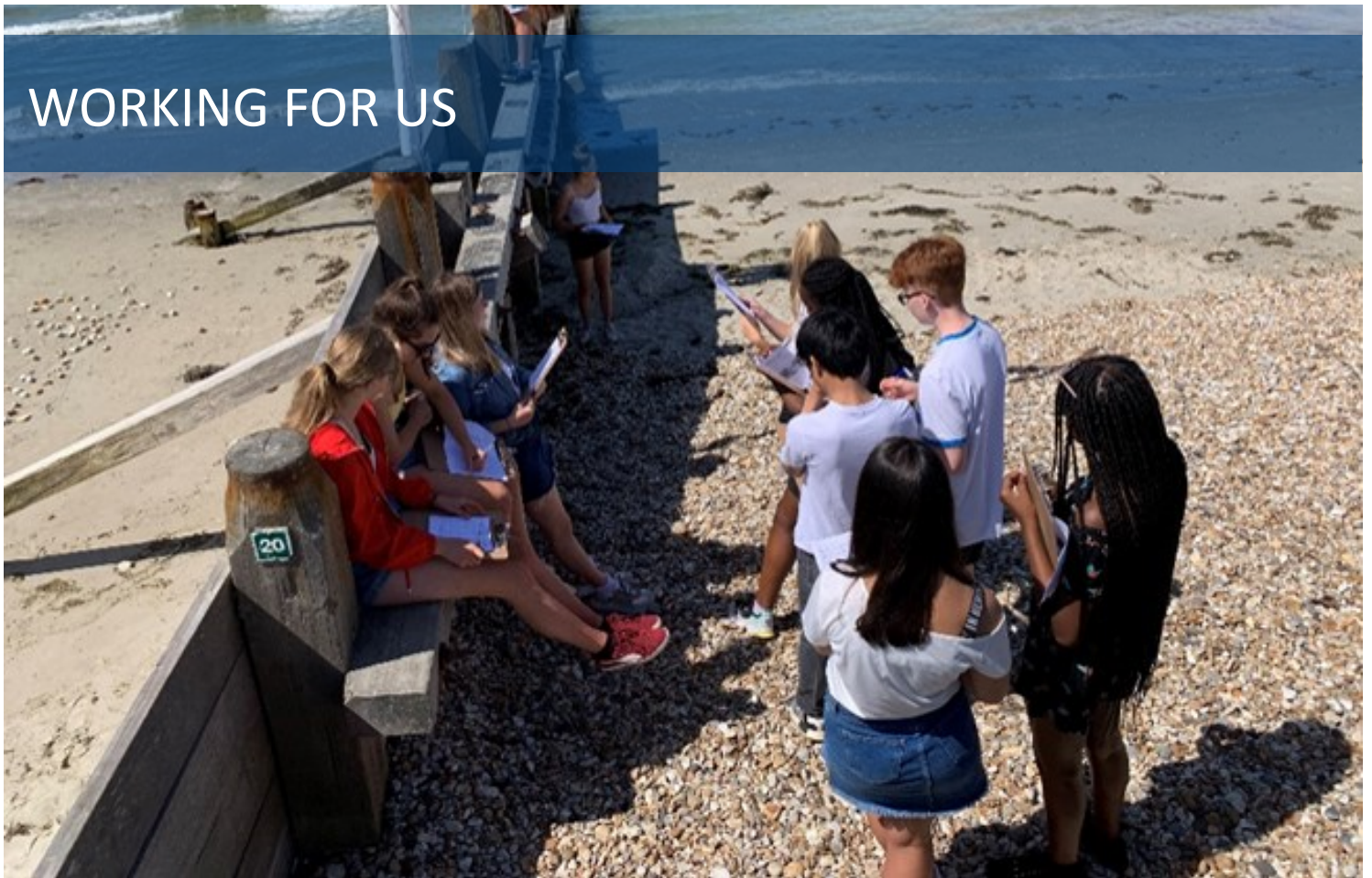
The following would be desirable:

- Catholic
- Experience in a mixed comprehensive setting
- Understanding of national developments in post-16 settings
- Industry experience in programming, computing, robotics or AI.

** Ideally we are looking to appoint a qualified teacher, however, applicants with suitable other experience who are interested in achieving QTS are encouraged to apply.*

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WORKING FOR US



Ten Reasons why we think you might want this role at Oaklands

- Your teaching has already had a positive impact on students at KS3, KS4 or KS5
- You believe in working with a comprehensive mix of children to give them the best possible chance of success in life and are excited by the chance to work with an experienced team
- You are attracted to working in a school that can provide opportunities up to KS5
- You value young people and see them as unique, precious and unrepeatable
- You can see the value of a close professional dialogue with colleagues can challenge and support you
- You like the idea of talking with colleagues about teaching and learning
- You are motivated by the thought of being a member of a team that delivers some of the results in Hampshire for a comprehensive school

- You know that you are good at building lasting professional relationships with students and understand that this is part of the foundation for successful learning
- You are excited by the chance to work collaboratively with other colleagues in other departments
- You want to use this position as a stepping stone to career advancement

Four reasons why you might not want to come and work for us (please look at the very last page)

- The match of your skills and experiences to our needs is not a good fit
- You are anxious about coming into a Catholic school (don't be)
- You have not taught in a school from KS3 – KS5.
- You feel you might not be ready to work in a high performing school

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STAFF PROFILES

Assistant Headteacher Dr Mark Dixon

I started teaching at Oaklands in 2009 and have held several positions at the school since. Most of my training and development has come from experience in the classroom as well as through working with highly skilled and experienced colleagues. I have been Head of Chemistry, Lead Practitioner and Head of Science. These positions have involved increasing levels of responsibility and more influence over teaching and learning in the school. I really enjoy the opportunity of collaborating with my teaching colleagues to help improve the experience of our students in the school, and my position of Assistant Head gives me



even more influence in this area. I really enjoy working in a Catholic School. I am a practicing Catholic and proud parent and I therefore recognise the importance and impact of faith on the lives of young people. All schools are different and have their own character: the Catholic traditions are a big part of what makes our school so special.

For me, the best thing about working at Oaklands is the community. We are lucky to work with fantastic students alongside a caring and supportive staff. Oaklands is a terrific school, has a wonderful community and is hugely enjoyable place to work. I would recommend it to anyone!



Head of History Department Caroline Wilkinson

I have been Head of History at Oaklands since September 2018.

I have previously worked as a Project Co-ordinator in the Business Services department of First Direct and prior to that I travelled in Asia and Australia, working mostly on farms, which I really enjoyed!

I have been a Teacher for many years now, working in three different schools. I had previously progressed to being responsible for Key Stage 3). I had some excellent coaching from my previous Head of Department and he coached me on the different aspects of the role. I was also given the opportunity to join the Senior Leadership Team on a temporary basis. This certainly gave me a more detailed understanding of the complexity of running a school. All of this experience has enabled me to have the confidence to step up to Head of Department at Oaklands. Being Head of Department is a great job and I would like to develop my role as an examiner in the future.

My biggest achievement so far has been building an effective team of teachers that work collaboratively together.

I really enjoy working in a Catholic school. The values and routines really fit well with what I feel is important in education. Working in a Catholic school gives a more holistic approach and we are very inclusive. The best thing about Oaklands is the people, both the staff and the students are fantastic. If you ever need any assistance there is always someone willing to help if you just ask!

If you are thinking of applying to work at Oaklands I would say 'Go for it!' Oaklands is a fantastic school with a strong academic tradition and a secure, inclusive pastoral ethos!



**Oaklands Catholic School
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APPLICATION PROCESS

A completed CES application form can be downloaded from the school website:

[Vacancies - Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College](#)

Completed applications should be sent by email to:
s.mann@oaklandscatholicschool.org

or by post (marked 'Application' in the top left hand corner) to:

Mrs Sarah Mann
PA to the Headteacher
Oaklands Catholic School
Stakes Hill Road
Waterlooville
Hampshire
PO7 7BW

Please note on Page 11 of the application from you are required to complete a supporting statement.

Please note that incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Closing date:
Wednesday 22nd March 2023, 12.00noon

Interviews:
Week beginning 27th March 2023, or sooner if necessary

The candidate application form asks for three references. Normally one of these referees should be your current or most recent employer. Please see the details in the application form. We reserve the right to take up references with your previous employer.

In addition to asking your referee questions related to your suitability for the position we will make enquires into the following:

- Disciplinary procedures in relation to allegations of inappropriate conduct with children, including any in which the penalty is 'time expired' (that is where a warning could no longer be taken into account in any new disciplinary hearing for example)
- Whether the applicant has been the subject of any safeguarding concerns
- The outcome of any enquiry or disciplinary procedure
- If the candidate is not currently working with children but has done so in the past, his or her previous employer with children will be asked about those issues.

In accordance with safeguarding guidance the school will not consider 'Open References' from a candidate.

As part of the interview process all candidates will be required to:

- Teach a lesson
- Talk to students
- Undertake a coding competency task
- Participate in a panel interview

Preparation work in advance of the lesson will be required, and details will be provided prior to interview.

Early applications are welcome - the interview process may be staged and some interviews held in advance of the closing date if there is a large number of applicants for the role.

In accordance with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2022, Section 221, in our shortlisting process, we carry out an online search as part of our due diligence on shortlisted candidates. This may help identify any incidents or issues that have happened, and are publicly available online, which the school might want to explore with the applicant at interview.

Please visit our school website for more information about Oaklands and other recruitment documentation:

www.oaklandscatholicsschool.org

- Supplementary Forms (to be given in at interview stage)
- Recruitment and Monitoring Form
- Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 Disclosure Form
- Teacher staff expectations for basic established and upper pay bands
- Exam Results 2019
- Annual report and financial statements
- Governor strategy
- Oaklands Catholic School Main Prospectus
- Information on Appointment of Teachers in Catholic Schools
- CES Teacher Contract
- Equality Act 2010

**Oaklands Catholic School
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AND FINALLY

What about those FOUR reasons why this role might not be for you!

The match of your skills and experiences to our needs is not a good fit

Come and visit us, read the pack, phone Matthew Quinn, Headteacher, and find out if the match is better than you think

You are anxious about coming into a Catholic school (don't be)

Again come and visit us, experience our community and talk to staff about their experience. The majority of staff at Oaklands are not Catholic

You have not taught in a school from KS3 –KS5

If you are not ready for this then we still want to hear from you. Most of our best staff had no Sixth Form experience before coming to Oaklands but with training and development, over time they gained the experience

You feel you might not be ready to work in a high performing school

If you are still reading, then you probably are

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