

# BURNHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL



**TEACHER OF SCIENCE**

**JOB APPLICATION PACK**

**Embracing Challenge**



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This application pack includes:

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## How to apply:

Please download an application form from our website and send your completed form to:

Mrs Anjna Pankhania

Burnham Grammar School

Hogfair Lane

Burnham

Buckinghamshire

SL1 7HG

Or email to [vacancies@burnhamgrammar.org.uk](mailto:vacancies@burnhamgrammar.org.uk)

<http://www.burnhamgrammar.org.uk/231/vacancies>

**Please note we do not accept CVs**

**Closing Date: 10am on Monday 15 March 2021**

**Interview Date: Week commencing Monday 15 March 2021**

It is the normal practice for references to be obtained before any formal interview.

***Burnham Grammar School as part of the Beeches Learning Development Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its students and staff and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Successful candidates will be required to undertake an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check***

**We encourage applications from the right candidates regardless of age, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, belief or race**

Thank you for the interest you have shown in this vacancy

# HEADTEACHER'S LETTER

Dear Applicant

Thank you for your interest in applying for this role at Burnham Grammar School. I do hope that the information attached encourages and inspires you to make a formal application for the post.

In June 2017 Burnham Grammar School created a multi-academy trust called the Beeches Learning and Development Trust in which it is the lead school and currently comprises Burnham Grammar school and Dorney School, a primary which is sponsored by the trust. In the same year we retained our Investors in People Gold award for the fantastic support and development opportunities that we offer to all staff.

Members of staff, students and parents at Burnham Grammar School believe that this is a truly unique school. Our students are bright and eager to do well. They are hardworking, but also full of personality and a real joy to teach, reflecting the diversity of their backgrounds and cultures. They contribute fully to school life, are proud of the part that they play and continue to surprise me on a daily basis with their acts of kindness and their generosity of spirit. We frequently receive comments from the local community about the fantastic contribution that our students make and visitors to our school are always quick to compliment us on our caring and inclusive ethos. We have continued to build upon this community atmosphere, which was noted by Ofsted in March 2017:

**“The learning atmosphere is very positive and pupils are confident, self-motivated, keen to learn and not afraid to make mistakes. They exemplify the school’s motto of ‘Embracing Challenge’ ”**

The staff is a uniquely close-knit, supportive and considerate team and the caring ethos makes this a rewarding place to work and develop. I was pleased that Ofsted recognised that “The headteacher’s commitment to involving staff at all levels in the school’s development is nurturing a loyal and dedicated staff.” Staff opinion and involvement is highly valued and if appointed you will find that you are fully supported in successfully fulfilling your role and gain experience to help career progression through personalised and targeted professional development. The involvement of the staff in the running of the school and in the development of key policies, and also our efforts to support a work-life balance, have most recently been reflected in us retaining the prestigious Investors in People Gold Award. We hope that the successful candidate will play an active part in the further development of both learning and teaching and other aspects of school life.

You will see from our last Ofsted inspection of February 2017 that we were judged at the time to be a Good school ([Ofsted Inspection February 2017](#)). Whilst our community was pleased that Ofsted recognised the improvements that we had made in all areas in the previous five years, they were also unanimously resolute in continuing on the journey of improvement. Since this time the standard of teaching and learning has improved even further as judged by Development Walks and formal observations. Through our tailored CPD programmes we support many teachers on the difficult transition from good to consistent and sustainable outstanding practice. This has increased the quality of learning, which is also reflected in our significantly positive progress measures at both GCSE and A level in 2018 & 2019. We are now entering an exciting stage in the school’s development with a unwavering determination to be rightfully recognised as an Outstanding school and a national beacon of best practice that provides inspirational learning experiences to every student day in day out, both inside and outside of the classroom.

In addition, we have embarked on a £30million complete rebuilding programme through a combination of Conditions Improvement Fund and Priority Schools Building Programme 2 grants which will transform facilities when we move into the new school in September 2021. This will provide both staff and students with world class facilities to inspire and support their learning



# HEADTEACHER'S LETTER

Not every candidate will be suited to the ethos of the Burnham Grammar learning community or able to fully contribute to our journey to be recognized as an exceptional school leading the development of practice nationally. Candidates for this post will already be outstanding practitioners or possess the qualities and desire to become outstanding. We are able to offer personally tailored CPD and development that is nationally recognised as exceptional and was highlighted in the [Investors in People Gold](#) award report of November 2017.

We are, of course, proud of our examination results but students' education at Burnham Grammar goes far beyond the academic. The exceptional and diverse range of extra-curricular opportunities and activities inspires and develops students' characters and resilience and exposes them to a range of unique experiences and challenges. We are passionate about the wider development of each individual student to ensure that they positively contribute to their communities now and in the future. This outstanding practice is reflected in us achieving a number of national awards such as the Gold Kitemark for Sport, the International School Award and winning the Stonewall School Award.

We welcome applications from the right candidates regardless of age, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, belief or race and want members of staff who have interests and expertise that goes beyond the classroom and physical boundaries of the school, and encourage them to add to our students' experiences. As a very diverse school we would also want our staff to reflect this diversity.

Quite simply Burnham Grammar School is an idyllic learning community where the relationships and teamwork between staff and students are exceptional, fostered with care and a key strength of the school. We provide the support and reassurance for our students to develop the resilience and mindset to strive to be their very best. Our school aims are summarised by the overarching motto of:

## **“Embracing Challenge”**

Our students are constantly challenged and supported to learn from their mistakes to ensure that they fulfil their potential at each key stage and have the confidence and resilience to aspire to and achieve their dreams.

I do hope that you will decide to make an application to join us and that we will have the opportunity to welcome you to our learning community and meet you in person.

Yours sincerely



Dr A Gillespie  
Headteacher



# JOB ADVERT



**Embracing Challenge**

## **Burnham Grammar School**

**"Pupils are confident and proud of their school and are keen and resilient learners." (Ofsted March 2017)**

### **TEACHER OF SCIENCE** **(MPS/UPR) + London Fringe** **Full Time, Permanent**

We are looking for a committed and enthusiastic teacher to join this very successful department

**Required for  
September 2021**

**11-18 Mixed Grammar School  
NOR 1075  
(6<sup>th</sup> Form 290)**

**"The learning atmosphere is very positive and pupils are confident, self-motivated, keen to learn and not afraid to make mistakes. They exemplify the school's motto of 'embracing challenge' " (Ofsted March 2017)**

**Lead school in small MAT**

**2020 A Level:  
92% A\*-C grades  
75% A\*-B grades**

**2020 GCSE:  
98% Grade 5-9  
70% Grade 7-9**

**2 out of 3 students achieved 5 or more 9-7 grades at GCSE over the last 3 years**

**We are offering you:**

- Enthusiastic, motivated and intelligent students
- A socially and culturally diverse school community
- A dedicated suite of Science laboratories all with projectors and interactive whiteboards
- Exceptionally well-resourced department
- An enthusiastic and friendly department
- Gold IIP Award & IIP Champion reflects personalised and nationally recognised CPD

**We want from you:**

- The ability to teach Biology to A Level would be desirable
- Excellent interpersonal and team building skills
- To be an outstanding classroom practitioner
- The ability to engage and inspire our students
- Commitment to developing the highest standards of Learning and Teaching
- A track record of securing outstanding student progress

**"The personal and social aspect of the curriculum is particularly strong and helps pupils to stay safe, prepare for examinations and to become responsible citizens of the future" (Ofsted March 2017)**

**Closing date for applications: 10am on Monday 15 March 2021**

Please download an application form from our website or telephone the school for more information: 01628 604812. Applications should be sent to Mrs A Pankhania by email or post. Please note we do not accept CVs.

E-mail: [vacancies@burnhamgrammar.org.uk](mailto:vacancies@burnhamgrammar.org.uk)

Website: [www.burnhamgrammar.org.uk](http://www.burnhamgrammar.org.uk)

# JOB DESCRIPTION

## Teacher of Science (Biology) & Form tutor

A. Name

B. Job Title - Teacher of Science (Biology)

C. **Job Purpose** - To ensure high standards of teaching and learning in the appropriate subject(s), in line with the schemes of work, objectives and policies of the relevant department(s) and pastoral team so that assigned students make the greatest possible progress and to support students in their personal development.

D. **Accountable** - To the appropriate line manager(s) and, through, her/him, the governors and senior leadership of the school, for the effective discharge of all duties.

E. Responsibilities

1. **School improvement and school self-evaluation**

Participate as appropriate and as required by the line manager in school improvement and school self-evaluation activities, including Department Line Management Proformas.

Participate in departmental and whole school preparation for inspections by OFSTED and other accredited bodies.

2. **Teaching and learning and student development**

Have a secure knowledge and understanding of the subject(s) taught.

Plan, prepare, deliver and review lessons and other activities with the aim of ensuring the effective learning of assigned students in the agreed syllabus (es).

Ensure that planning stays abreast of policy changes within the school.

Participate with other members of the department in interpreting syllabuses and developing materials and schemes of work, which include clearly identified aims and objectives which are shared with students.

Employ varied methods of teaching and learning, appropriate to the abilities and aspirations of the students and which enable them to take maximum responsibility for their own learning.

Ensure that citizenship, cross-curriculum themes and spiritual, moral, social and cultural dimensions are delivered appropriately according to the departmental schemes of work.

Ensure that lessons provide opportunities for Assessment for Learning (AFL) and reflect principles as outlined in the Learning and Teaching Policy recommended practice.

Use prior attainment data to plan appropriately differentiated work, ensuring sufficient challenge for all assigned students.

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# JOB DESCRIPTION

Be a Form Tutor to an assigned vertical group of students, with responsibility for promoting the well-being of individual students as well as the whole group, and for daily organisation communications with the group.

Register the assigned students in the relevant tutor group and accompany them to assembly according to the school's policy and practice.

Implement, as appropriate, the school's policy and practice on daily collective worship in registration time.

Implement the student diary system for the assigned students in the relevant tutor group according to school policy and practice. Ensure that this acts as an effective vehicle to support students' learning.

### **3. Student assessment, reporting and support**

Maintain effective records of the attendance and progress of assigned classes and individual students in accordance with school and departmental policies.

Consult with and inform relevant school staff regarding the progress, attainment and attitude of assigned students, especially where barriers to learning have been identified.

Complete annual & interim reports for all assigned students, according to published deadlines, in line with school policy.

Guide assigned students with self-assessment and appropriate target-setting in the relevant subject(s).

Monitor the progress of the assigned students in the relevant tutor group with regard to achievements & difficulties, both academic and pastoral, including attendance, punctuality and uniform/dress.

Keep appropriate records and intervene as appropriate to address problems.

Guide the students with personal target-setting and review both on and between Academic Review Days.

Oversee the completion of all interim, progress and annual records, including work and conduct reports and other references, for the assigned students in the relevant tutor group.

Implement the Academic Review Day process for the assigned students in the relevant tutor group and monitor their targets.

Monitor through a range of data the progress of the assigned students in the relevant tutor group.

Monitor through a range of data the progress of the assigned students in the relevant tutor group and implement and co-ordinate extra support for those students identified by Heads of House.

Provide information to the relevant member of staff for the awarding of relevant Celebrations Assembly Certificates

### **4. Finance and resource management**

Ensure that the accommodation, equipment and resources provided are maintained in safe working order and contribute to an educationally stimulating environment.

Immediately report any damage to equipment that could pose a health and safety risk to the health and safety officer, and the head of department.

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# JOB DESCRIPTION

## 5. Personnel

Participate as appropriate in induction programmes for new staff and staff undertaking new responsibilities.

Participate in the school's agreed staff appraisal or performance management system(s) as appropriate.

Comply with the school's health and safety policy whilst in school and on all school connected activities.

Participate in the school's continuing professional development programmes as required.

## 6. Liaison within and outside school

Alert appropriate staff to difficulties experienced by assigned students in the relevant tutor group.

Keep the relevant Head of House informed about the progress and development of the assigned students in the relevant tutor group, seeking guidance from him/her as appropriate.

Contact parents of the assigned students in the relevant tutor group and other recognised persons or bodies concerned with student welfare, as directed by the HOH or SLT when necessary, to address academic or pastoral matters.

Complete Parental Contact forms of these contacts on SIMS.

Participate in school publicity and recruitment events as appropriate.

Positively represent the school in the community at large.

## 7. General duties

Participate in appropriate meetings with colleagues, students, parents and governors relative to the role of Teacher and Form Tutor.

Carry out a share of supervisory duties in accordance with published rosters.

Comply with and promote school policies and procedures.

To abide by and promote the school's Child Protection Policy and Procedures and Safe Working Practice for the Protection of Children and Staff in Education Settings.

This job description is not necessarily a comprehensive definition of the post. It will be reviewed at least once a year and may be subject to modification or amendment at any time after consultation with the holder of the post.

The above responsibilities are subject to the general duties and responsibilities contained in the statement of School Teachers' Conditions of Employment.

This job description allocates duties and responsibilities but does not direct the particular amount of time to be spent on carrying them out and no part of it may be so construed. In allocating time to the performance of duties and responsibilities, the post hold must use Directed Time and have regard to clause 4(1)(f) of the School

Teachers' Conditions of Employment.

The school operates under a "local agreement" for Remodelling of the Workforce. The School Change Team

reviews this regularly. Teachers in this school work to the "local agreement" and may make their views known to the School Change Team for its consideration.



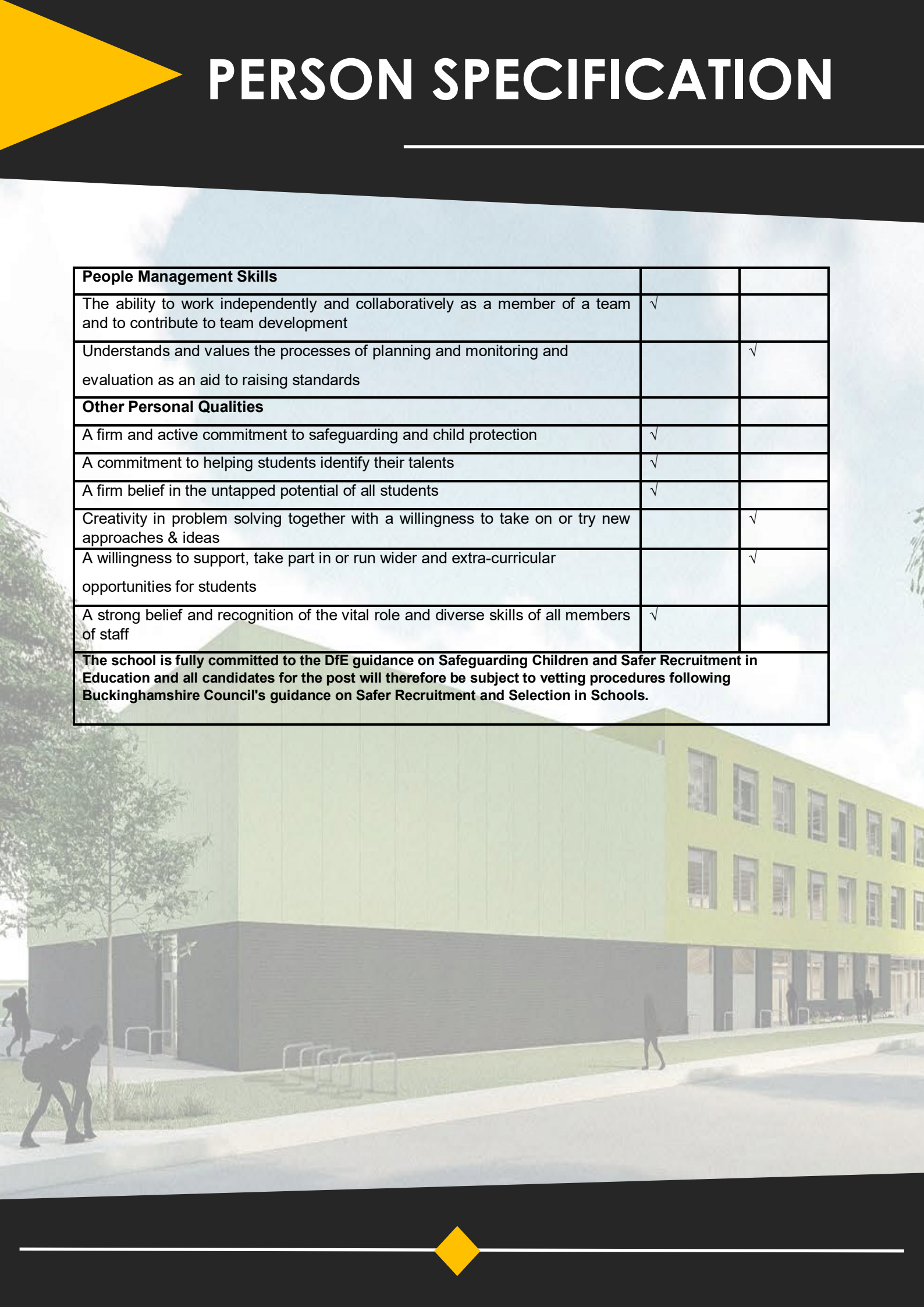
# PERSON SPECIFICATION

Qualifications	Essential	Desirable
A good honours degree in a relevant subject	√	
A teaching qualification together with Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)	√	
An infectious passion for your subject and subject knowledge sufficient to challenge able students and achieve high outcomes	√	
A good understanding of curriculum developments in the specific subject area	√	
Evidence of participation in professional development or further study		√
<b>Previous Work Experience</b>		
If not an NQT, a record of consistent and successful teaching resulting in high levels of attainment and achievement for students at each key stage taught	√	
Experience or desire to work in a socially and culturally diverse school community		√
Experience of teaching A Level Biology		√
Experience of teaching GCSE Chemistry or Physics		√
<b>Professional Knowledge Skills &amp; Experience</b>		
To fulfil and possess a commitment to exceed the GTC code of conduct and the TDA standards relevant to experience and stage of career	√	
Have the flexibility to employ a range of teaching styles and activities to inspire and engage students to ensure effective learning	√	
Awareness of the strategies available for improving the learning & achievement of all students and particularly high ability students	√	
Familiarity with and a strong commitment to Assessment for Learning approaches	√	
A confident & competent user of ICT to support all aspects teaching and learning		√
A willingness and commitment to ensure that current and future ICT, and other resources and new technologies, can be used to enhance the quality and experience of student's learning	√	
The skill to ensure that students understand in detail how to improve and are consistently supported in doing so through all forms of teacher, self and peer assessment	√	
Ability to communicate proactively and appropriately to a high standard to a variety of audiences	√	
Ability to interpret student data in order to modify lesson planning and personalise support		√
A commitment to contribute to the wider education and support of all pupils as outlined in the school aims		√

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# PERSON SPECIFICATION

<b>People Management Skills</b>		
The ability to work independently and collaboratively as a member of a team and to contribute to team development	√	
Understands and values the processes of planning and monitoring and evaluation as an aid to raising standards		√
<b>Other Personal Qualities</b>		
A firm and active commitment to safeguarding and child protection	√	
A commitment to helping students identify their talents	√	
A firm belief in the untapped potential of all students	√	
Creativity in problem solving together with a willingness to take on or try new approaches & ideas		√
A willingness to support, take part in or run wider and extra-curricular opportunities for students		√
A strong belief and recognition of the vital role and diverse skills of all members of staff	√	
<b>The school is fully committed to the DfE guidance on Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education and all candidates for the post will therefore be subject to vetting procedures following Buckinghamshire Council's guidance on Safer Recruitment and Selection in Schools.</b>		





# DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

## The Department

The Science department is very popular and academically one of the most successful departments in the country (Progress 8 score +0.31 in 2019 (+0.91 Double Science), top quartile value added in 2019 and 2017 and 2nd quartile in 2018, achieving excellent Key Stage 3 and GCSE results, with a 99% 9-4 GCSE pass rate in Science GCSE subjects with a range of 61% (separate)-74%(double) of grades 7-9 in 2019. At A2 level up to 63%

students attained A\*-B level in 2019.

The overwhelming majority of Year 10 students opt to take Triple Science at GCSE and the majority of students in the 6th Form take at least one science course.

## Department Staffing

The department is currently fully staffed with enthusiastic, highly qualified, specialist teachers, including eight full-time, four part-time teachers and three laboratory technicians. As well as the Director of Science there are two Assistant Heads of Science. This is a strong department which offers a close knit and supportive environment.

## Department Accommodation

The Science department is housed over two floors in nine specialist classrooms. There are three separate Science offices with printing facilities. All of the Science classrooms are spacious and light and eight are equipped with Promethean interactive whiteboards. On the most part teachers have a designated lab for teaching and the department is well resourced. The Science department has 96 iPads for students to use in class as part of an approved Wolfson bid. All members of staff are provided with a laptop and/or an iPad.

In January 2019 a new building which includes two new science laboratories and funding is being constructed with a planned move in October 2021.

## Science Teaching

Pupils are taught in mixed groups in years 7 and 8. For Key Stage 4 (years 9-11) they are in mixed ability classes with an average size of 28 students.

Students study a Key Stage 3 curriculum in years 7 & 8 and then start their Core Science GCSE modules in Year 9.

At GCSE we follow the new AQA GCSE Science specification, with the majority of students opting to take three separate science GCSEs.

Biology, Chemistry and Physics are all very well subscribed at A-level with two or more classes for each in Years 12 and 13. There are approximately 60 students studying Biology, 50 studying Chemistry and 30 studying Physics at present in Year 12. Most students continue to study these subjects in Year 13.

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# DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

- A-level Biology follows the AQA-A syllabus.
- A-level Chemistry follows the OCR B Salters syllabus.
- A-level Physics follows the OCR B Advancing Physics syllabus.

## Extra-Curricular

We seek to provide extra-curricular opportunities to inspire students and demonstrate applications of Science beyond the classroom. The department is very active and creative in its outreach work including:

- Coordinating and hosting in-reach science lessons for local primary schools
- Summer school five day "Space Camp" for integration of New Year 7 students
- 3 students Awarded Buckinghamshire Scientists of the year in 2019
- Winning Lego Mindstorms robotics competition – building and programming
- Strong links to Lonza including a yearly competition and internships
- Popular KS3 Science club
- Extended Salters practical fortnight for Y12
- Regular Science in action, Chemistry in action, Biology in action, Physics in action and Medicine in action trips for GCSE and A level students
- Bayer Laboratories trips for DNA extraction practical techniques
- Active links with many local Universities
- Diverse and exciting Science Week shows and Science Fayres
- Café Careers in which professionals are invited in regularly to talk to students

The Science department also has an active Twitter account.





Please find below the link to our vacancies page on our website where you can download our application form for completion.

<http://www.burnhamgrammar.org.uk/231/vacancies>

We are just west of London, near Windsor & Maidenhead & convenient to the M40, M4 & M25.

Burnham station (mainline Paddington & Crossrail) is a short walk from the school.

Headteacher: Dr A Gillespie

### Investors in People Report

We are proud of our development of our staff



Investors in People Gold Award in 2014 & 2017

People Gold award.

**We encourage applications from the right candidates regardless of age, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, belief or race**

*Burnham Grammar School as part of the Beeches Learning Development Trust is committed to safeguarding & promoting the welfare of its students & staff & expects all staff & volunteers to share this commitment. Successful candidates will be required to undertake an enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) check.*

