



THE STONEHENGE SCHOOL



SCIENCE TECHNICIAN Application pack

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WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

At the Stonehenge School we believe that there is no limit to any student's potential. We aspire to develop a positive learning community in which effort, participation and achievement are valued.

Striving for excellence, we aim to create an outstanding school where students are happy, healthy and given opportunities to exceed their expectations. Enriched by history and culture, Stonehenge is a school for the future.

The school is increasingly popular and to cater for a rapidly expanding roll we have had a state-of-the-art extension providing 23 additional classrooms, and a brand new performing arts block to replace our older, original accommodation. We are now in a position where the facilities are some of the best in Wiltshire and ensure that we are able to provide the very best education for the pupils that we serve.

Applications for entry into Year 7 have been over-subscribed in each of the last three years, and we are ever closer to reaching our full capacity of 1120 pupils.

The school community is important to us, meaning that we have strong relationships with our students, and a collegiate supportive atmosphere within staff.



PERSONALISED PROVISION

Our pedagogical approach is centered around the 'Cornerstones' of our teaching and learning approach, with assessment built around a 'milestone' structure. All of which is based around research-driven approaches that ensure effective progress whilst also maintaining sustainable workloads for staff.

Striving for excellence, exceeding expectation.

At Key Stage 3, key skills and knowledge are assessed using our 'I can' system, allowing teachers and students to keep track of their learning and progress. Students are given the flexibility and ownership to design their own option choices towards the end of Year 8, meaning that students study the curriculum that they choose, whatever their ability, allowing them to fully realise their future aspirations. At Key Stage 4 students are offered the full Ebacc, and the importance

of taking a humanities and a language is discussed with parents as part of the options process. A variety of vocational courses are also offered to allow for development towards particular careers, or the pursuit of individual interests.

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Qualifications are highly important, and our examination results reflect our commitment to this. However, school is also about preparing students for their future career and roles in the larger community. Students are offered many opportunities to develop team working and leadership skills. The prefect team in Year 11 is led by the Head Boy, Head Girl and their deputies. Students can initiate projects and share decision making through an active School council and the House system.

Careers guidance is provided throughout all years. A large number of students enjoy taking part in activities throughout the school year, including drama productions and musical concerts. We have excellent sporting facilities on site and at Amesbury Sports Centre, as well as exclusive use of the 22 acre playing field on Holders Lane. We run many sports teams and offer a number of extra-curricular sporting clubs, including rugby, netball, hockey, football and cricket. Trips and visits are run regularly; Year 9 can visit Pencelli Activity Centre in Wales and older students may take part in the annual ski trip to Europe. There are regular Geography field trips and the Languages department arrange annual visits to France or Germany, as well as an extensive and growing list of residential trips across the curriculum.

The latest Ofsted inspection took place in September 2022 and concluded that... "The Stonehenge School continues to be a good school" and that "pupils like coming to school". They explored the "clear vision (that we have) for the school's next steps" and the "broad curriculum that (is) in place for every pupil".

A recent evaluation by the Local Authority reported that 'there is a positive and respectful school culture where the staff know and care for the students' and the 'leaders have a clear consistent vision which is realised through strong, shared and owned values and practice', and praised the emphasis that we place on developing our staff.

I look forward to welcoming applications from you,
Carole Dean

Striving for excellence, exceeding expectation.

The Science Department

The department is currently comprised of a team of eight dedicated teaching staff supported by experienced Technicians. Science is taught in nine purpose-built laboratories, fully equipped with interactive display screens and sound field systems. Staff development is an important focus within the Science Department and the team are encouraged to take on responsibilities when this is felt appropriate.

Science results have been in the top 20% in the country in 2018 and 2019, before disruption to exams.

Each member of the teaching staff has been appointed for their expertise in either Biology, Chemistry or Physics and they spend much of their time teaching their specialism. This is considered a strength in the department as it allows students to benefit from the deep knowledge of several teachers while they study. Generally, most development and planning within the department is undertaken by the whole team or small groups after consultation. The enthusiasm and experience brought to such teamwork is one of the department's key strengths.

Throughout KS3, students are taught the National Curriculum through an adapted "Activate" course. Staff teach all science areas and are expected to use a variety of teaching strategies and to respond to the needs of groups and individuals. Science-based setting occurs from year 9 in order to ensure a suitable response to individual needs and appropriate preparation for GCSE.

In KS4 two pathways are available; the majority of students follow the AQA Separate Science courses (Triple Science), while other groups study a Combined (double award) Science course. Teaching groups continue to be set for the subject at KS4 and students learn from a specialist for Biology, Chemistry & Physics, allowing everyone to be taught by three subject specialists. Staff are responsible for the continual maintenance, update and delivery of subject specific modules.

The department have developed a now well-established framework for delivering content for both key stages, with a focus on comprehensive periodic assessments, in depth formative feedback and detailed data recording and monitoring to maximise student outcomes.

Science Technician

Required as soon as possible

30 Hours per week, term time only (this includes TD Days)

Working days Monday – Friday with working hours to be agreed, either 9.00am – 3.30pm with a 30-minute unpaid lunch, or 9.30am – 4.00pm with a 30-minute unpaid lunch. Some flexibility offered for the right candidate.

Wiltshire Council pay Grade E Point 6 – 8, (£12.38 - £12.80 per hour) actual salary £16,663 - £17,227

Closing date: Monday 14th October 2024

Interview date: Monday 21st October 2024

We are looking for a dedicated individual to provide support to the science department and students at The Stonehenge School. The successful candidate will be committed to making a positive difference to young people's lives and in supporting and developing their learning.

This position requires you to be a good team player and give appropriate support for students' learning. You will be required to support science staff with their teaching by preparing all necessary equipment and resources for their lessons, tidying and cleaning up afterwards, storing, organising and repairing equipment etc.

The role of a technician in the Science Department includes but is not limited to the following:

- Receive and discuss details of the requirements for equipment from each member of the Science staff
- Preparing and delivering all trays of apparatus required in any of the nine laboratories in a timely manner.
- The removal of practical equipment from laboratories after use, and cleaning and storing as appropriate.
- Provide support to the Science department in the delivery of practical elements of lessons when requested.
- Basic maintenance of laboratories
- Photocopying
- The management of the preparation rooms and stores
- The management and maintenance of equipment, filing worksheets, storing equipment etc.
- When using many of the mechanical and electrical apparatus, familiarity with the technical details is needed for the safety of students use. Some apparatus require

regular servicing such as microscopes, power packs and balances and this is an important part of the technicians work. Training will be provided where required.

- To assist the Head of Department and Key Stage Co-ordinators by carrying out any tasks they deem necessary for the daily running of the department
- To undertake training and staff development in Science related areas as negotiated with the Head of Science

Benefits include:

- Access to a generous Local Government Pension Scheme available
- Holiday pay included in salary
- Free onsite parking

We reserve the right to interview as suitable applications are received.

Science Technician Job Description

Reports to: STEM Technician Team Leader

Salary: Grade E scale 6 – 8

Contract type: Permanent

The Role:

Providing teachers with technical support to deliver the curriculum to students, including advising on health and safety and risk assessment.

Key Responsibilities:

- Prepare and provide all equipment and resources for lessons in Physics/Chemistry/Biology.
- Advise and help teaching staff to best use equipment/chemicals provided safely by demonstration and construction of equipment, and where needed, making up of chemicals.
- Create and maintain equipment and resources for lessons in a user-friendly form ensuring all in a safe working order and with chemicals, Hazard cards and Risk Assessments.
- Clear away apparatus and materials, ensuring lab is left clean, tidy and safe. Store and dispose of all equipment and chemicals safely.
- Maintain all science equipment in good/safe working order, repairing as necessary or organising repairs by third party if beyond own competence. Submit all electrical equipment for PAT testing at required intervals.
- Manage the ordering of all consumable stationery for the department and order consumables as required to deliver science reports.
- Assist with the day to day running of the class laboratories, ensuring all is left safe/clean for staff and pupils.
- Administer the exam papers ensuring enough available for all school year groups.
- Check first aid boxes and restock where required.
- Guide novice teachers and cover teachers on how to best use equipment available.

Supervision and Management

The jobholder does not have regular supervisory responsibility for staff but may be required to assist in work familiarisation for new recruits.

Creativity and Innovation (i.e. Problem Solving)

The work is largely regulated by laid down procedures but the jobholder deals with problems encountered in, for example, repairing equipment, creating and maintaining a purposeful and orderly productive working environment for staff and students.

Key Contacts and Relationships

STEM Technician leader, Head of Department & Science staff – to discuss their lesson plan/ requirements. Health and safety issues and stock requirements.

Other Technicians – Sharing of equipment and resources.

Pupils - Advising how to use equipment /chemicals. Observing health and safety.

Resources Staff - Re photo-copying or use of whole school equipment, i.e. multimedia projector.

Resources

The jobholder has shared responsibility for the sourcing and safe use of equipment and chemicals but does not have overall sole personal accountability for their security.

Decision Making

Work is carried out within clearly defined rules and procedures involving decisions chosen from a range of established alternatives. The jobholder decides which tasks will need more preparation, e.g. the growing of seeds/collecting of live samples/pond dipping needs to be timed so the best resources are provided for the class.

Working Environment

The job regularly involves some lifting and carrying e.g. of equipment from prep rooms to classrooms, use of trolleys, use of chemicals.

The jobholder is in regular contact with pupils. There is regular background noise. Work is undertaken in science prep rooms and classrooms.

Knowledge and Skills

The jobholder needs sufficient background scientific knowledge to support science experiments, the setting up of apparatus and dealing with chemicals, and good practical skills in this area. Professional development opportunities will be provided where required.

Other Duties

The list of duties as above is not exhaustive. The post holder may be required to perform duties other than those given in this job description. The particular duties and responsibilities attached to the post may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the duties or level of responsibility entailed. Such variations are a common occurrence and would not in themselves justify the re-evaluation of the post. In cases, however, where a permanent and substantial change in the duties and responsibilities of the post occur, consistent with a higher level of responsibility, then the post would be eligible for re-evaluation.

The Stonehenge School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post requires a satisfactory enhanced DBS disclosure.

Person Specification: Science Technician

Qualifications

- A good standard of written and spoken English and Maths skills at a suitable level to support students up to Key Stage 4
- Health and Safety qualification or training or commitment to work towards
- First Aid qualification or training or commitment to work towards, desirable

Knowledge, Skills and Experience

- Experience of working in a laboratory in a school or other industry, desirable
- Experience, knowledge or a keen interest of key practical demonstrations that demonstrate key scientific concepts and engage students
- Up-to-date knowledge of COSHH procedures and CLEAPPS requirements, although training can be provided
- Knowledge of Health & Safety risk assessment
- Strong IT, administrative and organisational skills
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills with children and adults
- Able to deal with minor incidents including first aid

Behaviours

- Genuine passion for and a belief in the potential of every pupil
- A robust awareness of keeping children safe, noticing safeguarding and welfare concerns, and you understand how and when to take appropriate action.
- Belief that every student should have access to an excellent education regardless of background
- Professional outlook, detailed orientated and able to multi-task and meet deadlines
- A team player that can work collaboratively as well as using own initiative
- Helpful, positive, patient and caring nature
- Calm and professional under pressure
- Understanding of the importance of confidentiality and discretion
- Flexible attitude towards work and demonstrates sound judgement

Other

- Right to work in the UK
- Commitment to equality of opportunity and the safeguarding and welfare of all students
- Willingness to undertake training
- This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check