

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

THE SCIENCE FACULTY

**RECRUITMENT FOR
FULL TIME PERMANENT
HEAD OF PHYSICS
MPS + TLR 2(b)
COMMENCING SEPTEMBER 2008**

CLOSING DATE: TUESDAY 15 APRIL 2008

Ad in TES4th April 2008

WARRINGTON

Bridgewater High School & Arts College
Broomfields Road
Appleton
Warrington, Cheshire, WA4 3AE

Tel: 01925 263919

11-18 Mixed Comprehensive,
Specialist Arts College with Second Specialism (Science with Maths) and a DfES High Performing
Specialist School
N.O.R. 1694 (with 187 in the Sixth Form).

Required for September 2008

Head of Physics

We require a talented, committed and enthusiastic Head of Physics to join a hard working, dynamic and successful department within the Science Faculty. The successful applicant will be required to lead the teaching and learning of this subject within the Science Faculty.

Bridgewater is a flourishing, oversubscribed school. 84% of Year 11 students in 2007 gained 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE.

The successful applicant will be required to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau. Further details can be found at www.crb.org.uk

Please telephone the school for further details or visit our website at:-
www.bridgewaterhigh.com Closing date: Tuesday 15 April 2008

Bridgewater serves a socially mixed, although generally prosperous area of South Warrington. It lies close to the M56, which provides excellent links with the motorway system as a whole. Currently there are 1702 students on roll which includes 191 in the Sixth Form. For a number of years we have been oversubscribed and this is likely to remain the case for the foreseeable future. There are 120 teachers and 64 members of the support staff.

We are a mixed 11-18 comprehensive, situated on two attractive sites approximately half a mile apart. Following an amalgamation of two schools in 1987, both sets of buildings have been adapted and extended over time. Our Lower school is a brick building of the late 1960's set in splendid grounds. In recent years, there have been substantial building and refurbishment programmes, which have added new classroom facilities, a new Art wing, new Technology facilities, (including ICT) and improved accommodation for Music, Dance and Drama in support of our status as a Specialist School for the Performing Arts. Our Upper school facilities also include our 6th Form building, a joint use Leisure Centre, which provides the school with first-class sports facilities (swimming pool, dance studio, a large sports hall, fitness training room and a large all-weather floodlit games area.) Floodlit tennis facilities have also been provided with the help of a lottery grant.

The academic organisation of the school is based on a faculty structure, which supports 10 forms of entry to the school. The school's overall admission limit for each year group is 300. All lower school pupils follow the full range of National Curriculum subjects and in the upper school, all pupils continue to study Science, Mathematics, English, PE, ICT, Citizenship, PSHE and Religious Studies. Pupil groupings vary according to subject areas, with pupils mainly set according to ability, from the beginning of Y.8 onwards. English and Maths begin setting in Y.7 The 6th form currently has students following AS and A2 courses with some students this year following Level 3 vocational courses supported by our Specialist Status.

The level of success in public examinations has been consistently high at all levels. In 2007, 84% of GCSE students achieved 5 or more A* - C grades, while the pass rates at GCE Advanced level were 90% (AS) and 99% (A2.)

The pastoral organisation of the school was restructured in September 2005 and is based on a half year system, with the work of each team of tutors being co-ordinated by a Pastoral & Achievement Leader responsible for managing a group of 150 pupils. The restructuring places a greater emphasis on the academic monitoring and achievement of all pupils.

The work of the Pastoral and Achievement Leaders is managed and supported by three Pastoral and Achievement Managers who report directly to the Assistant Headteachers in charge of either Upper or Lower school. The two Deputy Heads each have overall co-ordination and oversight of either lower or upper schools sites. Y.7, Y.8 and Y.9 are accommodated at the lower school site and Y.10, Y.11 and the 6th Form at the upper school site.

Although we are a twin-site school pupils remain almost wholly on either lower or upper school sites throughout each day; they are not required to travel between sites, with the exception of some movement to maximize the use of sports facilities. The staff, however, are required to teach on both sites to ensure an overall balance of staff resources and to promote their career development. There is a regular minibus shuttle between the sites at the beginning and end of each lesson, break and lunchtime periods. The school timetable operates on the basis of five (60-minute) periods per day. The timetable is scheduled over a two-week period.

Our twin-site organisation presents itself as both an opportunity and a challenge. It provides the opportunity for us to create two smaller school communities within a large school with the obvious benefit this brings. The organisation of each site, according to National Curriculum Key Stages, also helps us to develop the appropriate ethos of each site. Our policy requiring staff to travel between sites, however, demands high levels of personal organisation and a commitment to ensure that our curricular and pastoral systems operate fully and effectively.

We were last inspected in December 2005. We were described overall as a good school with some outstanding features. A full copy of the report can be accessed via the internet (Ofsted website) or our own school website.

We are proud of our status as a Specialist School for the Performing and Visual Arts, which we first acquired in September 1998, as part of the government's Specialist Schools' Initiative. In December 2005 we were successful in securing 3rd Phase designation, which has enabled us to continue our work through to 2009. As a result of our designation as a High Performing Specialist School in July 2005 we have also extended our specialist status by taking on a 2nd Specialism, Science with Maths (from April 2006). Specialist school developments have brought exciting new opportunities to the school and local community and we are confident that it will continue to do so in the future. All staff are encouraged to share in Specialist School developments and to benefit from the additional resources Specialist School status brings to the school as a whole.

This School is fully committed to Safeguarding Children and requires ALL staff to support the effective implementation of our child protection policies.

PLEASE FOLLOW THE FOLLOWING APPLICATION PROCEDURE CAREFULLY

- Application should be made through the use of the attached application form which **MUST** be fully completed. (with the exception of Section 14 - see note below)
- You should also submit a supporting letter on a separate sheet of up to a *maximum* of 2 sides of A4. **Please note: Your supporting letter may be in place of the completion of Section 14 on the application form.**
- Completed applications should be returned to Mrs Joyce Doherty at the Upper school address. Closing date for applications is 3.15pm Tuesday 15th April 2008. Please do not send via email.
- On numerous occasions applications have been delayed by Royal Mail due to insufficient postage and are consequently delivered many days after the closing date. To avoid the disappointment of your application not being considered, **please ensure the correct postage is on your envelope.**
- Prospective candidates should note that there is a *no smoking* policy at the School.

THE SCIENCE FACULTY

Recruitment Information

Updated Feb 2008

The Science Faculty has sixteen full-time teachers, almost all of whom teach the full range of ages and abilities from years 7 to 11 (GCSE) and Sixth form.

Key Stage 3 is taught at Lower School, where there are six refurbished laboratories and the support of two full time equivalent science technicians. Year 7 classes are taught in mixed ability groups, whilst years 8 and 9 classes are set by ability. Adapted QCA schemes of work are followed and we use Hodder support materials. Years 7, 8 and 9 pupils have 3 hours per week. The aim is to have one teacher per group at Key Stage 3 but this is not always possible particularly in year 9.

Key Stage 4 and post-16 provision is based at Upper School where there are eight newly refurbished laboratories and three full time equivalent technicians. A broad range of courses are taught at Key Stage 4. The majority of students, approximately two hundred, follow the OCR Gateway Dual Award course. One set of thirty follow the OCR Gateway Triple Award course. A vocational route is provided for fifty students who follow the BTEC First Diploma in Applied Science and the 1/2 BTEC course is available for students who find science a real challenge.

In the sixth form there is a strong tradition of success in 'A' level Biology, Chemistry and Physics. All three subjects follow OCR syllabuses at 'AS' and 'A2' level. A vocational route post 16 is provided through the Health and Social Care course and a very innovative Cadet Scheme.

The Faculty is managed by the Head of Faculty, (who also acts as head of Chemistry), with Heads of Department for Biology and Physics. Heads of Department have responsibility for the management and the delivery of their subject across Key Stages 3, 4 and 5. The Vocational coordinator manages the BTEC, Health & Social Care and Cadet courses.

There are also KS3 and KS4 coordinators who have responsibility for maintaining high standards of teaching & learning and managing the day to day issues at each key stage.

The Faculty, subject departments and key stages hold regular meetings which are used for administration, curriculum developments and teaching & learning enhancement.

Bridgewater High School has recently been awarded Second Specialism for Science and Maths. It is an excellent opportunity to further promote science and to continue the development of suitable courses for our students. Exciting developments are also planned in the use of ICT in science particularly in the area of videoconferencing.

Bridgewater High School

JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: HEAD OF PHYSICS

JOB PURPOSE: To teach science subjects through to GCSE and possibly through to GCE level; teach any other curriculum subject by agreement.

To teach and manage the delivery of Physics at Key Stages 3, 4 and 5.

ACCOUNTABLE TO: Head of Science Faculty

ACCOUNTABLE FOR: All aspects of Physics at all Key Stages and the coordination of the Physics department work on both sites.

KEY TASKS

(a) ACADEMIC

The teacher appointed will:

- Teach Science to KS3, Physics & when required another subject to GCSE and Physics to 'A' level.
- Manage the day to day organization of Physics across all key stages
- Manage the department's teaching rooms and resources.
- Support the relevant key stage and vocational coordinators in dealing with disciplinary matters emerging from Physics lessons.
- Oversee the provision, monitoring and evaluation of standards of teaching & learning in Physics.
- Promote liaison between adjacent key stages to ensure continuity of progress for pupils.
- Work in partnership with the members of the Physics department and the rest of the Faculty to develop and coordinate the Physics department.
- Coordinate Staff Development and Performance Management within the Physics department.
- Work closely with the Head of Faculty to Support the running of the Science Faculty.

(b) PASTORAL

Reporting to the relevant Pastoral and Achievement Leader, the teacher appointed will:

- Act as a form Tutor if so required.
- Carry out normal school pastoral routines.
- Maintain an attendance register.
- Carry out other tasks within the year by agreement.
- Undertake supervisory duties.

Bridgewater High School

PERSON SPECIFICATION

HEAD OF PHYSICS

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
EXPERIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To have successfully taught Physics to 'A' level ▪ Knowledge of the Physics curriculum at KS3, 4 & 5 ▪ To have successfully held a management role within a school, be it paid or unpaid. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To have successfully taught Physics and another Science to GCSE level. ▪ Knowledge of vocational Pathways in Science. ▪ Knowledge of Key Stage 2 Science curriculum
QUALIFICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A degree in, or involving the study of a Science subject. ▪ Qualified as a teacher. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continuing personal study in Science/Education
SPECIAL APTITUDES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Energy, drive and enthusiasm. ▪ Good organisational and time management skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interest in the role of the Arts within the curriculum and as an extra-curricular activity and interest in the use of ICT in Science
INTER-PERSONAL SKILLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work as a member of a team. ▪ Relate well to pupils of all abilities. ▪ Good communication skills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To have worked in a similar environment (11-18 comprehensive school)