

JOB DESCRIPTION

Teacher of Physics/Trainee

Commencing September 2024

Department Physics

Line Manager Head of Physics

General

St Paul's is a selective independent boys' school with about 950 pupils in the age range 13 to 18, of whom up to 35 are boarders. The School (which includes a Junior School for boys of age 7 to 13) occupies a superb 45-acre site on the south bank of the Thames, west of Hammersmith Bridge. St Paul's excels academically at both A-level/Pre-U and GCSE / iGCSE, with some of the highest national scores. These endeavours, as well as the work beyond the curriculum, excite students and teachers alike. Teaching takes place within an eight-period day, five days a week.

The Physics Department

The department certainly is one of the strongest in the country with at full strength nine full time physicists covering a wide range of research interests and backgrounds. We pride ourselves on our openness and support for each other's teaching, and our willingness to contribute ideas and make suggestions on the best way to approach any topic. We also have two full time technicians who help us to integrate the practical aspects of physics with the more theoretical.

In keeping with the school's values, the department promotes a scholarly approach to learning: We aim to train physicists who are able to understand the world around them and solve interesting and unfamiliar problems. As a by-product, students perform well in public examinations.

All boys entering the Senior School at 13+ take three separate sciences and are taught by subject specialists. In physics, boys follow a three year Edexcel iGCSE course.

Last year 33 of 76 (43%) of our candidates achieved an A* at A-Level, with 63 out of 76 (83%) gaining A*-A. The department has also had excellent success in the Physics Olympiad, regularly scoring Gold Top 100 in BPHO round 1 and student progressing to later stages of the competition.

Around 20 scientists and engineers in any one year are likely to be successful candidates for either Oxford, Cambridge or other leading universities, including in the US.

The department organises trips (recently to CERN), has a Physics Society, an Astronomy Society, and also a vibrant Engineering Society. Each society holds frequent talks and competitions, with success nationally in Aerospace Challenge competitions, and internationally in the Weizmann Safecracking competition and CanSat.

We are also proud to host the first full Scanning Electron Microscope in a school anywhere in the UK - a centre for boys to conduct real research leading to conference visits and a hugely successful series of Outreach events in Material Science.

Person Profile

The post could suit an experienced teacher, an NQT, a candidate coming from research or industry, or a recent graduate for whom full training will be provided. The successful applicant will be expected to teach Physics throughout the 13 to 18 age range (iGCSE and A-level) with a focus on stretching our brightest students. The successful applicant would also be expected to contribute to the wider extra-curricular and enrichment activities of the department.

- Strong academic background and subject knowledge
- Ability to stretch our best and brightest students (BPHO and Oxbridge preparation)
- Passion for the subject taught and for teaching
- Excellent classroom practitioner (or potential to be)
- Commitment to improve teaching and learning, and continued professional development
- Good communication skills, orally and written
- Ability to work well as part of a team, and to build trust and openness
- Discretion, courtesy, honesty and integrity
- Reliable, punctual, diligent and well-organised
- Enthusiasm, and ability to motivate and inspire students
- Commitment to safeguarding and the welfare of students
- Willingness to be involved in the wider life of the school

Further Details and application

Members of staff, once established, are normally expected to become tutors, having responsibility for the pastoral care of up to 15 boys across the age range, and to contribute to the many extracurricular activities, such as sport and societies, which St Paul's offers.

Further details and an application form can be obtained from the School's website www.stpaulsschool.org.uk via the 'Work with us' link in the footer.

The Head of Physics, Dr Ryan Buckingham, would be happy to talk to any interested applicant and answer any queries. He can be contacted by email in the first instance at rmb@stpaulsschool.org.uk. Please note, all shortlisted candidates will be required to teach an observed lesson at interview.

Applications should be sent, via email, to recruitment@stpaulsschool.org.uk.

**The closing date for applications is 9am on Wednesday 31st January 2024.
Interviews will take place on Wednesday 7th February 2024.**

Please note that the school reserves the right to interview at any stage after applications are received, so early application is advised.

All staff have a responsibility and duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils. Staff must be aware of the systems within the School which support safeguarding and must act in accordance with the School's Safeguarding & Child Protection policy and Code of Conduct. Staff will receive appropriate child protection training which is regularly updated.