

Head of Science

September 2021

Are you an innovative, inspiring curriculum leader who is forward-thinking, self-motivated and has the vision and ambition to lead our Science Department to the next level? If so, we will support you to advance your career in this expanding and successful Independent School.

Royal Russell School is an HMC/IAPS co-educational school with over 1000 pupils between the ages of 3 and 18, situated on a beautiful green campus of 110 acres in the Shirley Hills near Croydon, on the doorstep of London. We have over 170 boarding students in the Senior School and are proud of our day and boarding facilities that rank amongst the best in the South of England. Our pupils, parents and staff experience a warm and friendly environment with strong pastoral care for every pupil alongside a comprehensive co-curricular and enrichment programme. We aim to build on this alongside improving academic success to continue to be the family school of choice in South London. In March 2016 the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) judged the school as 'excellent' in all areas and in October 2019 we successfully passed a full ISI Compliance Inspection.

You will be a well-qualified, outstanding, innovative and inspiring graduate teacher with outstanding subject knowledge, who has a successful track record of teaching at least one of the science disciplines at KS3-5 to a high level. You will also be an experienced leader able to bring all these subject areas together with a common purpose in order to take our results to the next level and increase take-up of all sciences at A level. You will also have evidence of raising achievement and demonstrating good value-added in your teaching groups.

You will be specifically responsible for leading the science curriculum at KS3 and for delivering the STEM and Problem-Solving challenge working with one of the technicians who provides dedicated support for students in STEM.

This is an exciting time to join the Science department following the opening in September 2020 of a brand-new purpose-built Science block consisting of 10 laboratories, 2 teaching rooms and discipline specific prep rooms. The dedicated team of staff provide outstanding support at all levels; our students achieved 100% pass rate for double award Science in 2020 and 88.9% of separate Science grades awarded at an 8 or 9. Our A-Level results are similarly impressive with 100% A*-B achieved in Biology and Chemistry, 100% A*-D in Physics and 53.1% of the Psychology A-Level grades at A* or A in the last qualification season. Our students are respectful and responsive, and are proud to uphold the strong values of the School. Colleagues and the leadership team are highly supportive.

The Science department consists of 16 members of staff working in either Biology, Chemistry, Physics or Psychology with a dedicated technician for each discipline. The team are committed to doing the very best for all our students, setting them high expectations in a supportive environment while fostering independent learning and practical skills. There is a culture of sharing resources and ideas. Science is delivered as an integrated subject in Years 7, with subject specialism delivered from Year 8. Students are placed into ability sets for the separate science subjects from Year 9. Psychology is offered at A-Level.

This role requires candidates who are committed to, and have experience of, using a range of teaching styles and methods, including the use of the Microsoft Office suite and Teams who have the initiative and drive to develop pedagogy across the department and expand

opportunities for co-curricular activities and experiences to extend learning opportunities outside the curriculum.

Royal Russell offers excellent benefits including a competitive salary on our own salary scale which is above SNS and includes allowances for specific pastoral and academic responsibilities. As part of the vibrant community of the historic Royal Russell School, you will work in our beautiful green parkland estate with easy access to transport links. Teachers automatically join the Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS), or you may opt into an alternative defined contribution pension with free life cover on a promoted salary scale. In addition you will have access to free car parking, free meals, a discount on School fees, and the use of our sporting and gym facilities. Full details of our staff benefits and recruitment procedures can be found on our School recruitment page at: <https://www.royalrussell.co.uk/our-school/vacancies>

Applications will be considered on receipt and should arrive no later than **noon on Monday 22 February 2021**. Initial selection interviews will be held in **w/c 22 February 2021**. The second stage will be held in School and will depend on the national position on travel during lockdown. If you have not heard from us by **Friday 26 February 2021** you should presume that you have not been successful on this occasion.

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. All appointments are subject to a satisfactory enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (including a check against the Children's Barred List) and other pre-employment screening including references and medical fitness.