

Vacancy

Teacher of Science,
Biology, Physics or Chemistry specialism



Prior Park
Gibraltar



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“ I have never worked anywhere that so sincerely values fostering good human beings. I had assumed before coming here that talk of holistic education was good marketing, but it is the aim of this school. It feels very special to work here. ”



Message from the Headmaster

Thank you for taking an interest in the role of Teacher of Science, Biology, Physics or Chemistry specialism at Prior Park School, Gibraltar. We are excited to see how the successful applicant for this role will bring forward their ideas and energy to support our Science Department.

We hope that you find this brochure helpful and informative, but, should you require any further guidance, please do contact our HR team who will be happy to assist further.

We look forward to receiving your application.

Paul Martyn, Head, Prior Park, Gibraltar

Mission Statement:

To steward a thriving family of communities with love for the young people they serve at their heart: communities which cultivate creativity, foster integrity, and transform lives.

Our Values:

Curiosity • Generosity • Courage



The School

Set in a stunning location, high up on the Rock and overlooking the bay, Prior Park School is a vibrant, caring community with an ambition as boundless as our view. Prior Park School is Gibraltar's first independent, coeducational, Catholic/Christian day school for children aged 11-18.

Since our opening in 2016, we have gone from strength to strength, growing considerably in size; achieving outstanding academic outcomes whilst being awarded Beacon Status by the Council Of British International Schools for our extra-curricular provision. Now is an exciting time to join our flourishing community.

“PPSG has a really strong sense of community. The students appreciate their teachers. Kindness is visible in the little day to day actions I have observed many times here from students and staff. Charity is also a huge part of our ethos. Celebrating Mass in such a beautiful church is a real privilege and having that religious foundation means a great deal to me. There is no sense of exclusion even if you are not a Catholic.

I know that if I need advice or support I can ask for it. Few schools also have such an amazing view and Gibraltar is a unique environment to teach in. Our student and staff body is diverse and that is very exciting and stimulating. ”



Prior Park Schools

Prior Park Schools is a family of Christian schools based in Bath and Gibraltar. Together, the Schools offer education for pupils aged between 3 and 18. Since the establishment of Prior Park College in 1830, the family has grown, with The Paragon School joining in 2006, and Prior Park School Gibraltar being opened by Prior Park Schools in 2016.

The Schools' Mission is to steward a thriving family of communities with love for the young people they serve at their heart. These vibrant communities cultivate creativity, foster integrity, and transform lives.

Across three sites, the Schools educate over 1100 young people of all faiths and none. The values underpinning the Mission and the Schools' educational offerings are Curiosity, Generosity, and Courage. The Schools believe that quality education changes lives and that outstanding schools are engines for positive social transformation.

Our Schools provide excellent teaching, equipping our young people to leave for a variety of exciting destinations. The success of what the Schools do in the classroom is intertwined with their co-curricular offerings. The young people undertake a wide variety of activities, which, in addition to being fun, challenge them to persevere to succeed. We work together imaginatively and courageously to hone the skills our young people need to forge their place in the world.

Prior Park Schools (PPS) have long been renowned for the quality of their pastoral care. Grounded in the love that sits at the centre of our Mission, our pastoral ethos allows young people to feel safe and secure to challenge themselves, to learn who they want to be, and to discover the difference they want to make.

Each of the Schools' Heads are supported by a Leadership Team, who together lead the day-to-day educational business of their respective schools. The Board of Trustees provides governance and support for the Heads and their schools via a number of Advisory Committees which include Local Boards for each of the schools, the Finance, Audit, Investment & Risk Committee (FAIR), an Education Committee and Safeguarding.

The Executive management of the schools is devolved to the Prior Executive Board (PEB) which comprises the Heads of each constituent school, The Director of Operations & Finance, the Director of Development, and the Head of Compliance. The PEB drives the strategic development of PPS, ensuring that it is on track to deliver its Vision and thereby remains a market leader in independent education.

More information about our schools can be found at www.priorparkschools.com



The Person

We are looking for an inspiring, engaging, and talented teacher to join our experienced, friendly team, who has the relevant skills to teach Science across the key stages including A level. The successful candidate will be passionate about their subject, dedicated to providing exceptional learning experiences within and beyond the classroom, and keen to contribute to the wider aspects of the school life. We welcome applications from people of all faiths and none but an understanding of and support for the school's Catholic/Christian ethos is important for all staff. All teachers are expected to play a full part in the wider extra-curricular life of this busy school.

Skills

- Be an outstanding teacher, with exceptional subject and pedagogical knowledge
- Excellent communication skills and the ability to build relationships with students, parents and colleagues
- Excellent planning, administration, and time management skills
- The ability to work to deadlines

Experience

- Educated to degree level with Qualified Teacher Status
- Evidence of a commitment to continuing professional development

Personal Qualities

- Leading by example with honesty and integrity
- Be able to take the initiative
- Have a good sense of humour and be flexible and adaptable

We welcome applications from both experienced and newly qualified teachers.



The Department

The science department at Prior Park is a well resourced faculty that aims to instil in students a love of science while developing their sense of wonder. Our goal is to develop young people into informed, scientifically literate members of society. We try to look beyond the limits of exam specifications to give our students the skills needed to critically assess information, identify patterns and relationships and to collaborate successfully with others both in the lab and in the wider community. The department currently comprises 9 teachers.

The average set sizes are:

KS3 - 22 Students

KS4 - 18 Students

KS5 - 7 Students

Curriculum and Results

Science is compulsory for all students in KS3 and KS4, with the latter being given the option to study separate sciences for the GCSE. AQA is the exam board at GCSE and A Level, with the exception of Physics A level which is OCR. Our year 7 curriculum is based on science skills with scientific investigations being the main focus. Students begin studying the GCSE curriculum in year 9.

KS3 sets are mixed ability whilst at KS4 there are three sets; one of which comprises students who have chosen separate sciences, with the other two being set by ability.

Results

	GCSE 9-5
2019	78%
2018	80%

NB: There are no results available for GCSE and A level 2020 & 2021 due to the cancellation of exams and use of Centre Assessed Grades.

Resources and Accommodation

The department has four laboratories, three of which contain a fume cupboard. All laboratories contain the equipment that you would expect to find to run typical practical activities in a UK secondary school. There is one lab technician in the departments to manage experiment requests.

A wide variety of online services are also available to students to allow them to further their learning beyond the four walls of the classroom. Teachers utilise Microsoft 365 software, in particular Microsoft OneNote in the delivery of all lessons, and in the monitoring and tracking pupil progress. All students in the department bring personal learning devices to lessons and use this as their normal way of working. Additionally, all teaching staff are issued with Lenovo ThinkPad Yoga devices, with digital pens, to help with their teaching. Prior Park Schools use Office 365 as our learning platform and all teaching staff are expected to have, or be working towards, the Microsoft Innovative Educator award. At present, we use OneNote and Teams as our main learning tools with other Office 365 apps as required e.g. Word, PowerPoint and Excel.

Extra-Curricular Activities and Trips

We believe that it is vital to promote interest and enthusiasm for the subject beyond the constraints of the specifications, to engender intellectual curiosity and to develop the capacity for independent thought.

Recent trips included the local wildlife park and botanic gardens, the water reservoirs, the radar facility in the Port Authority, as well as trips that take advantage of our unique location such as a boat trip to see the dolphins or marine invertebrates interaction at the local beach.



The Position

Main Responsibilities and Tasks

Teaching and Learning

- Plan, deliver and review academically challenging and inspirational lessons
- Contribute significantly to the development of Science provision at Prior Park
- Ensure lessons meet the needs of individual students in accordance with advice from the SENCO Medical team, and House staff
- Assessing, recording, and reporting on the development and attainment of students in line with department policy
- Organising and participating in subject focused extra-curricular activities

Continuing Professional Development

- To ensure up to date knowledge of educational issues and trends
- To identify training needs in consultation with the Head of Department
- To participate in the induction programme as required by the Deputy Head

Parents

- To prepare academic reports, provide subject information to parents, attendance at Parents' Evenings and response to subject related parental enquiries

General Duties

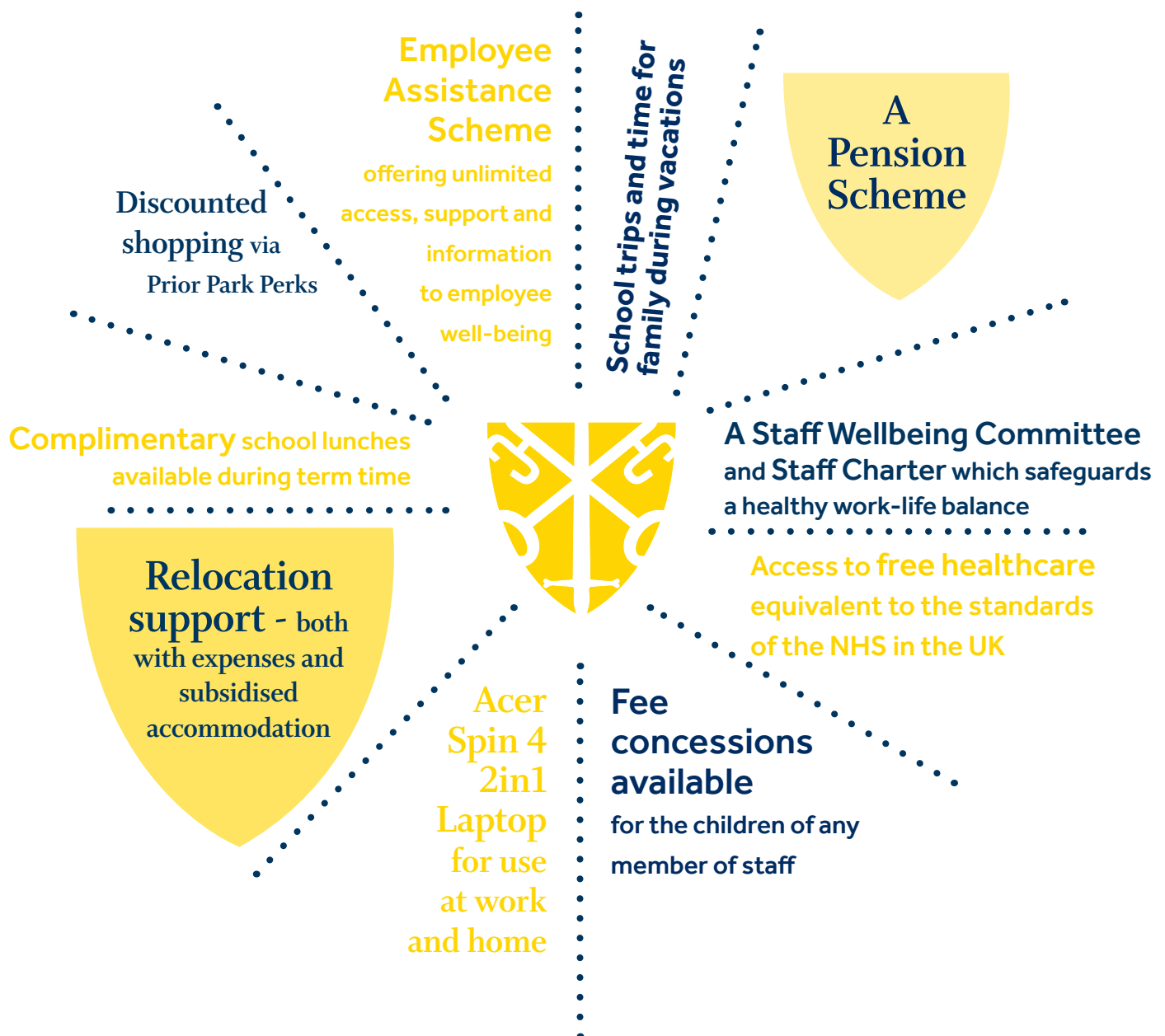
- To contribute to the extra-curricular programme of the school, which may include evenings and weekends
- To act as a House tutor in being part of a team reporting to a Housemaster/ Housemistress and making a full contribution to House associated events
- To adhere to and implement the school's behaviour policy
- Participate in the system of cover for absent colleagues
- To be familiar with the Common Room Handbook and school guidance policies
- To ensure that Health and Safety procedures are followed

Please note this list is not exhaustive and other additional, reasonable tasks falling within the capabilities of the post holder may be required, depending on the needs of the College.



The Benefits - Why Prior Park School Gibraltar?

There is an extensive induction programme for all new colleagues and we encourage ongoing professional development through generous CPD provision at a school, department and individual level. Individual support and coaching for career progression, internally and externally, is provided by members of the Senior Management Team. Apart from working in an inspiring environment and making an important contribution to our School community, we also offer a range of personal benefits, these include:



The Benefits - Why Gibraltar? Reasons why it's great to live and work in Gibraltar

Local Economy

Gibraltar has many strengths to support economic growth; an enviable quality of life; a World Heritage site; a high quality University; a strong Education sector and a well-qualified workforce. Forecasts suggest continued confidence in the area with ongoing growth and investments for the next few years.

Culture

For its size, Gibraltar is a vibrant and cosmopolitan city with plenty of independent shops, restaurants and cultural attractions. Start your day with brunch in an artisan bakery, take a dip in the Mediterranean on one of its six beaches and finish by taking the cable car to the top to see the sunset on three countries and two continents.

Quality of life

The sun shines for 73% of the year and the immediate surroundings provide an incredible range of leisure and cultural activities. Summers are warm and the winters mild, with outside dining a realistic proposition every month of the year. Employment rates are well above the UK average and public services and transport links are excellent. Surrounded by beautiful Spanish and Moorish architecture and stunning countryside, it has something for everyone, making Gibraltar one of the most desirable places in Europe to live and work.



Transport

With the city centre being fairly compact and largely pedestrianised, it's easy to walk around the city to visit its most popular attractions. Given its small size, nowhere is too far to walk, but the local bus routes make exploring quick and easy. Gibraltar is also fully equipped with its own international airport providing a regular timetable of flights to many parts of the UK and to Morocco. Across the frontier with Spain, Seville, Malaga, Cordoba, Ronda and Morocco are all within a few hours' drive.

Surrounded by nature

With an array of National and Natural parks both in Gibraltar and Andalusia, and the local city parks makes for a very attractive, green environment. We are surrounded by the sea and great beaches and yet the nearby mountains in Spain make it possible to ski on snow in the morning and then ski in the Med in the afternoon. The Strait is a major migration zone for both birds and aquatic mammals with sightseeing trips for both locally available

Staff Quote

“The climate & lifestyle. I have 3 children and raising them here is absolutely the right choice for my family. At weekends we explore the Andalusian coast, there is an abundance of stunning places to visit and walks to do. Living on the Med means we have more hours of light and excellent climate, we can BBQ in the 'winter' months and in the summer, we spend our holidays in Southern Spain and Portugal, my children love the water parks and long days at the beach. My children have fantastic opportunities available to them, they do weekly afterschool activities such as sailing, kayaking and flamenco dance lessons. Aside from the lifestyle opportunities in Gibraltar we feel this is a safe place to raise children.”

The Process

To apply for this role, please complete our application form which can be downloaded from the school website www.thepriorfoundation.com/vacancies

Applications should be emailed to the HR Department: recruitment@priorparkschools.com

Closing date for applications is midday on 21 March 2025

Interviews to be held on 31 March 2025

References of those invited to interview will be taken up.

For an informal chat or to answer any questions relating to this position, please contact Mr Alan Kennedy, Science, Head of Natural Sciences on akennedy@priorparkschools.com or Mr Peter Watts, Head Teacher on pwatts@priorparkschools.com

Child Protection

Prior Park Schools is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Data Protection

In the course of employment at Prior Park Educational Trust, staff may have access to confidential information relating to pupils and their families and are required to exercise due consideration in the way they use such information. Staff should not act in any way which might be prejudicial to the School's interest. Information which may be included in the category covers both the general business of the school and information regarding specific individuals. A strict code of confidentiality must be adhered to at all times. The School is registered under the Data Protection Act 2018 and operates under policies that meet General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). Staff must not at any time use the personal data held by the school or disclose such data to a third person.





Prior Park
Gibraltar



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