



January 2025

Dear Colleague,

Teacher of Science

Thank you for your interest in this post. We are currently hoping to recruit an outstanding teacher of Science to join the Science Department.

The High School Leckhampton opened to Year 7 in September 2021 on our temporary site at Balcarras School. In September 2022 we moved to our £30 million, state-of-the-art building at Farm Lane, Leckhampton where we welcomed a new cohort of Year 7 pupils. The school has expanded each year, and we will take a new cohort of 180 pupils into Year 7 annually, until it reaches a capacity of 900 pupils. From September 2025, we will have 750 pupils on roll in years 7-11, as follows:

Year 7 = 180 pupils
Year 8 = 180 pupils
Year 9 = 150 pupils
Year 10 = 120 pupils
Year 11 = 120 pupils

We are on a very exciting journey!

The High School Leckhampton is part of The Balcarras Multi Academy Trust, and we already work closely with Balcarras School. During our first year we were temporarily housed in a brand-new building on the site of Balcarras and shared several teachers and this close relationship has continued in year 3. Consequently, all applicants should look at the Balcarras Trust website for additional information about the ethos and culture of The Trust. Winchcombe School joined The Trust in November 2023 and subject networks are in place across all 3 schools.

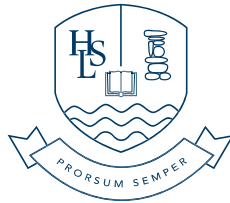
At this time, we are looking to recruit a superb teacher of Science, who will join our school. This is an exciting opportunity to work alongside our existing Science teachers as we take our first cohort of Year 11 GCSE pupils into their exams in summer 2026. We are looking for an inspirational teacher and are prepared to consider both experienced and Early Career Teachers. All candidates should have an excellent track record of achieving, or the potential



Farm Lane, Leckhampton, Cheltenham GL51 3FS | Headteacher: [Mrs Helen Wood BA \(Hons\) NPQH](#)

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The High School
Leckhampton

to achieve, outstanding GCSE outcomes and should be capable of teaching at Key Stage 5 if required.

At The High School Leckhampton we believe in developing the whole child and as such extra-curricular clubs and super curricular activities already play a key part of the life of the school – the person appointed will, we hope, make a strong contribution to them. We want our pupils to have plenty of enriching opportunities to 'experience' Science outside the classroom including visits, visiting speakers and the opportunity to enter competitions.

As we are recruiting to a new and growing school, this role provides a unique and exciting opportunity for the right candidate and I would encourage you to read all the information about the school before making your application, particularly: the *Information Pack for Applicants*, the *Prospectus*, and of course visit our website <https://www.hsl.gloucs.sch.uk/>

Above all else, we are looking for a dedicated, enthusiastic, and highly skilled Science teacher who will integrate smoothly into the existing team and who shares our values.

The High School Leckhampton is an excellent place to work, and we will support you to develop your leadership and expertise as a teacher. As you will see from the website and in the information provided to applicants, we are an ambitious school with a clear vision. Whoever is appointed will be assured of a warm welcome, a strong induction programme and consistent support.

I hope that having read all the details that you will be keen to apply. Please write a covering letter of no more than 2 sides of A4 explaining why you are a strong candidate and what you can offer to our new school.

Please send your application to arrive by *Wednesday January 29th 2025 at 9am*. We will then interview shortly afterwards.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher



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THE HIGH SCHOOL LECKHAMPTON JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: Teacher of Science

SALARY GRADE: MPS

CONTRACT TERM: Full-time & Permanent

RESPONSIBLE TO: Curriculum Lead for Science

GENERAL INFORMATION

Applications are invited for the position of **Teacher of Science** at The High School Leckhampton, from September 2025.

We are seeking a dynamic, forward-thinking teacher of Science to help develop the department as we move into our 5th year and welcome a new cohort of Year 7 pupils from September 2025. This is a tremendously exciting opportunity, and the successful applicant will have the opportunity to significantly shape the experiences of our students in Science as they progress through our growing school.

We see it as of paramount importance to appoint the right person to join a very successful and happy teaching staff that is already notable for its particularly strong emphasis on teamwork and mutual support. The successful candidate should have a keen appreciation of the school's ambitious ethos and an understanding of how academic study and scholarship, pastoral care and extra-curricular activities contribute equally within it.

The successful applicant will be confident, resilient, and comfortable with change. They will be expected to quickly familiarise themselves with the existing culture, ethos and practices of the school that have been established since the school opened on the site at Balcarras School in September 2021. We relocated to our new state of the art school in September 2022 and the new building brings with it many fantastic facilities and the opportunity to teach science in large, light laboratories, that are superbly resourced.

Above all else, the appointed candidate will share our ambition that provision of Sciences at the High School Leckhampton is second to none. They will be a superbly capable teacher, who can show they are as motivated, creative, and dedicated as the inaugural team of staff who have already worked so passionately to bring our school to life.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

We are looking for someone who is qualified as a Science teacher, with a good degree in a relevant subject and is:

- an excellent classroom practitioner, who embraces current pedagogy
- able to teach science to at least GCSE
- passionate about teaching and learning with a positive outlook and excellent interpersonal skills
- an excellent communicator and with superb interpersonal skills
- able to plan and implement our Science Curriculum in line with our curriculum vision
- enthusiastic and committed to working as part of a small team
- prepared to offer science enrichment activities, including weekly clubs, British Science week activities and science trips
- passionate about student welfare and committed to safeguarding

What you will need to succeed

- Have high expectations for yourself and the pupils to ensure that all of our children achieve their very best
- Have the ambition, creativity, and resilience to ensure The High School Leckhampton develops an excellent reputation amongst the local community for the quality of its science teaching
- Be willing to support our extra-curricular programme
- Be happy to grasp exciting CPD opportunities
- Contribute to the values, ethos and the development of our school

The Department

There is currently a small, dedicated team of 5 staff in the Science department:

- Miss Katherine Kennedy – Curriculum Lead for Science & Eco-Schools Co-ordinator
- Miss Jasmine Leyland – Teacher of Science and PSHE Lead
- Mr Adam Talbot – Teacher of Science and Geography
- Mr Grant Taylor – Teacher of Science
- Mrs Nicola Chapman – part-time Science Technician

The team collaborate closely to deliver consistent and engaging lessons, using brand-new practical equipment and detailed, high-quality resources that are available to support all students and parents via our virtual learning environment (VLE).

The Curriculum

At Key Stage 3, there is a comprehensive programme of study based on the National Curriculum. It has been designed by the Curriculum Lead for Science and is strongly supported by The Balcarras Trust. The programme values subject knowledge and practical skill development and works to support students towards their GCSE studies through completion of seven topics every academic year, each containing integral assessment opportunities. Students are taught in tutor groups in Year 7, and mixed ability classes in Year 8 and Year 9.

At Key Stage 4, we teach all students the AQA Combined Science: Trilogy specification; this will start in Year 9 using a scheme of work developed by the Science department. Students are taught in ability sets at GCSE.

The appointed candidate will be expected to plan and deliver a Science curriculum that is both challenging and inclusive, so should be able to teach to pupils of all abilities. The successful candidate will play a vital role in delivering high standards of education and ensuring students are fully involved in the wider life of the school.

The Science department offers multiple extra-curricular opportunities including Science Club, Eco-Committee, a British Science week and trips to nearby Science Museums and the Cheltenham Science Festival.

The Facilities

The Science department has its own corridor on the ground floor and comprises six large science laboratories (four of which opened in September 2024), two prep rooms, and two separate chemical and radioactive stores. Each working lab contains a whiteboard, ViewSonic interactive screen, visualiser, desktop computer with specialised teaching software, a long demonstration bench, and four rows of fixed desks fitted with gas taps and plug sockets to facilitate practical work.

The above responsibilities are in addition to the responsibilities and duties outlined in the school's standard job description for a Teacher. These responsibilities are also subject to the general duties and responsibilities contained in documents that constitute the Teacher Contract of Employment and letter of appointment.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

It is the policy of The High School Leckhampton to provide equal employment opportunities for all qualified individuals; to prohibit discrimination in employment on any basis protected by applicable law, including but not limited to race, colour, religious creed, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, age, medical condition, or disability. The High School Leckhampton promotes equal employment opportunities in all aspects of employment through positive employment policies and practices. If any special requirements are needed to attend an interview, please inform the school.

SAFEGUARDING

The post holder's responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young persons for whom they are responsible, or with whom they come into contact, will be to adhere to and ensure compliance with the School's Safeguarding Policy and Procedures at all times.

Please note that all appointments are subject to the Balcarras Trust Recruitment, Selection and Disclosure Policy and Procedures.

January 2025