



WATFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Headmistress: Miss Sylvia Tai BA (Hons)

INFORMATION PACK FOR APPLICANTS

Name of Post: Teacher of Chemistry (full-time)

Required from: September 2021

Location: Watford, Hertfordshire

Closing Date: noon 12th March 2021

Interviews: 19th March 2021 (tbc)

Thank you for requesting details of the above post. The following documents form part of this pack: this applicant letter, job description and person specification. In order to apply please use the teaching staff application form on our website, and make yourself familiar with our child protection and safer recruitment policies, also on the website. Please complete the Equalities Monitoring form via the link.

You are welcome to send a copy of your CV however it must be accompanied by a fully completed and signed application form. A CV alone will not be considered. The application form can be completed and returned electronically however if this is the case it will need to be signed in person if you are called for interview.

Completed application forms will not be acknowledged. Successful applicants will be notified within two days of the closing date. Applicants who are not called for interview will not be informed that they have been unsuccessful.

Applicants invited for interview will be required to provide original copies of relevant qualifications for verification, including for teachers evidence of their degree certificates and teaching qualifications, as well as documentation to comply with the provisions of the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006. Details of documents required will be specified in letters to those called for interview.

Contact details for Return of Completed Application forms and other enquiries:

Sue Granville
EA to Headmistress
HR Manager

s.granville@watfordgirls.herts.sch.uk



01923 223403



admin@watfordgirls.herts.sch.uk



watfordgrammarschoolforgirls.org.uk

Registered in England & Wales Company No: 07348254 Registered name and address as detailed

Watford Grammar School for Girls
Lady's Close,
Watford, Hertfordshire
WD18 0AE

WATFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS



DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION – CHEMISTRY

The Chemistry Department is a very successful and highly motivated department in our School. There are currently six specialist Chemistry teachers in the department who contribute to the teaching of Key Stage 3 Science and Chemistry at GCSE and A Level, as well as two dedicated Chemistry technicians. The staff are passionate about their subject and have developed a Chemistry curriculum that is exciting and stimulating but with a focus on academic rigor. The Chemistry staff work very closely as a team – producing shared resources and teaching notes for all topics across every Key Stage. We aim to support one another and encourage good teaching practice, but also expect initiative and the ability to think independently. As a large department with an excellent standard of teaching, commitment to the subject, determination, and an enthusiastic approach to teaching are essential.

Science is taught by one teacher in mixed ability groups in years 7 and 8, who follow a modified Key Stage 3 programme of study.

All students begin GCSE courses in Year 9 and the three Sciences are taught separately by subject specialists. We are following the Edexcel (9-1) GCSE course for separate qualifications in Biology, Chemistry and Physics and Combined Science.

A significant number of students choose to study Chemistry in the Sixth Form. There are five groups in Year 12, each group is taught for 9 periods per week, and five groups in Year 13, each group is taught for 9 periods per week. Each A level group is taught by two members of staff. We follow the AQA A level Specification.

Results for Chemistry GCSE and A-Level are outstanding, with over 40% gaining a grade 9 and 100% gaining grades 9-5 at GCSE and over 80% A*-C at A-Level in recent years.

Extra-curricular activities are of great importance within Chemistry. Staff and students in the department participate in the Junior Science Club and the CREST award scheme. Sixth Form students have the opportunity to participate in a range of clubs including a challenge club working towards the Chemistry Olympiad.

There are five well equipped Chemistry laboratories. Each has white boards and digital projectors. A recently built Geodesic Dome is also available for extracurricular activities and can be used for teaching smaller groups. The department is fortunate in having a wide range of specialist equipment available for use, and a large library of other resources.

The Chemistry department is part of a large and thriving Science department which is staffed by 18 specialist teachers and 5 technicians. There are 16 laboratories, all recently refurbished and well equipped to deliver the Science curriculum across all key stages. The department works together as a close-knit team and each member of staff contributes to the teaching, development of the curriculum and organisation of extra-curricular clubs and activities across all age groups.

The departments of Biology, Chemistry and Physics are each managed by a Head of Department who reports to the Head of Science. The Heads of Science team works very closely together to ensure the smooth running of this exceptionally successful department.



Watford Grammar School for Girls

Person Specification

Position: Teacher of Chemistry

Department: Science

	Requirement	If ticked this is essential	How this will be assessed
Qualifications	A passion for Chemistry and a good honours degree in their subject area.	<i>Essential</i>	<i>Application form.</i>
Specific Training Requirements	Teaching qualification.	<i>Essential</i>	<i>Application form.</i>
Experience	An outstanding classroom teacher with the ability to teach Chemistry at Key Stage 3, GCSE and A level.	<i>Essential</i>	<i>Application form. Lesson observation Interview</i>
Knowledge	IT skills and experience of using ICT in teaching.	<i>Essential</i>	<i>Application form. Interview</i>
Skills and Competencies	Excellent organisational and administrative skills. An ability to teach all three Sciences to Key Stage 3.	<i>Essential</i> <i>Essential</i>	<i>Application form. Interview</i>
Communication skills	Articulate and accurate communication.	<i>Essential</i>	<i>Application form. Lesson observation Interview</i>
Personal Attributes	A commitment to raising achievement and providing challenge in the classroom. Ability to work as part of a team. Willingness to take a full part in extended-curricular activities, including day trips. In sympathy with the aims of the school. Enthusiasm, energy and initiative.	<i>Essential</i> <i>Essential</i> <i>Essential</i> <i>Essential</i> <i>Essential</i>	<i>Application form. Interview.</i>
Other			

Applicants called for interview should note that the interview itself (and/or any additional tasks to be performed, if applicable) will, as appropriate to the role:

- (i) Focus on the requirements to carry out the duties of the job, as described
- (ii) Explore issues relating to the safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, including:
 - Motivation to work with children and young people
 - Ability to form and maintain appropriate relationships and personal boundaries with children and young people
 - Emotional resilience in working with challenging behaviours
 - Attitudes to use of authority and maintaining discipline.
- (iii) Be used to explore any relevant issues arising from references received.

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