



WATFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Headmistress: Miss Sylvia Tai BA (Hons)

INFORMATION PACK FOR APPLICANTS

Name of Post: Head of Physics (full-time)

Required from: September 2021

Location: Watford, Hertfordshire

Closing Date: noon 5th May 2021

Interviews: Wednesday 12th May 2021

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 also 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 bring with them 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



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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 – PHYSICS

The Physics Department is a successful and highly motivated department in our School. There are currently five specialist Physics teachers in the department who contribute to the teaching of Key Stage 3 Science and Physics at GCSE and A Level, as well as a dedicated Physics technician. The staff are passionate about their subject with a focus on academic rigor. The Physics staff work very closely as a team aiming to support one another and encourage good teaching practice, but we also expect initiative and the ability to think independently. The department has an excellent standard of teaching, so 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.

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

Around 30 students choose to study Physics in each of Year 12 and 13; the students follow the Edexcel specification for A Level. There are two groups in Year 12 and two groups in Year 13, each group is taught for five 1 hour periods per week by two members of staff.

Results for Physics GCSE and A-Level are outstanding with 100% gaining 9-6 at GCSE and 96% A*-C at A-Level in 2020 (2019 results: 100% 9-6 at GCSE and 92% A*-C at A Level).

Extra-curricular activities are of great importance within Physics. Staff and students in the department participate in the Astronomy Club, GCSE Astronomy is offered as an extra-curricular option. A large number of girls enter the BPhO Challenge competitions.

There are three well equipped Physics 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.

The Physics department is part of a large and thriving Science department which is staffed by 19 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, developing the curriculum and participating in 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.

April 2021



Watford Grammar School for Girls

Person Specification

Position: Head of Physics.

Department: Science

	Requirement	If ticked this is essential	How this will be assessed
Qualifications	A passion for Science and Physics 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 Science to at least Key Stage 3 and Physics to 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. A responsive, approachable and open-minded team-player who can work closely and productively with the Department. Ability to prioritise timely review and reflection of progress and achievement. An ability to formulate multi-disciplinary curriculum documents.	<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 trips. In sympathy with the aims of the school. Enthusiasm, energy, initiative and a sense of humour.	<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.