

TEACHER OF CHEMISTRY

Bishop Vesey's Grammar School is a four form entry boys' grammar school situated in a pleasant environment at the northern end of the Birmingham Local Education Authority. Boys are selected for admission to the school on the basis of tests in non-verbal reasoning, verbal reasoning and mathematics, administered by the LEA. The school has a large sixth form, around 278 which, since 1983, has been open to girls as well as boys. The school is a specialist language college and it is also a Training School leading to many professional development opportunities.

The Chemistry department is a dynamic department which places innovation in teaching and learning at the core of its practice. It has a very strong reputation and an excellent record of success.

At Key Stage 3, Science is taught as an integrated course in years 7 and 8, with pupils taught in groups of thirty one and twenty five respectively. From Year 9 the students are taught by subject specialists and all students follow the AQA Chemistry course.

All students study the three separate sciences to GCSE, with class sizes at an average of 23 students. The AQA specification is followed. In 2009 74% of our entry achieved A* or A grade, with A* to C at 98%.

In the Sixth Form, Chemistry is very popular. We are joined by pupils of both sexes from other schools. Around 80 students take AS Chemistry in Year 12, with the majority continuing to A2. We operate four teaching sets in each year, with between 10 and 24 students in each (depending upon their option choices). The AQA specification is followed. In 2009 66% of our entry achieved a grade A/B.

The main school science block houses nine well-equipped laboratories, three of which are allocated to each of the sciences. We make much use of IT; all rooms are fitted with projectors and interactive whiteboards, we have a wide range of learning software and a bank of laptop computers. There is excellent support from a full time, well-qualified technician; this means that we can be innovative, up-to-date and practical in our teaching.

There are currently five full time Chemistry teachers, including the Head of Department, who principally teach Chemistry and they usually have teaching groups in all years. The Science Department teachers are enthusiastic about the teaching of their subjects and our pupils are able and want to succeed. This is evidenced by recent external examinations in science and Chemistry.

The school operates an extensive Games programme, together with a broad range of extra-curricular activities. Most members of staff are form tutors. In addition, there is a flourishing house system.

We seek a well qualified and enthusiastic teacher to join an ambitious and forward- looking school. An ability to teach KS3 Science and Chemistry to GCSE and A level would be preferable. Candidates for teaching posts at the school are expected to show a willingness to help with an extra-curricular activity.