APPOINTMENT OF TEACHER OF SCIENCE

The deadline for applications is noon on Friday 11th May 2018

Bilton Grange School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure & Barring Service
APPOINTMENT OF TEACHER OF SCIENCE AT BILTON GRANGE

Bilton Grange is a wonderful Prep School situated just south of Rugby; we currently have around 280 children from 4 to 13. The Pre-Prep, housed in its own Edwardian buildings caters for day children from Reception to Year 3 inclusive; Year 4 upwards are in the Prep and are a combination of day, boarding and flexi-boarding pupils. Presently we have in the region of 50 full and weekly boarders, with another 35 flexi-boarding on a regular basis.

The pupils benefit hugely from the awe and wonder of the buildings and interiors, designed by Augustus Welby Pugin, and the 90 acres of outdoor space, a parkland of nationally-designated beauty. Our children depart at 13, for a range of senior schools both boarding and day, as confident, engaged and well-mannered teenagers committed to learning and exploring the world around them. A number win scholarships both academic, all-rounder and in specialist fields such as music, sport, art, design technology or drama.

Bilton Grange has always offered strong academic teaching as part of a broad education that few other schools can match and encourages the highest aspirations in pupils within a friendly environment. Our website www.biltongrange.co.uk provides a further window into our world and a video on the school within this site. The 2017 inspection by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) found that the quality of Bilton Grange pupils’ personal development and their academic and other achievements is excellent, the highest award they can offer to a school. Inspectors noted that Bilton Grange pupils ‘…achieve high standards across the breadth of the curriculum as a result of the commitment, enthusiasm and support that they receive from the staff’. The full report is available here - Bilton Grange ISI Quality Inspection Report 2017

Bilton Grange is fortunate in having excellent facilities for specialist teaching whether scientific, the performing and creative arts, or sport. We continue to strive to improve and develop new facilities and a full-size floodlit astroturf, inside Pugin’s walled garden, was completed in December 2014; more prosaically a new car park and traffic circulation was built in Summer 2016. The boarding accommodation has been redeveloped and redecorated extensively over the last two years, and this programme is continuing and nearing completion; the girls’ house will have been totally refurbished, with colour co-ordinated bedrooms, and on the boys’ side a games room has been established, as well as decorating the younger boys’ rooms to feel more homely. Wifi has been installed in both houses. A further programme of building works will be announced over the coming months and years; Bilton Grange is determined to be The Best. However its most valuable resource and the only way in which it can reach this lofty goal is its staff.

Our staff work hard but enjoy the challenges of being in a busy but fulfilling learning community. They are dedicated to the children in their care who in turn feel secure and happy. Relatively small class sizes ensure each child can receive the appropriate amount of individual attention. Specialist teachers carry out almost all teaching from Year 5 upwards across a very wide curriculum but specialist teaching begins earlier than this, even in the Pre-Prep. Academic staff contribute enthusiastically to the life of the school, offering games coaching and other activities to the children according to their skills and interests, and a number are involved in boarding. Nearly all teachers have a pastoral role as form tutors. The school appointed a new Headmaster in September 2013, a refreshed and reorganised Senior Leadership Team is in place. This is an exciting time in Bilton Grange’s distinguished and long history.

Bilton Grange is accessible from the M1, M6 and M45 and, enjoying a central location in the country, has good links both road and rail in all directions.
TEACHER OF SCIENCE

There are currently three scientists in the department, as well as a part-time technician. Science is currently taught as a single subject from Years 4-8 with the pupils setted into three sets from Year 5. The school consciously decided to move away from discrete discipline teachers to one teacher working with a set to deliver Chemistry, Biology and Physics, in order to better educate and prepare the children, especially allowing for a more synoptic approach to scientific study.

The precise nature of the teaching might be tailored to the skills and experience of the successful candidate although, given the nature of setting arrangements, it is essential that the postholder can teach up to Year 8. We are looking for an outstanding yet flexible and adaptable teacher.

We will appoint the best teacher, with the best ‘fit’ with our school culture, to the role; it may be someone with real strengths in other areas, it may even be someone looking to engage in boarding. Above all else, we want to appoint someone who enjoys working with children, seeing them thrive and preparing them academically and holistically for the next stage in their education and life journey.

Professional Duties and Responsibilities

1. To work alongside the Head of Science to make a significant contribution to the teaching of all three Science disciplines within that department;
2. To regularly monitor and evaluate the progress of children in Science including preparation for internal examinations (including the ISEB 11+ papers used in Year 6), Common Entrance and Scholarship level;
3. To maintain an effective system of assessment and record keeping;
4. To ensure that parents are kept informed of their child’s progress by written reports, informal communication and attendance at parents’ meetings;
5. To iron out any problems in Science with parents through formal and informal meetings;
6. To assist the Head of Science to evaluate and monitor the progress of children in Science;
7. To support the Science department with the preparation of practical laboratory work;
8. To take part in a programme of activities within the department and to help plan regular educational visits;
9. To attend courses and INSET on the two days preceding the start of each term;
10. To contribute to the presentation of the Science area by using appropriate displays to celebrate children’s work;
11. To be aware of, and implement, all Health and Safety issues pertinent to scientific chemicals and equipment.
PERSON SPECIFICATION

The successful candidate is likely to be:

1. a graduate and a qualified teacher;
2. a high-calibre teacher who can inspire children as well as other teachers;
3. someone who sets himself or herself very high professional and personal standards;
4. committed to prep school life and understanding what that entails;
5. energetic, enthusiastic and hard-working;
6. comfortable using ICT and Interactive Whiteboards in teaching and using ICT as an appropriate communication and presentation tool;
7. understanding of the Christian ethos of Bilton Grange, and committed to our values of inclusion, kindness and care for all;
8. someone who can quickly win the confidence of Bilton Grange parents;
9. a good colleague who will fit into, and contribute to, the Bilton Grange staff room;
10. keen to contribute to activities and sports;
11. willing to commit to the extended week that Bilton Grange operates;
12. Highly motivated, ambitious, and upbeat;
13. Calm under pressure with a good sense of humour;
14. Flexible and collaborative;
15. Evidence of a commitment to promoting the health, welfare and safeguarding of children;
16. Evidence of promoting, implementing and monitoring equal opportunities across all aspects of the school;
17. A ‘team player’.

The salary for this post will be on Bilton Grange’s salary scale which includes thresholds for excellent performance. There is a Performance Coaching and Evaluation scheme in place which will help teachers to fulfil their potential whilst ensuring high standards. School accommodation may be available.

Desirable requirements

1. Has a current First Aid qualification
2. Is able/confident to drive the minibus

Outline Pay and Conditions

A competitive starting salary will be offered in accordance with experience and qualifications. This salary will be reviewed annually. The school grounds provide an attractive environment. Members of staff have the opportunity to use the school sport and leisure facilities.
The Application Process

Please supply a letter of application detailing why you should be considered for this role along with a completed application form and CV, which must include names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of two referees.

Applications can be emailed to hmpa@jbiltongrange.co.uk or posted to:

Mrs Julie Campbell
Headmaster’s PA and HR Manager
Bilton Grange Preparatory School
Dunchurch
Rugby
CV22 6QU

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The post-holders will have an important responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children within the boarding community and more widely within the school; Bilton Grange promotes an ethos of outstanding pastoral care and attention to safeguarding. If, in the course of carrying out the duties of the post, the post-holders become aware of any actual or potential risks to the safety or welfare of children in the school, they must report any concerns to the school’s Designated Safeguarding Lead (currently the Assistant Head Pastoral) or to the Headmaster, who is also a trained DSL.