

## **PETER SYMONDS COLLEGE BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**Job Title: Teacher of Chemistry**

**Responsible to: Head of Chemistry**

The Chemistry department is housed together with Biology and Environmental Science in a purpose-built Science Centre. Student enrolments for Chemistry have increased in recent years. All lessons take place in dedicated labs equipped with fume cupboards, data projectors and interactive whiteboards.

College-wide issues, including pastoral provision and general curriculum and quality matters, are dealt with at the faculty level. Full time teaching staff as well as being subject teachers are usually also personal tutors.

Student demand for Chemistry is very high at this college. Currently we have around 700 students across L6th/U6th. We follow the A level OCR A course.

There are 7 F/T (or near F/T) and 2 P/T chemistry teachers, supported by 4 part time technicians. Individual teachers all take on responsibility for the development of course materials and the provision of subject-specific support via a programme of workshops. Each class has 5 lessons of 55 minutes (2 doubles and one single lesson each week). The typical teaching commitment for a full-time member of staff is 4.5 groups plus tutor plus workshops. The college timetable runs from 09:00 to 16:40.

The person appointed to this post should be a graduate of Chemistry or a closely allied subject. They must be capable of competently teaching Chemistry A level but we would also welcome applications from candidates who have not had this opportunity so far in their career. In addition, candidates should possess the following characteristics:

- an ability to enthusiastically transfer knowledge, understanding and skills of Chemistry to students;
- be an enthusiastic participant in resource development;
- be committed to proactive subject-specific student support;
- have a firm grasp of the issues and importance of health and safety matters;
- enthusiastic to contribute to and develop subject enrichment activities

All students and staff use Information Technology as an essential tool for teaching and learning. Students are expected to use the Chemistry intranet as an integral part of their course and all classes make use of google classroom for lesson resources.

The post offers good opportunities for career development in a highly successful department and faculty, particularly for a teacher keen to respond to the changing demands in the sector. The college organises and supports INSET opportunities within the college, and encourages staff to attend relevant events organised externally.

Aimee Cooksey  
Head of Chemistry  
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