

Job Title: Head of Medical Science

Peter Symonds College introduced the WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Medical Science in September 2019. We introduced the course as an addition to our current provision of A level science courses as we felt that there was a gap for students wanting to study science at level 3 with lower entry grades. We currently have two members of staff sharing the teaching of the two classes of Year 1 students who will progress to Year 2. We are expecting to welcome an additional two or three Year 1 classes in September 2020.

Because of these projected numbers and internal staffing changes we need additional teaching hours and also a Head of Subject for the Medical Science Diploma course. This full-time post is for a Head of Subject, who will teach both Medical Science and A level Biology.

The Medical Science Diploma focuses on the human body, its anatomy, how to diagnose medical conditions and how to treat them. It also offers some excellent practical interactions in the medical context. The course is assessed using both internal and external assessment. The internal assessments focus on practical data collection and analysis that is actually used in real world medical fields. For example, students must be able to use blood pressure cuffs to collect a blood pressure reading, and interpret this result to make conclusions on the health of the patient. The external assessment in the first year is exam based, and covers the human physiology topics that are covered in A level Biology.

It offers the opportunity for students to progress into careers in medical research and other medically related careers, such as paramedics, laboratory technicians, physiotherapists, nutritionist and nurses. The subject is almost always accepted as a science, though some universities are unaware of the course.

Our classroom facilities in terms of the use of IT are excellent including smartboards, access to computers for every individual student for all lessons and a printer/copier. Students have access to both the college's intranet and Google classroom for resources and information.

Catherine Bartlett
Head of Faculty

March 2020