
Head of Science

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| Contract Type: | Permanent; Full-time TMS / UPS Scale + Recruitment & Retention allowance depending on experience |
| Required for: | ASAP |
| Closing Date for applications: | Open-ended - Aylesbury UTC may close this vacancy without warning if a sufficient number of applications are received. An early application is therefore strongly advised |
| Interview date: | To be arranged with applicant |

This is an outstanding opportunity to join Aylesbury UTC, a 14-19 Secondary School in Aylesbury.

Aylesbury University Technical College is a unique school offering the very best of technical education with outstanding links to our specialist employer sponsors. Our UTC specialises in Computing / Digital, Health Care / Social Care and Building Studies (final cohort). Our curriculum embraces the core subjects at Key Stage 4 coupled with an innovative focus on our specialisms which is then further developed into our Sixth Form.

The UTC joined Merchant Taylors' Oxfordshire Academy Trust on 1st November 2021. This has enabled an even sharper focus on professional development for staff with excellent support for teaching and learning and wellbeing. Shared practice across our schools lies at the heart of our Trust ethos and is already having an impact at the UTC.

We are looking for colleagues who are passionate about their subject, are committed to supporting young people and are keen to buy into the vision of what makes a successful UTC. We are seeking future school leaders who see working in our context as another step on their professional journey and who are committed to our trust value of **"making a difference"**.

Aylesbury UTC is a growing, non-selective school with students aged 14-19 who come from a very wide area including Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire and Oxfordshire. We have an excellent reputation for supporting young people from diverse backgrounds in their pursuit for **purposeful destinations**. Our students successfully secure competitive university places, apprenticeships and employment positions. Importantly, we gain huge satisfaction from seeing students successfully joining local job sectors. We are proud of the careers focus throughout the school and we aim to support young people no matter what their chosen pathway.

Students enjoy a huge range of **employer engagement** opportunities such as work placements, mentoring, guest speakers, workshops, site visits and industry-specific projects. We have strong links with large multi-national and

local organisations alike and we are particularly proud of the excellent working relationships with our local community.

Outside of the core curriculum, students predominantly complete vocational courses as these provide opportunities to gain valuable **technical qualifications** and offer more flexibility than academic course. However, from September 2023 we have offered T-Level Health and from 2024 we will be offering T-Level Digital. We review courses regularly to ensure that specific modules and qualifications match our students' and industry needs, giving students the strongest possible start to their careers. We are very fortunate to have **industry-standard facilities** which are frequently commented upon by visitors and students as being inspiring. Throughout the curriculum there are industry links and practical activities to ensure that students leave us with the experience and techniques to be able to thrive in their next steps.

Our students join us because they have a passion for the Computing / Digital, Health Care / Social Care or Building Studies sectors and they want to specialise in one of these. We are an **inclusive** school in a selective Buckinghamshire educational landscape and are determined to serve our local community well. Students of all abilities thrive at Aylesbury UTC and we pride ourselves on ensuring that every student fulfils their potential.

Staff – teaching, support and associate – are happy at Aylesbury UTC. **Professional development** is important to us and our programme is varied but also bespoke to support individual needs and priorities. Our annual two-day Teaching and Learning Conference is probably the highlight of this programme. We embrace the inevitable challenges of working with young people and staff are supportive of each other. It is an excellent place to work and we are committed to staff wellbeing and a healthy work-life balance for all our colleagues.

This post would be ideal for someone with experience of teaching Science to achieve strong outcomes for the students they serve but we also recognise that it may be right for someone who is looking to make a mark in the early stages of their career.

Science at Aylesbury UTC

Curriculum:

Students join at Year 10 or Year 12 and complete Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications respectively.

The majority of our Science teaching is to Years 10 and 11. Currently, most of these students study AQA GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy, but we also increasingly support students wishing to complete 'Triple Science' and this is an area of the curriculum that we would like the new Science teacher to support.

Since September 2023 we have been delivering T Level Health in our Sixth Form, which has significant scientific components. If appropriate, the new Science teacher may contribute to the delivery of these units, working effectively with colleagues from the Health specialism. We continue to review and update our curriculum annually and we would like the successful applicant to have a significant input to any further changes to our Science-related offer.

Outside of the 'Core' subjects, our curriculum is largely vocational since this provides an element of flexibility not possible with academic courses. It means that staff can choose to focus on modules that best suit student needs and an ever-changing employment sector. There is an expectation that learning is frequently 'project-focussed'

and that employers have an input to ensure content is relevant to industry. It is important that the successful applicant understands these principles and is able to apply them to Science where appropriate.

Facilities:

Aylesbury UTC has a well-resourced Science department. This includes 3 dedicated Science labs, a smaller theory workshop room and a technician’s room with practical equipment. Students and staff look after these resources very well knowing that they play a key part in the successful completion of courses. Our students also have the opportunity to visit industry settings in the UK and abroad.

Team:

The successful applicant would be part of a two-teacher department, but this is likely to grow with increasing student numbers in the coming years. We also have a Science Technician who is integral to the efficient running of the department.

Selection Criteria

The successful candidate will be able to meet the following person specification criteria:

Person specification

| Criteria | Qualities |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Qualifications and training | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Qualified teacher status ➤ Degree or equivalent qualification in relevant field |
| Experience | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Teaching experience with students in KS4-5 at all ability levels ➤ Involvement in self-evaluation and development planning ➤ Experience of attending / leading INSET ➤ Strategic work: planning, decision-making and successful implementation ➤ Worked in a UTC previously |
| Skills and knowledge | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Expert knowledge of KS3 & 4 level Science curricula ➤ Understanding of high-quality teaching and learning strategies in Science, and the ability to model this for others and support others to improve ➤ Awareness of local and national organisations that can provide support with delivering the subject ➤ Data analysis skills, and the ability to use data to inform planning ➤ Ability to build effective working relationships with staff and other stakeholders ➤ Ability to adapt teaching to meet students’ needs ➤ Ability to build effective working relationships with students ➤ Knowledge of guidance and requirements around safeguarding children ➤ Effective communication and interpersonal skills ➤ Knowledge of Science-related industries and related pathways outside of education |

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| <p>Personal qualities</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A commitment to getting the best outcomes for all pupils ➤ Uphold and promote the ethos and values of the school ➤ Commitment to equal opportunities and securing good outcomes for pupils with SEND ➤ Ability to work under pressure and prioritise effectively ➤ Maintain confidentiality at all times ➤ Commitment to safeguarding and equality |
| <p>Additional</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The ability to teach one of the following as a second subject: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maths - English - Psychology - Sociology |

Job Description

Job Purpose

To carry out the functions of a Head of Science department in accordance with the Teacher Standards and the stated aims and objectives of Aylesbury UTC and the Science Department.

Duties and Responsibilities

- To plan, design and produce teaching materials and resources which are appropriate to age and ability and are in accordance with the Aylesbury UTC Development Plan and the Science Department Development Plan
- To lead on the strategic and operational running of the science department
- In accordance with scheme of work, plan, deliver and review lessons which are appropriate to the age and ability of the students so as to facilitate progression in students' learning
- Assess, record and report on the development, progress and attainment of the students assigned to them within the Aylesbury UTC guidelines
- Manage the classroom and teaching equipment so as to create a positive learning environment which makes effective use of available resources.
- Attend meetings, carry out administrative tasks and duties where appropriate and as requested
- Provide and facilitate the general progress and well-being of any individual student within any group of students assigned to him or her, providing guidance and advice to students on educational and social matters
- Implement the Aylesbury UTC policy with regard to registration, student absence, dress code and enforce the 'Professional Expectations' relating to behaviour and health and safety
- Participate in full staff and departmental meetings and to contribute to Aylesbury UTC decision making and consultation procedures
- Be involved in the Aylesbury UTC Appraisal process, to engage in professional development activities so as to enhance personal performance, fulfil personal potential and be able to participate effectively in the implementation of the Aylesbury UTC goals and School Development Plan
- Establish individual active links with industry and business in order to extend both student learning and own professional development
- Safely operate relevant equipment / practical resources / ICT packages
- Keep up-to-date knowledge of the range of external agencies and opportunities that can be used to provide extra support for students
- Work effectively with Learning Support Assistants
- Ensure effective communication with all colleagues (teaching and support staff)

Additional

- To be a Tutor to an assigned Tutor Group if required, and to carry out related duties in accordance with the general job description of Tutor
- To plan, deliver and review PSHE lessons which are appropriate to the age and ability of the students so as to facilitate progression in students' learning

General Duties

Aylesbury UTC is part of Merchant Taylors' Oxfordshire Academy Trust. At 'MTOAT' we pride ourselves on providing a safe and happy environment where young people can flourish and we want to send every young person into the world able and qualified to play their full part in it. This job description should be read in conjunction with the current School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document and the provisions of that document will apply to the post holder. Merchant Taylors' Oxfordshire Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All successful candidates will be subject to DBS checks along with other relevant employment checks.

You will be expected to carry out the professional duties of a Science Teacher as outlined in the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document currently in operation, or any subsequent legislation. The performance of all the duties and responsibilities will be under the reasonable direction of the Principal, or other Senior Manager if appropriate, who will be mindful of their duty to ensure that the employee has a reasonable workload and sufficient support to carry out the duties of the post.

Next Steps

- Further information and an application form can be found on our school website at <https://aylesburyutc.co.uk/about/team/vacancies/>
- For more information or to arrange a visit to the school (strongly encouraged), please contact reception@aylesburyutc.co.uk
- Please email all completed applications to: recruit@mtoat.co.uk (our Trust HR team)
- **Closing date:** Open-ended - Aylesbury UTC may close this vacancy without warning if a sufficient number of applications are received. An early application is therefore strongly advised.
- **Interviews:** Interviews will be arranged directly with applicants