



Teacher of Chemistry (maternity cover) Job Description

Science at King Edward's School

King Edward's has a long tradition of scientific excellence, having educated Nobel laureates such as Maurice Wilkins and Sir John Vane. Science remains at the heart of the academic life of the school today.

Science subjects are popular choices within King Edward's, with a high proportion of our Sixth Form choosing to study at least two sciences at A-level. Biology, Chemistry and Physics are taken by the vast majority of pupils at IGCSE, and DT is one of the most popular option choices at GCSE. We also have a thriving extracurricular scene, with many boys entering competitions, going to lectures or taking part in societies which have a strong scientific basis.

Many pupils continue to study science subjects at university, with high numbers successfully applying for Engineering and Medicine, as well as Natural Sciences, Biomedical Sciences and other related subjects.

There is a strong spirit of collaboration in the Science Faculty, which comprises Biology, Chemistry, Design Technology, Physics and Sport Science.

The Chemistry Department

The Chemistry Department has the use of six well-equipped laboratories, four of which are exclusively used by the department. Two full-time, well-qualified Chemistry technicians cater for all practical needs. There is a project lab for enrichment work and a suite of computers in the department's IT room.

At all levels our aim is to provide a curriculum which strives for mastery and is deeply enriched and enhanced by practical work, with pupils conducting experiments for themselves wherever possible, rather than watching demonstrations. In the Shell year (Year 7) all boys follow our in-house combined science course, but from the Remove year (Year 8) onwards the three sciences are taught separately. At the end of Year 9, pupils have the option of continuing with the three separate sciences or two sciences and a further non-science GCSE. The vast majority of boys select three separate sciences. All sciences follow the Edexcel IGCSE specifications. Chemistry is an immensely popular subject in the Sixth Form where we are starting AQA A Level Chemistry in September, having previously taught the IB Diploma, with approximately half the year group typically taking the subject.

Beyond the classroom, pupils regularly compete in local and national competitions and engage in enrichment activities. We enter the Royal Society of Chemistry's Top of the Bench competitions and Year 10 and 11 compete in the West Midlands Chemistry Quiz. The more ambitious of these also join Year 12 and 13 in entering the Cambridge Lower Sixth Challenge and the RSC Chemistry Olympiad, in which we regularly achieve gold awards. We also take the pupils over to the University of Birmingham in Autumn and Spring terms to attend lectures and compete in the Analyst competition, which we host in conjunction with KEHS.

The Vacancy



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King Edward's School is seeking a full-time Teacher of Chemistry from September 2025 for a period of up to a year for maternity cover. It is an opportunity to join a strong, enthusiastic, very supportive and friendly department in an exceptional school. Experience of teaching A level would be an advantage.

Job Description

The role holder will report to the Head of Chemistry.

A. Teaching

- Help organise and develop enrichment activities and opportunities for the students.
- Plan and deliver lessons in accordance with the department's scheme of work and which reflect the priorities of the school's Learning and Teaching Policy
- Liaise with relevant colleagues on the planning of work for collaborative delivery.
- Take account of pupils' prior levels of attainment and use them to inform planning and set targets for future improvement.
- Set high expectations for pupils' behaviour by establishing a purposeful working atmosphere in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy
- Set appropriate and demanding expectations for pupils' learning, motivation and presentation of work.

B. Assessment, Recording and Reporting

- Assess and return work within a reasonable and agreed time span providing constructive oral and written feedback, and clear targets for future learning as appropriate.
- Report on pupil progress in line with school policy and as specified in the published calendar.
- Keep parents informed of pupil progress by attendance at Parents' Evenings, and by other means as appropriate.
- Maintain appropriate records of assessments in line with department and school policy.
- Be familiar with the code of practice for identification, referral, assessment and monitoring of students that need extra support (including, but not limited to, those with special educational needs)

C. Pastoral Care

- Undertake responsibility for a form group as required, including tutor/tutee interviews.
- Be the first point of contact for parents of pupils in the form.
- Set targets for and monitor the social and academic progress of pupils in the form.
- Undertake responsibility for the delivery of the PSHE programme to the form.
- Promote good attendance and monitor in accordance with school policy.



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D. Professional Standards

- Support the aims of the school and adhere to the Staff Code of Conduct
- Support the implementation of all school policies and procedures as laid out in the Staff Handbook
- Treat all members of the school community with respect and consideration.
- Treat all pupils fairly, consistently and without prejudice.
- Set a good example to pupils in terms of appropriate dress, standards of punctuality and attendance.
- Attend and participate in events such as open days, entrance exams and options evenings. Support those events in which form members are involved e.g. concerts.
- Participate in the school's co-curricular programme, which includes activities, clubs and societies, sport, drama and music.
- Take responsibility for professional development, participating in staff training and the school's arrangements for appraisal.
- Participate in the management of the school by attending departmental and other staff meetings.
- Ensure that all deadlines are met as published in the school calendar.
- Take responsibility for matters relating to health and safety in line with school policy.
- Undertake duties that may be reasonably assigned by the Chief Master (directly or indirectly)

Responsibilities may be direct, joint or through devolved structures, but always in accordance with whole school policies. These details may be amended at any time by agreement, but in any case, will be reviewed during the appraisal process.

The candidate will visibly maintain the highest professional standards, have excellent interpersonal communication, presentational and ICT skills and have the ability to work flexibly within the school structure.



Person Specification

The following person specification indicates those areas of skills and personal characteristics, qualifications, training and experience that are either essential or desirable in the candidates being interviewed.

Qualifications and Training	Essential	Desirable
Qualified Teacher Status (UK)		✓
Courses of further study relevant to the post		✓
An honours degree in Chemistry or a related subject	✓	
Evidence of involvement in personal CPD	✓	

Experience	Essential	Desirable
Experience of teaching in a highly academic context		✓
Experience of teaching the full 11-18 age range		✓
Experience of teaching AQA A level Chemistry		✓
Clear understanding and knowledge of current issues related to the subject	✓	

Skills	Essential	Desirable
A clear understanding of how to engage with school data	✓	
Ability to think originally and creatively and show initiative		✓
Commitment to high standards of Chemistry teaching and learning	✓	
Ability to teach high quality lessons	✓	
The potential to lead and motivate teams		✓
Strong people management skills	✓	
Excellent organisation abilities	✓	
High levels of ICT competency	✓	

How to apply



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To apply for this role, please forward a completed application form and equal opportunities form (both available for download [here](#)) and a covering letter addressed to the Chief Master & Principal (Mrs. Kirsty von Malaisé) by email to: kesrecruitment@keschools.org.uk.

If you have any queries about the role or would like to discuss it in more detail, please contact Head of Chemistry, Alex Webb - a.webb@keschools.org.uk

The deadline for applications is 8 am on 28 April 2025, however, applications will be reviewed on receipt and so early applications are encouraged. We reserve the right to bring forward the closing date and interview date if sufficient applications have been received.

Interviews will provisionally take place in the week commencing 5 May.

King Edward's School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Applicants invited to interview will be required to provide proof of identity, preferably a birth certificate, although where this is not available, we will accept other forms of ID. Online searches will also be carried out for all shortlisted candidates, as required by Keeping Children Safe in Education. Successful candidates will be required to undergo an enhanced DBS check and other pre-employment checks. A copy of the School's Recruitment, Selection and Disclosure Policy is available on the website www.kes.org.uk.