



Trainee Teacher of Chemistry

Full-time

Fixed-Term for 2 years

Application Pack



W
Woking
College



Letter from the Principal

Thank you for your interest in Woking College.

Woking College is an oversubscribed and highly successful college of over 1400 students drawing students from more than 60 different schools. Our very successful strategic focus has, for many years, been to create the very best environment for high quality of teaching and learning alongside the widest range of enrichment activities enhancing the cultural capital of our students. Alongside this we place a very strong emphasis on maintaining our wonderful community, we have a more diverse College population than might be thought of as typical for Surrey but we are determined to maintain our inclusive ethos. We are fully committed to innovation whilst maintaining a humane and caring approach for all members of the College community which has resulted in the doubling of the student population in recent years. These approaches have been key to securing Grade 1 'Outstanding' in all seven categories in our October 2022 Ofsted inspection.

Woking College is enjoying record results, very positive value-added and an abundance of applications and quite rightly has a teaching and learning culture which is the envy of other institutions, indeed in recent staff surveys over 95% of College staff said they were proud to work at Woking College!

We have benefited hugely from an impressive transformation of the College's estate over recent years, with the completion of a new Sports Centre in 2014, a new Arts Block in 2015 and a modern and larger Science Building in 2016. A full size 3G pitch was completed in 2020. A £3m teaching block opened in early 2023, and a £3m project working collaboratively with the adjacent community centre will open in September 2023 and enhance our estate even further.

We recognise the advantages of collaboration and have worked hard over the years to build and maintain close working relationships with other education providers and the Local Authority. The College has been a long-standing member of S7, the Surrey and Sussex group of Sixth Form Colleges, possibly the leading college consortium nationally, and we look forward to continued positive engagement with schools, colleges and the local community for the benefit of all.

With strong leadership from our passionate and committed senior leadership team, and with the support of excellent teaching and support staff across all areas, we look forward to the continued evolution of the College; we also look forward to meeting committed, engaging and passionate people who want to join us to further enhance the life-chances and choices of our students – which is of course our main mission as educators.

We very much look forward to receiving your application.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Brett Freeman'.

Brett Freeman
Principal



The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and successful applicants will be subject to Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks. The College is committed to equal opportunities.

The Role

Student applications are high and as such we have the capacity for a Trainee Teacher to teach Chemistry up to A Level. We are looking for a committed, dynamic and enthusiastic trainee with a passion for Science. This is an exciting time to join our rapidly expanding and successful Sixth Form College.

Candidates must hold a relevant subject degree, have grade 4 or above in GCSE English and Mathematics, and be committed to studying towards the PGCE qualification.

If you are a recent graduate, or are considering a career change, or perhaps you are already working in an education environment as a support member of staff and would like to take the next step and utilize your degree? Our students are unique individuals – we are looking for a trainee teacher who can support and guide students to further enhance their life changes during their time at College.

The role will be fixed-term for two years, the number of teaching hours will vary depending on the subject area, and full-time hours can be made up as a Technician/Learning Support Assistant/Independent Learning Mentor or other appropriate roles which will support your personal and professional development. Part-time hours will be considered.

A full mentoring programme is arranged to introduce all new staff to sixth form college systems and procedures and to support and encourage professional development. We are looking for an exceptional candidate to join this friendly team, and inspire our students. We expect high performance from all our staff and candidates should demonstrate their ability and suitability to both the role and the culture of the College.

Start Date: For immediate start

Salary: FTE £19,480 to £23,387 per annum, depending on the number of teaching hours (pro rata for part-time).

PGCE: This role will be in conjunction with a Further Education & Teaching Professional Graduate Certificate in Education (ProfGCE) course awarded by the University of Brighton. Weekly lectures and workshops take place at Reigate College from 6.00pm to 9.00pm on Tuesday evenings.

The College will pay for the full PGCE course fees, over the two years of the course.

Duration: This role is fixed-term for 2 years. There is no guarantee of a permanent role at the end of this period.

The Department

The Science Department consists of thirteen members of staff, including teachers and technicians. The college has eight teaching labs and two dedicated preparation areas in a modern, dedicated building which opened in Spring 2016. The college has approximately 800 student enrolments in A Level courses in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics as well as BTEC Level 3 qualifications in Engineering and BTEC Level 3 and 2 qualifications in Applied Science.

The Science department is a friendly and successful team, with a passion for developing and sharing evidence-based approaches to teaching and learning. We help our students achieve outstanding results across the sciences by providing stimulating teaching and personalised support.

The department actively encourages students to pursue their interests in science outside of college. Many of our students participate in national science competitions (e.g. the British Physics Olympiad) and the department arranges extra-curricular opportunities, visits and speakers to learn about employment in the scientific sector.



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Why work with us?

Woking College has a strong sense of community in which everyone is valued; we look forward to welcoming new members of staff to join our team.

We have an inclusive ethos, and are proud of our diverse students and staff community. The College is committed to safeguarding, alongside our core values of inclusiveness, adhering to the highest personal, professional and academic standards, supporting individual wellbeing, supportive management and positive relationship and a sustainable future for all. We expect all staff, volunteers and others involved in the College community to share this commitment.

Following our grading as Outstanding at our recent Ofsted inspection in October 2022, Ofsted stated that:

“Staff feel proud to work at the College. They are exceptionally positive about the culture leaders have created. They describe leaders as visible, approachable and highly focussed on staff wellbeing. Leaders celebrate achievement frequently in staff forums which helps staff to feel recognised, highly valued and a member of the Woking College family.”

Staff survey results state that:

- ✓ 95% of staff are proud to work at Woking College.
- ✓ 99% agreed that leaders are considerate of staff wellbeing.

- A positive approach to staff development; including regular cross-College sharing best practice sessions
- Opportunities for staff training & liaison with peers within the S7 consortium of Colleges
- Regular whole-College communication including weekly staff briefings
- Regular departmental meetings to ensure support and share departmental best practice
- Excellent student behaviour and productive working relationships with the Student Union
- Excellent links with local schools, businesses and universities
- Welcoming, friendly and approachable community, a harmonious working atmosphere
- Laptop for all teaching staff

Benefits include:

- Free on-site parking
- Staff room with free hot drinks available to all staff, Friday cakes
- Onsite canteen with a range of healthy options to purchase, and a new Costa coffee shop
- Regular staff social events: bowling, staff quiz, summer BBQ, weekend walks/cycling, Christmas party
- College gym available for staff use, yoga classes, staff football (new 3G pitch)
- Free eye test vouchers
- Flu jab
- Cycle to work scheme
- Pension: eligible employees will be automatically enrolled in the Teacher’s Pension Scheme, or the Local Government Pension Scheme (support staff), unless you decide to opt-out
- Employee support: staff have access to a confidential employee support helpline
- Location: Excellent train links from London Waterloo and the South Coast, walking distance of Woking station. Close to A3, M25 & M3 junctions

Application & Selection

Application forms are available to download from our website: www.woking.ac.uk/about/staff-vacancies/

We actively encourage interested applicants to visit the College to see how you could be part of our friendly College community. If you would like to do so, please contact Kirsty Crook (details below).

Please ensure **education** and **employment history** is completed fully, gaps in employment must be accounted for under the section entitled "Periods when not working". We would like to see your passion for the role and the College in your **supporting statement**, please use this opportunity to include personal skills, experience relevant to the post, and reasons why you feel you would be successful if this post.

Please note that CVs will not be accepted on their own. All applicants must have the Right to Work in the UK.

Completed applications, or any queries regarding the role or your application, should be sent via email to Kirsty Crook (Personnel Officer): recruitment@woking.ac.uk

Closing date: 9am, Monday 2 October 2023

Interviews: Applications will be reviewed upon receipt and interviews arranged accordingly. Early applications are therefore advised.

Shortlisted candidates will be notified, invited for interview and references will be taken up immediately. Please note that it is not possible to inform candidates who have not been short-listed due to time constraints.

The interview process will comprise of the following, but may be subject to change:

- a guided tour of the College
- Interview with the Principal and senior staff
- Secondary interview with senior staff
- Informal meet with department members
- Workshop task with students

The College encourages all candidates to be familiar with the following documents:

- Section 1 of the DfE paper on "Keeping Children Safe in Education" September 2023
- Woking College's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.
- In line with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) the College asks candidates to consider the Privacy Notice for Job Applicants

The documents listed above are available from the College's Staff Vacancies page, please use this link to access them <https://www.woking.ac.uk/about/staff-vacancies/>



Job Description

Post Title: Trainee Teacher (Full-Time, Fixed-Term)

Responsible: Head of Department

Job Purpose: Teaching and developing within Curriculum Area(s) in the College

Job Responsibilities

1. To work with those teaching within the Department to create an environment in which the aims of the Department, Curriculum and College can be achieved.
2. To attend regularly meetings of the Department and, when requested, the Curriculum Area, to enable issues relating to the Department, Curriculum Area and College to be discussed.
3. To assist in the provision of appropriate courses and the promotion of activities to provide for and support the learning needs of students within the Department.
4. To fulfil one's own responsibilities as a teaching member of the Department, in accordance with the quality standards of the Department.
5. To promote:
 - i) the Department's contribution to the cross-curricular work in the College
 - ii) the opportunities offered by the Department to students not taking an examination course.
 - iii) the use of ICT in the classroom teaching and learning.
6. To work to improve one's professional performance by taking advantage of the department's opportunities to develop skills and broaden experience and participating in the College's appraisal arrangements.
7. To assist in managing effectively and efficiently the physical resources of the Department. In particular, to:
 - i) consider the use of accommodation and to make recommendations to the Head of Department for its continued and improved use
 - ii) suggest suitable items for departmental expenditure
 - iii) observe the College's health and safety policies and encourage safe working practices.
8. To assist in the arrangements within the Department for the induction of students and monitoring progress, offering guidance to students where necessary and liaising with parents where appropriate.
9. If required, to be a personal tutor, and subject to timetabling, to meet the responsibilities defined by the College for personal tutors and be answerable in that context to the Principal.
10. To assist in the arrangements made for students to receive advice on courses in Higher Education and Career opportunities related to, or progressing from those in the Department, ensuring that references are produced when requested.
11. To assist in the setting up and organisation of College examinations in the subjects covered by the Department and assisting, where necessary, the Examinations Officer in the supervision of public examinations.

12. To ensure that departmental records are kept up to date. To share in the recording and analysis of internal examinations, Alps and external examination results and, with the Head of Department, take whatever action is necessary to sustain and improve performance by students.
13. When necessary and appropriate, to represent the Department at meetings and to publicise the work of the Department at the various events in the College and its partner schools.
14. To act at all times in accordance with the College's Equality & Diversity policies.
15. To act at all times in accordance with the College's Safeguarding policy. Ensuring the safeguarding of students at the College, recognising one's own role in liaison with the designated safeguarding team.
16. To contribute to the safety policies of the College as directed by the Principal and to ensure that Health & Safety Regulations are observed within the Curriculum Areas and within the College in general.
17. To take part in the training programmes provided by the College and agree to the process of professional reviews.
18. To undertake any other particular duties which may be reasonably assigned to you by the Principal from time to time.

Person Specification

The person appointed will be expected to have:

- An understanding and support for the ethos of the College.
- The potential to teach Chemistry to A Level.
- Passion for the subjects they aim to teach and for education in general.
- A commitment to the principle of continuous improvement and an empathy with the College's aim of providing quality education in a supportive environment.
- Suitable qualifications – educated to degree level in a relevant Science subject.
- Experience of working with or the ability to work flexibly within a team.
- Positive interpersonal, organisational and IT skills.
- An awareness of the need for personal development, both as a member of a team and as an individual.
- Applicants who do not have a teaching qualification must be willing to embark on a training course leading to a teaching qualification whilst with us.

The following are desirable for this role:

- A knowledge of the 16 - 19 curriculum, and an awareness of the needs of students in this age range.
- Potential to mark and assess written work with examination board criteria.

