FULL-TIME BIOLOGY TEACHER
FROM SEPTEMBER 2017

Ackworth School, a co-educational boarding and day school, was founded in 1779 by the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). It maintains its ethos and traditions and is still governed by the Society although only a small number of pupils and staff are from the Quaker tradition. The school is academically selective and provides an excellent range of facilities and extra-curricular opportunities. The school is a member of both HMC and the Society of Heads.

There are currently 340 students in the senior school 11-18 and 135 in Coram House (Junior School 3-11). Approximately one third of the senior students are boarders. The School’s International Centre provides academic English Language programmes. The School is set in beautiful grounds in the village of Ackworth and enjoys excellent transport links to nearby towns and cities such as York, Leeds, Harrogate and Wakefield. The Dales and the Peak District are just over one hour away.

We are seeking a full time Biology teacher from September 2017. The person appointed must be able to teach to Biology to A level and should be able to contribute to the wider activities of the School. The ability to offer another subject (e.g. Psychology, Chemistry, or Physics) would be an advantage.

The Science Department is well-resourced and enjoys a favourable position in the School curriculum. All pupils at KS3 are taught Biology, Chemistry and Physics separately by specialist teachers for an eighty minute session per week. At KS4, one set is entered for separate science GCSEs (AQA) in Biology, Chemistry and Physics, while two other sets are prepared for AQA Combined Science. Each set has nine periods of science per week.

At Sixth Form level, Science is a strength of the School. Biology (and Chemistry) follow the AQA Specification, while Physics follows the Specification of OCR. There are often two sets per subject for the Lower Sixth, and one or two sets in the Upper Sixth. Set sizes are small (usual maximum: 12), and pupils benefit from the individual attention that this entails. The Science Department is supported by two Technicians.

All Staff contribute to the extra-curricular life of this busy Boarding and Day School, including the role of Form Tutor and the normal weekend visits programme.

It is expected that the person appointed will be in sympathy with the ethos and aims of the School, which is conducted by the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers).
Specific Areas of Responsibility

- Fulfil the normal expectations for a member of Staff, as outlined in the Staff Handbook
- Teach a full-time timetable (normal full time load of 31/40 periods/week)
- Act as Tutor to a Tutor Group
- Contribute to out of class activities, in line with normal expectations of all members of staff
- Contribute to the weekend programme of this busy boarding and day school, in line with normal expectations of all members of staff

While every effort has been made to explain the main duties and responsibilities of the post, each individual task undertaken may not be identified. Employees will be expected to comply with any reasonable request to undertake work of a similar level that is not specified in this job description.

The School operates a system of Staff professional review, whereby Staff are encouraged to identify and then extend skills and qualifications as part of their continuing professional development. The professional appraisal of the postholder will be undertaken by the Head of the School on an annual basis, using criteria shared prior to the appraisal. In-service courses held at the School and those organised by regional and national bodies are integral to this development. There are two days of Staff InSeT at the start of each year before the pupils return to School. An induction programme is provided for all new members of Staff.

The successful candidate will be placed on the appropriate point of Ackworth’s salary scale, depending on the qualifications and experience of the applicant. All members of teaching staff are automatically enrolled in the Teachers’ Pension Scheme. All new appointments are subject to a probationary first year, at which point it is usual for the contract to be continued. All staff are eligible for pupil fee remission (pro rata - currently 66% of School Fees). Staff enjoy complimentary meals and refreshments during term time and free use of the fitness suite and swimming pool.

Application forms can be obtained from the HR Manager Joanne Colley, e-mail address recruitment@ackworthschool.com, and returned electronically on the same e-mail address together with an introductory cover letter (no more than a single side of A4) briefly setting out the reason for the application. The application form should include the names and contact details of two referees who we can contact prior to interview, please note that ideally one should be your current employer. The closing date for applications is 8 February 2017, with interviews being held as soon as possible after this date.

Ackworth School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including the completion of an enhanced DBS/ISA disclosure and reference checks with former employers.