

# Working at Westonbirt School

Teacher of Science  
(Part Time, Fixed Term, Maternity  
Cover)



WESTONBIRT  
— SCHOOL —

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WISHFORD  
SCHOOLS

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# Introduction from the Headmistress



Thank you for your enquiry about working here at Westonbirt School; our unique school, housed in a Victorian mansion and set in 210 acres of beautiful English parkland. Here our pupils can be carefree, feel secure in their inspiring surroundings and are able to enjoy fresh air and extensive space.

Westonbirt offers an exceptional education in small classes, with expert teaching staff dedicated to ensuring each student reaches their full potential.

Alongside academic excellence, we are extremely proud of our achievements in many areas outside the classroom. Students are regularly selected to play lacrosse for their country, Drama productions have aired at the Edinburgh Fringe to high acclaim, over two-thirds play at least one musical instrument. Over 90% of Sixth Form students go on to their first choice universities including Cambridge, Durham, Cardiff, Bristol and UCL.

Individuality is celebrated and our students develop a level of confidence, which is neither arrogant nor taken for granted. Success is celebrated and development is nourished. Westonbirt is proud of all pupils who create their own unique story during their time with us.

We are a thriving boarding school and the 24/7 nature of life at Westonbirt enables us to provide personal pastoral care, as part of delivering an outstanding holistic education for all pupils.

Underpinning all of this is a commitment to supporting our staff, ensuring that we are continually improving our practice and providing opportunities for development and leadership.

I hope that you will want to discover what makes Westonbirt so unique and to apply to join our community. I look forward to receiving your application.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Natasha Dangerfield'.

**Natasha Dangerfield**  
**Headmistress**

# General Information about the School

## Westonbirt School

The School consistently achieves excellent academic results and provides the pupils with a broad range of extra-curricular activities to give depth to the learning. All pupils are inspired to achieve their very best potential and leave School with confidence and an ambition for lifelong learning.

Located in the heart of the Cotswolds, Westonbirt School is housed in a magnificent building, formerly the home of the Holford family. It has extensive grounds, including a nine-hole golf course and is set in an area of outstanding natural beauty, situated opposite the world famous Westonbirt Arboretum with whom we have a good relationship.

The Senior School is an independent boarding and day school for pupils aged 11-18. The School also benefits from sharing the grounds with Westonbirt Prep, a thriving Prep School and Nursery. The School campus includes a Sports Centre and Swimming Pool and a 9-hole Golf Course.

For more information on Westonbirt School, please visit: [www.westonbirt.org](http://www.westonbirt.org)

## Wishford Schools

In May 2018, Westonbirt Schools joined the Wishford Schools group. Founded in 2011, the group currently comprises nine independent schools in Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Kent. The group aims to provide an excellent education for all pupils, giving every child the opportunity to shine. Standards and expectations are high, and staff and pupils are challenged and supported to give their best.

Schools work closely with the group's senior leaders to define the school's strategy and then enjoy the autonomy to run their schools, while benefiting from the support that membership of the group brings. In addition to strategic input and the sharing of best practice, the group provides expertise in property, legal, HR, finance, compliance and marketing matters leaving heads with time to focus on the children within their care.

For more information on the Wishford Schools group, please visit: [www.wishford.co.uk](http://www.wishford.co.uk)

# The Opportunity

We would like to appoint an enthusiastic, engaging and experienced teacher of Science (KS3, GCSE and A-Level), We are an extremely friendly department, which is expanding as the school grows. The department is also very well resourced and supported, with a wide range of experience and expertise. A willingness to contribute to our Science curriculum 'beyond the classroom', as well as the wider aspects of the school's co-curricula program, are also essential. We look forward to hearing from you..

Candidates are sought who can demonstrate a successful track and particular aptitude for:

- Subject knowledge
- Communication and relationship-building;
- Teamwork and attention to detail.
- A specialism in Physics or Chemistry is desirable

This role is to fill a 0.6 timetable commencing in September 2024 for a fixed term period to cover a period of maternity.

Applications from ECTs are welcome.



# Job Description

**Role: Teacher of Science** This is an exciting opportunity to join our thriving Science department and to teach Science across the key stages.

## Main Responsibilities and Tasks

### Teaching and Learning

- Planning and preparing lessons within the scope of the scheme of work that are appropriate to the age and ability of pupils and use a range of pedagogical styles, as necessary
- Teaching engaging and motivating lessons that lead to progress of pupils
- Maintain a safe and purposeful classroom environment, acting as a role model to pupils
- Support the development of pupils' learning skills and their character
- Lessons should cater for the needs of all students, taking into particular account specific learning needs and cultural differences
- Mark pupils' work and give feedback both written and verbal and encourage self-assessment
- Assess students and assign grades inline with the school and departmental policies
- Monitor and evaluate the progress of pupils and track pupils in line with departmental arrangements, and carry out interventions if required
- Contribute to the extra curricular provision within the department

### Key Events and Academic Calendar

- Attend parents' evenings, open morning and where appropriate to the role or delegated by the HoD information evenings, future school fairs and other events as required
- Support relevant outreach events with feeder schools

- Be willing to support other key school events, such a performances, extracurricular trips and activities week trips
- Attend all calendared INSET days

### Continuing Professional Development

- Commitment to maintaining excellent subject knowledge and staying abreast of curriculum and pedagogical developments within the subjects they are employed to teach
- Attend relevant professional learning
- Support department members and others with professional learning whenever possible

### Parents

- Ensure good and timely communication is maintained with parents of pupils, this should encompass areas such as progress, attitude, behaviour and expectations as well as trips and organisational matters
- Report home as part of the school reporting cycle about the progress, effort and attainment of pupils according to the reporting cycle as laid out in the staff hand book.

### General Duties

- Act as a form tutor for a group of students, monitor their individual wellbeing and academic progress and maintain strong relationships with them and their parents/guardians
- Attend assemblies and deliver content during tutor periods as directed by the head of year

# Job Description

## General Duties - Continued

- Ensure the safe and appropriate behaviour of students outside of lessons
- Raise issues with Heads of Year or the safeguarding lead according to school policy
- Lead extra curricular activities and show a commitment to the development of the whole child
- Provide advice and guidance to pupils on both educational and social issues
- Respond in a timely and thorough way to requests for information about the progress and attitude of pupils both to parents and staff as required
- Market and promote the school on a local, national and international level
- Be aware of and comply with health and safety policies, legislation and best practice
- To work within the school procedures and codes of practice
- Attending and participating meetings arranged for purposes of any of the above
- To undertake such other duties as required by the Headmistress

## Person Specification

The successful candidate will have the following skills, experience and qualities:

### Skills

- Be an outstanding teacher, with exceptional subject and pedagogical knowledge
- Excellent communication skills and ability to build relationships with pupils, parents and colleagues
- Excellent planning, administration time management skills
- The ability to work to deadlines.

### Experience

- Educated to degree level with Qualified Teacher Status
- A track record of excellent pupil progress and attainment
- Evidence of a commitment to continuing professional development.

### Personal Qualities

- Leading by example with honesty and integrity
- A 'can do' attitude and the willingness to work hard to get things done
- Ambition, energy, enthusiasm and commitment
- Potential interest in, and a keenness to be involved with, the extra-curricular life of the school
- Ability to play a significant role in the local community, raising the school's profile
- Leadership qualities including authority and empathy to connect with and inspire teaching and support staff
- A confident and outgoing personality that will be able to maintain the support of colleagues, parents and pupils
- Be able to take the initiative; able to take an idea, developing it through to completion
- Have a good sense of humour and be flexible and adaptable.

# The Application Process

## Remuneration

An attractive salary and benefits package will be provided.

## Application Process & Important Dates

Applicants should complete the school's application form and submit by email to Miss Michelle Andrews, HR Officer at [michelle.andrews@westonbirtschool.uk](mailto:michelle.andrews@westonbirtschool.uk). The application form may be accompanied by a covering letter of no more than one page.

The closing date for applications is 12pm on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

Interviews will be held as applications are received.





# The School Site

Westonbirt sits within 210 acres of parkland in the Cotswolds countryside. The map below shows the location of the main academic and boarding areas of the school site.



# Safer Recruitment

Westonbirt School recognises its responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of the children and young people in their care. This responsibility encompasses the following principles:

- To protect children from harm (maltreatment).
- To prevent impairment of children's health and development.
- To ensure that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care, thus enabling those children to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully.

The whole school addresses its commitment to these principles through ensuring all reasonable measures are taken to minimise the risk of harm to children's welfare. These include:

- Ensuring safer recruitment practice.
- Ensuring through training that all teaching and non-teaching staff are aware of and committed to the Safeguarding Policy and Child Protection Procedures.

- Adopting a code of conduct for all staff
- Establishing a positive, supportive and secure culture in which children can learn and develop, together with a school ethos which promotes in all pupils a sense of being valued, listened to and respected.
- Including in the curriculum, activities and opportunities for PSHE which equip pupils with the skills they need to stay safe from abuse and radicalisation, and which will help them develop realistic attitudes to the responsibilities of adult life.
- Providing pastoral support that is accessible and available to all pupils and ensuring that pupils know to whom they can talk about their concerns.

## Equal Opportunities

Westonbirt School is committed to providing equality of opportunity for all. The School will not discriminate either directly or indirectly on grounds of gender, marital status, race, ethnic origin, colour, nationality, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, religion or age (please refer to separate policies for full details).



# Contact Details

Miss Michelle Andrews, HR Officer  
Westonbirt School  
Tetbury  
Gloucestershire  
GL88QG

Tel: 01666 880333  
Email: [michelle.andrews@westonbirtschool.uk](mailto:michelle.andrews@westonbirtschool.uk)

