



Blanchelande College

Blanchelande College Appointment of Head of Science (full time) For April or September 2019 or as soon as available

The College

Blanchelande College is a co-educational Catholic independent school for pupils aged 4 to 16. The College educates 370 pupils, of whom approximately one third are Catholic. Blanchelande's Catholic mission and identity, understood and supported by all staff, are at the heart of school life.

Blanchelande has a one-form structure from Reception to Year 4, with room for two forms in Years 5 and 6, and for three forms in the senior school (Years 7-11). Typically, classes contain around twenty pupils. Pupils are required to pass an entrance assessment to ensure that they can access our curriculum, but otherwise Blanchelande is not an academically selective school and the College nurtures a wide ability range. Exam results reflect excellent value added in most subject areas:

- 2017: 100% of students achieved at least five A*-C grades, with 33% of grades at A*/A.
- 2018: 83% of students achieved at least grades 4-9, with 38% of grades at 7-9.

The College is inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI); the 2018 report – which testifies to the College's ongoing improvement – is due to be published at the end of November following an inspection in October 2018. The College is also inspected by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth.

Blanchelande offers an extensive programme of extra-curricular activities before, during and after the school day, to which all academic staff are expected to contribute.

History

Blanchelande was re-founded in 1992 by parents and members of the local community after the Sisters of Mercy withdrew their Order from Guernsey. The new school began in temporary accommodation and in its first five years grew from 40 pupils to almost 200. It is now almost twice that and is experiencing a period of strong growth.

In April 1999, the College moved to its current address at Les Vauxbelets (former site of the De La Salle boys' school) after an extensive refurbishment programme. Les Vauxbelets is a beautiful estate in a rural setting with large historical buildings. Over the past two years extensive renovations have taken place to modernise and extend the facilities. Over the next year the new learning spaces are being created, including a new Science laboratory.

Although currently students leave the College after taking their GCSEs the College's strategic aim is to reopen its sixth form.



Blanchelande College

Leadership/Governance

Blanchelande is administered as a charitable trust and three Trustees oversee the finances of the College. As a grant-maintained college, Blanchelande receives a degree of funding from the States of Guernsey.

The Senior Management Team consists of the Principal, Vice Principal (Senior), Vice Principal (Primary), Head of Pastoral Care and the Bursar. This team meets weekly and works closely together on all aspects of College life. There is also a Senior Leadership Team, which comprises the Head of Activities and Head of Careers in addition to the SMT.

The Board of Governors meets twice a term and is responsible for working with the Principal in setting the strategic direction for the school, including approval of school policies, and for monitoring and evaluating the performance of the school. The Board operates sub-committees – such as for educational issues, ICT and property management – which also meet regularly.

The Trustees are responsible for the administration of the whole school site, including the financial administration of the College and the relationships with the site owners and with sub-tenants.

The Principal of Blanchelande College is Mr Robert O'Brien, formerly Deputy Head at Westminster Cathedral Choir School.



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THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

The senior school Science department currently consists of three teachers and a laboratory technician, with specialisms across the three sciences. Pupils follow a curriculum that develops scientific knowledge and understanding through practical experience. Pupils use scientific ideas and models to explain the physical world. They explore how the creative application of scientific ideas can bring about technological developments and consequent changes in the way people think and behave. Pupils recognise that modern science has its roots in many different societies and cultures and develop an awareness of the importance of collaboration in science.

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Year 7 Cells Reproduction Differences Classification	Year 7 Acid Reactions Particles Elements and Compounds Chemical Reactions	Year 7 Electricity and Magnetism Energy Forces Space
Year 8 Life Support Keeping Healthy People and Environment Shaping Life	Year 8 The Periodic Table Inside Materials Metal Reactions What's in Rocks?	Year 8 Heating and Cooling Light Sound Forces
Year 9 Variation Extremes Interdependence	Year 9 The Carbon Cycle Transport of the Future The Cost of Your Drink	Year 9 Earth and Space Energy Sport

SKILLS

During their Science lessons, pupils learn how to work safely in laboratories using a range of apparatus. They develop their skills at designing and carrying out valid scientific investigations, identifying independent, dependent and controlled variables. Pupils learn to present experimental results clearly in tables and graphs, to identify patterns in their results, draw conclusions and evaluate investigations.

All pupils develop a better understanding of the technological world and learn to recognise the usefulness (and limitations) of scientific method, and how to apply this to other disciplines and in everyday life.

Pupils learn to better understand the influence and limitations placed on scientific study by society, economy, technology, ethics, the community and the environment.

ASSESSMENT

End of topic tests and assessed tasks enable pupil progress to be tracked during the year.



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National Curriculum attainment targets are used to make judgements about each pupil's attainment. Subject-specific targets are set regularly to assist pupils to reach higher attainment levels. Homework is set twice a week.

GCSE Science course

The Science department currently delivers the Combined Trilogy GCSE course (AQA). However, the post holder will play a key role in determining whether to offer combined or separate Sciences (or a combination based on setting).

ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

- Visiting Speakers
- GCSE Science homework club
- Horticulture club
- Science Residential School – Durrell Foundation, Jersey
- World Wildlife Fund – Earth Hour
- Science Week



HEAD OF SCIENCE: JOB DESCRIPTION

1. Leadership of staff

- Inspire and encourage all staff within the Department, teachers and technicians.
- Create an effective departmental team with a strong sense of purpose in which responsibilities are appropriately allocated, devolved and shared
- Advise the SMT on the timetabling of departmental staff
- Ensure teachers have proper resources and schemes of work
- Induct new staff and keep the Departmental Handbook and Departmental Development Plan up to date
- Assist departmental staff in their professional development; give them opportunities to develop skills, knowledge and understanding; recognise their contribution; lead and organise their CPD
- Liaise with the Examination Office regarding external exam entries and special arrangements for exams
- Co-ordinate and organise chairing and minuting of departmental meetings
- Attend all relevant school meetings
- Keep staff informed of curriculum developments and of thinking on whole school issues
- Monitor and evaluate the work of the Department: conduct appraisal observations and interviews and conduct regular work scrutiny

2. Leadership of pupils

- Monitor students' progress, analyse data such as examination results, track pupils through the lower and upper school and sixth form. Use this analysis to inform teaching and place pupils in appropriate sets
- Set and mark internal exam papers
- Give advice to students and parents on current performance, subject choices and future potential and give them the criteria and tools for effective self-assessment
- Prepare for and attend Open Day and parents' evenings
- Plan, lead and accompany students on foreign visits as required
- Contribute towards the running of extra-curricular pursuits
- Celebrate student successes and promote involvement in subject-related extra-curricular activities; encourage student leadership in class and across the Department
- Oversee writing and regular review of schemes of work
- Ensure clear provision is made for students of different abilities, including the very able and those with SEND



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- Implement Health and Safety Regulations as they apply within the Department; ensure that statutory procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children are followed

3. Departmental responsibilities

- Manage the Departmental Budget / liaise with Principal and Bursar on resources and expenditure
- Manage resources; their selection, purchase, allocation and organisation
- Co-ordinate the setting and marking of work for absent colleagues

4. To fulfil all other responsibilities as a Head of Department at Blanchelande College



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THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications for this post should consist of:

- A detailed letter of application stating how you believe you meet the criteria for this role.
- A copy of your C.V.
- Names and contact details for three referees, one of which should be from your current or most recent educational post. We will assume that you are happy for us to take up references straight away, unless we hear otherwise.

You may be asked for further information following short listing. You will be asked to provide proof of identity and original qualification certificates at interview.

After short listing, the Selection Process will normally include:-

- A tour of the College.
- An observed lesson, after which the views of the pupils will be considered.
- An interview with the selection panel, which will normally include a Governor, the Principal, the Vice Principal and a subject specialist.

The Contract

The position of Teacher of Science is full time. The salary will be in accordance with the Main Professional Scale/Upper Pay Scale for teachers in Guernsey State Schools. Blanchelande staff are admitted to the Guernsey Civil Service Pension Scheme, a contributory final salary pension scheme.

All staff are required to undergo a current police check, a medical declaration, provide proof of qualifications and identity and have a Guernsey housing qualification.

Closing Date

Applications must be received by Wednesday, 5th December 2018 for consideration and should be addressed to Mr Robert O'Brien, Principal.

Further information about Blanchelande College can also be obtained from our website, www.blanchelande.co.uk.

If you have any further questions or need any clarification, please contact the Principal's P.A., Mrs Maria Green.

Tel 01481 237200

Email greenm@blanchelande.sch.gg