THE STONEHENGE

SCHOOL

HEAD OF COMPUTER SCIENCE
Application pack

The Stonehenge School
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WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

At the Stonehenge School we believe that there is no limit to any student's potential. We aspire to develop a positive learning community in which effort, participation and achievement are valued.

Striving for excellence, we aim to create an outstanding school where students are happy, healthy and given opportunities to exceed their expectations. Enriched by history and culture, Stonehenge is a school for the future.

The school is increasingly popular and to cater for a rapidly expanding roll we have had a state-of-the-art extension providing 23 additional classrooms, and a brand new performing arts block to replace our older, original accommodation. We are now in a position where the facilities are some of the best in Wiltshire and ensure that we are able to provide the very best education for the pupils that we serve.

Applications for entry into Year 7 have been over-subscribed in each of the last three years, and we are ever closer to reaching our full capacity of 1120 pupils.

The school community is important to us, meaning that we have strong relationships with our students, and a collegiate supportive atmosphere within staff.

PERSONALISED PROVISION

Our pedagogical approach is centered around the 'Cornerstones' of our teaching and learning approach, with assessment built around a 'milestone' structure. All of which is based around research-driven approaches that ensure effective progress whilst also maintaining sustainable workloads for staff.

At Key Stage 3, key skills and knowledge are assessed using our 'I can' system, allowing teachers and students to keep track of their learning and progress. Students are given the flexibility and ownership to design their own option choices towards the end of Year 8, meaning that students study the curriculum that they choose, whatever their ability, allowing them to fully realise their future aspirations. At Key Stage 4 students are offered the full Ebacc, and the importance of taking a humanities and a language is discussed with parents as part of the options process. A variety of vocational courses are also offered to allow for development towards particular careers, or the pursuit of individual interests.

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Qualifications are highly important, and our examination results reflect our commitment to this. However, school is also about preparing students for their future career and roles in the larger community. Students are offered many opportunities to develop team working and leadership skills. The prefect team in Year 11 is led by the Head Boy, Head Girl and their deputies. Students can initiate projects and share decision making through an active School council and the House system.

Careers guidance is provided throughout all years. A large number of students enjoy taking part in activities throughout the school year, including drama productions and musical concerts. We have excellent sporting facilities on site and at Amesbury Sports Centre, as well as exclusive use of the 22 acre playing field on Holders Lane. We run many sports teams and offer a number of extra- curricular sporting clubs, including rugby, netball, hockey, football and cricket. Trips and visits are run regularly; Year 9 can visit Pencelli Activity Centre in Wales and older students may take part in the annual ski trip to Europe. There are regular Geography field trips and the Languages department arrange annual visits to France or Germany, as well as an extensive and growing list of residential trips across the curriculum.

The latest Ofsted inspection took place in September 2022 and concluded that... "The Stonehenge School continues to be a good school" and that "pupils like coming to school". They explored the "clear vision (that we have) for the school's next steps" and the "broad curriculum that (is) in place for every pupil".

A recent evaluation by the Local Authority reported that 'there is a positive and respectful school culture where the staff know and care for the students' and the 'leaders have a clear consistent vision which is realised through strong, shared and owned values and practice', and praised the emphasis that we place on developing our staff.

I look forward to welcoming applications from you,

Carole Dean

Striving for excellence, exceeding expectation.

The Computer Science Department

The Computer Science Department at The Stonehenge School is one of the key areas within the school and compromises of 2 full time members of staff. At The Stonehenge School we aim to provide a high-quality Computer Science education which inspires in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people. Our vision is for every child should have a world-leading computing and information technology education based on great teaching and outstanding resources. We follow, embrace and strive to deliver the National Curriculum for Computing, which states "Pupils are taught the principles of information and computation, how digital systems work and how to put this knowledge to use through programming. Building on this knowledge and understanding, pupils are equipped to use information technology to create programs, systems and a range of content. Computing also ensures that pupils become digitally literate – able to use, and express themselves and develop their ideas through, information and communication technology – at a level suitable for the future workplace and as active participants in a digital world."

The department will be managed by the Head of Computer Science. The department works together as a team, characterised by a sense of vibrancy and forward thinking. The team also works together to promote literacy and numeracy across the school.

At KS3 students study schemes of work in Computer Science which are devised by the department to ensure coverage of the National Curriculum, and have been recently revamped as part of a whole school curriculum review. All units are structured to allow students to make the most progress, recording a clear starting point; using formative marking to enhance progress at the mid-point or 'mini-milestone', which is used to inform future planning; building skills to a final assessment where progress made is explored.

Delivery at GCSE follows the Edexcel specification for Computer Science although this is open to change

Head of Computer Science

Start Date: September 2024
Salary: MPS/UPS plus TLR 2b £5, 348
Contract: Permanent Contract
Closing Date: Friday 10th May, 9am

You will be leading a high-performing team of dedicated professionals who are always striving to get the best for their students in a valued and popular curriculum area. You will be supported by a Senior team who have a clear consistent vision for the school and join a team of enthusiastic Middle Leaders who help to drive school improvements.

We are looking for colleagues with:
- a commitment to raising achievement
- the ability to engage and support students
- an enthusiasm and deep knowledge of the subject areas
- A commitment to help all young people and staff to achieve their best is expected of all staff.
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Informal visits to the school are welcome; please contact the Head's PA, Debra Harker on 01980 676660 or e-mail harkerd@stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk

Please apply via a two sided letter detailing your educational philosophy, experience to date, and how you would aim to make an excellent department even more successful. Application form and further details are available from the school website and should be returned to Mrs D Harker, The Headteacher's PA, The Stonehenge School, Holders Road, Amesbury, Wiltshire, SP4 7PW.

Email: harkerd@stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk

Website: www.stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk

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Job Description

The Stonehenge School is a Wiltshire Council mixed comprehensive school for students aged 11-16

Salary Range: MPS 1-6 (U1-3 as appropriate), plus TLR 2b £5, 348

Responsible to: Headteacher, under the day-to-day management and leadership of the Assistant Headteacher responsible for the line management of the department.

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Lead teaching and learning across the department ensuring quality first teaching at all times, including implementing standard operating procedures across the department, providing CPD opportunities for all to bring about rapid and sustained improvement.
- Set up assessment, moderation and tracking systems and frequently monitor the progress of students across the department, ensuring all identified groups and sub cohorts are making good progress.
- Monitor and evaluate the performance of groups and individual students and lead the implementation of intervention strategies for students who are at risk of not reaching their potential.
- Be a proactive member of the subject team, contributing to whole school improvement, including the induction, mentoring, professional review and professional development of all members of the team.
- Set high expectations and secure high standards of behaviour, learning and student outcomes across the department.
- Ensure health and safety policies are adhered to and that risk assessments are in place.
- Celebrate individual and group achievements, setting a positive ethos across the department.
- Coordinate, promote and deliver a wide enrichment programme, including, further development of student leadership.
- Be committed to safeguarding, to ensure policy is followed.
- Lead on curriculum and assessment developments for Computer Science.
- Lead on the enrichment programme within the department.
- Create, implement, monitor and evaluate a department development plan which contributes positively to the achievement of the School Improvement Plan and which actively involves the team in its design and implementation.
- Lead on self-evaluation for the department, including, but not restricted to, the production of a self-evaluation form, cyclical reviews and student voice activities.
- Be responsible for the management of the department budget to ensure facilities and resources are maintained at a high standard.

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In addition to carrying out the professional duties of a school teacher in accordance with the current DfE's School Teachers' Pay and Conditions document, the post holder shall, in consultation with the Headteacher:

- teach across the age and ability range, in line with the National Curriculum programmes of study, in such a way as to challenge and inspire students of all abilities
- plan , prepare and teach lessons to students assigned to his/her according to the students' educational needs with reference to prior attainment, SEN and English as an additional language as required
- assess, record and report on the development, progress and attainment of students assigned to him/her in line with school and departmental guidelines
- contribute to the planning and implementation of the curriculum in accordance with the National Curriculum, school and departmental guidelines
- liaise with colleagues to ensure a coherent programme of study for the students assigned to him/her
- set high expectations for students' behaviour establishing and maintaining a good standard of discipline through well focused teaching and through positive and productive relationships
- be familiar with, support and reinforce the aims, ethos, policies and procedures of the school and department with students, staff and parents where appropriate
- promote enrichment activities related to the subject

All teachers take an active role in the school's pastoral care of students.

All teachers actively support and contribute, as required, to the school's programme for Initial Teacher Training trainees.

The person undertaking this role is expected to carry out such other duties as may reasonably be assigned by the Headteacher, including attending meetings and events in line with the school calendar.

The above responsibilities are subject to the general duties and responsibilities contained in the Statement of Conditions of Employment.

This school is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All posts are subject to an enhanced CRB check.

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Person Specification

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	• Degree level qualification • QTS and experience of teaching KS3 and KS4 • Participation in a range of relevant in-service training	• Post graduate qualifications or research in an educational sphere • Evidence of leadership training
Experience	• Evidence of Continuous Professional Development • Experience of using assessment data to support pupil progress and attainment • Creating and developing a flexible, creative curriculum to support pupils needs	• Leadership experience • Experience/involvement in planning for departmental improvement with a clear commitment to review, monitor and self-evaluate. • Experience of raising standards through leading staff development.
Knowledge	• Current up-to-date subject knowledge • Current knowledge of strategies to raise standards of Teaching and Learning • Up to date knowledge of the KS3 National Curriculum and GCSE qualifications	• Understanding of managing a budget
Skills	• A track record of successful classroom teaching and strong student outcomes • The ability to think strategically and analytically • Able to manage the implementation of change • Outstanding oral and written communication and presentation skills • The ability and motivation to improve own practice and knowledge through self-evaluation and learning from others	• Competent user of a range of ICT software, in particular tracking and assessment data • Ability to lead an manage in a pressurised environment • Ability to create an ethos where staff are motivated and supported to develop their own skills and subject knowledge
Personal/ professional qualities	• Commitment to students and their progress • Personal organisation, presentation and punctuality • Consistent, firm, fair discipline • Good relationships with students and colleagues	• A healthy sense of perspective • A sense of humour

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