



SAINT AIDAN'S

Church of England High School

Aspire & Believe & Succeed

TEACHER OF SCIENCE - CHEMISTRY

MPR/UPR (Full Time)

Required for 1st September 2025

Message from Headteacher

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in joining us at Saint Aidan's. I was fortunate enough to be given the opportunity to lead the school over 10 years ago and know what a great place it is to work. If you are appointed you will join some of the best students and colleagues you will find anywhere.

The Governors are looking for a committed, expert teacher to join our Science Faculty. The successful candidate will join a very supportive and experienced team within a thriving, friendly school with an inclusive Christian ethos. They must be able to teach Chemistry confidently up to GCSE Level, with possibly some Physics or Biology at Key Stage 3. I hope that, having read the enclosed information and looked at the information about the school on our website, you feel encouraged to apply.

Please complete the application form and include a supporting letter (no more than two sides of A4 please) which tells us how your skills and experience have prepared you for the challenges of this post. I look forward to receiving your application. Please note that the first part of Page 8 of the Application Form asks for details of a faith referee. Please omit this section if you are unable to provide such details.

Applications close at 12 noon on Friday, 28th February.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Smith, Headteacher



**Andy Smith,
Headteacher**

Post: Teacher of Science
(Chemistry) MPR/UPR

Line Manager:
Director of Teaching and
Learning Science,
Lisa Tilbury

Start Date:
Required for 1st September
2025

**Closing date for
applications:**
12 noon on Friday, 28th
February 2025

Interviews:
To be confirmed

Electronic applications are
accepted in Microsoft Word
or PDF format.
Please email to
**recruitment@st-
aidans.lancs.sch.uk**

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School Information

Saint Aidan's is a successful and popular 11-16 co-educational Church of England school with 840 students situated in a very pleasant part of the Fylde in Lancashire. We draw our students from a wide area which includes the rural area of Over Wyre, as well as a number of areas on the edge of Blackpool and Fleetwood. The school is within easy reach of the cities of Lancaster and Preston and the town of Blackpool.

Our students achieve very well, and there is a real will in the school to improve even further. In 2024 our students' Progress 8 scores were higher than those in any other Fylde and Wyre school, and our GCSE results are consistently above local and national averages.

The school's commitment to learning extends to staff as well as students; there is a well-developed structure of support for new members of staff and a culture of "lifelong learning" among our teaching and associate staff. Our in-house CPD programme is important to us and we are continually looking to develop innovative approaches to teaching and learning, with an emphasis on the use of modern technology and collaborative learning. All teaching staff have access to a Microsoft laptop, and all of our classrooms are equipped with interactive whiteboards or touch displays. Individual tablet and laptop devices are used by students in the classroom.

The school was inspected by Ofsted in October 2013 and was found to be a Good school with Outstanding Behaviour and Safety. This was confirmed by a short inspection in July 2018 and again in June 2023. Our 2023 report states, "Pupils enjoy coming to school" and, "Staff appreciate leaders' consideration of their workload and well-being." An inspection by SIAMS in October 2024 states, "Inspired by the Christian vision, a highly nurturing culture permeates throughout the school. Caring and loving relationships ensure that students and staff know they will be listened to and their voices heard."

The school is full or nearly full in all year groups, and is regularly oversubscribed for entry into Year 7. The majority of our students travel to us by bus and choose Saint Aidan's over schools nearer their homes because of our individual care for students, our calm and purposeful atmosphere, our high academic standards and our Christian ethos.

As a church school we have a strong emphasis on the provision of a stimulating, secure and caring environment within which all members of our community can develop their potential to the full. Relationships within the school community are characterised by mutual respect; this creates a safe environment where young people can grow and develop, and where learning is valued. There is a strong "vertical" pastoral structure, built around forms that contain students from all five year groups. Our collective worship draws staff and students together and encourages them to explore life's big issues. The school's ethos is distinctively Christian but is also inclusive of those of other faiths or none. This gives us a great responsibility as for many of our children Saint Aidan's provides their only experience of worshipping and growing within a Christian community.

We work closely with our local primary schools, sixth forms, FE providers and universities. Students can participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities and educational visits in this country and further afield. All staff are encouraged to contribute to this programme.

Our school 'motto' is taken from John 10 v 10 - "I have come that they may have life in all its fullness". All we do at Saint Aidan's is aimed at making this a reality for our students and staff.



Ofsted say that Saint Aidan's is a good school where the behaviour of pupils is outstanding.



"The long established Christian vision of 'life in all its fullness' drives leaders' decisions and actions. This creates a culture of high aspiration and care. Understated in the way it is displayed around school, the words of the vision are however powerfully evident in loving relationships. It is a lived experience which recognises the deep worth of each individual in a tangible ethos of togetherness. Students and adults are proud to belong to the nurturing St Aidan's family."

(SIAMS 2024)



"My daughter loves her new school, she looks forward to going every morning and comes home with a smile on her face every night. Thank you to all concerned, you have done a brilliant job."

(Year 7 parent)



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Science Faculty

The Science Faculty comprises nine teaching and two associate members of staff, and is well-resourced with six laboratories within the main school building. We also have a school pond on site, which is very popular with our students in the warmer months. The Science labs are serviced from a main prep. room by our two experienced Science Technicians who provide invaluable advice and support.



Each Science lab is equipped with an interactive whiteboard which staff connect to their laptop (provided by school). Each lab also has a visualiser. All students are expected to bring their own laptop or tablet to school each day, and have access to digital text books for use in class or at home. Students are still required to make notes and answer questions in their exercise books.

Saint Aidan's students are extremely fortunate to be taught by subject specialists across all year groups. We believe that subject specialists at Key Stage 3 are best placed to prepare students for the demands of GCSE. Heads of Biology, Chemistry and Physics lead staff in ensuring excellent student progress.

At Key Stage 3, students are taught Science for a total of 3 hours per week, which includes 1 hour each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

At Key Stage 4 the department follows AQA GCSE syllabuses for Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Combined Science (Trilogy). All students at Key Stage 4 have a generous 6 hours of Science each week, this includes 2 hours a week each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Many of our separate science GCSE students go on to study sciences at A Level.

At Saint Aidan's, we have a strong focus on the disciplinary knowledge students require in order to become confident scientists. This includes developing strong practical skills from Year 7 to prepare them for the required practicals at GCSE, and beyond. Both numeracy and literacy skills are developed within the scientific context of each topic. We believe that strong scientific literacy is essential for students to reach their full potential in Science, and we explicitly teach the relevant scientific vocabulary required to access each topic to the full. We encourage reading in Science and have good links with our school library.

GCSE Results 2024

	Number of Entries	Grade 4 - 9	Grade 7 - 9
Biology	56	100%	39%
Chemistry	56	98%	38%
Physics	57	98%	33%
Combined Science	106	68%	3%



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Science Faculty (continued)

We actively promote STEM careers through a variety of enrichment activities. We aim to raise students' aspirations so that they view science as a realistic pathway towards a rewarding career.

We have strong links with local further education providers and the Ogden Trust, through Science roadshows and workshops, and Young Physicist of the Year.

This March, we will again be sending a team of students to compete in the Sciathlon at Blackpool and Fylde College. In May 2025, we will take a group of students on a trip to CERN. Our Instagram account promotes some of our recent activities and competitions. <https://www.instagram.com/saintaidansscience/>



I am confident that the more you learn about us here at Saint Aidan's, the more you will want to become part of our family of staff and students. I have been so impressed with Saint Aidan's that both of my own children have been students here.

There is a strong team approach within the Science Faculty, with all members contributing to driving student progress forward. We meet regularly to provide formal opportunity for support, debate and discussion. However, the day-to-day communication between staff, students and parents is the key.

The successful applicant will be joining a well-established team of experienced subject specialists. We are a hard-working staff willing to trial new approaches to teaching and learning. All members of the

Science Faculty actively engage with Continuing Professional Development and we share good practice as a matter of course. Whilst consistency across the department is important, we also encourage individual flare.

A warm welcome awaits you within the Science Faculty here at Saint Aidan's and we look forward to the successful applicant joining the team.





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PERSON SPECIFICATION FORM POST TITLE: TEACHER OF SCIENCE (CHEMISTRY)	Essential (E) or Desirable (D)	To be identified by: application form (F), interview (I), reference (R)
QUALIFICATIONS Qualified Teacher Status Degree in Science or other relevant discipline Further study and / or professional development	E E D	F F F
EXPERIENCE Successful teaching or teaching practice experience in Science Experience of teaching Chemistry up to GCSE Level	E D	F//R F//R
KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS Ability to teach Science lessons of a consistently high quality, getting the best out of young people Ability to teach Chemistry effectively to GCSE level Ability to use ICT proficiently in the classroom	E E E	F//R F//R F//R
PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES Commitment to an ethos of high standards and success Ability to work as part of a team Energy, stamina and determination Capacity to inspire young people	E E E E	F//R F//R F//R F//R
OTHER Commitment to own professional development Commitment to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and young people Willingness to support the Christian ethos of the school	E E E	F//R F//R F/I

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Our School Values

We aspire

- ◆ to give each one of our students the best possible education to prepare them for a successful and fulfilling life
- ◆ to build a community based on mutual respect and tolerance
- ◆ to open minds and provide a rich experience inside and beyond the classroom

We believe

- ◆ in a school with the Christian faith and Christian values at its heart
- ◆ in the God-given potential of each of our students
- ◆ in the value of every member of our school community of all faiths and none

We succeed

- ◆ by excellence in teaching and learning
- ◆ by fostering a purposeful and disciplined atmosphere where all can thrive
- ◆ by students, staff, parents and the wider community working together



Ofsted say that relationships between students and with adults are first rate.



What the students say...

“The lessons are all absolutely brilliant! My favourite has got to be IT because we research all sorts of fun and fascinating things and I am learning so much.”

(Year 7 student)



“Saint Aidan’s is a very welcoming environment where nobody is lost and we are all treated as one. It has provided me with many opportunities to push myself, not just academically but with self confidence too.”

(Head Girl)

“I have come that they may have life in all its fullness”.

All we do at Saint Aidan’s is aimed at making this true for our students and staff.

