Job Title: Teacher of Environmental Science

Faculty: Maths and Science

Peter Symonds College is the biggest centre for A Level Environmental Science in England and Wales, and has been for the last 20 years. It is currently taught by a small but dedicated team, all of whom are highly experienced and teach only this subject. Two of the teachers are examiners and we anticipate that this opportunity is likely to be available for the additional member of staff.

At present, there are 12 classes, and applications increase steadily year by year. This has resulted in the need to expand the Environmental Science teaching staff, in addition to two part-time members of staff who wish to reduce their teaching commitments.

Students from a wide range of backgrounds and interests study this A Level. Retention is high and a significant proportion go on to study at university. In a typical year, approximately 50% of these students will study Environmental Science or closely related degrees.

Attendance is high across both year groups and A Level results have been consistently above national results for many years.

Students have extensive support – daily workshops, both online and face-to-face, are well attended and students make thorough use of the IT and literature resources in the student workroom. Staff and students regularly use the comprehensive online resources in Google Classroom.

The Environmental Science department consists of a dedicated area, incorporating classrooms, a specifically equipped laboratory, a student workroom and a staff room. Practical work is an important part of the subject provision. In addition to laboratory work, a range of field-work opportunities are usually available for the students, and these will become part of the planning again for the coming academic year.

This post represents an exciting opportunity for a teacher to contribute to the continued growth of this inspiring subject in one of the most successful colleges in the SFC sector. It would be an advantage if candidates had the following qualities:

- A passion and enthusiasm for the subject and an ability to transfer that enthusiasm to students
- A degree in Environmental Science or similar subject. A Chemistry or Physics background would be beneficial
- A willingness to plan and help run fieldwork activities, including both day and residential trips
- An inquisitive nature, willing to research new initiatives and technologies in the subject area
- Be an effective team member who is prepared to share ideas and resources, and to develop the subject even further
- Subject-related experience outside education e.g. industrial experience, volunteer work, expeditions, research

We will welcome applications equally from those with teaching experience and from newly qualified teachers.

Jane Banks and Oliver Cockroft Heads of Environmental Science Catherine Bartlett Head of Faculty

March 2021