

The Royal School Dungannon

Assistant Teacher of Biology (temporary – academic year 2010 to 2011)

General Information

Founded by Royal Charter in 1608, the Royal School Dungannon (RSD) is one of Ireland's oldest schools. RSD is a co-educational voluntary grammar and boarding school which has 650 pupils, of which around 45 are boarders, many from overseas. The School is situated in its own spacious grounds in a quiet residential area of the market town of Dungannon, enjoying excellent road links to Belfast and other towns, and also to the Province's main airports. A recent rebuilding and renovation programme has provided the School with excellent facilities across all subjects as well as superb sporting facilities, including a sports hall and floodlit Astroturf hockey pitch. The curriculum at RSD is a blend of traditional and contemporary subjects and the School returns excellent public examination results each year, with around 90% of pupils entering universities throughout the UK and Ireland.

The Department of Biology

The Biology Department is part of a Science Faculty consisting of seven modern laboratories of which two are designated for the teaching of Biology, connected by a Biology workroom. Each room is fully equipped and has its own PC and data projector, and there are five laptops assigned to the Department as well as access to three computer suites and a mobile trolley of fourteen laptops for use in lessons. The Department is supported by a technician and there are three teachers in the Department, including the Head of Department. Biology is taught as part of Science at Key Stage 3 and as a separate subject at GCSE (either as part of Double or Triple Award Science) and at Advanced Level using the CCEA specifications. Numbers are very strong at A Level and results are equally impressive (details of results for 2009 are available on the School website – click on School Info then Prospectus and Info Leaflet).

Main Responsibilities

The School wishes to appoint a temporary teacher who can teach Biology to Advanced Level and Science at Key Stage 3 for the academic year 2010 to 2011.

- To be responsible to the Headmaster, through the Head of Department, for the effective teaching and learning of Biology to Advanced Level.
- To teach Biology in accordance with School policies and practice and in pursuit of high standards of pupil achievement.
- To contribute to the School's pastoral care system in accordance with School policies and practice.

The duties outlined above are not necessarily a comprehensive definition of the post but are indicative of the general role played by all Assistant Teachers. A full Job Description for Assistant Teacher is available on the School website.

Qualifications and Experience

Essential Criteria – Applicants must (as at 1 September 2010)

- Have a good honours degree (2:2 or above) in which Biology is a major component or an equivalent qualification
- Be a qualified teacher recognised by the Department of Education for Northern Ireland and the GTCNI
- Demonstrate the ability to teach Biology to Advanced Level and Science at Key Stage 3
- Demonstrate sound subject knowledge and an ability to teach the subject(s) required using a variety of teaching approaches and strategies
- Demonstrate a sound understanding of the Northern Ireland Curriculum
- Demonstrate a good record of attendance and health
- Demonstrate an understanding of the ways in which children learn and how individual needs may be assessed and met

- Be a team player capable of contributing to the Department's development work and working collaboratively with colleagues
- Demonstrate well-developed planning and organising skills, including time management
- Be committed to making a contribution to the work of the Boarding Department
- Be committed to making a contribution to the extra-curricular life of the School

Desirable Criteria

Preference may be given to applicants who (at 1 September 2010)

- Have a 2:1 honours degree or higher, or a higher degree in which Biology is a major component or an equivalent qualification
- Demonstrate experience of teaching Biology to Advanced Level for at least one full academic year
- Demonstrate experience of teaching Science at Key Stage 3 for at least one full academic year
- Demonstrate experience of leadership, coaching or involvement in one of the School's sports or with the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- Are willing to contribute to the organisation and leadership of the Junior Science Club
- Are willing to make a commitment to become a Resident member of the Boarding Department
- Have experience of teaching able children
- Have experience of using ICT to enhance teaching and learning

The Board of governors reserves the right to enhance the above criteria for shortlisting purposes.

Applications

The completed Application Form should be returned by **first post on Thursday 27th May 2010** addressed to: The Headmaster, The Royal School Dungannon, Ranfurly Road, Dungannon, County Tyrone, BT71 6AS and clearly marked "**ATB10T**" on the envelope.

E-mail submission of Application Forms before that time will be accepted but in that case a hard paper copy must be received in the School by the closing time stated above.

Applicants should state clearly on their Application Form how they meet each of the criteria. Those applicants who are shortlisted will be invited for interview **during the week beginning 7th June 2010.** Specific details regarding the interview will be supplied to all shortlisted applicants. Applicants who have not received notification of interview by Friday 4 June will have been unsuccessful on this occasion.

In order to comply with DENI guidelines on Child Protection, shortlisted applicants should bring an original birth certificate and/or marriage certificate (if appropriate) plus a means of photographic identification, such as a passport or driving licence, to the interview.