



Barnard Castle School

Teacher of Physics

For September 2012



INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

BARNARD CASTLE SCHOOL

The School is seeking to appoint an inspirational Physicist to join the Department from 1st September 2012. The successful applicant will be an enthusiastic and well-qualified practitioner, capable of teaching throughout the Senior School up to Sixth Form.

The School

Barnard Castle School is a fully co-educational school for pupils aged 11-18. It has its own Preparatory School for boys and girls aged 4-11, situated on an adjacent site. There are 540 pupils in the Senior School and a further 200 in the Prep School. The Sixth Form currently numbers 140 pupils. The School accepts both day pupils and boarders, the latter currently numbering 200.

While academic achievement lies at the heart of what we do, as a Christian foundation we never forget the importance of fostering mutual respect and decency amongst our pupils. We believe that all our children have something to offer, and we are driven by a desire to find areas where each of them can excel. Every term we offer an extensive programme of extra-curricular activities, and we are as proud of those who play chess for their House as those who play rugby for their country.

The School is situated in its own extensive grounds on the outskirts of an historic market town, recently noted as being the safest in England, in an area of outstanding natural beauty. It is well-resourced and enjoys an enviable reputation for its pupils' achievements on a broad variety of fronts. It is also in proximity to and enjoys close relationships with departments in the universities of Durham, York and Newcastle.

The School was inspected by ISI in April 2011. The inspectors found 8 areas "excellent" and rated three "good." They described Barnard castle as:

"A well-managed and well-resourced school which is professional and forward-looking in outlook and which has high aims for all its pupils, but which still encapsulates the traditionally unpretentious ethos of this immensely busy, friendly and happy boarding and day school."

Further details about Barnard Castle School may be found in the Independent Schools' Yearbook and on the School's web-site www.barnardcastleschool.org.uk.

The Physics Department



Physics is taught as an individual subject throughout the School and is studied by all pupils up to Year 11. In Years 7-9, pupils have a programme of study which leads naturally into iGCSE in Years 10 and 11.

In January 2008, most Physics teaching moved into a new £1.5million Physics and ICT Centre which contains three laboratories and a preparation room / office. A fourth Physics lab is retained on the previous site.

At a time when Physics struggles to survive in some schools and universities, this major investment signifies the School's strong commitment to this vital science and is an acknowledgement of its crucial importance in an institution with a strong science and mathematics reputation.

In the Sixth Form, the department currently guides one set of students through the Cambridge Pre-U, an exciting alternative to A-level which contains much more Physics, a choice between mathematical and philosophical ideas, and a full practical investigation. Two other sets follow the AQA Physics A specification. The department comprises four full-time members of staff, together with its own laboratory technician



In recent years, results at GCSE and A level have been very good and many students chose degree courses which require high grades in Physics at A-Level. Many combine the subject with Maths and Further Maths, Chemistry, Biology and Technology.

The Job Description

Reporting To: The Head of Physics

Overall expectation:

To teach effectively, encourage independent learning and to instil in pupils an appreciation of the importance of Physics.

Expectations as a member of Barnard Castle School Common Room

1. To have high professional standards and so be an appropriate role model of reliability, behaviour and appearance
2. To relate to children in an atmosphere of trust, frankness and ambition and to engender a climate of mutual respect
3. To make sure that pupils meet the School's expectations of them
4. To facilitate the development of children's confidence, self-esteem, determination, responsibility and personal pride in achievement, behaviour and appearance
5. To provide good support to the various activities of the School
6. To contribute to marketing the School and to promote the School to prospective pupils and parents
7. To establish and maintain high standards of communication with pupils, staff and parents
8. To uphold all the policies of Barnard Castle School
9. To take an interest in how the School functions and to convey suggestions for improvement to the Head of Department, Senior Management Team and Headmaster from time to time.



Key Responsibilities

1. To teach according to the timetable for the current year, ensuring that lessons are planned, ordered and effective
2. To be aware of the need to differentiate work and challenges according to the ability of the pupils, whilst maintaining high expectations of all and taking full account of any Special Educational Needs
3. To work as part of a team, in harmony with and for the furtherance of the school's ethos and declared educational aims and priorities
4. To be supportive of the department's aims, agreed teaching styles, methods of assessment and other policies
5. To set written assignments or other pieces of work that involve a finished product (Prep) regularly and mark them promptly and in accordance with School and Departmental policies, ensuring that formative comments are always helpful and make constructive suggestions for further appropriate improvement in learning
6. To provide parents with written reports on their students' work and progress according to current school policy and to attend parents' meetings
7. To take a share of supervising duties and cover for absent colleagues.
8. To be responsible for the supervision, control and proper use of teaching rooms, materials and resources, and to have regard to health and safety issues and regulations
9. To attend weekly staff meetings and other meetings that may be called from time to time, as required by the Headmaster.
10. To report in a timely manner any concerns about students and their learning progress to the appropriate colleague
11. To report in a timely manner any concerns regarding Child Protection or Bullying to the appropriate colleague
12. To take responsibility for one's continuing professional development and, to this end, to participate in Development and Review procedures as directed by the Headmaster
13. To contribute to Barnard Castle School's broad and active co-curricular activities programme either by promoting an interest of one's own to which students will respond or by helping to give a lead in an existing activity.

In order to meet the high standards expected of a teacher in our school, the Headmaster is seeking to employ a person with the following qualities, experience, skills and abilities.

Essential Criteria:

- A good honours degree
- Evidence of being an excellent teacher
- The ability to enthuse and motivate children
- A record of and commitment to continuing professional development
- Clear and effective communication skills
- An ability and willingness to make a significant contribution to the extra-curricular life of the School
- An ability to relate well to colleagues and children
- Approachability, accessibility and flexibility
- High levels of organisation

Desirable Criteria

- A higher degree or experience of educational or subject-specific research
- An ability and willingness to contribute to the coaching of games
- Experience of pastoral work such as a House or Year tutor
- Experience of external examination or school inspection
- An excellent health and attendance record
- The ability to develop and maintain effective relationships with all members of the school community
- Sympathy with the Christian values of the School and the nature of working in a boarding environment



The Appointment

The salary will be based on an appropriate point on the Barnard Castle School scale, which is currently more generous than the standard national scale, plus an additional Barnard Castle School allowance. Accommodation may be available for the successful candidate. Children of teaching staff may be educated at the School at a substantially reduced rate.

Barnard Castle School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Applications

If you feel that you can meet these requirements then please submit a letter of application along with a CV and the Barnard Castle School Application Form to the Headmaster by Friday 10th February 2012.

Interviews will take place after half-term during the **week beginning Monday 27th February 2012.**

Applicants may telephone to discuss matters relating to the advertised post with the Headmaster. All applicants will be offered a tour of the school on the day of interview.

Applications should be sent to:

The Headmaster
Barnard Castle School
Barnard Castle
Co Durham
DL12 8UN

Phone: 01833 696067
Fax: 01833 696062

e-mail: secretary@barneyschool.org.uk

All applicants are asked to date carefully their educational institutions and places of employment. In addition they are asked to give the names of referees, their job title and relationship to the applicant. Written references will be requested on all short-listed applicants. Those invited to interview will be asked to prove qualifications and satisfy the School as far as CRB Enhanced Disclosure information is concerned.

