



West Kirby

Grammar School

Teacher of Physics

January 2025

MPS/UPS

Graham Road, West Kirby, Wirral. CH48 5DP

www.wkgs.org

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Advertisement & Information

Teacher of Physics

January 2025



Teacher of Physics

Full-time, Permanent. Required for January 2025

The Governors of this exceptional Grammar School wish to appoint a well-qualified and enthusiastic teacher of physics for January 2025. The post is full-time. The ability to teach GCSE and A-level physics is essential. A strong degree in physics is sought, although candidates with a degree in a closely related discipline are welcome to apply. This post would suit a newly or recently qualified teacher, for whom extensive support and encouragement will be given, or a more experienced practitioner.

The science department at WKGS has 12 fully equipped laboratories, all presented and equipped to a high standard. All students study separate sciences at Key Stage 3 before electing at GCSE to study either AQA separate sciences or combined science, following a two-year Key Stage 4 programme. At advanced level, physics continues to be a popular option and is a highly valued subject by students. A-level students follow the OCR specification where they have twelve 50-minute lessons per fortnight, and classes are usually shared between two teachers.

Students achieve excellent results, with 41% of GCSE physics students achieving a grade 9 – 7 and 67% of students achieving grades 9 – 6. At A-level, 18% of students achieved an A* grade with 50% of physics students achieving grades A* – A in 2024.

In addition to ensuring an engaging and valuable curriculum in the classroom, the physics department is highly committed to offering exceptional learning opportunities for students outside of the classroom, including through an ongoing collaboration with the Ogden Trust. There are numerous additional activities offered and the department runs a variety of trips each year, along with organising visiting speakers, in order to enhance and develop each students' learning experience.

Advertisement & Information

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West Kirby Grammar School is a very successful selective girls' school with a coeducational Sixth Form. There are over 1200 students on roll and results are exceptional. In 2024, an Attainment 8 score of 68.1 was achieved with 50% of results at grades 9-7 and 14% of all results at grade 9. At A-level, 61% of grades were A*-B and 10% of all grades were at A* level.

Further information and an application form are available to download on the School's website (www.wkgs.org) or by contacting the School on 0151 632 3449. A completed application form and letter addressing the content of the person specification, which should be no longer than two sides of A4, should be submitted to office@wkgs.net for the attention of Mr S. Clarke, Headteacher.

If you have any questions regarding the post, please contact the school for further information.

Closing Date: Friday 4 October at 9am

Anticipated Interviews: Week beginning Monday 7 October

Person Specification

Teacher of Physics

January 2025



Job title: Teacher of Physics

Reporting to: Head of Physics

Grade: MPS/UPS

This person specification is related to the requirements of the post as determined by the job description. Short listing is carried out on the basis of how well you meet the requirements of the person specification. You should refer to these requirements when completing your application.

E: Essential D: Desirable

1. Qualifications

Degree or equivalent in physics or closely related subject (E)

QTS (secondary phase) (E)

Further degree or related qualification (D)

2. Experience

Teaching physics in a secondary school either in a substantive post or as part of Teacher Training (E)

Teaching physics to A-level either in school/college as part of a substantive post or as part of Teacher Training (E)

Teaching experience in an outstanding/good school (D)

Leading or accompanying school visits (D)

3. Knowledge and Skills

Knowledge of external examination specifications (E)

Ways to teach students how to think and how to behave in order to achieve high performance (E)

Ways to assess work over time in specific subject area (E)

Excellent understanding of best pedagogical practice to ensure ambition and challenge for all (E)

Use of interactive technology to enhance teaching (D)

A willingness to employ creative styles of teaching (D)

4. Special Requirements

A belief in the potential of all students to perform at the highest level (E)

Empathy with students and colleagues (E)

Enhanced DBS clearance and identity checks (E)

Willingness to contribute to the wider life of the school (E)

Excellent references (E)

Professional approach to conduct (E)

Pastoral experience as a Form Tutor or Shadow Form Tutor (D)



West Kirby Grammar School is a vibrant and thriving girls' grammar school of more than 1200 students aged 11 to 18, including around 50 male students in a coeducational sixth form of over 350.

As a school, we believe there are no limits on a student's potential: with the right approach to learning every student can reach levels of attainment and achievement that might previously have been considered the preserve of a 'gifted and talented' few.

Our values are inspired by our school motto: *ad metam contendo* - strive towards the goal.

These six core values aren't simply words on a page – we live and breathe them every day, driven by our determination to inspire and support every child in the pursuit of their goals, whatever they may be:

Community

- We're proud of our sense of community and family at WKGS, as well as our contribution to the local and wider community.
- We choose to be collaborative, caring and kind, showing empathy and honesty in our actions.
- We value our tradition and have a vibrant House system that helps to create a compassionate and caring community.

High Expectations

- We are aspirational for ourselves and those around us, taking great pride in our achievements.
- Our work is goal-orientated, celebrating success in different forms while striving for excellence in our pursuits.
- We naturally have high academic expectations and challenge everyone to achieve their full potential, both inside and outside of the classroom.

Opportunity

- We offer exceptional opportunities for all in a wide variety of contexts.
- Our extensive curriculum ensures that every student has the opportunity to discover their talents.
- We encourage everyone to embrace our extra-curricular provision and wide range of enrichment activities; we promote leadership at all levels.

Innovation

- We strive to create the leaders of tomorrow; individuals who are daring and forward thinking and who work to inspire those around them.
- Creativity is highly valued, and we aim to find inventive and enterprising solutions to the challenges we face.
- Change is embraced as we develop inventive new practices and systems.

Curiosity

- We encourage all members of our community to display a love of learning and to show an inquisitive approach to challenge.
- The ability to reflect on practices is key, along with a passion to improve. Asking questions to deepen understanding and looking beyond the confines of the curriculum is actively encouraged.

Endeavour

- We work with motivation and resilience, whatever the challenge ahead.
- Determined to succeed, we challenge ourselves and those around us to improve
- We engage with our tasks and work with perseverance to achieve.



Staff Wellbeing

The wellbeing of staff is central to the approach taken by Governors, the Headteacher and the SLT at West Kirby Grammar School.

We have an excellent sense of community within our whole staff, who work very hard as a team to support one another in their endeavours. Below are examples of some of the systems we have developed to help maintain a happy and positive staff.

- Access to a comprehensive range of health and wellbeing services offered by Education Mutual
- Deadlines well publicised and staff consulted on annual calendar
- Reduced data collections to ensure no collections for data's sake
- In-house Wellbeing Manager available to all staff, and Staff Wellbeing Committee that monitors and responds to staff needs.
- Greater PPA time than national recommendation
- Dedicated classroom wherever possible for teaching staff
- A flexible and generous approach to family appointments and child events
- Complimentary tea and coffee
- Complimentary Christmas Dinner for all staff each year
- Staff Christmas Cake baking event
- Complimentary coffee and cake mornings or afternoons
- Access for all staff to Positive Psychology Coach
- Opportunities for professional development always considered
- Considerate approach to lesson observations, drop-ins and learning walks
- Headteacher 'Open Door' Policy at all times
- On site car valeting offered

Life in West Kirby

WKGS is a nurturing and supportive institution with exceptional rates of staff retention. Very few staff move on each year and these are largely due to opportunities for promotion or staff retirement.

West Kirby is a fantastic place to work and live. Found on the North West coast, it is regularly rated in The Times as one of the Top 10 places to live in the North West. Just half an hour by train from Liverpool, it is a beautiful seaside town with a high street full of independent shops, the Marine Lake, the picturesque Hilbre Island and miles of sandy beaches.



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