

Ref: GR/PW
Date: October 2021



Assistant Headteacher, Director of Science

Thank you for your interest in the vacant Assistant Headteacher, Director of Science post at Sedgefield Community College.

Housed in a modern well-equipped building, Sedgefield continues to be both the highest performing school in County Durham, and consistently amongst the top 5% of all North East and Cumbria secondary schools. Our OFSTED inspection resulted in the academy being judged as 'outstanding' overall and one where inspectors described student attitudes to learning as impeccable. In addition, our school is consistently ranked in the top 50 highest performing 11-16 schools in The Sunday Times UK Schools Guide. Most recently being named as the North East Secondary School of the Decade 2021.

However, in spite of the accolades, we are an academy that believes we can improve further and as a result, we are currently looking to recruit a high calibre, experienced, science specialist middle leader who has the ability and tenacity to build upon the outstanding success of our previous Assistant Headteacher, Director of Science. The successful candidate will have a proven track record of successfully and consistently raising achievement of large cohorts of all student groups regardless of prior attainment or background. You will also be able to demonstrate you have the potential to contribute to line management of other significant whole school strategies and help take the school through its next stage of development? You will be joining a talented, dedicated and motivated senior leadership team as we move into the next phase of the academy's development.

At Sedgefield, success is not and will not be measured by academic outcomes alone. Rather, it will always be measured by the extent to which students are empowered to move onto the next stage of their lives as happy, confident and successful young adults. Indeed, to become part of the senior leadership team at Sedgefield Community College is to acknowledge and accept that the happiness and wellbeing of our students, in the broadest sense, is at the heart of what we do each day.

The Laidlaw Schools Trust has commenced an exciting new chapter in its development: Sedgefield Community College joined the Trust on 1 March 2020 and we have built a dedicated teaching and leadership centre on the Sedgefield site in partnership with Durham University and generously funded by the Laidlaw Foundation. This development builds upon the existing strengths of Sedgefield Community College and the visionary leadership of the Laidlaw Schools Trust to transform the lives of children and communities through inspirational education. We are confident that together we will be recognised as a truly exceptional place to teach.

Whilst the college is situated within the picturesque town of Sedgefield within a rural area of County Durham, its student intake is quite comprehensive in nature with students attending the college from a range of communities within a variety of socio-economic settings. However, students enter year seven with levels of attainment slightly above national average, and with numbers of students who have SEND, and those qualifying for free school meals on par with national averages.

As an academy, we have proven over recent years that we have the experience, expertise and supportive structures needed to ensure that newly appointed teachers, and particularly those who may have recently qualified, can rapidly develop into outstanding professionals who can, with our support, maintain a healthy

and positive work/life balance. In addition, we are confident that the successful applicant will agree with our assertion that Sedgefield is a happy and welcoming place in which to teach and progress.

If you feel that Sedgefield sounds right for you, and you have the personal and professional characteristics required to ensure that students achieve highly, coupled with the ability to inspire students to engage in the subject, then then we would like to hear from you.

In addition to completing an application form, please present a letter (no more than 1000 words) outlining how your experience to date has prepared you for the role you are applying for, and how you would ensure future success. Experienced teachers should indicate how recent classes taught have performed in externally accredited courses.

Application materials can be downloaded from the vacancies section of the school website www.sedgefieldcommunitycollege.co.uk Completed applications are to be returned to personnel@sedgefield.cc

The closing date for applications is: 12 noon Monday 18th October 2021
Interviews to be held on: Wednesday 20th October 2021

Should you wish to discuss this post further or visit the college then please contact my PA Penny Walmsley on 01740 617777 or e-mail p.walmsley@sedgefield.cc

Yours Sincerely



Mr G Robinson
Headteacher



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