



Willingdon

COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Recruitment Information Pack

Teacher of Science
(maternity leave cover)



Teacher of Science (maternity leave cover)

Full time / 1-year fixed term/ maternity leave cover

MPS - UPS £32,916 - £51,048 per annum

Start date September 2026

Required for a September 2026 start, a high quality Teacher of Science to join a successful and experienced team within this high achieving school. This high attaining department is looking for either experienced or newly qualified teachers with a passion for Science and a commitment to the success of all pupils. The ability to teach across KS3&4 is essential.

The Science team at Willingdon currently consists of ten teachers. They are supported by a team of Science Technicians. The Science department is a vibrant inclusive group of individuals all striving to encourage more students to study science beyond school and college. We have expanded our range of extra-curricular activities this year to include things such as STEM clubs, robotics groups, advanced science programs, trips to the national science museum, entering Olympiad competitions, but we are always looking for new and exciting ventures.

In Years 7 and 8, students follow the Collins Scheme of Work. Students are taught biology, chemistry and physics modules, each module lasting for approximately eight lessons. Knowledge and skills acquired by students are assessed at the end of each module. The aim of this course is to introduce students to the ideas covered at KS4 and provide them with the essential prior knowledge required to embark on the GCSE curriculum. In Years 9, 10 and 11 all students work towards completing biology, chemistry and physics GCSEs. Each class currently has one teacher to deliver all of the specialisms. The modular approach started at KS3 is continued into KS4 and modules from each specialism are taught in rotation. At the end of each module, students sit a summative assessment which generates an attainment grade for that module.

Regardless of past levels of success, the striving for excellence never stops.

Willingdon Community School is committed to child protection/safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, we expect all staff and volunteers to share this duty of care. All applicants will be subject to safer recruitment procedures and will require satisfactory references and an enhanced DBS check.

Closing Date: Friday, 20th February 2026 (by noon)

We advise applying promptly for this vacancy as we reserve the right to close and interview early if sufficient suitable applications have been received.

To apply for this post, please download and complete the application form from the school website: <http://willingdonschool.org.uk/about-us/vacancies> or, e-mail: recruitment@willingdonschool.org.uk

Our Vision Statement:



We are Willingdon

We are a united, vibrant community which demonstrates personal excellence in all that we do. Learning at Willingdon transforms lives by igniting curiosity and expecting the very best from staff and students alike. We value opportunities, aiming for success today to prepare for challenges and opportunities tomorrow. We are respectful, honest and courteous to empower each other on our unique learning journeys. We look after ourselves and each other, and show empathy, respect and compassion to all people and our environment along the way. We encourage tolerance, resilience and reflection, which in turn allows everyone to make progress every lesson. We work together as a harmonious community to be the very best versions of ourselves.

This makes us Willingdon

One Day at Willingdon Community School



Willingdon Community School is a high-achieving and over-subscribed (NOR 1040), 11-16, comprehensive school serving largely, the Eastbourne and Polegate area. We are committed to talent management and ensuring that all support and teaching staff are given the opportunity to develop and progress their careers. The school prides itself on putting staff and student wellbeing as a top priority and there are many initiatives which have been established to support this e.g. subsidising Benenden healthcare by 50% for all staff members to creating staff working parties to focus on key areas for example; marking workload. Our leadership team are receptive to constructive feedback and hold regular parent, staff and student voice sessions as well as google form entries to submit feedback.

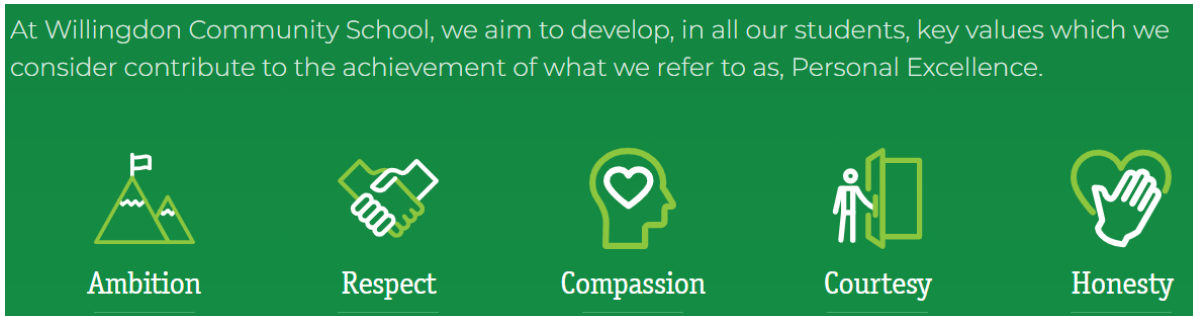
The recent Ofsted report was very positive about the journey of our school and we sustained our 'Good judgement'.

Our report details: *'The school has high expectations of pupils and a strong focus on celebration and praise'* It also says *'External examination outcomes are extremely strong. Pupils' progress is significantly above national averages in most subjects, and in the highest 20% in English and mathematics.'*

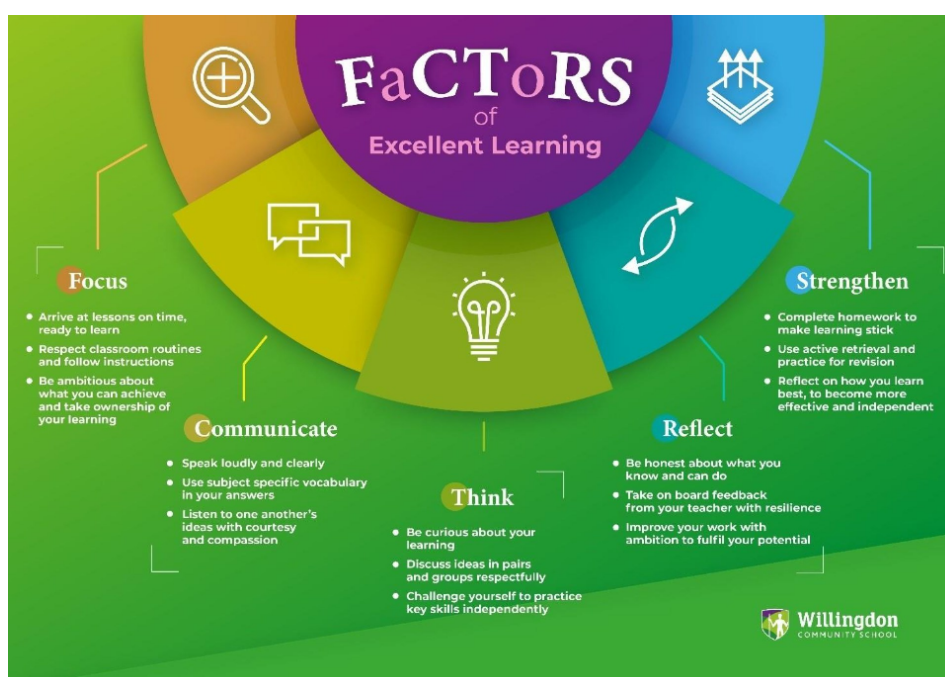
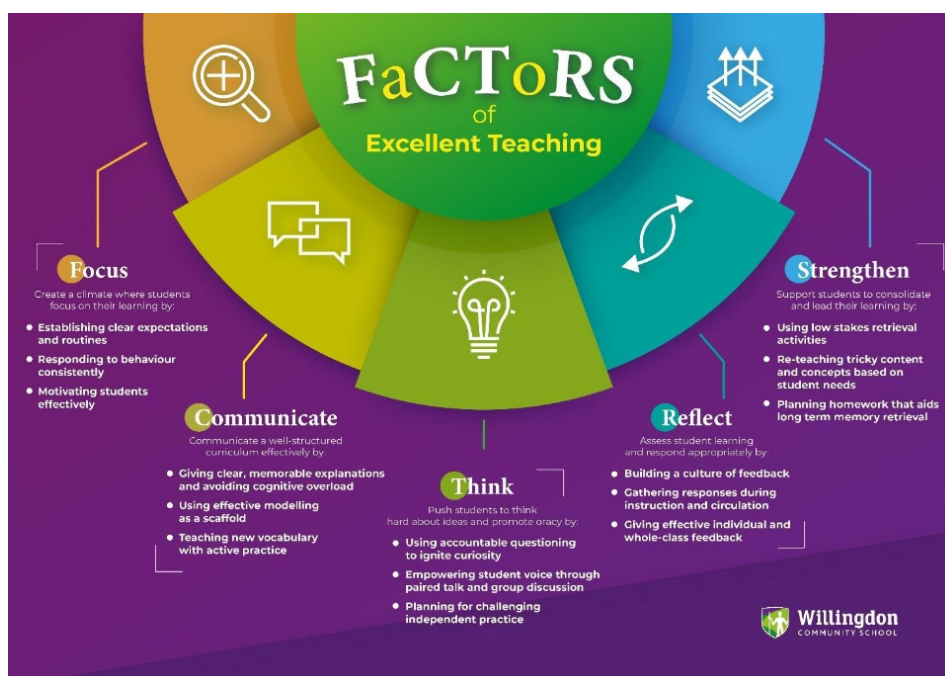
This is largely due to teachers being 'subject experts' and also provided with the best support, CPD and leadership. Despite the recent impact of covid, our attendance was significantly above national average and we have enjoyed sharing our good practice with other colleagues in the south east region to support other children.

The school is a leading member of a number of local educational groups and partnerships, such as the Eastbourne Schools Partnership (ESP) which brings many and varied learning opportunities to both teachers and students, particularly via our links with Eastbourne College. We have excellent links with outstanding schools up and down the country. These links bring cultural and intellectual capital to the school and enrich our CPD provision for staff at all levels.

Value & Ethos We are a high achieving school which wants to achieve the best for all students. But achievement is not just about good academic results, it is also about developing the qualities and values which will make an Individual a good friend, employee, relative, parent or colleague and will serve them for the rest of their life.



Teaching & Learning To ensure that our curriculum is effectively delivered we use an evidence-informed model of FaCToRS of Excellent Teaching and Learning. FaCToRS incorporates five key strands; to be excellent learners, students are expected to focus, communicate, think, reflect and strengthen their learning.





The CPD and talent management of our staff is given a very high priority as we believe this is a vitally important part of improving outcomes for young people as well as invigorating teachers' passion for their areas. Willingdon is proud of its record in developing new teachers and on the quality of CPD more widely for our staff body.

Recent visits to our school have included: we have hosted Bill Rogers at our school, to talk to schools across the Southeast region about effective behaviour management, Sonia Gill Founder of Heads Up delivering training to support our middle leaders. Julia and Luke from Culture Shift, leading a creative journalling session, and Olympic legend Roger Black MBE, who delivered an inspiring talk to staff and students on determination, teamwork, and striving for excellence.



The school has an outstanding record for the quality and range of professional development opportunities it offers and takes pride in developing its staff as outstanding teachers and preparing them for the next steps in their careers. We have an internal coaching team made up of excellent teachers who specify in supporting staff with the development of certain key skills. From delivering literacy within lessons to having good presence and effective engagement, our staff work positively with each other without fear of judgment. As well as being supported through in-house middle and senior leadership programmes, aspiring leaders have access to: funded NPQ and Masters Qualifications; extended programmes in Durrington Research School and leadership opportunities provided by the SSAT and ASCL.



"It's a great school with great staff!"

"I work at Willingdon as I believe it is a great school that really cares about you as a person and the goals you wish to achieve."



"Willingdon is more than just a school, it is a community that work and strive for success collectively. We are all one team who want to share success with pupils and other staff members."

"School with community at its heart."

"There is a strong sense of community and pride with students and staff. Great colleagues and a sense that everyone's opinions and ideas are valued."

Staff wellbeing is of paramount importance to us at Willingdon Community School. We can offer the successful candidate:

- A clear purpose. We are here to develop personal excellence and help staff and students be the very best versions of themselves.
- Lots of opportunities to observe others and feedback. We don't grade lessons and feedback is developmental.
- Regular opportunities for staff voice directly to the Headteacher.
- On appointment, a full induction day is arranged to ensure you are supported with the transition to your new role.
- 50% off Benenden Health Care scheme.
- Opportunity to join Bupa Dental Plan which provides varying contributions to NHS and private dental services.
- Regular Mindfulness sessions to enhance your work-life balance.
- We offer Mental Health First Aid to all staff which is a two day qualification.
- An Employee Assistance Programme via the County Council, this service is provided by 'Care First', they offer advice, information, emotional support and counselling.
- Annual Flu Vaccination is provided in the autumn term and paid for by the school.
- Access to the ESCC My Staff Shop, which gives access to a wide range of tax efficient benefits and discounts from national and local businesses.
- The Love 2 shop membership card (linked to My Staff Shop) is a reloadable gift card which can be spent at a number of major retailers.
- Bike Scheme, this is a salary sacrifice scheme that produces a saving of up to 32% compared to buying a bike up-front.
- A free coffee machine is ready for you during break and lunch time.
- Invitations to whole school social events such as our Christmas party and summer BBQ which is subsidised as a thank you to staff, and other gatherings to celebrate success.
- Local business discounts for Willingdon Community School staff.
- Blue Light Card as a member of the teaching community
- And more!

We believe that happy staff make happy children and therefore do our utmost to support our staff.



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School website: willingdonschool.org.uk/about-us/vacancies

e-mail: recruitment@willingdonschool.org.uk