



Physics Technician

**Bancroft's**

Independent Co-educational Day School 7-18



## Contents

The Role

Responsibilities

The Person

The Department

Background

Working at Bancroft's

How to Apply

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## The Role

Bancroft's School is looking for an experienced Physics Technician to provide a full technician's support service to all Physics students and staff, and to oversee the purchase, organisation and storage of all materials used within the department in order to support the efficient running of the department and provide a high standard learning experience. This role reports to The Head of Science and the Head of Physics.



## Key Responsibilities

- To prepare basic practical materials and apparatus
- To upkeep cleanliness and tidiness of all equipment and stores
- To maintain consumables and other items of apparatus

### **Responsibilities/Accountabilities:**

- The preparation of basic practical materials including the construction of simple 'general science' apparatus where necessary for class experiments and teacher demonstrations.
- The setting out, clearing away, washing up and returning to the appropriate storage location of materials and equipment required for class experiments and teacher demonstrations. This includes the maintenance of stocks of tests and worksheets;
- The general upkeep, cleanliness and tidiness of working surfaces in all areas of the science department.



- The upkeep of equipment and stores, including routine maintenance, repair and servicing apparatus (PAT testing is carried out by contractors in Summer break).
- To maintain stocks of consumables and other items of apparatus; ordering as necessary having gained approval from the Head of Department;
- To check laboratory apparatus against an inventory, ensuring items are correctly located and ready for use;
- Keeping up to date with health and safety requirements and with developments in practical science.
- Carrying out risk assessments for technician activities, referring to the Science department safety policy (and Cleapss guidance as appropriate)

**To conduct the following routine departmental administration:**

- Update the inventory of equipment;
- Receive, label, cover (if necessary) and number new text books;
- Maintain records of issues and returns;
- To check the state of repair of departmental text books at the end of the academic year, reporting any deficiencies to the Head of Department;

**Additional Work Elements:**

- The preparation of more complex practical materials and apparatus for class experiments and teacher demonstrations in physics
- Working with the teachers in the department to test out new experiments and check they work;
- Assisting the teachers to develop the use of I.T. including Vernier Dataloggers and Surface Laptops in physics;
- Assisting the teachers in intensive practical sessions by helping pupils to set up practical work correctly;
- Maintenance of stocks of apparatus and other consumables in the Physics Labs;
- Overseeing the safe and secure issue of radioactive sources;
- Keeping a record of the radioactive source annual checks and assisting the RPS (schools) to conduct the checks;
- Keeping a record of steam engine checks and conducting the checks annually;



- Ensuring apparatus is prepared for periodic portable appliance tests.
- Assisting the Head of Science with preparation for Open days, Science fairs and other outreach events

### **Responsibilities in relation to the School:**

- Carrying out School policy, including the School safety policy, in the context of the department.
- Ensuring that the facilities used by the department, including equipment and teaching areas, are maintained in an appropriate condition.



### **Additional Work Information**

- This job description is not an exhaustive list of all responsibilities or duties but reflects the major core of the role
- The organisation reserves the right to alter the content of this job description after consultation to reflect changes to the job or services provided, without altering the general character or level of responsibility
- In the event of a major incident or disaster, you may be required to provide assistance, in whatever capacity necessary and participate in any training to ensure the School is fully prepared for such events
- To demonstrate a commitment to improving and developing the organisation's processes and facilities
- To carry out such duties that may be reasonably required by your line manager



## Safeguarding

Bancroft's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, contractors, Governors and volunteers to share this commitment. Successful candidates are required to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the role, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).



## The Person

### The ideal candidate will

#### Essential Criteria:

- Good communication and team skills
- Good level of scientific knowledge and training
- Cooperative, team worker
- Reliable and Honest
- IT literate
- Safeguarding.

#### Desirable Criteria:

- Experience in laboratory work and risk assessment
- Creative
- Enthusiastic
- Practical



## The Department

The Physics Department is very well equipped, and operates in a suite of 4 laboratories and 5 teachers with one dedicated Physics technician responsible for the provision of equipment from year 10 and up. The Physics technician's base is on the ground floor where there is a Physics prep room equipped with telephone and computer. There is also a workshop, a resources room with a photocopier and rest room for use by technicians during their breaks in the Science Building.

In addition to the usual exotic array of equipment found in most physics departments, the Department has use of class sets of surface laptops as well as a range of Logger Pro dataloggers and sensors.

In years 7-8 pupils are taught by one teacher in a Combined Science course, covering all 3 sciences. GCSE teaching begins at the start of year 9, at which point each subject is taught by a subject specialist. Equipment is provided for the first two or three years by the Junior Science Technician. The school currently follows the AQA specifications, and most pupils complete GCSEs in the separate sciences. At A-level the department follows the context-based SHAP approach to Physics (Pearson) and practical work is assessed by the Core Practicals in the L6 and U6 years.

GCSE classes are about 23 in size, and A-level classes are limited to a maximum of 14 dependent on overall numbers for that year. A-level uptake is good, including a mix of both boys and girls, and there will be 6 sets in our sixth form next year.

The school regularly achieves extremely good results, with over 90% of GCSE pupils attaining grades 7 - 9 in Physics. This is continued at A-level, where about 80% of pupils achieve A / A\* grades at AS and A2 level.

The role of the technician is a vital one and we hope that you would be excited join us and be part of our team.





## Background

### The School

Bancroft's School was founded by the Drapers' Company in 1737 on the Mile End Road as a day-school for local boys from a diverse range of backgrounds; the School has come a long way geographically and institutionally since then but remains committed to pupils from a wide range of backgrounds and has a long tradition of excellence.

We are now a co-educational independent day school for around 1200 pupils from 7 to 18 and an unashamedly aspirational school, devoted to scholarship and intellectual inquiry. We aim to provide an atmosphere in which each child can flourish and we believe that children succeed when they take full advantage of the huge range of different opportunities we provide – whether immersed in academic research, being out on the sports fields, taking part in charitable activities, acting on the stage, playing music and attending some of our numerous clubs and societies, our pupils challenge themselves and learn by taking part wholeheartedly in school life.

We have the highest expectations for every child in the School and we support, encourage and nurture each individual; we want our pupils to enjoy life to the full, make enduring friendships and grow up in a friendly, safe but challenging environment.



At Bancroft's we continually strive to ensure that all our pupils leave here with the confidence, self-awareness and knowledge to thrive in the world beyond, as well as taking with them an awareness of others and an abiding curiosity about the world.

Bancroft's has a selective 5 or 6 form entry at 11+, with just under half the pupils coming from the Preparatory School. The school uses its own entrance exam and admits boys and girls in equal proportions. There is a further small entry at 16+, and most pupils stay into the Sixth Form. Public examination results are very strong and place Bancroft's among the top co-educational schools in the country.

Due to the continuing Covid-19 pandemic, students were unable to sit their GCSE and A Level examinations in June 2021. Instead they received Teacher Assessed Grades which were awarded after a rigorous review of various evidence including tests and coursework.

82.2% of all GCSEs at Bancroft's in 2021 were awarded the top grades of 9 or 8; 99.1% achieved either grades 9/8/7 with 99.8% graded as a 5 or better.

In common with the pattern across the country, the number of top A Level grades which were awarded to Bancroft's pupils increased. Bancroft's pupils achieved 63.9% at A\*; 98.1% of exams were awarded grades A\* - B.

Bancroft's is a forward-looking, modern school; a centre of excellence for the twenty-first century.



## Working at Bancroft's

The successful applicant will receive an attractive salary package according to experience and expertise. Benefits include free school lunch and refreshments during the day, private medical insurance, pension (TPS) and concessionary fees for children attending the school (dependent upon academic assessment). We have a generous CPD budget and staff are encouraged to look for opportunities to develop their skills and expertise either to further their career or to support their enjoyment of their role. We have a Staff Wellbeing Group, and an active Senior Common Room who organise a range of social events. Staff have access to various sporting facilities such as the gym and the swimming pool at allocated times. We also have a staff group working on Diversity and Inclusion and are founding members of the Schools' Inclusion Alliance.

## How to apply

An application form is available to download from the School website, <http://www.bancrofts.org/about-us/employment-opportunities> or by emailing [recruitment@bancrofts.org](mailto:recruitment@bancrofts.org)

Bancroft's School is an Equal Opportunities employer and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants will be required to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.

