



King's College

TAUNTON

Teacher of Chemistry (full-time)

Closing Date: Friday 25 April 2025





Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the role of
Teacher of Chemistry at King's College.

We require an enthusiastic and well-qualified teacher to join our chemistry team from September 2025. We are looking for a teacher who can share their expertise and love of their subject, and teach lessons which inspire and that pupils enjoy. Chemistry is a popular and successful subject at all levels, with a good number of pupils going on to read chemistry-related degrees at university.

King's College has a lively and friendly Common Room of over 50 full-time teachers, all of whom contribute to the school's outstanding co-curricular programme of sport, music and many other activities. The ability to contribute to this programme would be a distinct advantage. All teachers also tutor a small number of pupils and undertake an evening duty in one of our boarding houses, the Sixth Form Centre or the library.

King's College is an exciting, forward-looking and rewarding school to work in. We support all staff to develop their teaching and pastoral skills, providing frequent access to high quality professional development, utilising the skills and experience of colleagues through our peer-coaching programme and tailoring professional development to each individual and their aspirations. We believe that investing in the development our staff is a key element in ensuring excellent teaching, learning and pastoral care. We are keen to embrace new ideas and technologies to ensure that teachers at King's are at the forefront of teaching and learning innovation, and are rightly proud of the quality of pedagogy witnessed daily around the school. Two members of the SMT are directly responsible for the wellbeing (Assistant Head Common Room) and professional development (Assistant Head Teaching and Learning) of all staff at King's. Newly qualified teachers will be supported in completing their ECT years at King's by the Head of Staff Induction, who has vast experience in guiding and training ECTs.

We look forward to hearing from you and considering your application.



MICHAEL SLOAN
Headmaster



“ In their everyday lives around the school,
our pupils show the confidence to succeed,
and the determination to give their very best. ”

About the Schools

King's provides continuous day and boarding education for girls and boys aged two to 18 years. It comprises King's College Prep which has approximately 300 children from 2 to 13 and a senior school with approximately 400 pupils from 13 to 18.

The schools are situated on separate sites in the south west of England and combine traditional values with state-of-the-art facilities. Both schools are run by one governing body, with many functions (marketing, strategy and finance for example) undertaken jointly.

King's College has a rich and welcoming family and community ethos. Just over 60% of the pupils board. For a relatively small school, it has an enviable record of success in all areas.

The school has regularly topped GCSE and A-level league tables for Somerset. A broad range of co-curricular activities is offered, and the school is renowned for its success in sport, music, performing arts, fine art, design technology and outdoor pursuits. In many of these activities our pupils have achieved success at national and even international levels.

Good discipline is encouraged in a firm and positive way within a supportive pastoral framework. King's College is strong on manners and social skills. Pupils go on to thrive at good universities and in their professional careers.

In short, King's is a purposeful, outward-looking, down-to-earth, highly successful school.





King's College

South Road, Taunton TA1 3LA



Main School Building

- 1 The Chapel
- 2 The Quad
- 3 Dining Hall
- 4 Woodard Room
- 5 Latin
English
Philosophy of Religious & Ethics
Modern Foreign Languages - *upstairs*
- 6 Main School Corridor
Headmaster's Office
PA to the Headmaster's Office
Examination Office
Admissions Office
Careers Office
Maths
- 7 Philip Richards Building
Library - *upstairs*
IT Helpdesk
Visitor toilets
- 8 Headmaster's House
- 9 Silvermead Studio and Arts House
- 10 Briar Lee Tennis Courts
- 11 Sixth Form Centre
Head of Sixth Form Office
Development Office
- 12 School Uniform Shop
- 13 Cookery School

- 14 Laundry
- 15 Shooting Range
- 16 CCF and Outdoor Pursuits
Stores
Chindits
Army/Navy/Marines
- 17 Finance Office
- 18 Design Technology Centre
- 19 Squash Courts
- 20 First Team Cricket Pavillion
- 21 First Team Cricket Pitch
- 22 Buttler's Ramp
- 23 Tennis and Netball Dome
- 24 Tennis and Netball Courts
- 25 Sports pitches
(rugby/cricket/athletics/football)
- 26 All-weather Hockey Pitch
- 27 Cricket Pavilion
- 28 Athletics Cabin
- 29 Sports Performance & Cricket Centre
- 30 Swimming Pool
- 31 Changing Cabins
- 32 Sports Hall
Climbing Wall
Gym
PE Classrooms

- 33 Science Centre
Biology
Chemistry
Physics
History
- 34 Geography Centre
- 35 The Amphitheatre
- 36 The Theatre
Black Box
Auditorium
- 37 Music School
The Octagon
Music Technology
Practice Rooms
- 38 Medical Centre

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- A **Bishop Fox House**
Boys
 - B **Carpenter House**
Girls
 - C **Meynell House**
Girls
 - D **King Alfred House**
Boys
 - E **Taylor House**
Girls
 - F **Woodard House**
Boys
 - G **Tuckwell House**
Boys

A Rural County of Rolling Hills

Taunton is surrounded by natural beauty, with the Blackdowns, Mendips and Quantock Hills on the doorstep, plus Exmoor National Park, the Somerset Levels and Dartmouth are a short drive away.

Somerset is renowned for its cheddar cheese and cider. A wealth of apple orchards once made Somerset the cider capital of the UK, whilst the Cheddar Gorge caves are still used to mature cheese today.

Taunton is the county town of Somerset, in the South West of England. It is a busy market town located between junction 25 and 26 on the M5.

A growing commercial and residential centre, Taunton has a splendid small theatre, the County Cricket Ground, a successful rugby club, a delightful museum, the usual shopping outlets and restaurants, and a regular farmers' market.

If you love the great outdoors, you can be on the beach in 40 minutes and the Quantocks are just 15 minutes away. For those who prefer city lights, the fast West Country train service reaches Paddington in under two hours. By car, Exeter is 25 minutes south, Bristol 35 minutes north and you can reach Bath in about an hour.



The Post

The Chemistry Department at King's is vibrant, ambitious and enjoys a high profile among pupils and staff. Alongside the other sciences chemistry is taught within a purpose-built science centre by our a hard-working, friendly and supportive staff. Pupils start in year 9 studying the AQA GCSE science course and then, in Year 10, are guided to either continue with the sciences as single GCSE subjects or move on to the trilogy science route. In the Sixth Form a good number study OCR A level chemistry and the department regularly gains strong results in the external exams. Many of our pupils go on to study medicine, veterinary science, chemistry and other related disciplines at top universities.

GCSE and A level results span a range of abilities, with several going on to read the chemistry or related subjects at prestigious universities, including Oxford and Cambridge. The department enjoys consistently good results:

		2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
A level	A* – B	71.4%	72.2%	50.0%	80.0%	68.0%
GCSE	9 – 7	53.5%	40.0%	46.0%	66.0%	73.0%

The science department has ten purpose-built laboratories, of which three are dedicated to chemistry and one shared with biology; each science has a large prep room with a dedicated technician. Alongside the laboratories there is a science garden that houses a thriving pond. The philosophy of the chemistry department is for pupils to carry out as much practical work as possible to support their studies; the development of critical thinking and analysis underpins the planning in most subjects. We have three full-time chemistry teachers and two other science teachers who teach the subject as part of a highly collaborative team. Teachers all are provided with a laptop to enable them to work in any room and we are developing a more paperless approach to teaching and learning, based on the Microsoft platform. There are clear schemes of work with departmental guidelines for teaching methods and the department meets regularly to discuss all aspects of teaching and learning.

The department supports and contributes to a junior science society and runs a Sixth Form chemistry society. They regularly attend talks at local universities as well as playing a leading role in the medics / vets preparation. Each year pupils from the department successfully take part in the Chemistry Olympiad.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

We require an enthusiastic teacher to join our Chemistry team from the start of the Michaelmas Term 2025. The post would be suitable for experienced practitioners or those newer to teaching. The successful candidate will be a creative and enthusiastic teacher who can share their expertise and love of their subject, and teach lessons which inspire and that pupils enjoy. The ability to teach biology to GCSE would be an advantage, but is not essential.

King's College has a lively and friendly Common Room of over 50 full-time teachers, all of whom contribute to the school's outstanding co-curricular programme of sport, music and many other activities. The ability to contribute to this programme would be an advantage. Most teachers also tutor a small number of pupils and undertake an evening duty in one of our boarding houses, the Sixth Form Centre or the library.

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Person Specification

	Essential Criteria	Desirable Criteria
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Degree level qualification• PGCE or equivalent teaching experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subject specific training courses
Knowledge and experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding of how to ensure all pupils thrive in chemistry, and develop their love for the subject• Experience of leading and managing a team• Ability to teach chemistry to A levels• Subject specific skills and/or experience relevant to the subject• Reflective about your own pedagogy and willing to share best practice with others	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ability to teach biology to GCSE level• Able to give guidance to interested pupils on career prospects based on taking chemistry at university
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Able to form and maintain appropriate relationships with the pupils in your care• Efficient and effective administration and organisational skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Good IT skills• The ability to coach one or more of the major sports offered at King's to a good level, and the desire to develop your coaching qualifications and experience through further training
Personal qualities and abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personable, with a sense of humour• Patience, kindness, resilience and the ability to be firm but fair	

The qualities and experience outlined in the person specification will be assessed by the following methods:

- Sight of original qualifications
- King's College application form
- Interview, including teaching a lesson
- References from current employer and other, chosen, professionals

Appointment Process



Candidates are expected to have read the enclosed appointment policy and agreed to the terms within.

King's has its own pay scale and there are discounts at both King's College Prep and King's College for staff children.

Please write a brief letter of application, addressed to the Headmaster, and complete the application form enclosed and send by email or letter to:

Mr Craig Sweet

c/o HR Department
King's College, Taunton, Somerset TA1 3LA

CSweet@kings-taunton.co.uk
01823 328105



The closing date for applications is 9.00am on Friday 25 April 2025.

Interviews will be held in the week beginning Monday 28 April.



King's College

TAUNTON

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01823 328200 | reception@kings-taunton.co.uk

www.kings-taunton.co.uk