



Applicant Information for the Post of
Head of Chemistry
From September 2025



St Anselm's College

Head of Chemistry

September 2025

Full time Permanent. Required for September 2025.

The Governors of this popular and successful Catholic Grammar School wish to appoint a well-qualified and enthusiastic Head of Chemistry from September 2025. This is a permanent post. Experience of teaching Chemistry to GCSE and A Level is essential. The Science Faculty at St Anselm's College is an exciting place to work, and we are looking for a dedicated individual to teach with passion and determination to further promote a love of science amongst the student body, driving engagement with the subject both inside and outside the classroom.

The job would be suitable for an experienced teacher who is looking for a challenging post that offers the scope to lead a successful department, play an active part in the design and implementation of curriculum at all levels and drive engagement with Chemistry and Science both inside and outside the classroom.

In 2024 Year 11 students achieved 83.1% grades 5-9 in Biology, 71.1% in Chemistry, 84.3% in Physics, and 70.5% in Combined Science. At A Level, Biology students achieved 50.0% A*-B, Chemistry 47.1%, and Physics 60.0%. In BTEC Applied Science, 83.3% of students achieved a Merit or higher. Students progress to study sciences and Medicine at Russell Group universities annually.

We strive to achieve high quality learning, delivered by specialist graduates who work well together as a committed team. Standards are high; the Faculty routinely secures positive "value added" for its GCSE and A Level students. The successful candidate would benefit from the support of the Head of Science and highly professional colleagues. They will be expected to teach Chemistry at A Level, GCSE and possibly BTEC, also Combined Science at GCSE.

Curriculum

Years 7, 8 and 9	Years 10 & 11	Years 12 & 13
Key Stage 3 Years 7 and 8 6 x 50 minutes per fortnight of science Year 9 3 x 50 min lessons of Biology, Chemistry and Physics per fortnight	AQA GCSE Combined Science Trilogy Year 10: 3 x 50 min lessons per science per fortnight Year 11: 4 x 50 min lessons per science per fortnight AQA GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics Year 10: 5 x 50 min lessons per science per fortnight Year 11: 6 x 50 min lessons per science per fortnight	AQA A Level Biology, Chemistry and Physics 12 x 50 min lessons per fortnight Pearson BTEC Level 3 Applied Science 12 x 50 min lessons per fortnight

The Science Faculty consists of 8 full time and 2 part time Science teachers, supported by 2 Technicians. There are 8 large laboratories, following a complete refurbishment in 2014.

The successful candidate will

- be a Chemistry graduate or of a related Science subject area;
- have Qualified Teacher Status e.g. from successfully completed a PGCE course and have evidence of good quality teaching skills;
- have taught Chemistry at all levels up to 6th Form and Science to GCSE;
- be able to manage scientific practical work safely and take a lead in health and safety issues relating to use of chemicals in teaching
- be hard working and committed to his/her own professional development;
- be competent in the use of ICT, both in teaching and for analysis of students' progress;
- be empathetic to the Catholic ethos of the College;
- be prepared to take an active role in the wider life of the College, including the Pastoral System and extra-curricular life;
- be ambitious and keen to take on new challenges;
- be willing to promote and develop students' interest in science and support their progress through lunchtime and after-school clubs and activities;

Any of the following would also be a considerable advantage:

- willingness to help with extra-curricular and enrichment initiatives both within and beyond the Science Faculty;
- a highly professional approach coupled with a sense of humour;

Key Responsibilities

General Management Duties

To provide successful leadership and management to maintain and further enhance the already highly effective teaching team to continually enhance the quality of education. This post includes responsibility for GCSE Chemistry, A-Level Chemistry and the Chemistry-related components of BTEC Level 3 Applied Science, GCSE Combined Science and Key Stage 3 Science, in addition to the overall operation of the Chemistry department.

Leadership

- To create a vision, sense of purpose and pride in the department.
- To be responsible for continuously improving the quality of education in the department.
- To inspire department members by leading through example, and effectively manage staff within the department.
- To co-ordinate the production and maintenance of required department documentation and policies, and to implement, monitor and evaluate their impact.
- To be responsible for maintaining positive behaviour in the department, including supporting staff.
- To play a major role as a middle leader in the development of all aspects of the College, including its policies and their implementation.
- To develop and maintain effective methods of communication with department members and SLT, other staff, students, parents, governors, external agencies and the wider community (including business and industry).
- To identify and celebrate the success for individual teachers and the department.
- To make effective use of data to monitor and evaluate the progress of students in the subject.
- To initiate/maintain and further widen the provision of extra-curricular activities.

Curricular/Departmental Development

- To ensure that the Chemistry department delivers a curriculum that is in line with the whole school curriculum intent and enables all students to make maximum progress.
- To collaborate with Head of Science and other science responsibility holders to ensure that disciplinary knowledge, literacy and numeracy are taught effectively across the Science Faculty
- To undertake departmental evaluation and review within the College's evaluation cycle.

- To develop comprehensive schemes of work to facilitate the effective delivery of the curriculum, providing a rich experience for students, and to incorporate a variety of assessment methods to enable students to maximise their progress.

Liaison / Communication

- To meet regularly with the department members to develop an effective department. To oversee and monitor the accuracy of exam entries and dates and to work effectively with the Examinations Manager.
- To act as the initial person for others to contact regarding all issues relating to the subject.
- To liaise with other curriculum leaders in order to develop integrated schemes of work, e.g. Numeracy, Literacy, SEND and Personal Development.
- To inform staff about new developments and ideas related to the subject and the department. To manage the provision of information to parents/carers and other staff about curricular choices, and choices of teaching groups for individual students and groups of students.
- To provide helpful and accurate responses to parent/carer enquiries.

Professional Development

- To facilitate in-service training for the department staff as appropriate.
- To have day-to-day responsibility for the monitoring, support and assessment of Teacher Trainees (ITTs) and Early Career Teachers (ECTs) where required.
- To identify development opportunities for staff within the department.
- To delegate tasks in a way which maximises the use of available talent, experience and enthusiasm and provides development opportunities for all staff.
- To use the Performance Management cycle to assist in enhancing the professional development aspirations of colleagues.
- To personally keep up to date with developments and new ideas related to the subject.

This job description will be reviewed annually and may be subject to amendment or modification at any time after consultation with the post holder. It is not a comprehensive statement of procedures and tasks but sets out the main expectations of the College in relation to the post holder's professional responsibilities and duties.

Further information and an application form are available to download on the College website (www.st-anselms.com) or by contacting the College on 0151 652 1408. A completed CES application form and covering letter should be submitted to acook@st-anselms.com of Mrs A Cook, Headteacher's PA.

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

Closing date: 09.00 am Monday 19th May 2025

Interviews: Wednesday 21st May 2025



Life at St Anselm's College

St. Anselm's College is a Roman Catholic Grammar School for boys in the Diocese of Shrewsbury. The College was founded in 1933, by the Congregation of Christian Brothers, to provide Catholic Education for the boys in the area. The College became an Academy in June 2011. It remains under the Trusteeship of the Christian Brothers. The College is heavily oversubscribed with 5 Form entry, and 995 on roll. Currently, there are 201 boys in the Sixth Form.

The College was inspected by Ofsted in July 2019 and judged to be "Good" in all areas. St Anselm's College has been one of the top Sixth Forms in Wirral for progress from GCSE to A Level since 2017. We were the top maintained Sixth Form in Merseyside in the 2020 DfE 16-19 Progress Tables.

The College was also inspected by Shrewsbury Diocesan Inspectors in March 2019 and judged to be *"a good Catholic Grammar School with outstanding features."*

A Level results 2024 – ALPs Grade 4 (51% A*-B, 98% A*-E)

Provisional GCSE Progress Scores 2024 – Attainment 8 of 58.1 and Progress 8 score of +0.11

The Headteacher enjoys the support of a highly committed and hard-working staff. Colleagues put time in above and beyond the confines of their job descriptions. This creates a positive and rewarding environment in which to work.

The College provides a holistic education in keeping with the 'Essentials of an Edmund Rice Education'. Our curriculum extends beyond the confines of the National Curriculum and our students enjoy an outstanding range of extra-curricular opportunities as we seek to nurture their God-given talents. As a result our sportsmen compete at regional and national standard in rugby, athletics, cross-country and hockey, musicians perform across Merseyside and students participate in many local and national competitions including public speaking, robotics and subject Olympiads.

As a Catholic School our faith underpins everything we do at the College, informed by the Charism of Blessed Edmund Rice which gives us a global perspective and window on the world. Our students are generous and tolerant, keen to support worthy causes, ready to contribute to liturgies and reflections and welcoming to visitors. Every year we raise approx. £15,000 for projects both at home and abroad and we are an active member of the global Edmund Rice Schools family



Staff Wellbeing

The wellbeing of staff is central to the approach taken by Governors, the Headteacher and the SLT at the College. 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.

- Deadlines well publicised and staff consulted on annual calendar
- Reduced data collections
- 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
- Complimentary coffee and cake mornings
- Access for all staff to self-referral Health & Wellbeing Support package
- Opportunities for professional development always considered
- Considerate approach to lesson observations, drop-ins and learning walks
- Headteacher 'Open Door' policy at all times
- Birthday Cards for all staff on their birthday

Life in Wirral

Wirral is located between the River Dee and the River Mersey, overlooking both the Welsh Hills and the spectacular Liverpool skyline. Regularly rated in The Times as one of the top 10 places to live, Wirral is a fantastic place to work and just a short train journey from Liverpool City Centre, also well connected to the rest of the country. It is a beautiful peninsular with 50 miles of beautiful walks and 22 miles of breath-taking coastline, along with cycle and walking routes, Wirral is a place made for discovery.



St. Anselm's College
www.st-anselms.com