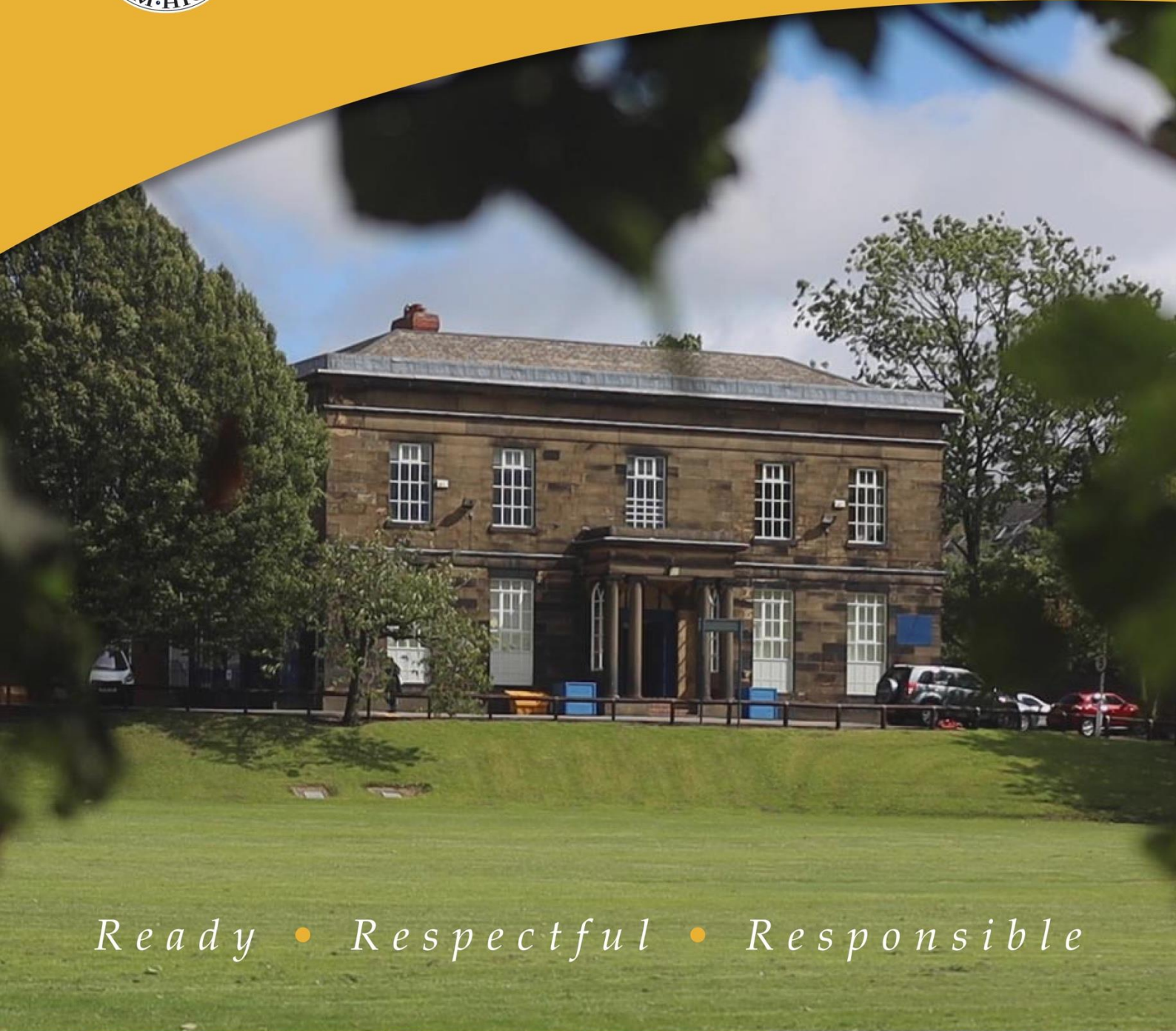




West Hill School

Aiming High Since 1927



Ready • Respectful • Responsible





Science Technician

36.00 Hours Per Week, Full-Time, Term Time Only

Grade E: Points 11-16 (£27269 - £29572 FTE)

Actual Salary: (£23174-£25131)

We are seeking to recruit an organised, reliable and knowledgeable member to our team, in the role of a Science Technician.

This role would place you centrally within the Science Department working alongside a team of fellow scientists. Our Prep Room is impeccably organised and well-kept so the successful candidate will be well supported in establishing their own organisational routines whilst also inheriting a good system within the team. As a team, we welcome new ideas and innovation so this role brings opportunity to work alongside the Science Team, largely the Head of Science and Second in Science, to suggest ideas and experiments that will engage learners and bring the curriculum to life.

Our boys are incredibly warm, have excellent manners and are true representatives of our 3Rs of respect, responsibility and readiness to learn. This is an exciting opportunity to make a real difference in creating opportunities for students to engage in Science whilst also working in collaboration with our team to further develop our curriculum and opportunities. Within this role there will be opportunity to work in the wider school within working parties, CPD groups or workload and wellbeing committees if the candidate expressed an interest to.

If you think you have the experience and skills, we are looking for we would like to hear from you.

To find out more about us please visit the school website www.westhillschool.co.uk. Informal visits/discussions beforehand are welcome, please contact the School Reception Office on 0161-338-2193 or e-mail: admin@westhillschool.co.uk.

Applications should be emailed to recruitment@westhillschool.co.uk.

Please ensure that applications are clearly marked for the post you are applying for.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check. Shortlisted candidates may be subject to online searches as part of pre recruitment checks.

Closing Date for applications: Thursday 24th April 2025.

Interviews to be held week commencing: 28th April 2025.



Department information

At West Hill School, our ambition for students is rooted in our ethos of Aiming High and our core values of Respect, Responsibility, and Readiness to learn. We take pride in fostering a warm yet disciplined environment, where positive relationships are at the heart of everything we do.

Our Science Department is dedicated to equipping students with a strong foundation in scientific knowledge and methodology. We aim to develop critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and a lasting curiosity about the world around them. Our engaging curriculum nurtures a passion for science among our students.

At Key Stage 3, students are taught in mixed-attainment groups, with our curriculum available for review on the school website. At GCSE, we offer both Separate Sciences and Combined (Trilogy) Science, following the AQA specification. We have a strong uptake in Separate Sciences, reflecting our students' enthusiasm and ambition in the subject.

Our department consists of ten science specialists, each bringing a range of expertise, supported by a dedicated Science Technician. We are well-resourced, with seven fully equipped labs. Additionally, two members of the Senior Leadership Team and two teaching Heads of Year contribute to Science teaching, ensuring a broad base of experience and leadership. Our team includes a blend of highly experienced staff and two Early Career Teachers (ECTs) who joined us in September 2024.

This is an exciting opportunity to work within a forward-thinking school that values innovation, collaboration, and professional growth. We are committed to empowering staff, enabling them to deliver a world-class curriculum experience for our students.

We have recently appointed a new Head of Science who will be joining us as of June 2025, who is looking to further build and innovate our Science curriculum to bring Science to life for our learners and build scientists of the future. If you are a passionate and ambitious practitioner looking to make a meaningful impact, we would love to hear from you.



A message from the Headteacher

Firstly, thank you for your expression of interest in our school. I hope, like my first visit to the school, you are struck by its heritage, its calm and warm welcome and the sense that our students live our values of Respect, Responsibility and Readiness. As the Headteacher from September 2023, I am impressed with the welcome that the staff, students and community have afforded me, one we hope you get to experience too.

As a school, we serve the needs of our local community and wish to remain integral in supporting the future planning of Stalybridge. We have a beautiful school site and our grounds could be mistaken for a grammar school, but as a Single Academy Trust we serve the needs of our students from Ashton, Dukinfield, Mossley and Stalybridge alongside smaller schools within the Peak District. We have maintained our strong connection with our past and the heritage of our site, alongside our looking and growing to the future. We are a homely community with many staff investing their lengthy teaching careers with us due to the respectful climate we maintain, alongside many staff living locally, invested in making our community the best it can be. We believe it is our duty to ensure teachers can teach in a calm and purposeful learning environment and our behaviour, and the student responsibility over their behaviour, is a strength. Not only this, but we heavily value our student leadership opportunities to bring learning to life. We believe in developing the character and resilience of our learners and remain passionate about our curriculum offer inside and outside the classroom.

Why West Hill? As a school community the needs of our students and bettering their life opportunities remain at the heart of what we do. We value our staff voice and staff opportunities to learn and grow in the same way we want to nurture our students. We trust our staff to 'do what makes sense' and our staff rise to this trust and respect. Our site has easy commutable links to the Peak District but also to other districts in Greater Manchester and the city centre itself (accessible via train or tram in around 20minutes). We are a community of staff that enjoy working together and welcome new members to our team and social events. We value an opportunity-based curriculum and wish to work to better our community and show our boys how they can too. We have supportive parents who send their boys here due to our strong reputation of excellence. As an 11-16 school with 170 students per year group, we are an ideal size to really get to know our boys and help them on their journey through school. Our passionate pastoral and teaching teams do this incredibly well and that is why we are consistently over-subscribed and forecast the same in September.

Even if you have not worked in a single-sex school before, come and see us, walk our building and get a sense for the greatness that exists here. This is a special place and I am incredibly proud to lead us forward in our next ventures together as a school and local community, I hope you join us in this. Kind regards,

Claire Cronin
Headteacher





Our vision

At West Hill, we have an uncompromised, aspirational vision that:

Everybody will experience a rich curriculum that expands beyond the classroom, empowering them to feel successful and make ambitious future choices.

Every lesson enables individual success through quality adaptive teaching and shared expectations.

Everybody matters and has a right to be safe, valued and treated with kindness.

Everybody will be supported to develop a healthy understanding of themselves and respect for others.

Everybody will be ready and take responsibility for their own learning, choosing thoughtful behaviours that show empathy for others.

Everybody in our West Hill family will collaborate and support each other to realise their aspirations and celebrate success.

This forms our West Hill Way.



Job Description

Purpose:	To work as part of a team to deliver practical equipment and materials for the department, so that staff and students can carry out practical work efficiently, accurately and safely.
Responsible to:	Head of Science.
Responsible for:	Supporting the Science teaching staff in their effective delivery of the curriculum.

Science Technician – Main duties and Responsibilities

- Preparing and delivering materials for whole class practicals and demonstrations, including those required by the subject's practical endorsement.
- Assisting the Head/Second in Department in the planning and timetabling of practicals.
- Managing the departmental practical timetable and coordinating the delivery of experiments as specified in the scheme of work.
- Preparing solutions and chemicals following Health and Safety guidelines for safe student use.
- Maintaining excellent housekeeping standards within the Prep Room.
- Ensuring the safe custody of chemicals and equipment within the Science Department, maintaining records of stock and ensuring the accurate and clear labelling of chemicals.
- Disposing of biohazardous and chemical waste correctly.
- Using published data sheets and guidance to provide Health and Safety information for Teaching Staff to carry out risk assessments for their practical activities.
- Preparing orders for scientific equipment, chemicals and stationery.
- Handling dissection materials, including mammalian organs and other organisms as required.
- Checking that all the safety equipment in the teaching laboratories are present in sufficient quantity, in-date and fit for purpose.
- Identifying apparatus for maintenance and repair through regular checks of laboratory equipment and apparatus.
- Providing technical advice within own area of expertise to teachers and students.
- Creating new experiments and developing existing activities in conjunction with teaching staff within the department.
- Working alongside the Head/Second in Department to complete departmental administration tasks, where relevant.
- Preparing paper and electronic copies of technician notes, risk assessments, timetables, equipment lists and service records.

The Postholder is required to plan and prioritise their own workload, referring any queries to the Head of Science.



Safeguarding
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be aware of and comply with policies and procedures relating to child protection, health, safety and security, confidentiality and data protection, reporting all concerns to an appropriate person.
Student Wellbeing
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide support to promote positive attitudes to learning and behaviour, in order to maximise the achievement and wellbeing of students.• To maintain relevant safety systems to protect the health and safety of students working in the department.
School Ethos
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Play a full part in the life of the school community, supporting its distinctive ethos and encouraging staff and students to follow this example.• Contribute to the wellbeing and safety of all staff and students.• Model the high standards as determined by school protocols.• Fulfil wider professional responsibilities.• Be familiar with, and follow all, school policies.
General
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participate fully in staff training and development opportunities including attendance at staff meetings and to work to continually improve own performance.• Participate in the appraisal cycle for all support staff.• Undertake any other additional duties commensurate with grade of post.

This job description is not necessarily a comprehensive definition of the post. It will be reviewed at least once every two years and it may be subject to modification or amendment at any time after consultation with the holder of the post



Person Specification

Qualifications	Essential	Desirable
Level 2 qualification in English and Maths or equivalent	✓	
COSHH/CLEAPSS and other relevant health and safety qualifications	✓	
Willingness and ability to obtain and/or enhance qualifications and training and development in the post	✓	
Experience		
Experience of working in a school environment		✓
Experience within a specific curriculum area, in particular experience in electronics and/or physics would be an advantage		✓
Skills		
Ability to effectively communicate with a range of audiences	✓	
Ability to respect and maintain confidentiality	✓	
Ability to use standard ICT packages including Microsoft Office	✓	
Ability to prioritise and manage own and others workload to meet appropriate deadlines	✓	
Excellent time management and organisation skills	✓	
Ability to relate to students in a pleasant and sympathetic manner and to recognise potential child safeguarding issues	✓	
Understanding of the academy child safeguarding procedures		✓
Other		
Satisfactory DBS check	✓	

For information

Category (E) – ESSENTIAL - without which the candidate would be unable to carry out the duties of the post

Category (D) – DESIRABLE FEATURES which would normally enable the successful candidate to perform the duties and tasks better and more efficiently than one who did not have the qualifications, training, experience etc.