



THE ORATORY



**BRIEF FOR THE POST OF
SCIENCE TEACHER
SEPTEMBER 2026 START**

THE SCHOOL

The Oratory is an HMC independent school for students aged 11 to 18, providing an all-round education of quality and purpose.

We offer small class sizes and outstanding facilities on a wonderful South Oxfordshire country estate and yet we are within easy travelling distance of London, major motorways, railways and airports.

The Oratory School has high academic standards; however, we believe that an education is about more than statistics. We have a clear vision to ensure that each student flourishes and fulfils their maximum potential both in and far beyond the classroom. To this end, a wide variety of co-curricular activities enrich the students' learning and all students get the opportunity to develop their specific talents to the full.

The Oratory is not a large school, and this enables each and every student to be known, valued and stretched as an individual within our nurturing community.

Founded in 1859 by Saint John Henry Newman - we are a Catholic school which welcomes students of all faiths or none. Visitors often comment on the inclusive community atmosphere of our school, which we believe nurtures confidence, self-expression and a desire to learn and grow.



THE FACULTY

As of September 2026, the Science Department will be responsible for the delivery of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Psychology and Physical Education. There are currently twelve members of teaching staff involved in the delivery of these subjects. The Faculty is ably supported by the services of two technicians (one part-time) and is housed in seven well-equipped teaching laboratories as well as non-laboratory classrooms in the main building and the Sports Centre.

All students, from 1st to 6th Form, are taught by science teachers according to their specialism. 1st and 2nd Form follow the Springboard Science specification. In 3rd Form students begin their GCSE course, following the AQA (9-1) specification and opt for a Combined Science or Separate Science pathway at the beginning of the 4th Form. At A Level, Biology and Chemistry follow OCR A while Physics, Psychology and Physical Education follow AQA.

THE ROLE

The Oratory School are seeking an enthusiastic and skilled Science Teacher to join our dynamic and supportive team, delivering high-quality teaching across Key Stages 3 and 4. The ability to teach either Psychology or Physics at KS5 would be preferred.

The successful candidate will inspire curiosity and a passion for scientific understanding, fostering both academic achievement and critical thinking in students of all abilities. They will demonstrate strong subject knowledge across the sciences, alongside the capability to deliver engaging and effective Psychology lessons, contributing to a broad and balanced curriculum. This role offers an exciting opportunity to support students' intellectual and personal development within a committed and forward-thinking educational environment.



THE ROLE Contin....

The ability to develop a strong rapport with pupils that promotes high academic standards and intellectual curiosity is paramount, together with the enthusiasm to encourage pupils to pursue the subject further at Sixth Form and beyond. You will also be expected to contribute actively to and represent the department at key school events, including Parents' Evenings, Open Mornings, Year Assessment Days, Careers Evenings, and the Sixth Form Choices Evening, thereby supporting pupil recruitment and progression.

In this role, you will have the opportunity to create a supportive and engaging learning environment for pupils of all abilities. You will also be expected to participate in school-wide initiatives and help promote the importance of Science education to parents and the wider community.

Microsoft Teams is used to support teaching and learning, including the sharing of resources, revision materials and the setting of homework.



KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Teaching and Learning

The duties of a classroom teacher at The Oratory School include the following:

- Raise pupil attainment and ensure strong progress in your subject area.
- Plan and teach lessons, assess pupil progress and maintain accurate records.
- Set prep regularly, (in accordance with the School's prep policy), which consolidates and extends learning and to encourages pupils to take responsibility for their own learning.
- Make a significant contribution to curriculum planning, and the development of resources, schemes of work and policies, to ensure teaching drives learning and progress.
- Use a variety of teaching strategies tailored to pupil needs and programme demands.
- Work with SEND and support staff to benefit from their specialist knowledge.
- Continuously develop teaching practice through training to improve the quality of teaching and learning in the Department.
- Ensure high quality learning experiences that meet standards.
- Use positive management of behaviour in an environment of mutual respect, which allows pupils to feel safe and secure, and promotes their self-esteem.

2. Professional Standards & Development

- Be a role-model to pupils through personal presentation and professional conduct.
- Arrive in class before the start of the lesson, begin and end the lesson on time.
- Cooperate with the employer on all matters concerning Health and Safety and specifically to take reasonable care of their own Health and Safety and that of any other person who may be affected by their acts or omissions at work.
- Be familiar with the school and department handbooks and support all the school's policies.
- Establish effective working relationships with professional colleagues and associate staff.



Key Responsibilities Contin....

- Strive for personal and professional development through active involvement in the school's induction programme, staff development, and performance management procedures.
- Seek continually an improvement in professional practice, to include attendance at departmental meetings, and participating in appropriate INSET, whether organised in school or externally.
- Liaise effectively with parents/guardians.
- Undertake any reasonable task as directed by the Line Manager.
- Consider the needs of all pupils within lessons (and to implement specialist advice) especially those who have SEND; are more able; are not yet fluent in English.
- Uphold the ethos of the school, including its emphasis on pastoral care for individual pupils.

3. Pupil Progress and Pastoral Contribution

Teachers also contribute to the pastoral life of the School by:

- Monitoring the progress and wellbeing of pupils within their subject.
- Working collaboratively with Form Tutors, Heads of School and the Curriculum Support team.
- Attending parents' meetings and supporting communication with families.
- Supporting behaviour expectations in line with School policy.
- Acting as a Form Tutor where required.



Key Responsibilities Contin....

4. Wider Contribution to School Life

Teachers are expected to:

- Contribute actively to co-curricular and enrichment opportunities.
- Participate in whole-school events such as Open Days and Options Evenings.
- Support subject-related trips and educational visits.
- Undertake supervisory duties in accordance with duty rotas.
- Attend meetings as required.

General

This job description outlines the main responsibilities of the role. It is not exhaustive. The postholder may be required to undertake other reasonable duties commensurate with the seniority of the role and the needs of the School.

SALARY

Dependent on qualifications and experience. The school has its own attractive salary scale.

SAFEGUARDING AND COMPLIANCE

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Heads of Department must:

- Uphold and implement the School's safeguarding policies and procedures.
- Promote a culture of vigilance and pupil welfare within their department.
- Ensure all departmental staff are familiar with safeguarding, safer recruitment, behaviour and health and safety policies.
- Report any safeguarding concerns promptly in line with School procedures.



PERSONAL SPECIFICATION	
Qualifications and Academic Profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strong academic background, with a good honours degree in a Science subject. The ability to teach Science to GCSE and a science subject to A Level. • Secure and up-to-date subject knowledge across the 11–18 age range, with an understanding of current curriculum and examination developments. • Intellectual curiosity and academic credibility appropriate to a high-performing independent school environment.
Teaching and Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear passion for the teaching of Science and for inspiring a love of literature and language. • The ability to motivate pupils of all abilities to achieve their best. • The capacity to reflect critically on practice and respond constructively to feedback from departmental and senior leaders. • A willingness to engage with pedagogical development and apply new strategies to improve pupil outcomes. • High expectations of pupil engagement, behaviour and academic standards.
Professional Skills and Attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong organisational and time-management skills, with the ability to prioritise and meet deadlines. • Excellent written and verbal communication skills. • Effective collaborative skills, able to build positive working relationships with colleagues, pupils and parents. • Competency in the use of ICT for teaching, administration and digital learning. • Sound professional judgement and attention to detail. • Reliability and personal accountability.
Personal Qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adaptability, resilience, energy and perseverance. • Self-confidence combined with professional humility. • Emotional intelligence and sensitivity in dealing with pupils, colleagues and families. • An ease with, and genuine interest in, young people. • Enthusiasm and presence that inspires confidence in pupils and parents. • A professional manner and presentation appropriate to a boarding school setting.
Leadership and Wider Contribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An understanding of, or experience in, leadership and management within a subject area (desirable for those seeking additional responsibility). • Commitment to the co-curricular life of the School. • An understanding of the ethos, expectations and demands of a full boarding school. • Flexibility and willingness to contribute to the wider life of the School, including events and activities beyond the classroom.
Desirable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualified teacher status. • Ability to teach Psychology or Physics to GCSE and A Level • Experience of undertaking Form Tutor role.

BENEFITS

PARKING

Free & onsite



MEAL

Free on duty meal during term time



POOL

Sports Centre membership for you and your family



STAFF ROOM

Space to take a break, share ideas. Team events, in a supportive environment.



GROWTH

CPD training available to all employees.



GYM

Sports Centre membership for you and your family



FEE DISCOUNT

Fee discount is available to all employees.



ELECTRIC CAR CHARGING

Electric Car Charging points available.



SQUASH

Sports Centre membership for you and your family – including access to our squash courts.



LOCATION

Situated in beautiful grounds, for walking meetings and breaks.



EYE VOUCHER

Vouchers are available for eye tests in line with VDU use.



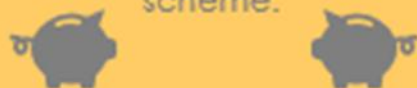
GOLF

Sports Centre membership for you and your family – including access to our golf course.



TECHNOLOGY

Great support, advice and loaned devices, as needed.



PENSION

Contributory pension scheme.

SALARY

Competitive



HOW TO APPLY

Applicants should complete the school's application form and send together with a covering letter in PDF format to recruitment@oratory.co.uk

The closing date for applications is **18 June 2026** with Interviews taking place soon thereafter. Early applications are encouraged. We reserve the right to close this advertisement early if we receive a high volume of suitable applications or if we find a suitable candidate from early applications.

The interview process will include:

- Interview with the Headmaster, Assistant Head (Director of Studies)
- Lesson Observation
- Tour of The School

Please send postal applications together with a covering letter to:

Director of People, The Oratory School, Woodcote, Oxfordshire, RG8 0PJ

For any queries, please email recruitment@oratory.co.uk.

The Oratory Schools Association Registered Charity No 309112 is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and applicants must be willing to undergo checks with past employers, online and the Disclosure and Barring Service. This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and the amendments to the Exception Order 1975, 213, 2020.





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