



ALTRINCHAM GRAMMMAR SCHOOL FOR BOYS



APPOINTMENT OF HEAD OF GEOLOGY (or
Teacher of Geology –
dependent upon experience)



Altrincham Grammar School for Boys

Information Pack for Candidates

APPOINTMENT OF HEAD OF GEOLOGY (or Teacher of Geology – dependent upon experience)

Start Date: 1st September 2022

Marlborough Road, Bowdon, Altrincham, Cheshire,

WA14 2RS Tel: Tel: 0161 928 0858. www.agsb.co.uk

This document is a prospectus designed specifically for you as a candidate, the aim being to summarise the relevant information you require to reach your decision on whether to apply for a position at our School. We hope you find this useful. Please access the School website www.agsb.co.uk for further information.



WELCOME FROM THE HEAD MASTER

I am delighted to welcome you to the recruitment area for Altrincham Grammar School for Boys, one of the top performing boys' schools in the country.

Founded in 1912, the school is rated "Outstanding" by Ofsted and secures some of the best examination results at GCSE and A level in the country. Almost all students progress to university with many attending the best Russell Group universities including Oxford, Cambridge and many others.

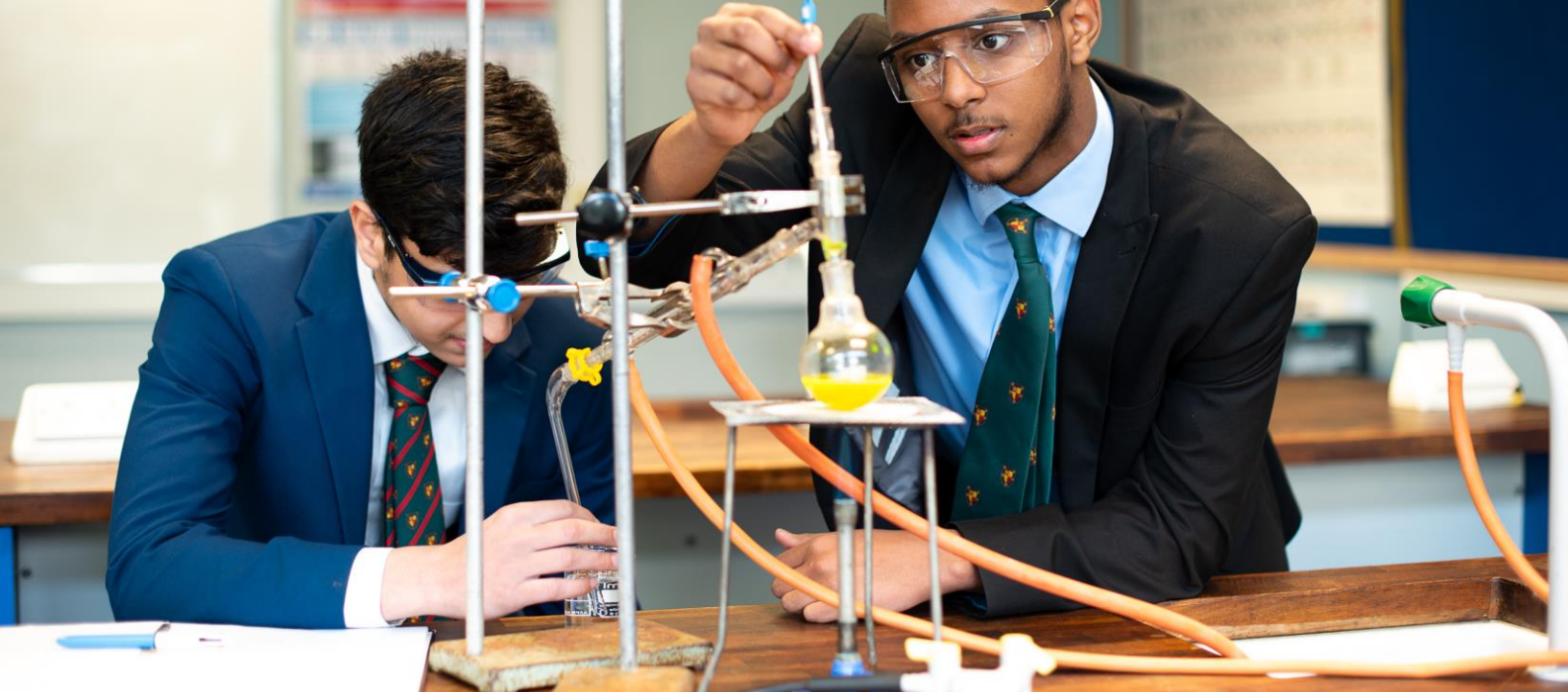
We tailor our curriculum to ensure students are nurtured as well-rounded individuals, excelling in core subjects like Mathematics, English and the Sciences but who are also deeply knowledgeable about the Arts and Humanities.

Knowledge, however, is only one component of success. At this school we aim to equip our students with the range of skills to succeed in a rapidly changing world. All students are offered a wide-ranging programme of extra-curricular activities and enrichment that hone essential character traits such as leadership, resilience, moral purpose, integrity and honesty.

AGSB is a great place to work and I look forward to receiving your application.

Yours sincerely

G.A. Wright
Head Master



THE SCHOOL

Altrincham Grammar School for Boys is a multi-ethnic seven-form entry 11-18 selective Academy School. It caters for boys who have been selected for a grammar school education from a wide area of South Manchester and North Cheshire. Pupils travel to the School from Wilmslow, Knutsford, Lymm, Warrington, Sale, Urmston, Old Trafford and Cheadle Hulme.

The number of boys in the School has been rising steadily in recent years as its popularity has increased. In September 2021, there were 1345 boys in the school of whom 402 are in the Sixth Form. The School is very popular with parents and in the current year received over 1,300 applications for 202 places.

The academic results are outstanding and they place the School in the top 25 maintained schools in the country. Our GCSE results are strong in respect of 9/8 grades and our 'A' level results in respect of A*/A/B grades. The 2007 Ofsted Report graded the School as 'outstanding'.

We have the highest expectations of our students, not only in their academic performance, but in their commitment to extra-curricular activities be it in sport, drama, music or wider community service.

We are a school that values diversity and individual contribution; supporting and encouraging both students and staff to pursue their interests and achieve their ambitions.

An investment of £4M in improved sports facilities has been completed and all School employees benefit from free use of the facilities.

There are exciting times ahead at AGSB. In September 2020, the school moved from six to seven-form entry. In December 2020, work was completed on a state of the art £2.8 million teaching complex which is located in the heart of the school.



THE LOCATION

Altrincham Grammar School for Boys is situated a mile from Altrincham town centre within the Parish of Bowden, and close to the surrounding parishes of Hale, Altrincham and Timperley. The surrounding area is a desirable place to live and work. The School prides itself on its excellent relationship with the local community and parents. These are important factors that have contributed to the School's success and enable pupils to reach their full potential both academically and personally.

Ten miles from Manchester city centre and thirty miles from Liverpool and Chester, the area is served by an excellent motorway network and the Manchester Metrolink rail. Manchester International Airport is sited in the east of the School's catchment area, five miles from Altrincham town centre. Wythenshawe Teaching Hospital, a pioneer in advanced surgery, is sited just outside the catchment area to the north. The School has strong connections with Manchester University and Manchester Metropolitan University both through teacher training links and through links with academic departments.

Manchester is a cosmopolitan centre of international commerce, arts, music, theatre, opera, ballet, sports, museums and events. The Bridgewater Hall in Manchester is the home of the Hallé Orchestra, there are numerous venues for major rock concerts, and the city centre theatres regularly host major West End productions. Old Trafford, home of Manchester United Football Club and Lancashire Cricket Club, is within easy reach of Altrincham.



THE GEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

We are seeking to appoint an outstanding and inspirational teacher to lead this thriving department as Head of Geology (or Teacher of Geology – dependent on experience) from September 2022. The successful candidate will oversee the strategic direction and the day to day running of the Geology department, providing effective professional leadership and management in order to ensure high quality teaching, effective use of resources and high standards of learning and achievement for all pupils.

The Geology Department at AGSB is an extremely well-resourced and extremely successful department housed in two new laboratories within the Science Faculty. There are currently two members of the department both with higher degrees in the Earth Sciences. Examination results are excellent. In the last externally assessed set of exam results, 70% of students obtained a Level 9 with a 100% GCSE pass rate at levels 7-9; and 65% of students obtained an A* with a 100% A level pass rate at grades A*-C. A significant proportion of our A-Level students move on to study Earth Science, Engineering, Natural Science and Medical degrees at university, including several each year at Oxford, Cambridge and Imperial College.

Students are taught five hours of Geology per fortnight at GCSE Level. A-Level students of Geology receive 10 hours per fortnight in Y12 and 9 hours per fortnight in Y13. We have a very strong record of student recruitment and retention in recent years. There are currently 16 students in Y10, 72 students in Y11, 12 students in Y12 and 32 students in Y13 Geology. Students follow the EDUQAS/WJEC specification at GCSE and A Level.

Beyond the classroom, we run an ambitious fieldwork programme, with day trips to the Peak District and residential trips to the Vale of Eden and Cyprus. Visits to the Earth Science Departments of local universities are also undertaken. Y12 students are regular winners of the NW England heat of the Geological Society School's Geology competition and frequently compete in the national finals at the Geological Society in London. Sixth form prefects run a thriving revision programme for GCSE students and are actively involved in the recruitment of new GCSE and A Level students.



THE ROLE

The job description below provides an outline of the role but is not exhaustive:

- To lead the Department by developing or keeping under review a statement of the Department's general aims and objectives which will be within the context of the School's strategic aims and curricular policies.
- Ensuring that the Geology curriculum at key stages 4 and 5 is inspiring and well-planned, and meets the relevant specification requirements.
- Taking steps to ensure teaching and learning in Geology is consistently excellent, through lesson observations, learning walks and work scrutiny, in line with school protocols
- To lead the Department through conducting annual performance management reviews according to the guidance and timetable which is published annually.
- To lead the Department by representing the subject in a variety of ways, to parents, pupils, colleagues, governors and the Head Master.
- To contribute to the setting of ambitious but realistic examination targets and to strive for the Department to achieve these targets.
- To continually refine and develop the curriculum.
- Running relevant clubs, societies and trips to maximise learning opportunities outside of the classroom, and organising visiting speakers where possible.
- To manage the Department through the holding of regular Department meetings.
- To manage the Departmental budget and the Departmental assets, having due regard to the quality of resources purchased, the quality of teaching materials used and the quality of Department assets.
- To manage the Department by developing or keeping under review the arrangements to provide for pupils of differing abilities; including those with special educational needs.
- To write an annual self-evaluation audit including: progress made against the previous year's targets; the development of staff within the department and planning for future needs; priorities for next year within the context of School Development Plan.

APPLICATIONS

HEAD OF GEOLOGY (or Teacher of Geology – dependent upon experience)

Person specification

- A genuine interest in Geology as an academic discipline
- A good degree in Geology or a related science-based subject
- Experience of teaching A level Geology (GCSE Geology - desirable)
- An ability to work well with others
- Excellent communication, organisation and listening skills

As part of the interview process all candidates will be required to teach an academic lesson.

To arrange a visit or for an informal chat about working at the school please contact the Head Master's PA: Mrs M Brickell (mbrickell@agsb.co.uk) or call on 0161 928 0858.

A completed TES Application Form and a separate covering letter (addressed to the Head Master and submitted via email to mbrickell@agsb.co.uk) should be returned by **9am on Friday 4th February 2022**.

Further background information is available on our website – <https://www.agsb.co.uk/vacancies>.

Shortlisted candidates will be contacted with details of the interview process. If you have not heard from us within two weeks of the closing date please assume your application has been unsuccessful.

The post will be paid on the Teacher Pay Scale: TLR2B.

Interviews will take place in School during week beginning Monday, 7th February 2022.

Safer Recruitment

Altrincham Grammar School for Boys is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Applicants must be willing to go through child protection screening appropriate to the post including checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Equal Opportunities

We are an equal opportunity employer. We are also a multi-ethnic school and we particularly welcome applications from ethnic minority candidates who are under-represented in our staff population compared to our pupil population.

Head Master: Mr G.A Wright MA (Hons) FRSA. Altrincham Grammar School for Boys, Marlborough Road, Bowdon, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA14 2RS.