

Brief for the position of

# Science Technician



# SHERFIELD SCHOOL

*Nursery • Junior Prep • Senior Prep • Senior • Sixth Form*





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## Introduction from the Head of School

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in applying for the position of Science Technician. This is an incredibly exciting opportunity to be at the heart of supporting the school and playing a crucial role in ensuring our continued success.

Sherfield School is an exceptional school: friendly, forward-thinking and innovative in approach. Positive relationships underpin the success, and the 'Sherfield Spirit' permeates through all experiences. Students benefit from varied and creative curricular and co-curricular opportunities, enabling them to excel academically and more widely. Students have exceptional attitudes to learning and share in a culture of success.

Our core values of Confidence, Creativity and Connection are fully embedded and visible in all areas of school life. We encourage our students to be brave, courageous, enterprising and innovative as they flourish and thrive in all aspects of school life.

I would like to thank you for your interest in applying for this prestigious position.

We have made exceptional progress in recent years and will continue to further develop our vibrant, inclusive and outstanding school community.

Yours sincerely,

**Caroline Taylor**  
Head of School



# Background

**Sherfield School is an outstanding, all-round academic, active and creative school where learners thrive and flourish as they experience the excitement and enjoyment of learning.**

As an independent, co-educational day and boarding school set in North Hampshire, Sherfield provides a wonderful learning environment for children from three months to 18 years within exquisite park and woodland surrounding a listed heritage building. It has an excellent academic record, superb facilities and a wonderful ethos.

Sherfield is proud to have joined Education in Motion (EiM) in September 2023. EiM is a global education company that aspires to be a leader in pioneering education for a sustainable future. With a diverse family of premier education brands around the world, the group is known for its holistic programmes that balance wellbeing, character development and academic success so it's a very exciting time to come on board.

Through a rich variety of experiences, learners at Sherfield become passionate and creative problem solvers, ready to contribute to a global society. As ambitious, enterprising, inventive and innovative young minds, they develop the confidence, resilience and resourcefulness to be successful in tackling the challenges life presents to them.

Through academic rigour and a supportive environment, they grow strong, self-assured and motivated by each Sherfield experience.

As a school community, Sherfield challenge, inspire and support each other as they create and imagine the children's best futures.

The school community knows and cares for each other and fosters an environment where students and staff feel supported whilst building strong and ambitious futures.

Together they build a powerful culture of creativity that is without boundaries. Sherfield pupils are critical thinkers who challenge ideas, pave new paths and encourage inventiveness whenever possible.

The school prides itself in its close relationship with parents and places great value on individual contact. Friendliness and willingness to listen are the starting points for effective collaboration which you will find imbedded in the school's culture.





## Mission & Aims

### Vision

Sherfield strives to be a school where pupils flourish as they experience the excitement and enjoyment of learning; guiding pupils towards reaching their full potential as passionate and innovative problem solvers, ready to contribute to society.

### Mission

To be an outstanding, all-round academic, active, and creative school where individuals challenge, inspire, and support each other as they build their best futures. At Sherfield, staff aim to foster an environment that encourages children to develop their social and learning skills in a warm and nurturing manner.

At Sherfield, pupils can be:

- **Strong, ambitious, and brave:** Exploring outside of their comfort zone, failing without fear, knowing there's a whole community behind them.
- **Enterprising, inventive, playful, and fun:** Being thoughtful, inquisitive and supportive of each other inside and outside the classroom.
- **Healthy, confident, and eager to succeed:** Learning without limits, wondering without walls and being part of something bigger.

## Core Values

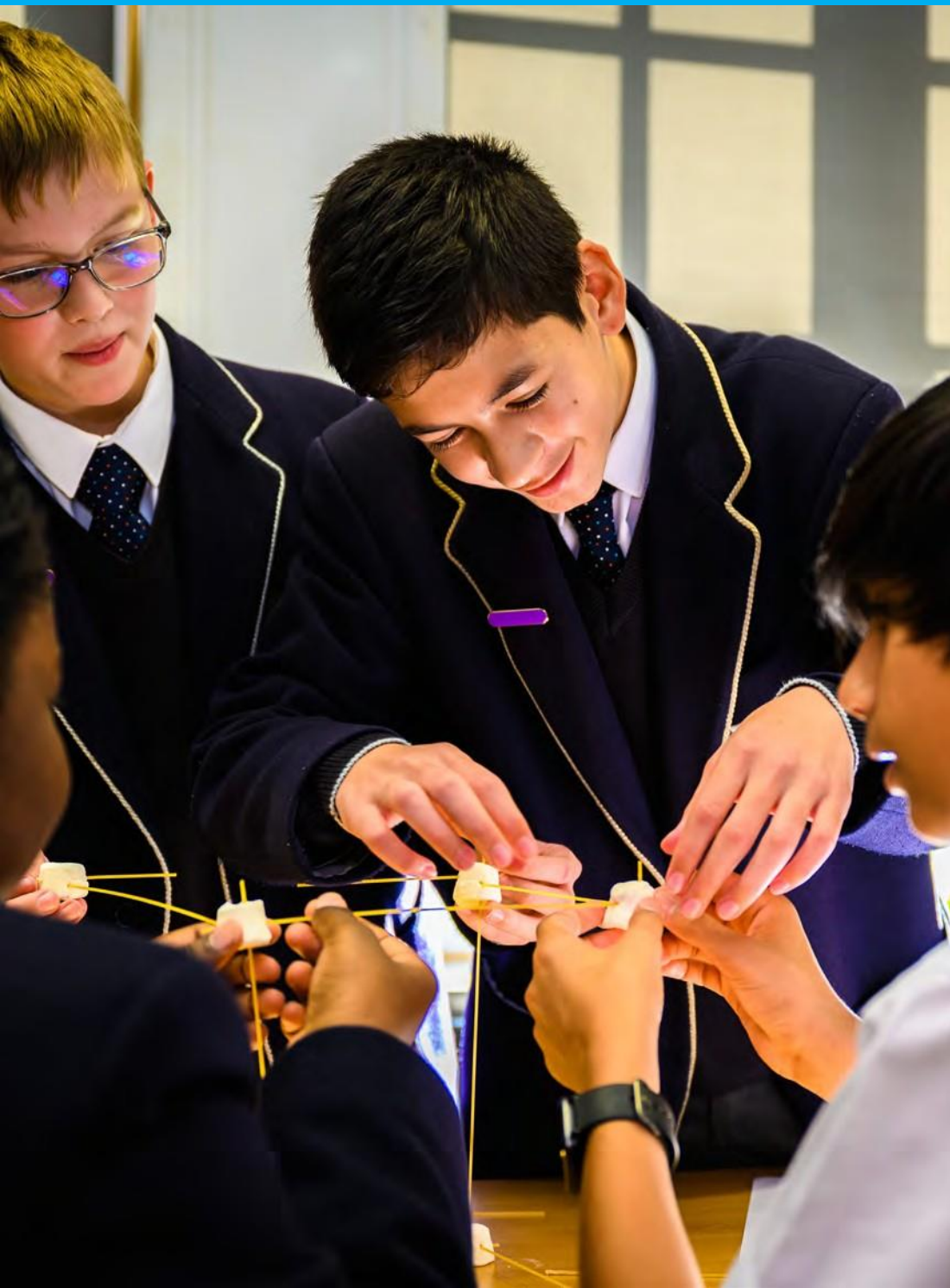
**Confidence:** The children at Sherfield are taught to be ready for the challenges and opportunities life presents. Their experiences at Sherfield encourage individuals to be strong, self-assured and motivated no matter what the situation or challenge. The children receive personalised support in every aspect of school life to guide them positively towards academic excellence, resilience, and creativity.

**Creativity:** Sherfield encourages a powerful culture of creativity and inventiveness, which inspires children to think critically, challenge ideas and pave new paths.

**Connection:** The close-knit community at Sherfield fosters an environment built around caring for one another and working together to grow, learn and build strong ambitious futures.







## Teaching and Learning

Students at Sherfield follow the national curriculum up to the end of Year 8, when they then begin to pursue their chosen GCSE subjects through Years 10 to 11. In their final two years at the school, students can choose from a broad range of A levels and BTECs. Subjects range from traditional academic subjects, such as Economics, Geography, and the Sciences, to more practical subjects, such as Drama and Theatre Studies, Music and Product Design. There is also an option for A-Level students to undertake the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).

Teaching and learning at Sherfield is excellent and based upon our core values of confidence, creativity and connection, developing exceptional experiences for young children through a framework of challenge, ownership, dialogue and engagement. Sherfield believes that teachers have the greatest influence upon the learning and progress of pupils and therefore as a team they strive for the best. Teachers provide a positive and inclusive learning environment and experience for all pupils. At Sherfield, the teachers strongly believe in the principles of preparing pupils for life.

### Aims

Sherfield aims to teach each pupil using the most effective methods possible, by providing expertise and resources to teachers, parents and pupils and through regular and rigorous monitoring and evaluation of teaching and learning against pupil progress and achievement.

The school aims to teach every pupil how to learn so that they become fast, independent, confident, and self-motivated lifelong learners by:

- Teaching learners how to self-evaluate and set/work towards targets.
- Providing or guiding independent access to learning resources.

Sherfield aims to treat each person as a successful learner by:

- Recognising effort and achievements.
- Providing appropriate feedback that always shows the next steps.

## Enrichment

The ethos of enrichment at Sherfield centres around the school's motto - *Ad Vitam Paramus - Preparing for Life*.

The AVP Diploma broadens and deepens the curriculum. Pupils volunteer and support in the community, gain further qualifications, fundraise, and develop their environmental awareness and much more.

The initials AVP form the backbone of the activities:

- A** Accreditation - a programme of study to receive a recognised award.
- V** Volunteering - give something back to the community.
- P** Practical - learn a new and useful skill.

Pupils can choose from a wide range of activities at our Enrichment Fair at the start of the year, with staff on hand to offer guidance and support. There is something for everyone and, most importantly, an opportunity for them to track their progress and maintain a permanent record of achievement.

Each year, pupils will progress through the programme and work towards the Bronze, Silver, and ultimately, the Gold and Platinum Diploma.

The pupils track their progress using an online record which can then be saved as a document to show how they have extended their skills, when applying for the next stage of their education/career.

## Pastoral and boarding

Sherfield offers full, weekly and flexi boarding options for nine to 18 year olds. The school operates a shuttle service for weekly boarders to and from Basingstoke railway station, which offers direct trains to London Waterloo every 15 minutes with a journey time of only 47 minutes. This arrangement allows students to enjoy all the benefits of our countryside setting during the week as well as the city at weekends.

Sherfield places great emphasis on empathy, motivation and social and cultural awareness and pupil wellbeing is at the heart of Sherfield from its youngest to most senior students. Learning is tailored to every child's talents and needs and children are given individualised support, made possible by smaller class sizes. Sherfield staff aim to ensure each child achieves their full academic and personal potential in a nurturing environment as they progress through school. Teachers and tutors see the importance in parent cooperation and maintain close relationships with parents throughout each child's entire time at school.





## Sports and Activities

Sherfield has a long list of inclusive clubs, planned after school programmes and competitive teams that pupils can take part in, whatever their interests. Every term there are updated programmes of music, languages, sports and hobbies available to all our pupils throughout the school so they can pursue a passion or extend their learning. Children can choose from an enormous list of wonderful extracurricular activities, ranging from horse riding and fencing to origami!







## The Arts

**Drama:** The Drama Department at Sherfield is an exciting and fun place to experiment and explore ideas, theatrical styles and the possibilities of performance and production. Much of what the school does is pupil-led which results in fresh, creative, and original theatre.

**Music:** Music plays an important role throughout Sherfield School, whether pupils are learning as part of their day-to-day curriculum or whether they take up instruments or join in with the many choirs, bands, orchestras and groups. All pupils in the Pre-Prep and Prep take part in the choir which encourages the children to have confidence in themselves from day one.

**Creative:** Pupils are exposed to a wide variety of media, processes and techniques starting in the Nursery and, at later stages, are given the opportunity to work on a large scale in our open plan art studio complex.



# The Role

The successful candidate will play a crucial role in the education of students at Sherfield School. As a 3 months to 18 years co-educational day and boarding independent school, there are many opportunities to develop and succeed.

The core function of the role is to provide technical support to the work of the teachers in the Science Department under the leadership of the Senior Science technician. Science technicians support the department by ensuring equipment is working properly and safely, and preparing and delivering chemicals as required.

## Principal Accountabilities

- Supporting the effective teaching of Science across the senior school, by preparing, setting up and clearing away equipment and materials required for demonstrations and class practical work, including washing up, all in accordance with relevant health and safety regulations and under the supervision of the senior technician;
- Liaising with staff regarding equipment, chemicals and safety;
- Trialling experiments as required;
- Ensuring health and safety of staff, students and visitors at all times including ensuring that all equipment and chemicals are properly controlled, stored, handled and disposed;

- Maintaining equipment and resources;
- Keeping prep rooms clean and tidy ensuring a safe environment for all staff.

## School Ethos

- To support the school aims, ethos and policies.
- To develop an attitude of high inspiration and achievement in the pupils.
- To act as a role model to pupils through professional conduct reflecting our expectations of high standards of appearance and courtesy by the pupils.



## Skills and Attributes

- Knowledge and awareness of health and safety including COSHH and Cleapss
- Strong communication skills with the ability to liaise with other members of staff, students and visitors
- Knowledge of using science equipment
- Excellent time management and organisational skills including prioritising workload to meet deadlines;
- The ability to work calmly under pressure
- Meticulous attention to detail
- Energy, drive, enthusiasm and a positive manner
- Able to work effectively under own initiative and as well as working as part of a team
- Willing to undertake training to fulfil the needs of the role, in house training will be provided as necessary
- Ability to be discreet and uphold confidentiality
- Relevant qualifications and experience would be desirable.





## Wider School Life

- To play a full part in the life of the school community, supporting others and supporting the school's distinctive ethos.
- To contribute to the overall progress, achievement and attainment of pupils via appropriate enrichment and extra-curricular provision.
- To attend designated school meetings.
- To contribute to the educational visits programme.
- To work within duty teams to ensure effective supervision of pupils before and after school and at break times.
- To continue personal professional development as agreed.
- To engage actively in the performance review process.
- To undertake any other duties as specified by the Executive Head not mentioned above.

## Marketing and Communication

- To communicate effectively and positively with pupils and parents, in line with the school's communication policy.
- To attend parent consultation evenings, parent tutor meetings, open evenings and other school events.
- To communicate positively and professionally at these events, reflecting school policy and ethos.





# How to Apply

The closing date for applications: 9.00am on **Monday 19 August 2024**.

Early applications are encouraged and we reserve the right to interview outstanding candidates before the closing date.

In order to apply, please submit a completed school application form, in full, with a covering letter of no more than two sides of A4, which sets out your interest in the role and encapsulates the aspects of your experience relevant to the required criteria.

To apply, please send your letter and Sherfield application form via e-mail:

[hmpa@sherfieldschool.co.uk](mailto:hmpa@sherfieldschool.co.uk)

You are welcome to include your CV as well if you wish.

Sherfield School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and have a range of policies and procedures in place which promote safeguarding and safer working practice across the school. We expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We will ensure that all our recruitment and selection practices reflect this commitment. All successful candidates will be subject to enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service checks along with other relevant pre-employment checks, including checks with past employers.

## Personal data

In line with GDPR, we ask that you do NOT send us any information that can identify children or any of your Sensitive Personal Data (racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, data concerning health or sex life and sexual orientation, genetic and/or biometric data) in your application documentation.

Following this notice, any inclusion of your Sensitive Personal Data in your CV/ application documentation will be understood by us as your expressed consent to process this information going forward. Please also remember to not mention anyone's information or details (e.g. referees) who have not previously agreed to their inclusion.







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[sherfieldschool.co.uk](http://sherfieldschool.co.uk)

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