



Y S G O L  
*Bassaleg*  
S C H O O L

*Forge Lane, Bassaleg  
Newport, S.Wales NP10 8NF*

*Telephone: 01633 892191  
Facsimile: 01633 894699*

## **INFORMATION FOR POST OF TEACHER OF PHYSICS AND SCIENCE**

**Closing Date: Friday 17 June 2011**

**Interview Date: Thursday 23 June 2011**

Like most schools, it is our policy to contact referees to aid in the short listing process. Therefore applicants should not tick the box on the application form which indicates that referees are not to be contacted.

*a tradition of excellence...*

*traddodiad o ragoriaeth...*

# ***MISSION STATEMENT***

We strive for  
excellence in all  
aspects of school life.

## **THE LEADERSHIP GROUP**

The school Leadership Team is as follows:

Mrs E Thomas	Headteacher
Mrs L Picton	Deputy Headteacher
Mr M Batten	Assistant Headteacher
Miss V Lambe	Assistant Headteacher
Mrs E Lewis	Assistant Headteacher
Mr A Maxwell	Assistant Headteacher

## **THE GENERAL AIMS OF THE SCHOOL:**

The general aims of the school are that the school:

- will be a happy and caring community where there is encouragement and opportunity for all students to achieve their full potential, where they feel valued as individuals and learn to co-operate with one another;
- shall be an ordered and disciplined place, where the students know that they will find the guidance and support they need;
- recognises all the needs of the students - intellectual, spiritual, social and physical and endeavours to meet those needs in a manner suited to the individual;
- sees that they are recognised as individuals and are cared for as individuals;
- continues to strengthen the links which have been developed with the community which it serves, and of which its students are a part.

## **THE EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE SCHOOL:**

The educational aims of the school are to:

- help students to develop lively, enquiring minds, the ability to question and argue rationally, the ability to apply themselves to tasks, and the ability to develop physical skills;
- help students to acquire knowledge and skills relevant to adult life and employment in a fast changing world;
- help students to use language and number effectively;
- instil respect for religious and moral values and tolerance of other races, religions and ways of life;
- help students to understand the world in which they live, and the interdependence of individuals, groups and nations;
- help students to appreciate human achievements and aspirations;
- help students to achieve their potential through curriculum, teaching and learning strategies that are appropriately differentiated to cater for individual needs.

## **SCHOOL PRIORITIES 2010-2011**

- Further develop partnerships to deliver a wider range of courses at 14 – 19 as part of WAG Learning Pathways.
- Further develop Welsh Baccalaureate across Key Stages 4 and 5.
- Maintain and continue to improve the high standards achieved by pupils and students.
- Work with the relative authorities to improve the accommodation so that it is 'fit for purpose'.
- Promote the Well Being Agenda throughout the school.

## BASSALEG SCHOOL YSGOL BASALEG

The school is situated in attractive surroundings in the village of Bassaleg on the west side of Newport. It is within easy reach of the M4 motorway. Newport and Cardiff are some ten and twenty minutes away respectively, while Bristol can be reached in about three quarters of an hour.



The buildings form a natural campus, with playing fields, lawns and gardens. Although the school is not purpose-built, the general facilities are good. In addition to the normal classrooms, there are two assembly halls with separate dining rooms attached, three gymnasia, two libraries, ten science laboratories, seven workshops, a Business ICT suite, seven computer studies rooms and two sixth form common rooms, plus additional study areas. High quality Art classrooms and further Physical Education changing facilities have been built in recent years. A new building for Geography and AEN has been completed in October 2010.



The catchment area of the school is balanced, providing an appropriate academic and social range. On entry, all children are placed in tutorial groups of mixed ability; in year 7 the tutor groups are also the basic teaching groups. The timetable is so arranged, however, that there is provision for those children with additional learning difficulties. For the first three years, there is a basic curriculum with a choice of a third language provided at the end of the first year.

From year 10 upwards, the subject choice is extensive, with a definite structure to enable all pupils to receive a balanced curriculum. There is a large sixth form and a wide choice of subjects is offered at A2 and A/S level. In addition, there is a National Certificate in Business and the Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification.

The results at GCSE, Entry Level, and A level are outstanding and the majority of sixth form students go on to higher education, including a regular entry to Oxford and Cambridge.

Each year (7-11) has a Head of Year supported by an assistant and 9 or 10 tutors. Each Head of Year is responsible for the support and guidance given to each pupil as he/she progresses through the school. In years 12 and 13 there is a Head of Sixth Form who is supported by three assistants.

The atmosphere of the school may be described as formal but friendly, encouraging an innovative approach at all times. There is a proactive School Council which gives pupils direct access to the Headteacher and which discusses many whole school issues. Uniform is worn by all pupils of the school and good behaviour is expected and obtained. Home/school links are considered extremely important and there are regular meetings with parents to discuss the welfare and progress of their children. There is also a Parents' and Friend's Association. The average attendance record of pupils is constantly well above ninety percent.

A very successful whole school inspection was carried out by Estyn in March 2010. Bassaleg was described as “an outstanding school that achieves exceptionally high standards of achievement as a result of innovative and consistently high quality teaching and leadership”.



## **The Science Department**

The school is looking for an enthusiastic teacher who is committed to raising achievement in a highly successful department. The successful candidate will be required to teach Science at Key Stage 3 and Physics at Key Stage 4. The ability to teach Physics at Key Stage 5 would be an advantage.

The Science department is a large department, having a teaching staff of thirteen, supported by three technicians. The construction of a new Science and Technology Block has enabled the department to be centralised within the school. Teaching staff are now able to enjoy unrivalled facilities in the delivery of Science to all age groups.

The aim of the department is to provide a quality education that will stimulate pupils' interest, curiosity and enjoyment of Science, as well as enabling them to achieve their full potential. Emphasis is placed on the relevance of Science to society and enabling students to become fully equipped to compete in strong technological surroundings.

In Year 7 and Year 8, pupils follow a Key Stage 3 Integrated Science Course. In Year 9, pupils are taught Biology, Chemistry and Physics by subject specialists. Pupils are placed in three bands and taught in mixed ability teaching groups.

In Years 10 and 11, all pupils are given a broad balanced training in Science. A number of different courses are available aimed at different levels of attainment of the National Curriculum. Pupils have the choice of WJEC courses in Triple Award, Science/Additional Science or BTEC Science. We also offer a Single Award Science/ASDAN course and Entry Level/ASDAN course for special needs pupils.

At A Level, all three Science disciplines follow the WJEC modular specifications. A large number of pupils study AS and A2 Science courses.

Exam results at all levels have been outstanding and reflect the success of school and departmental initiatives developed over a number of years.

The Science Department continually monitors its effectiveness and aims to motivate pupils at all levels. Each teacher will therefore be expected to contribute to the planning and development of courses and new teaching material.

We would expect the successful candidate to possess the following: -

<b>QUALITY / EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>ESSENTIAL</b>	<b>DESIRABLE</b>
Enthusiasm and commitment to your subject	√	
The ability to retain a focus on the achievement and welfare of the pupils in your classes	√	
The ability to communicate well and gain the confidence of pupils	√	
The ability to prioritise and to remain calm and focussed under pressure	√	
The ability to collate and take account of the views of others as appropriate	√	
Good personal ICT skills		√
Experience of managing data		√
The ability to work well as a member of a team	√	
To be well informed about current demands for the subjects curriculum	√	
To have attended recent and relevant in-service training (unless you are an NQT)	√	
The ability to devise effective solutions to personal management and organisational issues	√	
The ability to remain positive	√	
A concern for the physical environment of the school	√	
Experience of teaching in a school with a sixth form		√
Energy, resilience and a sense of humour!	√	
Interest in contributing to extra curricular activities	√	

## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

School Teacher

## **JOB PURPOSE**

Promoting the general educational progress and well being of individual pupils and of any class or group of pupils assigned to him/her.

## **OBJECTIVES**

- To ensure pupil entitlement to the National Curriculum in his/her particular subject expertise.
- To teach according to their educational needs the pupils assigned to him/her.
- To continuously raise standards of pupil achievement in his/her subject.
- To foster enjoyment and satisfaction in the study of that subject.

## **PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITY AREAS**

- A To lead the direction and development of his/her teaching groups
- B To aid pupils in raising their level of achievement
- C To work as part of the subject department team
- D To continually review his/her teaching skills

## **KEY TASKS**

- A1 Provide guidance and advice to pupils on educational and social matters, further education and future careers.
- A2 Maintain good order and discipline among pupils and safeguard their health and safety, both on the school premises or on authorised school activities elsewhere.
- A3 Advising and co-operating with the Headteacher and other teachers on the preparation and development of courses of study, teaching materials, teaching programmes, methods of teaching and assessment and pastoral arrangement.
- A4 Participating in meetings which relate to the school curriculum or the administration or organisation of the school, including pastoral arrangements.
- A5 Planning and preparing courses and lessons.
- A6 Taking such part as may be required of him/her in the review, development and management of activities relating to the curriculum, organisation and pastoral functions of the school.
- A7 Participating in arrangements for preparing pupils for public examinations and in assessing pupils for the purposes of such examinations; recording and reporting such assessments and participating in arrangements for pupils' presentation for, and supervision during, such examinations.
- A8 Making records of and reports on the personal and social needs of pupils.
- B1 Assessing, recording and reporting on the development, progress and attainment of pupils.
- B2 The setting and marking of work to be carried out by the pupils in school and elsewhere.
- B3 Providing or contributing to oral and written assessments, reports and references relating to individual pupils and groups of pupils.
- B4 Provide information about sources of more expert advice on specific questions; making relevant records and reports.
- C1 Participating in meetings arranged for any of the purposes described above.
- C2 Contributing to the selection for appointment and professional development of other teachers and non-teaching staff, including the induction and assessment of new and probationary teachers.
- C3 Communicating and co-operating with persons or bodies outside the school.
- C4 Supervising, and so far as practicable teaching, any pupils whose teacher is not available to teach them:
  - no teacher shall be required to cover –

- (a) for a teacher who is absent or otherwise not available for three or more consecutive working days; or
  - (b) where the fact that the teacher would be absent or otherwise not available for a period exceeding three consecutive working days was known to the authority for two or more working days before the absence commenced  
unless
    - (a) he/she is a teacher employed wholly or mainly for the purpose of providing such cover (“a supply teacher”), or
    - (b) it is not reasonably practicable for the authority to provide a supply teacher to cover or:
    - (c) he/she is a full-time teacher at the school has been assigned by the Headteacher in the timetable to teach or carry out other specific duties (except cover) for less than 75% of those hours in the week during which pupils are taught at the school.
- C5 Participating in administrative and organisational tasks related to such duties as are described above, including the management of supervision of persons providing support for the teachers in the school and ordering and allocation of equipment and materials.
- D1 Participating in arrangements for his/her further training and professional development as a teacher.
- D2 Participating in any arrangements within an agreed national framework for the appraisal of his/her performance and that of other teachers.
- D3 Reviewing, from time to time, his/her methods of teaching and programmes of work.

#### **OTHER DUTIES**

- attending assemblies, registering the attendance of pupils and supervising pupils, whether these duties are to be performed before, during or after school sessions.