



REPTON

HEAD OF PHYSICS

September 2025





Contents

FROM THE HEADMASTER	3
AN INTRODUCTION TO THE SCHOOL	4
A GLOBAL FAMILY OF SCHOOLS	6
THE PHYSICS DEPARTMENT	7
KEY AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY	9
CANDIDATE QUALITIES	10
TEACHING AT REPTON	11
INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES	12



From the Headmaster

Repton is a wonderful and inspiring place to work: one of the UK's foremost co-educational boarding and day schools, located in the heart of the English countryside, yet within easy reach of major cities; strengthened by a history that goes back over a thousand years, yet with a keen eye on the challenges of the twenty first century.

Reptonians are taught in enviably equipped classrooms which are linked through cutting-edge technology and creative teaching and learning. Repton prides itself on individual achievement born of the community confidence of the boarding house system.

In the March 2024 Inspection, Repton received a flowing report including a coveted 'area of significant strength', confirming our commitment to an ambitious and holistic education.

To be a member of staff at our school is to have a privileged opportunity to develop intellectually curious young minds as part of a friendly, hard-working and supportive Common Room.

A major programme of investment and expansion has been completed across both Repton and Repton Prep in recent years, and Repton International now has schools in Dubai (2), Abu Dhabi (2), China, Malaysia and Cairo with plans to open a further four over the next few years

We are looking for a Head of Physics who can lead the department with energy and vigour, aiming for excellence and promoting the subject at all levels.

We are a school with ambition and purpose, eager to employ and reward teachers who share our values and aims, with a commitment to invest in the professional development of our staff and a generous fee-remission scheme, Repton is a very attractive place to work.

I hope very much that you will read this document with interest, and I encourage you to apply.



Mr Mark Semmence
Headmaster



An Introduction to Repton School

Repton is the ancient capital of Mercia, and the School, founded in 1557 from a bequest from Sir John Port of Etwall, was established on the site of a 7th century Anglo-Saxon Benedictine abbey and latterly a 12th century Augustinian priory.

The School today incorporates many of the original buildings from the estate, namely, the Guest Chamber and Prior's Lodging (which as the Old Priory currently houses the School Library and Common Room), Overton's Tower, Tithe Barn, and the Arch. The latter is all that now remains of the Priory's original gatehouse, and which helped inspire the School's motto: *porta vacat culpa*.

Today Repton is a world class, modern, flourishing community with a clear sense of purpose and momentum. As a pre-eminent co-educational and boarding and day school, Repton provides an exceptional broad-based education, blending heritage with the pursuit of excellence in a 21st century context, offering world class facilities as well as high quality teaching and pastoral care.

The School has over one thousand pupils across the Prep and Senior School, making it large enough to achieve excellence in and out of the classroom, yet small enough for individuals to grow and flourish. At Repton Senior, each pupil, whether day or boarding, is a member of a House, of which there are 10 (six for boys and four for girls).





Academic standards are high and creative activities, including music, art, drama and design, flourish. The School has a national profile in sport, in particular in football, hockey and swimming. Our pupils thrive both in and out of the classroom and they develop the skills, qualities and values that will lead to a successful life.

Whilst Repton is undoubtedly modern in terms of practice and outlook, the traditional values of encouraging pupils to aim high whilst showing respect for all are still of utmost importance. The School continues its strong educational vision, recognising the importance of being able to offer a Repton education to potential pupils from all backgrounds by providing scholarships and bursaries in a wide range of subjects. The School's considerable strengths were recognised in the 2024 ISI Inspection which found that pupils achieve well at GCSE and A Level, with results in line with or exceeding predictions based upon their starting points, because of the effective guidance and support provided by teachers. The Inspectors saw fit to identify our sport provision as '*a significant strength of the school*'. This judgement is a formal and rarely bestowed designation of excellence by ISI.

Repton and Repton Prep have always enjoyed a very close relationship and in 2020, the schools became a through-school with the aim of securing the very best pupil outcomes. Vicky Harding, the Head of Repton Prep reports to Mark Semmence as Headmaster of Repton and Chief Executive of both schools.





A Global Family of Schools

Repton was one of the first British schools to establish overseas schools with the establishment of Repton School Dubai in 2007, and the development of a community of international schools is key to Repton's future vision. Currently, Repton has schools in Dubai (2), Abu Dhabi (2), China, Malaysia and Cairo with plans to open a further four more over the next few years.

The additional income generated by our overseas schools provides financial support and will enable Repton to select pupils simply on merit and without regard to their parents' financial means. The Headmaster and Senior Management Team play a key role in helping to shape the development of Repton as a leading, global educational brand.

Repton also currently has four schools in the UK (Repton, Repton Prep, Vinehall, and St Wystan's) with the ambition to grow its UK family of schools.





The Physics Department and Science Priory

The successful candidate will be a well-qualified graduate with an enthusiasm for the subject, a capacity for innovation and the ability to inspire young people. They will place a particular importance on their passion for Physics and in maximising the potential of each student in the subject.

The successful candidate will have broad and thorough subject knowledge sufficient to prepare potential Oxbridge physicists and engineers. They will join a department that takes great pride in getting the best from all its pupils, and which has a very long tradition of excellent results at GCSE, A Level and entrance to the most competitive universities.

At A Level, pupils follow the AQA Physics specification and GCSE pupils follow the AQA (9-1) specification. A little under half of Year 11 pupils currently take the separate sciences route with the remainder currently being entered for Combined Science.

There are currently twelve teachers and four full-time technicians across Science. The successful candidate will be joining a faculty with first class modern classrooms and laboratories in the Science Priory, one of the most impressive school science facilities in the world. There are flourishing co-curricular programmes in the sciences, including the Physics Society and Astronomy Club, and, building on the connections between Science and Design departments, Formula Repton (Greenpower).





Key Areas of Responsibility

Repton has a tradition of academic excellence and has ambitious plans for further progress. The post of Head of Physics at Repton represents an exciting opportunity for the right candidate to lead the department at one of the UK's leading co-educational boarding schools at an exciting time of development.

The successful candidate will alongside work supportive and enthusiastic colleagues.

The focus of this job is to facilitate, manage and deliver first-rate teaching, an enjoyment of the subject and excellent results in the department. In addition, the successful candidate will maintain their own professional development and subject knowledge, reflecting on their classroom and schoolwide experiences in a critical and analytical manner.

Repton works on a full boarding ethos to which all full-time staff are expected to make an enthusiastic commitment, enhancing the pupil experience not just in the classroom but through regular involvement in a range of sporting and co-curricular activities, including duty provision and supervision of social and academic pupil events, trips and tours during holiday periods, and duty rotas. Expertise in a particular sport or activity would be an advantage, but a willingness to learn and contribute is essential.

The ten boarding houses (four girls houses and six boys houses), into which day pupils are fully integrated, are at the heart of a superb pastoral system. Teaching staff are expected to contribute to maintaining and developing the wellbeing of the pupils primarily through the role of the tutor. The successful candidate will be attached to a boarding house and will do an evening duty one night a week and, as a tutor in that house, be responsible for the personal and academic welfare of a house year group or a group of sixth formers in concert with the Housemaster or Housemistress.

The willingness to be a residential tutor, working closely with the Housemaster or Housemistress and living within the boarding house community, could be an advantage.

We are looking for talented staff of character, intellect and energy who will model the qualities we seek to inculcate in our pupil body.





Candidate Qualities

Qualifications/Attainment	
At least a second-class honours degree (or equivalent) from a recognised university	<i>Essential</i>
Proven track record of outstanding teaching and pupil outcomes	<i>Essential</i>
Experience of working within a boarding school environment	<i>Desirable</i>
Skills Required	
Ability to create and maintain strong, supportive relationships with pupils, staff and pupils and the community	<i>Essential</i>
Strong communication and interpersonal skills	<i>Essential</i>
Excellent organisational skills	<i>Essential</i>
The ability to manage a team	<i>Essential</i>
Willingness to take action to confront issues and overcome problems	<i>Essential</i>
Ability to inspire, motivate and support others	<i>Essential</i>
Clarity of thought	<i>Essential</i>
Personal and Professional Qualities	
Willingness to be fully involved in the life of a busy boarding school	<i>Essential</i>
Aspirational and empathetic, with a genuine belief in the potential of every pupil	<i>Essential</i>
Resilient, determined, pragmatic	<i>Essential</i>
Persuasive and influential	<i>Essential</i>
An effective and collaborative team player	<i>Essential</i>



Teaching at Repton

The School is committed to employing and rewarding teachers who share its ambition, its aims and its values. This will be reflected in a highly attractive remuneration package as well as the investments in both staff and facilities.

Repton has its own generous salary scale and the person appointed will enter the scale at the level suitable to his/her qualifications and experience.

The School may provide accommodation in connection with this position.

Full-time teachers also benefit from:

- An attractive fee-remission scheme
- Free membership of Repton's Sport Centre

In its buildings and grounds, Repton combines the old and the new. The heart of the School is a beautiful 12th century Augustinian Priory, but following a major period of investment, the School has outstanding new and refurbished facilities in most teaching areas, most notably in the Science Priory, the School Theatre and a new Mathematics Block.

A new Sports Centre including two full sports halls, a gym, a strength and conditioning suite, swimming pool, hospitality and reception suites and a café, was opened in November 2019.

Teachers work in well-equipped, spacious classrooms. All teachers are tutors in boarding houses and contribute to the extracurricular life of the School. This helps to develop the collegiate and purposeful atmosphere which is valued so much by staff at Repton.

The School is committed to the professional development of its staff so that they can continue to grow as teachers and educators, and invests significantly in this.

Repton itself is a thriving village with a fascinating past. Situated in the Trent valley between Derby and Burton on Trent, on one side of the village is the Old Trent, the remnants of the former course of the river, and on the other three is attractive rolling farmland. The village has a vibrant community with clubs, societies, shops, pubs and other attractive amenities. It is close to the cities of Derby and Nottingham and major transport routes, and much of the wonderful Peak District National Park lies within Derbyshire itself.





In and Around Repton

The Repton Village community

Repton village itself is a thriving community. The village contains a number of shops, pubs, restaurants and takeaways. It also has its own Post Office and a butcher's shop.

There is an active village hall community which has its own community run café. In addition, Repton School has its own café at the School Sports Centre.

Places of Interest

Repton is situated in the heart of Derbyshire on the northern edge of the National Forest area in rolling countryside. There are many places for walking locally and the Peak District and White Peak area are within easy reach of the village. There are also a number of National Trust properties close by. Places of National interest, such as Chatsworth House, are less than an hour away by car.

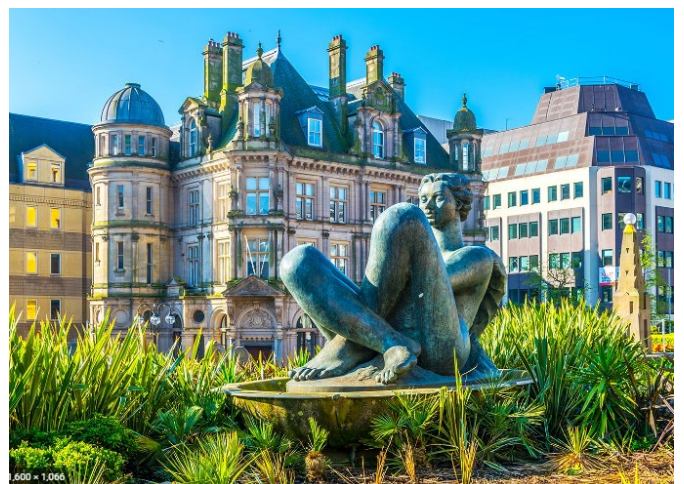
Transport Links

Both Derby and Burton-on-Trent have train stations which allow for fast connections to major cities. This includes direct trains from Derby to London. Lichfield Trent Valley also has a direct line to London.

There are also excellent links to local airports, including East Midlands and Birmingham.

Close to Major Cities

Repton is within easy reach of a number of major cities. These include Birmingham, Derby, Nottingham and Leicester.





Information for Candidates

Applications, which include the names and addresses of two professional referees, should be submitted by midday on Friday 6 December.

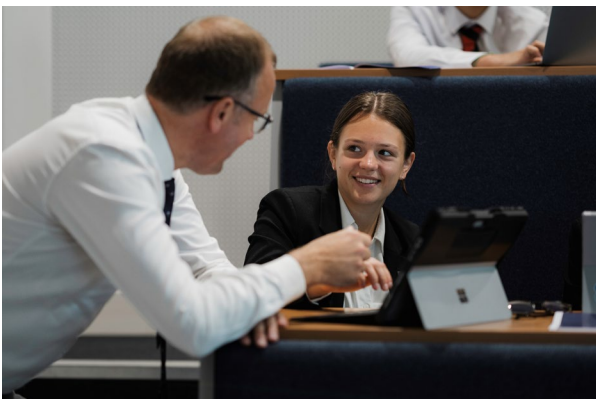
Applicants will be contacted for interview if they have been successful in the short-list process. Interviews will take place week commencing Monday 9 December.

In accordance with the Children Act any appointment to the Repton staff is conditional on criminal records clearance and the successful candidate will be required to supply the necessary information and documentary evidence. References will be obtained on all candidates called for interview and applicants should be aware that the interview will contain questions relating to the candidates' suitability to working in a post involving children.

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. Therefore the following shall be deemed to be included, in addition to the duties that you may be required to perform:

Promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young persons for whom you are responsible and with whom you come into contact.

Under the Sexual Offences Act 2003 it is a criminal offence for a person over 18 (e.g. teacher, matron, sports coach) to have a sexual relationship with a child under 18 where that person is in a position of trust in respect of that child, even if the relationship is consensual. This applies where the child is in full-time education and the person works in the same establishment as the child, even if s/he does not teach the child. Moreover, whatever the age of the pupil, a sexual relationship between an employee and a pupil will be considered an abuse of a position of trust and gross misconduct, likely to result in dismissal.





REPTON

Repton · Derbyshire · DE65 6FH