



# REPTON

## TEACHER OF BIOLOGY

September 2022





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## 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.

In the March 2020 Inspection, Repton was deemed to be 'Excellent' in both Achievement and Personal Development, confirming our commitment to an ambitious and holistic education. 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. 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 Teacher of Biology who can inspire the pupils of 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. Accommodation will be provided, and with a commitment to invest in the professional development of our staff, a generous fee-remission scheme and continued participation in the Teachers' Pension 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 2020 ISI Inspection which found Repton to be 'Excellent' in each of the areas examined. The inspectors judged that Repton pupils 'achieve highly and make excellent progress across the wide range of academic and extra-curricular opportunities available to them'. The School was found to have met all the requirements of the ISI Regulatory Compliance Inspection.

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. Mark Brotherton, 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 three schools in the UK (Repton, Repton Prep and St Wystan's) with the ambition to grow its UK family of schools.





## The Biology Department and the 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. He or she will place a particular importance on their passion for Biology and in maximising the potential of each student in the subject. To achieve this, the successful candidate will need the broad and thorough subject knowledge required to teach the subject to Oxbridge level. 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 (79% 8/9 grades in 2021) and at A-level (72% A\*/A grades in 2021) and in preparing pupils for Oxbridge entrance. At A-level pupils follow the AQA Biology specification and Biology is one of the most popular subjects in the Sixth Form. At GCSE pupils follow the AQA (9-1) specification. Roughly, half of Year 11 pupils study separate sciences at GCSE with the remainder being entered for Combined Science.

There are currently twelve full-time teachers of Science, two part-time teachers and five full-time technicians across Science. Every year the Science Departments offer extensive support to those pupils who apply to Oxford or Cambridge to read a science or science-related subject, and have enjoyed considerable success in recent years. There are flourishing co-curricular programmes in the sciences, including both an Engineering Society and a very popular Medical Society.

The successful candidate will be joining the School at an exciting time in the teaching of science with the recent opening of the Science Priory, which houses first class modern classrooms and laboratories for all three sciences, enabling pupils to see science not as three separate subjects but as a translational discipline which will prepare them for the challenges of the next generation.







### Key Areas of Responsibility

Repton has a tradition of academic excellence and ambitious plans for further progress under our new Deputy Head Academic, Ashley Currie. The successful application will teach Biology at one of the UK's leading co-educational boarding schools at an exciting time of rapid growth and development.

The successful candidate will work alongside supportive and enthusiastic colleagues.

The focus of this job is to deliver first-rate teaching, have an enjoyment of the subject and to facilitate excellent pupil results. 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 extra-curricular activities, including duty rotas, provision and supervision of social and academic pupil events and trips and tours during holiday periods. 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 girl's houses and six boy's 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 ability to be a residential tutor, working closely with the Housemaster or Housemistress and living within the boarding house community, would 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	<b><i>Essential</i></b>
Proven track record of outstanding teaching and pupil outcomes	<b><i>Essential</i></b>
Experience of working within a boarding school environment	<b><i>Desirable</i></b>
Skills Required	
Ability to create and maintain strong, supportive relationships with pupils, staff and pupils and the community	<b><i>Essential</i></b>
Strong communication and interpersonal skills	<b><i>Essential</i></b>
Excellent organisational skills	<b><i>Essential</i></b>
Collegiality	<b><i>Essential</i></b>
Willingness to take action to confront issues and overcome problems	<b><i>Essential</i></b>
Ability to inspire, motivate and support pupils	<b><i>Essential</i></b>
Clarity of thought	<b><i>Essential</i></b>
Personal and Professional Qualities	
Willingness to be fully involved in the life of a busy boarding school	<b><i>Essential</i></b>
Aspirational and empathetic, with a genuine belief in the potential of every pupil	<b><i>Essential</i></b>
Resilient, determined, pragmatic	<b><i>Essential</i></b>
A creative classroom practitioner	<b><i>Essential</i></b>
An effective and collaborative team player	<b><i>Essential</i></b>



## 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:**

- Participation in the Teachers' Pension Scheme
- 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 and PE 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.





## Information for Candidates

Applications, which include the names and addresses of two professional referees, should be submitted by midday on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March.

Applicants will be contacted for interview if they have been successful in the short-list process. Interviews will take place in the week commencing 21<sup>st</sup> March.

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

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