Upton-by-Chester High School

Teacher of Computer Science

Full Time and Permanent

To commence ASAP

Main or Upper Pay Scale as applicable (Recruitment and Retention allowance would be available for a suitable candidate)

Closing Date- 22nd September 2025 at 12 noon

I would firstly like to thank you for your interest in a vacancy at Upton-by-Chester High School. The purpose of this information is to help you get to know more about our school and help you to decide if this is the right post for you.

Upton-by-Chester is a large and successful comprehensive secondary school located in Upton-by-Chester, an area on the outskirts of the wonderful city of Chester. Upton-by-Chester High School was established in 1968 and has gone from strength to strength over this time. We are a thriving, vibrant school with a proud record of academic excellence and success. Combined with our exceptional extra-curricular opportunities, we inspire our learners to flourish, no matter what their strengths and aptitudes. We are fully inclusive and open to young people of all abilities.

The school was inspected in February 2025.  Inspectors found that;

*"Pupils flourish in this school’s nurturing and inclusive environment. Students in the sixth form are particularly appreciative of the school’s support for their academic achievement and personal growth. Pupils develop positive relationships with staff. This helps them to feel known and cared for, despite the large size of the school. A culture of trust and respect is evident." (Ofsted 2025)*

An exciting development for the school is being part of the School Rebuilding Programme.  This means that between September 2025 and September 2028 the school will undergo a complete rebuilding programme to provide learners with brand-new indoor and outdoor facilities to support their learning.  Details of the new build can be found on the schools 'New Build' webpage.

The school currently serves both the local community and an extended catchment area with learners attending the school from up to 40 individual primary schools. There are currently 1750 learners on roll and the school is oversubscribed in a number of year groups. The school also has an outstanding Sixth Form (Ofsted 2015, 2019 and 2025).

Our school motto is **'Learning to Shape the Future'**. This really does capture what is at the heart of the school. We ensure that every learner - whatever their previous attainment - will gain life-long enrichment and learning from the time they spend with us at Upton. Our approach is to provide opportunities that will capture the imagination of our learners and allow them to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding to be successful academically and socially. We will provide traditional academic subjects and vocational opportunities so we can support the learning needs of all our young people.

Our learners are fantastic and our greatest asset. They represent a truly comprehensive intake in terms of ability and preparedness for learning. They are committed to their learning, and they strive to succeed. We also have a very talented team of teaching and support staff who support and challenge every learner to be the best that they can be. The professional development opportunities of our staff are highly valued.

Upton-by-Chester High School is a great place to work. It is challenging, focused on teaching and learning and dedicated to the wellbeing of our learners. We have the highest expectations of all who work here and therefore, we are only looking for the finest staff to work with our learners. We know that our school can only be as good as the workforce within it.

The school is at an exciting stage of development within the changing educational landscape in England. If, prior to submitting an application, you would like to see for yourself why we believe Upton-by-Chester High School is a great school in which to work, then please let us know.

Yours Faithfully

**Lee Cummins**
B.Ed(Hons), M.Ed, NPQH

**Upton-by-Chester High School**

St. James Avenue, Chester, CH2 1NN

**Teacher of Computer Science**

**To start as soon as possible**

Main or Upper Pay Scale as applicable

(Recruitment and Retention allowance would be available for a suitable candidate)

We are looking to appoint an inspirational, highly motivated, and enthusiastic teacher of Computer Science who will be able to support the Head of Department in delivering outstanding outcomes for our learners. The successful candidate will be joining a well-developed and effective department in a very successful school.

Successful candidates will have:

* Qualified teacher status
* The ability to deliver excellent lessons at KS3, KS4 and KS5.
* Be able to teach computer science to A Level
* The ability to motivate learners to achieve excellent results
* The capacity to work collaboratively as part of a team an
* A passion for the subject and the ability to share this passion with the learners in our school.
* A commitment to their own professional development

This is an exciting opportunity for both newly qualified and experienced teachers to join a thriving and highly motivated school.

The school is a forward-looking school and we are committed to supporting staff and learners to achieve at the highest level. The professional development of our staff is a high priority. The school also offers a calm learning environment where learners work hard, achieve a great deal, and enjoy excellent working relationships.

Download an application pack from our website[www.uptonhigh.co.uk](http://www.uptonhigh.co.uk)electronic applications should be returned to lloyds@uptonhigh.co.uk

CVs alone will not be accepted

**CLOSING DATE: 22nd September 2025**

Please be advised there may be occasions, due to tight deadlines when we have to close a vacancy once we have sufficient applications. Please submit your application early.

All post holders are subject to satisfactory clearances and suitable references, the successful applicant will be required to apply for clearance from DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service. Further information can be found at [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

***Our school is committed to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of learners and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.***

Staffing Structure

* Mrs K Diamond - Head of Department
* Mrs S Larkin
* Miss R Simpson

Curriculum

We are a well-resourced department with 5 dedicated computer suites and a variety of additional technology including Microbits, Raspberry Pi’s and Lego Mindstorm robots. All teachers have responsibility for teaching KS3, KS4 and Sixth form Computer Science and ICT. We have shared schemes of work so that planning is shared and minimal. The department Is warm and supportive with a good sense of humor coupled with a passion for the subject.

The Computer Science department at Upton-by-Chester High School aims to develop the mind-set of a computer scientist through equipping students with the skills to participate in a rapidly changing world. The curriculum journey incorporates challenging and engaging topics, giving students the opportunity to develop their capability, creativity, and subject knowledge.

The curriculum is developed so that students are taught the principles of problem solving and computation, which prepares them to solve the problems of tomorrow, by developing learner’s knowledge, skills and understanding through key computational concepts and experience. They develop understanding for all the technology that surrounds them by not just understanding how computer systems work, but how to put this knowledge to use through programming and problem solving. Building on this knowledge and understanding, students are equipped to use information technology to create programs, systems and a range of content whilst developing programming skills.

We endeavour to make the curriculum as motivational and interesting as possible with a high level of challenge by offering breadth and depth of experiences for the students. Our aim is to ensure that students develop and achieve ICT capability that is directly transferable, not only to other subjects, but also to the future learning pathways and beyond, developing a wide range of digital skills that will prepare learners for the future.

We provide a broad range of skills and experiences at KS3 which are then further developed as students enter KS4 and then extended to KS5.

**Curriculum**

* Key Stage 3

At KS3 we follow the national curriculum focusing on key skills in Computer Science, Digital Literacy, and ICT to prepare those students who wish to study Computer Science or ICT at GCSE level but also to provide a strong foundation for students to progress in their digital future.

* Key Stage 4

At KS4 all learners are given the opportunity to study two option choices:

* + Route 1 – AQA GCSE Computer Science- Python Language
	+ Route 2 – OCR National in Information Technology
* Key Stage 5

We currently provide one qualification at KS5 – AQA A-level Computer Science- Python Language

Person Specification

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **ESSENTIAL** | **DESIRABLE** | **EVIDENCE** |
| **Qualifications and Training** | * Degree in Computer Science or related subject
* QTS
* Good use of ICT to support learning
* Ability to use data to track learner achievement and identify intervention as necessary
 | * Further qualifications and/or recent training
 | * Application form
* Certificates to be provided at Interview
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| **Experience** | * Minimum – successful completion of teaching in at least one high school
* Successful delivery of Computer Science at GCSE
* Good knowledge of pedagogy and current best practice in teaching and learning and in Assessment for Learning
* Demonstrable experience of successfully addressing under -performance
 | * Successful delivery of at A-Level
* Competence in using latest technologies
* Working knowledge of SIMS
* Experience of leading enrichment activities in own subject area
* Ability to teach subject throughout the age range to KS5
* Experience of delivering a range of enrichment activities in own subject area
* Experience in developing leadership, through extra-curricular programmes or courses
* Knowledge of Python
 | * Application form
* Interview
 |
| **Personal Qualities** | * Commitment to self-development
* A natural enthusiasm for subject and inspiring teaching style
* Exceptional communication and interpersonal skills – approachable
* Proven team worker
* Strong classroom management skills
* Impressive organisational skills
* Reflective and positive thinking
* An affinity with young people and a sympathetic, learner-centred approach
 | * An interest in educational research
* Interest in providing extra-curricular activities
* Open to innovation
 | * Interview
* Lesson Observation
 |
| **Other** | * Responsibility and a commitment to high standards
* A belief in, and commitment to, the school’s vision ‘learning to shape the future’
 |  | * Interview
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This job description may be amended at any time in consultation with the postholder.

Safeguarding Young People

We are committed to the safeguarding and promotion of the welfare of children. In this light, we would like to draw the following matters to your attention:

1. All appointments are made subject to:

* An enhanced DBS disclosure;
* Checks of professional status;
* Confirmation of professional qualifications;
* Receipt of strong references (if not received by the time of interview); and
* Medical clearance

2. We only accept applications completed on the Cheshire West and Chester Application Form with a covering letter. Please do not send CVs or open testimonials.

3. Please ensure that the application form is completed in full. In particular, you must ensure that a full work history is provided and that any gaps in your employment are fully explained.

4. The referees cited in your application form must include your employer from the last occasion in which you worked with children. If your last employment was in a school, we would expect a reference from the Headteacher and/or Deputy/Assistant Headteacher.

5. When seeking references, we will request information about your suitability to work with children.

6. If you are shortlisted, any anomalies in your application will be discussed with you at interview.

We encourage you to pay close attention to these matters so that your application is not excluded unnecessarily.

As part of our Safer Recruitment process, shortlisted candidates could be subject to an online search.

Procedure for Application

If you wish to be considered for this vacancy you should complete the application form, giving the names and addresses of two referees, and submit a concise letter of application. This should be typed or word-processed and should include the following information:

1. A brief outline of what you have achieved in your present post

2. A statement about why you want this job.

3. An indication of the strengths and expertise you could offer the school.

All points should address the detail in the person specification and other points made within the information sent to candidates.

Candidates are kindly requested not to submit a CV instead of the application form. Additional sheets may be attached to the back of the application form if there is insufficient space.

Completed applications should be returned to Mr L Cummins (Headteacher), to arrive no later than Midday 22nd September 2025.

Please ensure that you put the correct postage on the envelope as this could result in your application not being considered due to late arrival. **Please note that we will only consider applications submitted on the Cheshire West and Chester application form.**

Interviews are planned to take place during the following week. If you have not heard from us within two weeks of this date, regretfully you must assume that your application has been unsuccessful on this occasion, in which case the Governors would like to thank you for your time and your interest in the school.

Please note that we are happy to arrange risk-assessed informal visits for prospective candidates before short-listing has taken place, also if you wish to have an informal discussion about the post in advance of your application, or if you require any further details, please contact Mrs S Lloyd, HR Manager.

Tel: 01244 259890

E-mail: LloydS@uptonhigh.co.uk