



Trainee Teacher of Chemistry (PGCE)

Inspire the next generation of scientists at one of the UK's leading independent schools.

We are seeking a passionate and ambitious graduate to join our thriving Chemistry Department and train to teach in a highly supportive and dynamic environment. This full-time, permanent role offers full PGCE sponsorship through the University of Buckingham, an attractive salary, and structured training towards QTS.

This is an exciting opportunity for a graduate or unqualified teacher to work as an unqualified Teacher of Chemistry for two terms, before undertaking a PGCE through Buckingham University. The PGCE would run from September 2026 to July 2027. Initially this would be a five-term fixed-term contract, with the hope that a permanent position would be available for September 2027.

Brentwood School is a vibrant and inclusive community, where staff and students are ambitious, supportive, and united by a shared love of learning. The successful candidate will teach Chemistry at Key Stage 3, IGCSE and A Level and will join a thriving Chemistry Department. Chemistry is a very popular choice of subject with pupils: we offer the Pearson IGCSE Chemistry and Double Award Science courses, and AQA A Level and IB Sixth Form courses.

Job Purpose

The School had an excellent reputation in delivering initial teacher training: the School will pay for the successful candidate's PGCE tuition fee with the University of Buckingham, in addition to their teacher salary, and trainee teachers have a reduced lesson allocation, supportive observations and mentor meetings, and a programme of seminars which build towards attaining QTS. The post is permanent from the outset and designed for continuity: you will complete your PGCE and QTS while working at Brentwood, then remain with us for your ECT induction years with full support. The successful candidate will begin their PGCE training in September 2026, with an induction period before the academic year begins. This opportunity is ideal for recent graduates or career-changers who are looking to enter the teaching profession via a school-based training route.

The successful candidate will also be expected to assist in the support offered to pupils outside the classroom. Furthermore, all teaching staff are expected to participate fully in the wider life of the School through co-curricular involvement.

The School and the Senior Leadership Team are strongly supportive of Chemistry and recognise the important role it plays in the intellectual life of the whole School community.

Report to

Head of Chemistry

Department

Chemistry

Key Responsibilities & Accountabilities

- An effective classroom teacher who maintains a positive and purposeful classroom atmosphere and shares good practice through regular discussion and the promotion of forward-thinking ideas.
- Encourage student engagement and achievement through innovative and personalised teaching methods, supporting all learners to reach their potential.
- Promote a safe, inclusive, positive and supportive environment that nurtures the creativity and wellbeing of every student.
- Assess, record and report on the development, progress and attainment of students, and give pertinent constructive feedback.
- Work collaboratively and contribute positively to the departmental team.
- Contribute to departmental schemes of work.
- Engage actively in departmental planning, whole-school responsibilities, and professional development opportunities.
- Contribute to other aspects of education outside the classroom, e.g. residential field trips, Games, clubs and activities.

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Safeguarding responsibilities

- Adhere to the School's Safeguarding policy, which includes the staff safeguarding code of conduct, and KCSIE (Part 1);
- Communicate any safeguarding concerns as soon as possible to the DSL or a Deputy DSL. For any serious concerns, speak to a member of the safeguarding team and then record your notes on the online safeguarding reporting system, CPOMS. If you cannot contact a DSL or DDSL or member of SLT, contact the reception and admin team, who will be able to locate them;
- Report any concern about the safeguarding conduct of a member of staff (or adult supervising children on the school site as part of an external let) to the Headmaster (or to the Chairman of Governors if the concern is about the Headmaster) and to self-refer as needed, following the Safeguarding Policy and Low Level Concerns Protocol;
- Ensure that you always wear your lanyard and challenge anyone who is not wearing a school lanyard or who is wearing a red lanyard while unaccompanied.
- Ensure that registers are completed for each registration period using iSAMS (as a tutor, this will be the am registration). Teachers or cover teachers complete the pm registration at the start of period 6.
- Be aware of the medical and SEND needs of the students in your care and contact the school nurses or Learning Support Department.

Personal Specification

The successful candidate will show a commitment to the success of every student studying Chemistry in the School.

- Possess a relevant degree;
- Innovative educator;
- Excellent communicator;
- Collaborative and open to change;
- Strong commitment to academic excellence, with the ability to inspire future generations of Chemistry students;
- Excellent understanding of current educational thinking, which informs a reflective and proactive approach towards developing their practice;
- A good-humoured and ethical approach to working with others, knowing that the culture we embody is the one we create.

Why join us?

- PGCE tuition fully funded
- Competitive independent school salary from day one
- Reduced timetable and full mentoring support during training
- Strong track record of successful teacher training and ongoing professional development
- Popular subject with strong uptake at GCSE, A-Level, and IB
- Rich co-curricular life, including fieldwork and trips
- Beautiful campus and state-of-the-art resources
- Generous employee benefits, including generous pension schemes, free sports centre membership, optional subsidised private healthcare

We warmly welcome enquiries and applications from aspiring teachers who are committed to shaping young minds through the lens of Chemistry. To find out more about this role please contact recruitment@brentwood.essex.sch.uk who will put you in touch with the Head of Chemistry, Nick Law.

Apply now →