

FURTHER INFORMATION
HEAD OF BIOLOGY
(Full-time or substantial part time)

The College

The College is situated just outside Esher, in attractive grounds in Thames Ditton, and is well served by public transport. Thames Ditton rail station is two minutes' walk away and Esher rail station about 12 minutes. Both provide a direct link to central London. The core business of the College is the full-time education of 16-18 year old students, all of whom study level 3 courses. Within this context, the College has an inclusive, open access approach, recruiting students from over 115 different schools in North Surrey and the London boroughs, with a College roll of approximately 2050 students. The result is a rich and diverse student population. Applicants from the four most local postcodes, from schools without sixth forms in a defined geographical area and from siblings of current and former students all have guaranteed status. Incidentally, of all application categories, siblings consistently give us the highest conversion of applicant to enrolment. Those who know us best are most likely to come. All other applicants have open status and places are allocated by ballot.

The College has a strong reputation in the area and is highly over-subscribed, with applications closing nine months before enrolment begins. The College's popularity is principally based on academic achievement and successful progression, as well as a more mature and informal learning environment which lays the foundations for future success. Despite relatively modest entry requirements, it has an established track record in delivering impressive examination results. As a result, the College was judged 'outstanding' by Ofsted for all areas when recently inspected in September 2022. It is most pleasing that the report reflects the College that we all know well and is a fair reward for all the hard work that our staff have invested into the College and its community over the many years.

The College Mission Statement and Values are:

Mission Statement

We are specialists in sixth form education who are committed to creating a culture of high expectations and outstanding achievement.

Values

- **Inclusivity:** We actively embrace diversity, ensuring every community member is valued, respected, and provided with equal opportunities for growth and participation.
- **Community:** We cultivate a vibrant community characterised by collaboration and mutual support where everyone contributes to our collective and individual successes, fostering a strong sense of belonging and shared purpose.
- **Empowerment:** We champion autonomy and aspiration, empowering every individual to actively shape their educational and professional paths to achieve their full potential.

The estate has benefited from significant investment over the last ten years or so and the result is a campus fit for the 21st century, with modern, specialist buildings and facilities. A new Study Centre and a Performing Arts block were opened for the start of the 2022/23 academic year and four temporary classrooms to help manage the College response to the increase in student contact time, with a new build replacing the temporary accommodation in September 2025.

The Post

Students:

Biology is a popular subject with around 340 students currently taking A Level Biology or BTEC National Applied Science (Extended Certificate or Diploma).

Staff:

There are 6 members of the teaching team (both full and part-time), supported by 2 technicians.

Courses & Exam Board:

The College offers A Level Biology (Edexcel A), BTEC Extended Certificate and Diploma in Applied Science (Pearson). The department is currently planning to move to a new Applied Biology course in September 2025, pending the review of L3 reform being undertaken by the Labour government.

Department/Facilities:

There is a suite of rooms dedicated to Biology teaching that includes well-equipped teaching laboratories, an IT room and a prep room. The department is resourced to a high standard, with modern apparatus and excellent support from technicians. Extensive teaching resources are available and examination results are consistently excellent. Teaching and learning is also supported by regular trips and visits.

Additional information:

In addition to our successful Biology A Level course, the department is responsible for delivery of the popular BTEC courses. We also have good curricular links with both local schools and HE and offer a wide range of enrichment opportunities, such as competitions, visiting speakers and targeted support for applicants to Medical, Dentistry, Vet and Oxbridge courses. A high proportion of our students progress to biology-related degrees and careers. We would welcome applications from candidates looking for a full-time post or a minimum of 4 days a week. Please indicate in your application if you would like to be considered for the part time (4 days a week) role and this will be discussed at interview.

College Hours:

College teaching periods start at 8.55 am and end at 4.15 pm.

Salary:

Salary will be £53,283 to £55,812 per annum inclusive of fringe area allowance, depending on experience. Pay award 24/25 is pending.

Applications:

Completed application forms should be returned to:
Esher Sixth Form College
Weston Green Road
Thames Ditton
Surrey KT7 0JB

Email : careers@esher.ac.uk

Closing Date:

10am, Monday 21st October 2024

Interviews:

Thursday 24th October 2024