

Assistant Headteacher (Science & Pastoral Leadership)

Cambridge Maths School, Cambridge

Leadership Scale L8-L12 (depending on experience)

Full Time (although part time may be possible on request), Permanent

Start Date: January 2027 (or later by agreement)

Join one of the UK's most distinctive and successful sixth form schools

Cambridge Maths School (CMS) is seeking to appoint an exceptional Assistant Headteacher to join our ambitious and innovative leadership team.

Developed in association with the University of Cambridge, Cambridge Maths School is a specialist sixth form for students with a passion and aptitude for mathematics and the mathematical sciences. Located in purpose-built facilities in the heart of Cambridge, the school offers A Levels in Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science and Physics.

Since opening in 2023, CMS has rapidly established itself as one of the country's most successful sixth forms. We combine academic excellence with a deep commitment to widening participation, ensuring that talented young people from all backgrounds can access an outstanding education and progress to the most competitive university courses and careers.

This is an exciting opportunity for an outstanding leader to help shape the next phase of the school's development.

The Role

We are seeking an exceptional school leader who will provide strategic leadership of the Science Department while also taking responsibility for a significant pastoral or whole-school leadership area.

The successful candidate will:

- Lead and line manage the Science Department, overseeing Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- Drive excellence in teaching, learning, curriculum development and assessment across the sciences.
- Support and develop middle leaders and classroom teachers.
- Monitor student progress and outcomes across the department, ensuring all students achieve their potential.
- Work closely with the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team to deliver the school's strategic priorities.

- Contribute to the continued development of a distinctive and exceptional sixth form experience.
- Undertake a significant pastoral or strategic whole-school leadership responsibility, to be agreed with the successful candidate.

The exact leadership portfolio will be discussed at interview and will reflect the successful candidate's experience, expertise and interests.

Potential Areas of Whole-School Leadership

These may include one or more of the following:

- Student wellbeing and mental health
- Safeguarding and child protection
- Attendance and student engagement
- Personal development
- Behaviour and culture
- Careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG)
- Student leadership and student voice
- Outreach and widening participation
- Super-curricular and enrichment programmes
- Staff wellbeing
- Equality, diversity and inclusion
- Parental engagement
- Pastoral systems

We are keen to shape the role around the strengths of the successful candidate and welcome applications from leaders with a range of experiences and backgrounds.

About You

We are looking for a candidate who:

- Is an outstanding classroom practitioner with a strong track record of securing excellent outcomes.
- Has successful middle or senior leadership experience within a secondary school or sixth form setting.
- Has experience of leading, developing and inspiring staff.

- Possesses a strong understanding of effective pastoral systems and student support.
- Has the vision, credibility and interpersonal skills to lead and influence others.
- Is committed to inclusion, widening participation and educational excellence.
- Has excellent organisational, communication and strategic leadership skills.
- Shares the values and ethos of Cambridge Maths School and the Eastern Learning Alliance.

Whether you are an experienced Assistant Headteacher seeking a new challenge or an exceptional middle leader ready to take the next step into senior leadership, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Why Join Cambridge Maths School?

Working at CMS offers a unique opportunity to help shape one of the UK's most innovative and academically ambitious schools.

We offer:

- Exceptionally motivated and intellectually curious students.
- A collaborative, ambitious and supportive staff team.
- Close links with the University of Cambridge and leading organisations across academia and industry.
- Outstanding opportunities for professional development and leadership growth.
- A genuine opportunity to shape the future direction of a growing and successful school.
- A reduced teaching allocation to support leadership responsibilities.
- Extensive opportunities to contribute to outreach, university partnerships and widening participation initiatives.

What Can ELA Offer You?

The Eastern Learning Alliance offers an excellent staff benefits package alongside high-quality professional development and career progression opportunities.

Benefits include:

- Reduced teaching allocation to support professional development and leadership responsibilities.
- Employee Assistance Programme with access to counselling and physiotherapy.
- Health care cash plan.

- Paid annual family day.
- Extensive staff discount scheme.
- Cycle to work and electric vehicle lease schemes.
- Enhanced parental leave.
- Flexible working practices where appropriate.
- Laptop and mobile phone purchase schemes.
- Access to ticket ballots for high-profile events.
- Discounted gym membership.
- Cross-trust training, networks and leadership development opportunities.

Safeguarding

The Eastern Learning Alliance is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. All staff are expected to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to an enhanced DBS check and all relevant pre-employment checks.

Application Process

Applicants should complete the Eastern Learning Alliance application form and submit a supporting letter of no more than two sides of A4 outlining:

- Your reasons for applying.
- What strengths and experience you would bring to the role.
- Your leadership style and approach.
- Your vision for leading science and contributing to the wider life of Cambridge Maths School.
- Why you believe you are suited to this opportunity.

Visits to the school are warmly encouraged.

For further information, please contact recruitment@cms.tela.org.uk.

Closing Date: 13th October 2026

Interview Date: To be confirmed

Cambridge Maths School

A specialist sixth form for mathematics and the mathematical sciences, widening participation and transforming futures through exceptional education.

