



# A foundation for success since 1932



**SUBJECT LEADER FOR SCIENCE  
(SECOND IN DEPARTMENT)  
MPS/UPS PLUS TLR 2.2 (£5,646)  
REQUIRED FROM EASTER 2025**

Dear Candidate

On behalf of the governors at Ribblesdale School, thank you for the interest you have shown in the position of Subject Leader for Science (Second in Department) at our school.

The governing board is seeking to appoint a dedicated, highly skilled and knowledgeable practitioner who will create a warm and welcoming learning environment, foster high aspirations and challenge our pupils to achieve to the very best of their potential.

Our expert, friendly teaching and support staff work hard to ensure that our school continues to grow and improve, keeping our pupils' development needs at the heart of all we do. 'The Ribblesdale Way' encapsulates the core beliefs and expectations we hold for our pupils and staff. Ribblesdale School is a Microsoft Showcase School and a founder member and key contributor to the North-West EdTech hub. Every pupil in our care benefits from our Ofsted Grade 1 personal development programme which incorporates our unique enrichment curriculum.

Ribblesdale is a popular and successful school which enjoys close links with the local community it has served for more than 90 years. I would positively encourage candidates to visit Ribblesdale School in order that they may better understand the ethos and atmosphere of our learning community.

Thank you, once again, for your interest in working at our school. I look forward to receiving your application.

Bernadette Matterson  
Chair of Governors

# WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS





## SUBJECT LEADER FOR SCIENCE

Required from Easter 2025

An exciting opportunity is available to a suitably qualified and experienced candidate to become part of the Science Department leadership team. This role will involve supporting the Curriculum Area Leader in managing our forward-thinking, aspirational and well-resourced science curriculum area. Ribblesdale School's science department is made up of eleven specialist science teachers with a wide range of experience in delivering high quality education to pupils across the age and ability range. The subject is taught in suited accommodation, some of which has been recently refurbished, and benefits from access to cutting edge educational technology.

As a Microsoft Showcase School, we utilise e-learning platforms and our expertise in technology to support our teaching. The Science Department is unapologetically ambitious; the team explores research to inform and expand our practice, using new ideas and strategies alongside well-established teaching and learning methodology. We want a leader who shares our innovative approach to teaching and learning and strives to achieve excellent results and maximise pupil progress. The opening of our first reception class in September 2023 heralded the start of a new era for the school as we became an all-through school, catering for pupils from the age of 4 to 16.

Applications are encouraged from confident, aspirational teachers who will share our passion for high quality pedagogy informed by the latest research. A thirst for championing science both as a subject area and across the whole school curriculum is a must, along with the energy and enthusiasm to continue our drive forward at this exciting time.

Thank you for your interest in our school. I hope that this applicant information pack gives you a flavour of our vibrant and thriving school community. We are incredibly proud of all we have achieved over the last 90 years and more, and ambitious in our plans for the next chapter of our school's onward journey.

We are currently a larger than average, truly comprehensive 4-16 co-educational local authority maintained school with 1400 pupils on roll. The last few years have seen us grow considerably as part of a local authority expansion project which led to the enhancement of our site and facilities and then, in a further 'vote of confidence' from our LA and local community, through the expansion of our age range, to become an all through school for pupils aged 4 - 16. Our fabulous brand new, net zero building opened in September 2023 to welcome our very first reception cohort.

Pupils at Ribblesdale are challenged and nurtured in equal measure. We prize the growth of positive, well-rounded citizens as highly as we do academic success, pursuing both with vigour and commitment. In our last inspection (February 2020), Ofsted commended our strong record of academic outcomes and rated our Personal Development provision 'outstanding'.

Opportunities for Ribblesdale pupils are rich and varied: our innovative use of education technology has seen us recognised as a Microsoft Showcase School and our unique Enrichment Programme helps pupils foster their talents and gain new skills and experiences, extending learning well beyond the classroom walls.

I hope you find the information in this recruitment pack useful and that you will be encouraged to apply to join our professional community. I guarantee you will be warmly welcomed and that, should you be successful, you will experience a wealth of opportunities in joining us at this very exciting time.

## ABOUT OUR SCHOOL





## OUR CURRICULUM

At Ribblesdale we offer a broad and balanced curriculum to all year groups, which is accessible and delivered through great teaching; details can be viewed in the Curriculum Overview documents on our website. Traditional learning pathways across a range of subjects lead predominantly to a breadth of GCSE courses, and some vocational opportunities. This is further enhanced and complemented by an exciting enrichment offer, designed to support pupil progress. Character education and development of the whole person is a key theme of our rich and varied curriculum, alongside academic excellence and superb pastoral support. The structure allows targeted and timely intervention to take place across many aspects of the school curriculum. All young people take part in enrichment, which encompasses the development of moral, social and British values alongside skills and attributes for the future that include teamwork, organisation, leadership, presentation skills, collaboration, independence, reflection and self-confidence.

Our primary-aged pupils benefit from access to secondary facilities and specialist teaching as well as the state of the art, brand-new building in which they are based. Our constantly evolving and responsive curriculum utilises technology across the entire age range to enhance and empower learners both in school and beyond our gates.

At the heart of every aspect of the school is 'The Ribblesdale Way' (and the 'Road to the Ribblesdale Way' for our primary-aged pupils) which represents our core beliefs and our expectations of both pupils, and of those who work within the school. These key principles, behaviours and values provide a framework for our approach to teaching and learning, our rewards and sanctions policies and the mission and aims of the highly successful personal development programme which shapes Ribblesdale pupils into successful, well-adjusted adults capable of contributing fully and positively to 21st century society and to the global community to which we all belong.

# THE RIBBLESDALE WAY





# PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AT RIBBLESDALE

Enrichment is an integral part of the school week at Ribblesdale and aims to provide our pupils with a range of skills, experiences and opportunities that they may not otherwise have, both within the National Curriculum and from home. Just as in other subjects, teachers plan lessons for our pupils to secure progress against a range of learning objectives to support the development of skills for life.

Enrichment has been running successfully for a number of years and we are very proud of comments made by inspectors in our last Ofsted Inspection: "The school's curriculum enrichment programme is outstanding in providing pupils with highly-effective teaching of subject areas which interest and engage them." We continue to deliver a diverse range of activities in which secondary pupils can participate on Wednesday afternoons - from volunteering in the community to first aid courses, fitness activities and opportunities to improve in debating and enterprise skills. Similarly, our primary-aged pupils access the 'Ribblesdale GREATS' - fifty enriching opportunities designed to build life skills and provide cultural capital - as well as visiting speakers, trips and visits.

We are well supported by our local community with involvement from Blackburn Rovers, Blackburn College, Crossfit, Roefield, Ribble Valley Tennis Centre and many more providers in the local area. More information is available through our social media and on our school website.

Enrichment is just one element of our far-reaching and comprehensive personal development programme. Covering online safety, careers education, sex and relationships education, PSHE, literacy, numeracy and mental health and wellbeing among other important topics and life skills, 'My Future Matters' gives every Ribblesdale pupil an excellent foundation from which to embark upon a happy, successful and fulfilling life after school.

At Ribblesdale School we pride ourselves on our innovative practice, enhancing our pedagogy with 21st century technologies. We allow pupils to access learning whenever and wherever they want, breaking down the walls of the classroom. At Ribblesdale we use technology and a range of other tools in a blended way to enhance the great teaching that takes place.

Pupils at Ribblesdale each have their own one-to-one Windows 10 device, which is used to support learning both within and outside the classroom. Giving pupils access to their own device provides them with a wealth of opportunities to learn and make progress and also allows teachers to formulate more engaging learning content, drawing on a wide range of software applications to encourage independence and to enhance engagement and motivation. Pupils are introduced to educational technologies from the Early Years Foundation Stage and will grow with it throughout their educational careers.

As a Microsoft Showcase School, we are at the cutting edge of educational technology helping to develop and test new methodologies and providing training and support to many schools across the North West and beyond.

# EDTECH AT RIBBLESDALE







## HOW TO APPLY

To apply, please send in a completed application form (which can be found on the 'Working at Ribblesdale' section of our website) accompanied by a supporting letter addressed to the Headteacher (no more than 2 sides of A4, Arial 11) detailing the qualifications, skills and experience which equip you for this role. Applications should be submitted to Anmarie Hough at [vacancies@ribblesdale.org](mailto:vacancies@ribblesdale.org) no later than 9.00 am on Wednesday 12th February 2025.

Interviews to be held week commencing 24th February 2025

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# RIBBLESDALE CONTACT DETAILS

