

# **Thornhill College**

## **Person Specification Biology & General Science Technician**

### **Essential Criteria:**

#### **Qualifications**

- 5 GCSEs grade C or above (or equivalent) in English Language, Mathematics, and Science or higher level qualifications

#### **Experience**

- Experience working in a laboratory, scientific, or technical environment
- Experience preparing and supporting practical work in Biology and/or General Science
- Experience supporting practical work across KS3 science disciplines (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
- Experience of stock control, ordering, and resource management
- Experience maintaining laboratory equipment and carrying out basic repairs/maintenance

#### **Knowledge and Understanding**

- Strong knowledge of laboratory health and safety procedures
- Understanding of COSHH regulations and safe handling/storage of chemicals and biological materials
- Awareness of CLEAPSS guidance and safe laboratory practice
- Understanding of safe working practices across Biology, Chemistry, and Physics (KS3 level)
- Knowledge of standard science laboratory equipment (e.g. microscopes, balances, data loggers)
- Understanding of ethical and welfare considerations relating to living organisms

#### **Skills and Abilities**

- Ability to prepare, set up, and test practical experiments safely and effectively
- Ability to support practical work across Biology and General Science disciplines
- Strong organisational and time-management skills
- Ability to prioritise workload across multiple laboratories and staff
- Practical problem-solving skills and ability to respond to issues quickly
- Ability to maintain accurate records (stock, risk assessments, equipment logs)
- Competence in ICT (e.g. Microsoft Office, inventory systems)
- Ability to support fieldwork and outdoor science activities

#### **Personal Qualities**

- Ability to work effectively as part of a team
- Ability to work independently using initiative
- High level of attention to detail, particularly regarding safety
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Flexible and adaptable approach to meet departmental needs
- Professional, reliable, and proactive attitude

#### **Safeguarding and Professional Responsibilities**

- Understanding of safeguarding responsibilities in a school environment
- Commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children
- Willingness to undergo enhanced AccessNI check
- Commitment to equality, diversity, and inclusion
- Willingness to undertake relevant CPD (e.g. CLEAPSS, Health & Safety)

#### **Physical and Operational Requirements**

- Ability to carry out practical tasks (lifting, carrying, setting up equipment)
- Ability to work across multiple laboratories and prep rooms
- Willingness to support fieldwork, science events, and extra-curricular activities

**Desirable Criteria:**

## Qualifications

- A-Level in a Science subject (Biology preferred)
- Relevant technical/laboratory qualification (e.g. BTEC, OND, HNC in Science)
- Additional training in CLEAPSS, COSHH, or Health & Safety

## Experience

- Experience working in a post-primary school or educational setting
- Experience supporting practical work at GCSE or A-Level (particularly Biology)
- Experience handling and maintaining living organisms or biological systems

## Knowledge and Understanding

- Knowledge of CCEA science curriculum requirements
- Deeper familiarity with CLEAPSS documentation (e.g. Hazards, Lab Handbook)
- Awareness of developments in practical science education

## Skills and Development

- Ability to contribute to development of practical resources and teaching materials
- Willingness to engage in ongoing professional development and training

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