

Teacher of Design and Technology

**Full time, Permanent
Recruitment Pack**

Start date: September 2026



WELCOME

Belper School and Sixth Form Centre is a warm, inclusive and inspiring place to learn and work. We combine strong academic standards, a rich and inspirational curriculum and a caring and supportive ethos to provide the very best education we can for our wonderful students. At the heart of the school is a strong sense of belonging and shared responsibility, which gives Belper its distinctive character and underpins everything we do.

Our lively and successful school of just over 1200 students, including around 180 Sixth Formers, has proudly served the community of Belper and the surrounding villages for over 50 years. Belper is a vibrant market town in Derbyshire, on the edge of the Peak District. Situated within the Derwent Valley World Heritage Site, it is known for its creative and inclusive spirit, hosting an annual arts festival and a popular Pride event, values which closely reflect our own.

Our vision is captured in the phrase:

“Create your future. Be who you are, become who you aspire to be.”

Supported by our *Be Belper Values*, this vision shapes daily life in the school. We are committed to nurturing a love of learning and boundless curiosity in every student. Through our broad curriculum, rich subject content and extensive extracurricular opportunities, we inspire students to discover their interests and develop their talents. We also place great importance on building resilience, independence and self-belief so that students leave us as confident, well-rounded young people ready to make a positive contribution to their communities and the wider world.

We have a distinctive ethos that is reflected in the unique ways we build mutual respect and trust across the school. Belper is a non-uniform school, and students address staff by their first names. This is a deliberate and important part of our culture which helps foster positive relationships and ensures every child feels known, valued and respected. While we value academic achievement highly, we also see it as our duty to develop responsible, compassionate and respectful citizens.

Visitors often comment on the calm, positive and purposeful atmosphere around the school, and we are incredibly proud of our students, who are consistently kind, polite and engaged in their learning. As Ofsted noted in May 2025, *“There is a calm and productive atmosphere around school. Staff have high expectations of pupils’ behaviour and conduct. Pupils are trusted to behave well, and they do.”*

We know that to provide the very best education, we must recruit, retain and invest in exceptional staff. Staff wellbeing is a genuine priority and is closely linked to our high levels of retention. We are proud that Ofsted’s May 2025 inspection recognised the positive culture we have built:

“Staff are proud to work at the school. They appreciate leaders’ consideration of their work-life balance. They feel well led and managed”

Thank you for your interest in Belper School and Sixth Form Centre. We hope this gives you a sense of the warm, supportive and inspiring community we have created, and we look forward to welcoming colleagues who share our values and ambition for young people.

Mrs Matilde Warden BSc (Hons) NPQH
Headteacher

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY FACULTY

The Design and Technology Faculty is a friendly, hard-working and collaborative team, committed to providing high-quality, inspiring learning experiences that develop students' creativity, technical skill and genuine love of the subject. We believe passionately in learning through practical exploration and purposeful making, and our shared aim is to nurture confident, curious and capable designers.

The faculty comprises seven experienced teachers with a range of specialisms including Product Design, Textiles, Food and Construction. Strong professional relationships within the team and across the wider school support a culture of shared practice, reflection and continual improvement. We are well supported by a team of four skilled technicians, enabling staff to focus on high-quality teaching while maintaining a safe, efficient and well-resourced working environment.

Our curriculum is rooted in real-world relevance. We explore creative design, product development, the built environment, emerging technologies, and the scientific and nutritional aspects of food. We place a strong emphasis on technical skill, high-quality making, and the use of CAD/CAM, and we are committed to continually developing our provision to reflect current practice, new technologies and industry expectations.

Teaching is predominantly based around iterative design-and-make activities, with students increasingly working independently as they develop confidence and competence. This approach leads to excellent engagement, strong outcomes, and high levels of student pride in their work.

Facilities

The faculty is extremely well resourced and includes:

- Two IT suites with 25 workstations each, fully equipped with up-to-date software
- Two fully fitted multi-material workshops
- One specialist textiles workshop
- Two food preparation classrooms, including one with commercial-standard equipment
- A large-format CAD/CAM printer, cutter and plotter
- A large laser cutter
- Laser image transfer system and mug press
- Four 3D printers

All tools, machinery and equipment are maintained to a high standard, creating a safe and professional working environment.

Curriculum and Courses

At Key Stage 3, students have five periods of Design and Technology per fortnight and are taught in mixed-ability groups of no more than 20 students. We operate a carousel model in which students rotate between specialist teachers and rooms throughout the year.

At Key Stage 4, students receive six periods per fortnight and can opt for a range of qualifications including GCSE Design and Technology (with a timber-based specialism and multi-material NEA), GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition, GCSE Textiles, and BTEC Construction.

At Post-16, the faculty offers **Level 3 Food Science** and **A Level 3D Design**, reflecting our commitment to strong progression routes and academic and vocational excellence.

THE ROLE

We are seeking to appoint an excellent secondary classroom practitioner with a genuine love for their subject, strong subject knowledge, a calm and kind manner, and consistently high expectations for both academic achievement and student behaviour.

The successful candidate will contribute to the teaching of Design and Technology across all key stages. They will teach either GCSE Design and Technology or BTEC Construction, alongside elements of A Level Design and Technology, depending on experience and specialism.

The role also includes responsibilities as a form tutor, delivering a centrally planned and fully resourced PSHE curriculum. We place great value on the tutor role as a cornerstone of students' school experience and are therefore looking for someone who is committed to pastoral care and positive relationships with their students.

This post would suit either an experienced teacher or an Early Career Teacher. For ECTs, we offer a highly supportive induction, high-quality mentoring and a strong programme of professional development through our Early Career Framework and wider CPD provision.

Belper School and Sixth Form Centre is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All appointments are subject to relevant safeguarding checks, including enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service checks, in line with the most recent guidance in *Keeping Children Safe in Education*. We are also committed to equality of opportunity in employment and service provision.

If teaching in this kind of environment appeals to you, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please follow the instructions on how to apply, and do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Role Type: Permanent, (Full time teaching post)

Start Date: September 2026

Application closing date: 9am, Friday 30th January 2026

Shortlisting: Shortlisted candidates will be contacted by email by Monday 2nd February 2026

Interviews: Tuesday 4th February 2026

Please apply using the MyNewTerm application process.

The supporting statement **must** include the following sections with clear headings.

1. Why do you want to work at Belper School and Sixth Form Centre?

How do our school aims and ethos resonate with your own views on education and leadership?

2. What impact have you had on students in your career so far?

Please describe an experience(s) where you have had impact on your students. For ECTs, please describe an aspect of your teaching that you feel has gone particularly well.

3. What does High Quality Teaching look like in your classroom?

*Give examples of how you ensure **all** students in your classes benefit from High Quality Teaching*

4. How have you engaged in the wider life of the school within your current role?

Give examples of how you engage with the students and staff beyond your timetabled lessons and beyond your department.

The statement should be no longer than 1500 words (not including headings).

Please note applications which do not include the above headings with answers may not be considered for shortlisting.

All appointments are subject to relevant safeguarding checks, including enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service checks, in line with the most recent guidance in *Keeping Children Safe in Education*. We are also committed to equality of opportunity in employment and service provision. All applicants must be able to provide evidence of their Right to Work in the UK prior to commencement of employment. As part of our need to comply with UK immigration rules, you will be required to provide Home Office stipulated documentation prior to interview.

PERSON SPECIFICATION TEACHER OF DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
QUALIFICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A degree in a Design and Technology/Art related subject • Qualified Teacher Status, with specialism(s) related to the subject (Design and Technology/Art and Design) • Ability to teach across the full 11-18 age and ability range 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further professional qualifications. • Appropriate in-service training / CPD according to experience
PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A track record of successful teaching across Key Stages 3 to 5 (In line with career stage) • Involvement in the monitoring of progress and attainment at student and class level • Experience in developing teaching and learning in an inclusive environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involvement in curriculum initiatives and extra-curricular developments.
TEACHING PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to teach a range of Design and Technology subjects across KS3 • Ability to teach GCSE Design and Technology • Ability to teach Design and Technology to A level • Ability to teach BTEC L1/2 Construction • Ability to articulate characteristics of effective teaching and learning with evidence of good practice. • Good classroom management technique. • Knowledge and understanding of effective assessment and its contribution to learning and progression. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involvement in extended curricular provision

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to use student data to raise standards. • Knowledge of strategies related to key issues in education eg gender issues, equal opportunities, SEND. • Ability to contribute to Schemes of work / Lesson Plans. • Excellent communication skills. • Good ICT skills and an awareness of its potential. • Knowledge of e-learning • Knowledge and understanding of current Teaching and Learning issues • Express a vision for subject development 	
PERSONAL QUALITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A capacity to inspire through a love of teaching • Commitment to an ethos of high expectations of both academic outcomes and behaviour • Kindness and compassion • Resilience, patience and the ability to remain calm under pressure. • Confidence and presence • Flexibility and ability to adapt to change • Willingness to collaborate and to be a team player. • A commitment to the safeguarding and welfare of children. • Commitment to the school's equal opportunities policy. • Strong educational values which are in line with the school ethos 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involved in educational developments beyond what is required. • Eager to acquire further skills and career enhancement.

Evidence for these attributes will be taken from the application details, references and interview

ROLE DESCRIPTION TEACHER OF DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Job title: Teacher of Design and Technology (Including Construction)

Contract type: Permanent (full-time)

Reporting to: Responsible to Head of Design and Technology / Head of Year

MAIN PURPOSE

The key responsibilities of this role are:

- Teaching.
- Collaborative planning within the Design and Technology Faculty
- Tutoring a group of students within a Year system and delivering the PSHE programme and tutor time activities.
- Carrying out assessment procedures required by the school and external bodies.
- Consulting with colleagues both formally and informally.
- Fulfilling administrative tasks efficiently and punctually.
- To promote the best possible education for **all** learners

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Have a secure knowledge and understanding of her/his specialist subject(s) and a detailed knowledge of National Curriculum and other statutory requirements.
- Teach and plan in line with the Belper School and Sixth Form Centre Teaching and Learning Framework.
- Identify students who have special educational needs and adapt teaching accordingly in line with pupil passports
- Set high expectations for students' behaviour, establishing and maintaining a good standard of discipline through well-focused teaching and through positive and productive relationships; act to deal with inappropriate behaviour in the context of the behaviour policy of the school.
- Pastoral care of a tutor group.
- Registration of students in accordance with legal and school requirements.
- Reporting regularly and occasionally as circumstances may require.
- Professional commitment to the whole life of the school including involvement in decision-making procedures and active care of the environment.
- Contributing to the school and faculty development plan and to the development and well-being of the school in any way that may be required by the Head.
- Taking responsibility for their own professional development. Understanding the need to keep up-to-date with developments on pedagogy and in the subjects they teach.
- Establish effective working relationships with colleagues and associate staff

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

Additional responsibilities will be negotiated with the post-holder annually as part of his/her Appraisal Review, commensurate with his/her level of experience.

This role description is to be read in conjunction with the relevant section of the current edition of the School Teachers Pay and Conditions document, specifically the Framework of Professional Standards for Teachers.

Please note that this is illustrative of the general nature and level of responsibility of the role. It is not a comprehensive list of all tasks that post holder will carry out. The postholder may be required to do other duties appropriate to the level of the role, as directed by the Headteacher.