

St Bernadette

Catholic Secondary School



**Senior Science Technician
Application Pack**



September 2026

Dear Applicant,

We are delighted that you are considering applying for the role of Senior Science Technician at St Bernadette Catholic Secondary School.

At St Bernadette's, we are a school with high ambition, strong Catholic values, and a commitment to excellence. Our recent Ofsted inspection (January 2025) reaffirmed our strengths, grading us as a Good school, with inspectors praising the quality of teaching, high expectations, and a positive, supportive environment.

We hope this application pack will give you a strong picture of our school and you enjoy learning more about us. If you have any questions or are interested in a tour of the school please contact Steph Lindley the Headteacher's PA recruitment@Stberns.bristol.sch.uk

Best wishes,
Edward Walker
Headteacher



Senior Science Technician



Required: ASAP
Salary: BG8 s/p 12-16 (£30,023-£32,046 pro rata)
Location: Whitchurch, Bristol
Contract Type: 37hrs pw 8.00am-4.15pm (3.45pm Friday) (45min lunch)
Contract Term: Permanent - term time only

Governors of this outstanding Catholic 11–16 school wish to appoint a Senior Science Technician to organise and deliver technical assistant and support activities to teaching staff and the Head of Faculty to support the teaching, guidance and learning that is necessary to deliver the curriculum.

You are:

- Committed to supporting high-quality teaching and learning within the Science Faculty
- An organised and knowledgeable science technician with a strong understanding of laboratory procedures, equipment management and health and safety requirements.
- Proactive, adaptable and able to manage competing priorities while ensuring resources and facilities are prepared to a high standard.
- An excellent communicator and supportive team player who works effectively with staff, students and external suppliers.
- Committed to continuous improvement and maintaining best practice in science education and laboratory safety

You will:

- Provide technical assistance and practical support to teaching staff and the Head of Science to enable effective curriculum delivery.
- Prepare, maintain and manage science equipment, materials and practical resources. Promote a safe working environment through effective health and safety procedures, risk management and technical advice.
- Support the day-to-day organisation of the Science Faculty, including stock control, ordering resources and liaising with suppliers.
- Ensure equipment is maintained, calibrated and fit for purpose, resolving issues where appropriate.
- Contribute to the wider life of the school, supporting its ethos, values and safeguarding responsibilities.

Contact us:

Website – www.stberns.bristol.sch.uk

Application forms are available on the [website](http://www.stberns.bristol.sch.uk) or by emailing recruitment@stberns.bristol.sch.uk

Closing date— 9am Tuesday 22nd September 2026

Interviews— TBC



About our School



St Bernadette's is a vibrant and successful secondary school located in Whitchurch, South Bristol. Our recent Ofsted inspection in January 2025 highlighted the strong leadership, high-quality teaching, and excellent pastoral care that characterize our school. Inspectors particularly praised the harmonious atmosphere, the positive relationships between staff and students, and the ambitious curriculum designed to meet the needs of all learners.

While our Catholic identity remains an integral part of our community, we pride ourselves on being a welcoming and inclusive school. Our mission is to support every student to achieve their potential, develop as confident and responsible individuals, and prepare for the opportunities and challenges of adult life.

Key Features of St Bernadette's:

- Maintained the school's Good rating in all areas at the most recent Inspection (January 2025).
- Graded as an Outstanding Catholic School in 2022 S.48 inspection
- A commitment to academic excellence and personal development.
- Strong systems of care, support, and guidance for all students.
- A vibrant and inclusive community with a focus on mutual respect and collaboration.



A community of faith

Our identity as a faith community is at the heart of all that we do. We are proud of our Catholic tradition and our partnerships with the Diocese of Clifton, our partner schools in the Aquinas Group and with St Brendan's Catholic College, which provides our Sixth Form. We celebrate each person's unique set of God-given talents and work hard to ensure pupils use them to the full. We were therefore delighted to be recognized as an outstanding Catholic school in our last Section 48 inspection.

Our faith is at the core of our daily life, our interactions with each other and our learning. As a school we come together as a faith community through assemblies, services and masses. We offer pupils opportunities for spiritual growth and development not only through Religious Education lessons but also through trips, retreats and school-based activities in our Chapel.

All curriculum areas within the school support and contribute to the faith life of the school. Each faculty has identified how it contributes to the mission of the school, as well as its contribution to Catholic Social Teaching.

Our pupils put their faith into action by helping others and each year raise thousands of pounds for a number of charities. Pupils are also involved in local community initiatives and we are always impressed by their generosity and energy in helping others.





A community of learning

St Bernadette's is an ambitious learning community. Our approach is underpinned by a research-informed approach to teaching. Our practice is guided by Rosenshine's principles, ensuring evidence-based strategies drive high-quality instruction. We are committed to fostering scholarship, encouraging pupils to embrace academic challenge, take responsibility for their learning, and strive for excellence.

Our broad and rigorous curriculum ensures all pupils achieve their full potential, balancing the depth of traditional subjects with the innovation of new technologies. Teaching is adapted through flexible groupings, allowing every pupil to access appropriately challenging content. Progress is closely tracked against ambitious targets, ensuring high expectations for all.

Scholarship is central to our ethos, now framed by six key attributes that shape our pupils as 'St Bernadette Scholars.' These attributes are explicitly developed through lessons, our reward system, and wider school life, embedding a culture of academic excellence.

Staff development is integral to our success. Our CPD model is structured around instructional coaching, WALKTHRU's, and collaborative expertise, ensuring continual growth through evidence-based practice. By investing in our teachers, we secure the highest standards of learning and aspiration, positioning St Bernadette's as the academic choice for the Catholic community.



Excellence at St Bernadette's



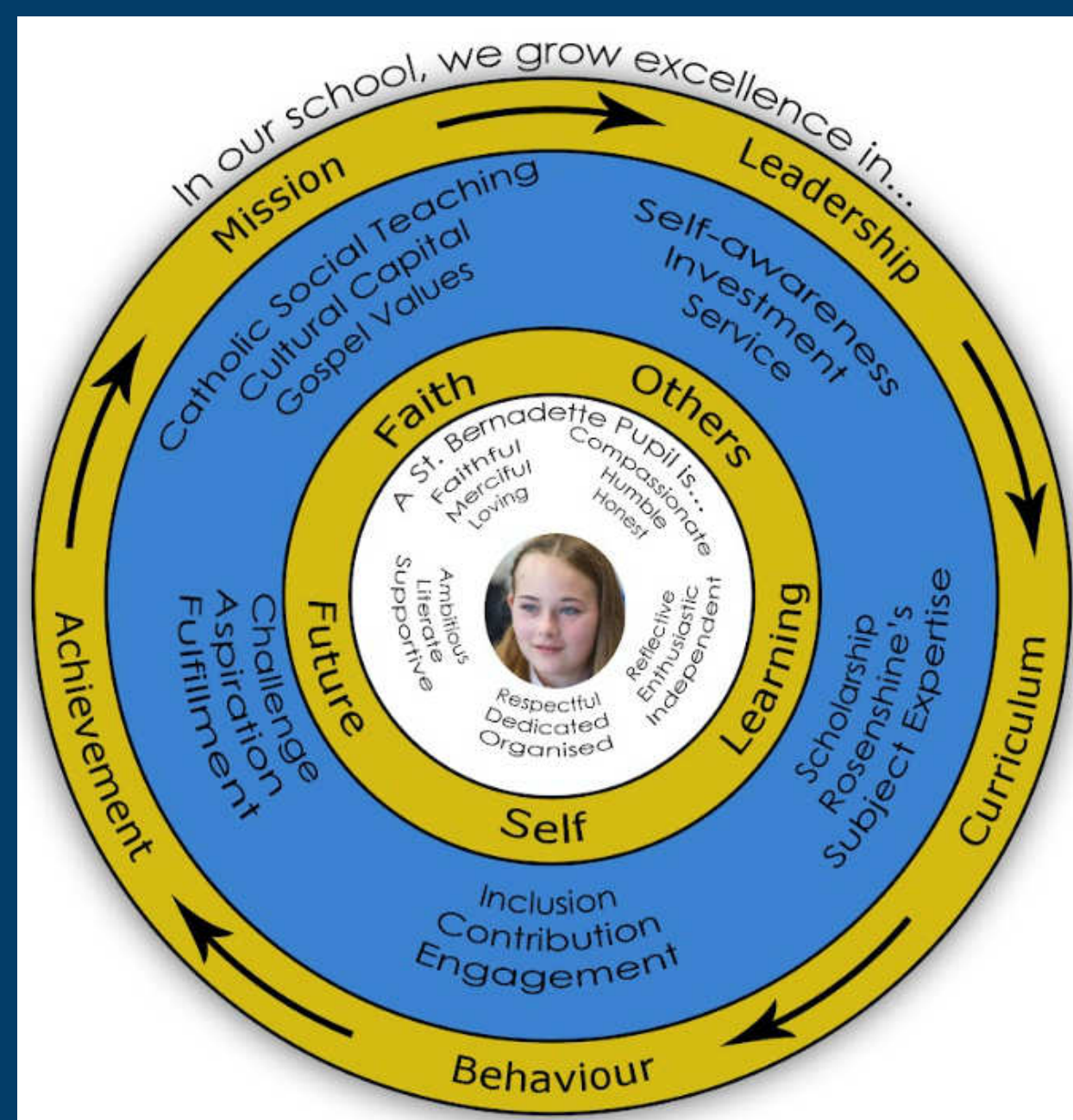
A Strong and Improving School

Our school continues to go from strength to strength. Recent data shows:

✓ **Academic Success** – Progress 8 and GCSE attainment have improved significantly, with students achieving strong outcomes across a broad and ambitious curriculum. Many of our pupils progress to top post-16 providers, including St Brendan's Catholic College and Russell Group universities.

✓ **Parent & Staff Confidence** – Over 90% of parents consistently recommend the school, reflecting our high expectations and strong relationships with families. Staff support for leadership is consistently high, with surveys showing deep trust in our vision and direction.

✓ **Outstanding Behaviour & Culture** – Our centralised behaviour system is highly successful, ensuring students can learn in a calm, structured, and aspirational environment. Behaviour is consistently praised by external visitors, and attendance continues to strengthen year-on-year.





Why work for us ?

Our 2025 Ofsted inspection highlighted

- “The safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment we create for all pupils, ensuring they feel valued and supported.
- The high expectations we set for behaviour, leading to a calm and orderly learning environment.
- Our broad and ambitious curriculum, carefully designed to help pupils build their knowledge over time.
- The strong support for pupils with SEND, ensuring they can access learning effectively.
- The impact of our careers and personal development programme, preparing pupils well for their next steps.
- The strong leadership and governance ensuring that our shared vision for the school is clearly understood and supported.”

In addition we offer:

- A strong Catholic ethos - judged “Outstanding” in our 2022 Section 48 Inspection
- Happy, friendly and talented students
Enthusiastic, committed and friendly staff and governors
- A full package of wellbeing and health support.





Job Description

Purpose of the Job

To organise and deliver technical assistance and support activities to teaching staff and the Head of Faculty and support of the teaching, guidance and learning that is necessary to deliver the curriculum

Key Job Outcomes

1. Utilise practical resources and facilities, providing assistance and advice on current 'best practice' in the practical needs of the curriculum, and ensuring this is embedded within the operational activity of the learning programme.
2. Promote the observance of a safe working environment through
 - proactively contributing to the assessment, monitoring and review of safe working practices and procedures
 - keeping abreast of 'best practice' through networking and continuing professional development the provision of technical advice and administrative support on safety issues to teaching staff the disposal of used materials, including any dangerous substances, and dealing proactively with real or potential hazards the
 - storage and accessibility of equipment and materials
3. Contribute to the day to day organisation and development of the work of the curriculum area through day to day supervision of staff to ensure that essential performance standards are achieved.
4. Contribute to the adaptation, development and maintenance of any specialist resources or longer term research projects, and by providing any advice, assistance and support requested by students and/or teachers for effective delivery of practical aspects of the curriculum.
5. Support the Head of Faculty and teaching staff in ensuring the availability of suitable materials and equipment, the provision of effective stock control and helping to compile orders and liaise with suppliers in conjunction with the school's designated budget holder in obtaining and receiving goods or services.
6. Under the overall guidance of the Head of Faculty ensure that both routine and non-routine checking, maintenance, calibration, cleaning and fault investigation and resolution of equipment is carried out within the work area to the required standard.



Job Description cont.

This job description sets out the key outcomes required. It does not describe in detail the tasks and activities to be done to achieve these outcomes.

It would be expected that the job holder would exercise initiative and would follow instructions without needing to be told in detail how to do the job or to require direct supervision in completing tasks which achieve the job outcomes.

General Accountabilities

A. So far as reasonably practicable, the postholder must ensure that safe working practices are adopted by employees, and in premises/work areas for which the postholder is responsible, to maintain a safe working environment for employees and service users. These are defined in the Corporate Health, Safety and Welfare policy, departmental policies and codes of practice.

B. Work in compliance with the Codes of Conduct, Regulations and policies of the City Council, and its commitment to equal opportunities

C. Ensure that output and quality of work is of a high standard and complies with current legislation / standards



Person Specification

	ESSENTIAL (Must have)	DESIRABLE (Should have)	ADVANTAGEOUS (Could have)
Knowledge & Experience	- Literacy and numeracy standard equivalent to GCSE Grade C in English and Maths plus experience in using Information & Computer Technology and admin systems - Minimum of either 4 full years experience of working as a Technician or 2 full years of experience plus competence in a relevant field at NVQ 3 - Training in Health and Safety which applies to the work of a (specify subject) technician - Language Skills: Higher level of fluency. Able to ask complex questions to citizens to understand their needs and be able to advise on the necessary actions to be taken and the information that must be captured accurately.	- Working knowledge of Council / School policies and procedures - purchasing, safety, equalities - Accreditation in Supervisory Studies	- NVQ Level 3 in Supervisory Studies - Experience of planning and monitoring budgets
Abilities & Aptitudes	- Ability to apply time management skills to achieving multiple objectives - Aptitude to communicate complex material, orally and in writing, with colleagues and students so that the message is understood and acted upon - Ability to work on own initiative, including knowing when and why items for decision need to be referred upwards	Ability to analyse complex information and present accurate findings in a format suitable for a range of potential recipients	The ability to apply theoretical knowledge to practical problems.