



STRATHALLAN
SCHOOL

Opportunities for all to excel



Candidate Brief

Senior Biology Technician

full-time permanent, term-time only
from August 2025.

Introduction

We are looking for a meticulous, dedicated Senior Biology Technician to join our Biology department at Strathallan School from August 2025.

The successful candidate will work during term-time only on a full-time, permanent basis. The Biology Technician will support the Head of Biology with administrative tasks (such as ordering equipment and supplies) as well as practical tasks such as the preparation of experiments. Hours of work are 37.5 per week, Monday to Friday 8.00am to 4.30pm with an hour's unpaid lunch break.

The Biology Department

The Biology department currently has five teaching laboratories. There are five teaching staff (most with additional responsibilities and so not teaching a full time timetable). The Biology technician / Senior technician has a large preparation room and a separate store room. There is also a Biology staff room for meeting the department informally. The Biology resource storage area has recently been updated to give a modern working environment. The school site has a plethora of natural resources available outside to enhance the teaching of Biology.

The School



Strathallan School is a leading co-educational boarding and day school with an outstanding reputation academically, in sports and the arts. There are c. 590 pupils of ages 5-18, divided between Strathallan Prep School and Strathallan Senior School. There are three senior Girls' Houses, four senior Boys' Houses and a junior boarding house. Approximately 65% of the pupils are full boarders.

The School is situated in the beautiful Earn Valley as a self-contained wooded estate of 153 acres on the edge of the village of Forgandenny. Perth is the nearest town some ten minutes away by car and

access to the motorways puts Edinburgh (45 mins), Glasgow (1 hr) and the Scottish Highlands within easy reach.

The school is well-resourced with a mixture of traditional and modern buildings. The Main Building, a Grade B listing, was once a large private mansion, bought by the School's founder, Harry Riley, in 1919 when he moved the School from its original 1913 location in Bridge of Allan.

The school exists to provide an inclusive all-round education for its pupils in a nurturing and caring environment. Our aim is to engage pupils to be their best and prepare them for the demands of further study and future work in an increasingly diverse global university and employment market. We achieve all this through opportunities that inspire and challenge and by expecting effort and hard work from each individual pupil in achieving their best, based on values of **respect, kindness, honesty, hard work, humility** and **excellence** all underpinned by the fundamental value of **love**.

Senior Biology Technician - Job Description

Job Title:	Senior Biology Technician
Reporting to:	Head of Biology
Responsible for:	N/A
In liaison with:	Current pupils, colleagues and technicians within the Science departments, administrative staff, accounts department etc.

Core Purpose

The post-holder is expected to uphold the values and ethos of Strathallan School and act as an ambassador for the school.

The Senior Biology Technician will work in conjunction with the Head of Biology to support the smooth operation of the Biology department / Science departments. The successful candidate will co-ordinate and oversee the use of practical and other resource for teachers within the department. In this varied post, the post holder will require a good understanding of Health & Safety and safe working practices including Risk Assessments.

Biology Technician /Senior Technician responsibilities:

- Promote and observe a healthy and safe working environment.
- Aid the teaching staff in organising and providing equipment and chemicals required for class practicals and demonstrations, including those required practicals needed for students to pass qualifications.
- Deliver equipment to classrooms.
- Collect, check, clean, and return equipment to stores after lessons.
- Ensure adequate stocks of glassware, goggles, reagents, cleaning products etc. in laboratories.
- Organise and maintain the prep rooms, autoclave room and various stores.
- Assist with routine checks on apparatus and materials and the instruction of others on safety issues, e.g. fume cupboard testing, PAT testing.
- Prepare other teaching aids for teaching staff as requested.
- Trial practical activities and play a role in the development and improvement of practical methods.
- Be responsible for maintenance of laboratory equipment, apparatus and resources, where appropriate, carrying out (or arranging for) their repair and/or replacement.
- Maintain safe storage of equipment and materials and the safe disposal of waste material, including hazardous resources.
- Oversee the ordering and maintenance of stationery stocks.
- Help teachers with the production of displays.
- Act as a scribe, when required, for pupils undertaking examinations who require this level of support.
- Be involved in the preparation for Open Days and other events organised by the department.
- Support teachers with co-curricular clubs and activities as requested.
- Help with the supervision of pupils in practical classes as appropriate.
- Undertake any other duties that may be necessary from time to time as may be reasonably requested.
- Keep up to date with the latest techniques e.g. by regularly attending courses as necessary.
- Develop strategies for improving science practical provision alongside the Heads of Department.
- Act as a mentor for Science Technicians as appropriate.
- Undertake Risk Assessments for the science departments as and when required.
- Lead regular meetings with the other two science technicians to improve overall provision in the science departments.

Person Specification

Attributes	Essential /Desirable
Qualifications	
GCSE or Nat 5 Maths, English and a Science subject or equivalent qualification.	E
A Level, SQA Higher or Advanced Higher in a Science subject, ideally Biology.	D
A relevant Science Technician qualification or equivalent work experience.	D
Experience	
Proven experience in a similar role, including laboratory work.	E
Experience of working in a school or education setting.	D
Experience of leading a team.	D
Experience of writing risk assessments.	D
Experience of working with small groups of students on their own practical work	D
Skills	
A good understanding of Health & Safety and safe working practices.	E
Competent at reading and following instructions whether written or verbal.	E
A good understanding of and an enthusiasm for Science, particularly Biology.	E
Basic ICT skills & an understanding of Microsoft Office.	E
Strong interpersonal and team working skills.	E
Well organised with a methodical approach to work	E
Personal characteristics	
As well as working as part of a team, the ability to work independently and prioritise and meet deadlines.	E
Reliable, accurate, trustworthy and punctual.	E
Discreet and able to deal with confidential and/or sensitive information.	E
Flexible and adaptive approach to work.	E
Outgoing, enthusiastic and positive attitude.	E
A role model for pupils and colleagues.	E
Commitment to their own professional development.	E
Supportive of the aims, ethos and policies and procedures of the School	E
Understand and maintain awareness of child safeguarding responsibilities	E
Neat, tidy and professional appearance	E

Terms & Conditions

Remuneration

The pro-rata salary for this term-time only role is £18,957 per annum. The full-time equivalent (FTE) salary for this role is £26,883.14 per annum.

Hours of Work

This is a term-time only position working 34.6 weeks per year. This post is 37.5 hours per week, Monday to Friday 8.00am to 4.30pm (with a 1 hour unpaid lunch break each day)

Holidays

You will work term-time only.

Pension Scheme

A contributory pension scheme.

Occupational Sick Pay

Occupational sick pay following the first year of service.

Benefits

- Free On-site parking.
- Free lunch during term-time.
- Staff Discount in Art Café.
- Retail Discounts and Blue Light Card Eligibility.
- Death-in-service cover.

Other Information

Any offer of employment will be subject to Safer Recruitment checks; suitable clearance through Disclosure Scotland's PVG scheme, the receipt of two satisfactory professional references and proof of the Right to Work in the UK.

Application Process

Further details of the School are available on the School's website: www.strathallan.co.uk

- The closing date for applications is Sunday 27 April 2025, with interviews to take place shortly after the closing date.
- To apply for this position, please complete the online application form. For an informal conversation about the role, please contact Rebekah Hodson, Head of Biology at staffrh@strathallan.co.uk