



THE **Leys**
CAMBRIDGE



SCIENCE
TECHNICIAN
candidate information

Head's *introduction*

At The Leys, we believe that school is not simply a preparation for life – it is life. That's why we aim to make every pupil's experience here rich with challenge, choice and opportunity. School should be a place of growth and discovery, where young people are encouraged to flourish emotionally, intellectually and socially. It's not a rehearsal for the future – it's a vital and vibrant part of the journey.

Founded in 1875 by the Methodist Conference, The Leys is the only co-educational boarding and day school in Cambridge. We are proud of our heritage, and we continue to uphold values such as kindness, courtesy, respect and integrity. But we are also a forward-thinking school, preparing young people for a world that is constantly evolving. Our location in the heart of one of the world's most dynamic academic and cultural cities gives us a unique advantage – Cambridge is not just where we are, it's part of who we are.

With around 570 pupils, The Leys offers an exceptional breadth of opportunity – from academic excellence to creative, sporting and leadership pursuits. At the same time, our scale allows us to know each pupil as an individual. This strong sense of community and personal attention is central to our ethos. It builds confidence – not just in the classroom, but in every aspect of school life. And that confidence, nurtured in a supportive and ambitious environment, is one of the most powerful gifts we can give our pupils.

I hope this pack gives you a sense of what makes The Leys so special, and we look forward to receiving your application.



Clare Ives
Head

Science Technician

Permanent, Term Time Only +7 days

We are seeking an experienced and enthusiastic Science Technician to work across the School's Science faculty (Biology, Chemistry & Physics).

This interesting and varied role requires a reliable, self-motivated individual who would enjoy working with teachers and pupils.

You will coordinate the practical resources and facilities for the whole science curriculum and treat / dispose of used materials.

You will contribute to the design, construction and development of specialist resources and displays whilst ensuring a safe and healthy working environment in accordance with Health & Safety policy. You may have a background in any of our three sciences.





Welcome to *The Leys*



Life at The Leys

The Leys is a co-educational boarding and day school for pupils aged between 11 and 18. Set in the heart of the beautiful and stimulating city of Cambridge, one of the world's leading cultural and academic centres, The Leys' unique location allows pupils unrivalled access to the vast array of cultural and educational opportunities that Cambridge has to offer.

Established in 1875, The Leys values its history, yet it blends traditional values – courtesy, tolerance, respect, decency – with a forward and outward-looking approach to education. Dedicated staff and superb facilities combine powerfully to prepare young people for the challenges which lie ahead at university and beyond.

The Leys is a close-knit, engaged, friendly community of around 550 pupils in which pastoral care is seen as the top priority. Indeed, our [2025 ISI report](#) identified our school culture and the strength of our community as a **significant strength**. Academic value-added is impressive and the breadth of the wider curriculum is renowned. The School caters for Boarding, Home Boarding and Day pupils but, with 70% of pupils accommodated in boarding houses, boarding is absolutely central to the ethos of the School and all pupils benefit from the vibrancy and structure which this provides.

Purpose

The Purpose of The Leys is to play our part in changing the world for the better.

We do this by making a positive difference to the lives, values and prospects of Leysians, by being professional, caring and rewarding in developing and managing our staff, by being a responsive and trusted partner to our parents, and by making a beneficial and sustainable contribution to the wider community

By foundation and structure, The Leys is a boarding community. We also place great value on being a “big, small school” embedded in the heart of Cambridge, and on giving Leysians a rich and rewarding academic and wider school experience – one they find valuable both intrinsically and in preparing for their futures. We seek, in the spirit of our Methodist founders and our Christian values, to send Leysians out into the world ready – academically, culturally, morally, physically, spiritually and socially – to live fulfilling lives which will make a positive contribution to society.

In order to achieve our Purpose, we aim to deliver an education which is built on three foundation stones: pastoral, academic and wider curricular. Whilst interconnected, ‘pastoral’ is accepted as pre-eminent, because pupils who feel supported and confident are able to flourish in all areas of the life of the school. Our teaching staff body all contribute to all three pillars of Leys School life, thus we all work together to ensure our pupils develop into happy, confident and well-rounded individuals ready to leave school and find their place in the world.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care is at the heart of what we do. We know that wellbeing is crucial to success in wider school life, and we all work together as a community to ensure that each pupil flourishes in school, feeling nurtured, supported and happy. Our House structure is central to this: all pupils are a member of a House throughout their time in school. Year 7 and 8 pupils are members of our junior house, Moulton, and then pupils in Year 9 and above join one of the eight boarding or three day houses. The vertical arrangement in the senior houses creates opportunity for pupils to support each other, and the houses are staffed with a Housemaster or Housemistress (HSM), an Assistant HSM, a Matron and a team of teaching staff. Pupils also have a tutor, who supports them with their wellbeing, academic progress and wider curricular involvement as they progress through the school. All staff are expected to contribute to our pastoral support of pupils, through tutoring, supporting the teaching of PHSE and undertaking weekly house duties.



“

Pupils contribute in a myriad of ways to school life and the local community. They are exceptionally respectful, kind and courteous to others.



Teaching and Learning

Education is about so much more than passing exams, and at The Leys pupils are encouraged to develop an understanding of their own learning, find their passions, curiosity, and develop a lifelong appetite for knowledge.

Pupils are supported in their learning by excellent teaching both inside and outside of the classroom, with academic enrichment and extension embedded into the culture of the school. We understand that teachers are individuals and that they will have their own ways of expressing their passion and interest in their subjects. The 2022 ISI comment that “Inspirational and creative teaching is a significant contributory factor to pupils’ positive attitudes to learning” sums up the impact of that individuality. That said, we know that aspects change within education, and we just completed an exciting transition from Google Classroom to Microsoft Teams and OneNote. Pupils and staff all have a digital device, and pupils are used to working digitally as well as on paper.

Academic Attainment at The Leys is outstanding. This summer, the school achieved its best academic results on record at GCSE and close to best at A Level, placing us 67th in the Times Parent Power Rankings for independent schools nationally, and 84th for all schools. At GCSE 86% of all grades awarded were 9, 8 or 7, and 38% were graded 9, and at A Level 85% of results were grade A*-B. The School uses value added as an important measure of success and we are delighted that all our 2025 public examination results demonstrate that we added significant value to our pupils’ academic attainment compared to similar schools: a testament to the hard work and dedication of both staff and pupils.

Wider Curriculum

The Wider Curriculum is an integral part of the school week for all pupils and staff, with a significant amount of time in the afternoons and early evenings devoted to it. In their time at The Leys, pupils are actively encouraged to experience a broad range of activities that will bring them a wide range of benefits; activities in which they find enjoyment and fun whilst developing skills, personal qualities and attitudes that are transferable to other areas of their life at school and beyond.

The Leys’ Personal Development and Leadership programme (PDL) for pupils in Year 10 and above ensures that all pupils develop leadership, broaden their horizons and collaborate with their peers on projects, often trying to solve contemporary problems. Through our outstanding sporting, music and drama provision, pupils develop as confident and well-rounded young men and women, ready for life beyond school. Our broad and varied after school activities programme enables pupils to develop their interests, skills and strengths. Through this we aim to complement the pastoral and academic pillars of an all-round Leysian education alongside boosting the physical and mental well-being of all involved in the wider curriculum. All staff contribute to our extensive wider curriculum programme through involvement in games, PDL, outdoor education, and a wide range of clubs and activities.

“A thoughtfully planned extra-curricular programme, that is responsive to the interests and talents of pupils.



The Role

Leys Science

Leys Science is made up of the Biology, Chemistry and Physics departments and occupies the Thomson building, named after and opened by JJ Thomson. Each department is very well-resourced, with four laboratories each. There is a strong academic ethos and the departments take advantage of the School's location in Cambridge, maintaining active links with the University. It is a lively and interesting place to work amongst highly qualified and professional colleagues who place an emphasis on the enjoyment of science, for both pupils and teachers alike. Consequently, as much practical work as possible is performed and a large amount of visually stimulating and educational displays are on show. Each department is staffed with five subject specialist teaching members of staff and at least one dedicated departmental technician. Each department has a technicians' prep room and a departmental workroom.

The Curriculum

Years 7 and 8 are taught through an "in-house" combined junior science course, predominantly practical and skills based, and the IGCSE course begins in Year 9. Pupils in Years 9-11 follow the Edexcel IGCSE specification in each subject. IGCSE is typically taught in five classes per year group for 120 minutes a week, mixed ability in Year 9, then set in Years 10 and 11 after end of year examinations. There is a system of Double and Triple Award Science, with one set moving to pursue the Double Award from the beginning of Year 11. Previous GCSE results have been excellent with around 50% of pupils achieving grades 9-8 at GCSE last year across science. The take up of the three sciences by pupils in the Sixth Form is buoyant and as with GCSE, results are excellent, with pupils achieving 50-60% A*-A in 2025. The three departments are committed to offering a range of opportunities to extend study beyond the classroom and support the running an extensive programme for aspiring medical applicants.

The Post

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Job Description

Main purpose of role

The purpose of this role is to coordinate the preparation, construction, organisation and use of practical resources and facilities and provide assistance and advice in meeting the practical needs of the whole science curriculum, including liaising with teaching staff and support staff within the whole department.

Main duties and responsibilities:

Jointly with the associated department Technician, organise the day-to-day technical support in the Department by:

- Biology: preparing, constructing, developing and trialling chemical, biological and other resources for experiments, class demonstrations, Open Evenings/Days, afternoon Clubs
- Chemistry: preparing, constructing, developing and trialling chemical and other resources for experiments, class demonstrations, Open Evenings/Days, afternoon Clubs
- Physics: preparing, constructing, developing and testing apparatus and other resources for experiments, class demonstrations, Open Evenings/Days, afternoon Clubs
- All: Setting up and clearing away (including the safe treatment and disposal of used materials, including hazardous substances), of demonstrations and class experiments including cleaning bench surfaces and fixed equipment as required.

And, in the principal department(s) of residence assist with:

- Managing the safe storage of materials, equipment and apparatus
- Regular stocktaking.
- Occasionally assisting in classes.
- Supporting individual student's projects and investigations as directed by the Head of department and/or Head of Science.
- The production of displays.
- Liaising, as needed, with representatives from health and safety, finance, maintenance, IT and similar school departments e.g. arranging electrical appliance testing and other safety checks.
- The production of risk assessments for all practical activities (assisting the Head of Department).
- Keeping up-to-date with procedures and practices (including health & safety requirements) through continuing professional development.
- Incident reporting as appropriate.
- Attending department meetings, as needed.
- Assist in organising photocopying, laminating and filing.
- Being flexible and working as part of the technicians' team; helping in other Departments when necessary (including some Saturdays).

Job Description continued:

Safeguarding responsibilities

- To have read the School's Child Protection Policy and updates to this policy as required by the School.
- To adhere at all times to the School's Child Protection procedures and to undertake responsibility to safeguard pupils.
- To be aware of and adhere to at all times the School's Staff Behaviour and Code of Conduct and confidentiality.
- A duty to report and discuss any concerns about the safety of children and their wellbeing to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).
- A duty to report any low-level concerns about colleagues to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).
- To be informed and trained to an appropriate level and to complete mandatory safeguarding training as required by the School.

General Tasks

- To refer to and adhere to all Health and Safety procedures and policies as appropriate and other legislative requirements as required, carrying out duties by working in a safe and organised manner.
- To ensure that a safe / secure environment exists for pupils / staff and customers and meet requirements under the Health & Safety at work Act 1974 and C.O.S.H.H.
- To uphold the provisions of data protection legislation, the School's Data Protection Policy, and other related policies.
- Understand and be mindful of the School Acceptable Use Policy and Staff ICT & Social Media Guidelines.
- To adhere to and maintain School Policies and Procedures and work with regard to the ethics of the School.
- To observe / implement all relevant legislative requirements, maintain and update own knowledge as appropriate for the role.
- To work flexibly as necessary to meet the needs of the role and the School.
- To undertake any other reasonable associated request from the Head of Science Faculty/Head/Bursar, or other senior member of SMT as appropriate.

The list of tasks or duties and responsibilities described above is not exhaustive, and the School is entitled to instruct you, at any time, to carry out additional duties or responsibilities, which fall reasonably within the ambit of the job description, or in accordance with operational requirements.

Working pattern

This contract is term time only (33 weeks) plus 2 additional weeks (35 weeks in total). Your schedule will be determined by the academic needs of the School and agreed upon in advance with the Heads of Department before the start of an academic year.

Your normal working hours will be as follows:

Term Time

Monday – Friday: 37.5 hours per week (half days and full days) **1237.50 hours per year**

Working pattern

Monday	07.30 – 16.30 (0.5 hours unpaid lunch break)
Tuesday	07.30 – 16.30 (0.5 hours unpaid lunch break)
Wednesday	07.30 – 14.00 (0.5 hours unpaid lunch break)
Thursday	07.30 – 16.30 (0.5 hours unpaid lunch break)
Friday	07.30 – 14.00 (0.5 hours unpaid lunch break)

Plus 20 x Saturdays during term time (4 hours per day) **80 hours per year**

Saturday 08.00 – 12.00

School Closure Periods:

7 days agreed in advance with the Heads of Department (7 hours per day) **49 hours per year**

Your total contractual hours will be **1366.50 hours per annum.**

Person Specification

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Skills	<p>Good communication skills, both verbal and written</p> <p>Ability to interact and respond appropriately to pupils</p> <p>Reliable and self-motivated</p> <p>Ability to work independently and as part of a team</p> <p>Well organised and good at prioritising</p>	
Experience	<p>Previous experience at Science Technician level, ideally within a school environment (although other experience will be considered favourably</p>	<p>Proactive and willing to take on additional responsibility with time.</p>
Knowledge	<p>Good understanding of relevant H&S legislation</p> <p>Willingness to keep professional knowledge & understanding of H&S regulations up to date</p> <p>IT literate with good MS Office skills</p>	<p>Previous experience of using CLEAPSS</p>
Qualifications & Personal Qualities	<p>Good level of education including at least one A' level (or equivalent) in a Science subject</p> <p>Flexible to work as part of the technicians' team; helping in other Departments when necessary (including some Saturdays)</p>	<p>Degree in a science subject</p>

How to *Apply*

How to apply:

If you are interested in applying, please submit a completed application form including covering letter, to the Recruitment Team (recruitment@theleys.net), The Leys School, Cambridge, CB2 7AD by 09.00 on 17 April 2026. Interviews are likely to take place on 22/23 April 2026.

This role has the opportunity for regular contact with pupils and therefore is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

By applying for this role, you are consenting to The Leys School storing your personal data. Please read our 'Privacy Notice for Job Applicants' for further details.





THE **Leys**

C A M B R I D G E

The Fen Causeway, Cambridge CB2 7AD T: 01223 508 900 E: admissions@theleys.net W: theleys.net
Instagram | Facebook | LinkedIn