

RESOURCING/ Additional Information



The [School of Physical Sciences \(SPS\)](#) is a vibrant, dynamic and expanding interdisciplinary school covering forensic science, physics, chemistry. SPS is a dynamic School achieving national and international excellence in both teaching and research. It has enjoyed extensive investment by the University of Kent over the past four years including a new Crime Scene house and forensic equipment. Currently there are approximately 850 undergraduates including 90 Postgraduates, 46 full time academic staff with a team of some 30 administrative and technical support staff. The School has recently undertaken a strategic review, which facilitates focus for the teaching and research aspirations of the School.

The school hosts one of the largest undergraduate forensic science programs in the United Kingdom and, in the most recent Complete University Guide, our forensic science programme was ranked fourth nationally. We have a distinctive and wide-ranging programme of study which focuses upon the preparation of our students for the wider scope of work opportunities. Consequently, our programme is underpinned by a deep-seated and strong science-based syllabus which is closely integrated with chemistry and physical sciences. At the heart of our programme is our focus on employability, the learning community and student engagement. Our programme development relies on a background in professional practice with crime scene and court-reporting experience.

The successful applicant will join the newly-formed Forensics Research Group (FRG), which is seeking to develop and expand further. You are expected to initiate new avenues of research within SPS whilst complementing the current research and undergoing assigned teaching duties. Analytical chemistry and forensic toxicology is a particular opportunity.

The research in SPS is currently led by five other groups, which are:

- Applied Optics Group (AOG)
- Astrophysics and Planetary Science (APS)
- Materials for Energy and Electronics (MEE)
- Physics of Quantum Materials (PQM)
- Supramolecular Interfacial and Synthetic Chemistry (SISC)

SPS also has a very active Outreach programme with Schools and Professional Institutions at the local and national level and is a member of the South East Physics Network SEPNet (www.sepnet.ac.uk).

For further details, please visit: <https://www.kent.ac.uk/physical-sciences>

About the University of Kent

The University of Kent is a leading UK university producing world-class research, rated internationally excellent and leading the way in many fields of study. Our 20,000 students are



based at campuses and centres in Canterbury, Medway, Athens, Brussels, Paris, Rome and Tonbridge.

With 97% of our research judged to be of international quality in the most recent Research Assessment Framework (REF2014), our students study with some of the most influential thinkers in the world. Universities UK recently named research from the University as one of the UK's 100 Best Breakthroughs of the last century for its significant impact on people's everyday lives.

We are renowned for our inspirational teaching. Awarded a gold rating, the highest, in the UK Government's Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF), we were presented with the Outstanding Support for Students award at the 2018 Times Higher Education (THE) Awards for the second year running.

Our graduates are equipped for a successful future allowing them to compete effectively in the global job market. More than 95% of graduates find a job or study opportunity within six months.

Known as the 'UK's European university', our international outlook is a major focus and we believe in our students developing a global perspective. Many of our courses provide opportunities to study or work abroad; we have partnerships with more than 400 universities worldwide and are the only UK university to have postgraduate centres in Athens, Brussels, Paris and Rome.

The University is a truly international community with over 40% of our academics coming from outside the UK and our students representing over 150 nationalities.

We are a major economic force in south east England, supporting innovation and enterprise. We are worth £0.9 billion to the economy of the south east and support more than 9,400 jobs in the region.

In March 2018, the Government and Health Education England (HEE) announced that the joint bid by the University of Kent and Canterbury Christ Church University for funded places to establish a medical school has been successful. The first intake of undergraduates to the Kent and Medway Medical School will be in September 2020.

We are proud to be part of Canterbury, Medway and the county of Kent and, through collaboration with partners, work to ensure our global ambitions have a positive impact on the region's academic, cultural, social and economic landscape.

Website: www.kent.ac.uk

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Application Process: | <p>Applications must be made via the University's online application system. You will be required to fill in the main details section of the application form as well as upload your CV and a cover letter. Your cover letter should clearly and explicitly address the requirements of the Person Specification and you should provide clear evidence and examples in your application which back-up any assertions you make in relation to each criterion. We recommend a maximum of 4 x A4 sides for this document.</p> <p>Copies of certificates for qualifications you have stated you have achieved in your application will be requested at offer stage; in particular, those that were deemed as essential for the post.</p> |
|-----------------------------|--|

| | |
|---|--|
| | <p>The link to the application procedure can be found by returning to the position details page and clicking on 'click here to apply for this job'. Applications must be received by midnight on the closing date and unfortunately late applications cannot be accepted.</p> <p>If you are invited to attend an interview we will contact you by email confirming the arrangements. If you are not successful at the shortlist stage, we will also contact you by email to let you know.</p> |
| Feedback: | <p>Due to the large number of applications we receive, we are unable to provide feedback at shortlisting stage. We will provide feedback, if requested, following an interview.</p> |
| Presentation: | <p>Most Academic posts will involve a presentation as part of the interview process. Full details will be confirmed to you by email.</p> |
| Job Share: | <p>Applications to job-share this post are welcomed. If you wish to apply on a job-share basis indicate this on your application and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If you are applying as part of a job-share team (please give name of sharer) or as an individual. ▪ The proportion of the job you would wish to work, expressed as a percentage. ▪ Whether you would be interested in the job on a full-time basis if a suitable sharer does not come forward. |
| Disability Confident Committed: | <p>The Two Ticks scheme has been replaced by the "disability confident" scheme.</p> <p>As users of the disability confident scheme, we guarantee to interview all disabled applicants who meet the essential criteria for our job vacancies.</p> <p>If you have a disability and require information regarding accessibility of our campus facilities please visit: http://www.disabledgo.com/en/org/university-of-kent</p> |
| Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity: | <p>All University staff are expected to be aware of, comply with, and support the University's policies with regards to ensuring and promoting equality, diversity and inclusivity. Relevant training and development should be undertaken, as required.</p> <p>Further information about EDI is available from the University's website at: http://www.kent.ac.uk/hr-equalityanddiversity/</p> |
| UK Visa and Immigration: | <p>The University of Kent is unable, under current immigration law, to employ candidates who are not eligible to live and work in the UK.</p> <p>For academic and research vacancies, or posts that require very specialist skills we can apply for a Certificate of Sponsorship (although there is no guarantee that this will be granted). This is on the basis that the criteria for such applications have been met.</p> <p>PLEASE NOTE - If you require/hold a visa to work in the UK, it is your responsibility to check the Home Office website to ensure that you understand the rules and the documentation required. It is also important</p> |

| | |
|---|---|
| | <p>to note that the rules concerning visas are changed and/or amended regularly.</p> <p>The Home Office website is: https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration</p> |
| Salary Scale: | <p>Employees receive an increment annually until the top of the scale is reached. In addition, there is normally a nationally agreed annual cost of living salary increase.</p> <p>For new employees to the University, the first spine point of the grade is usually offered, unless otherwise agreed. The scale (ie top and bottom spine points) appears on the advert and the Job Description.</p> <p>Successful internal candidates on the same grade will transfer on their current spine point and the annual increment will not be affected. For those moving to a higher grade, the first spine point of the new grade will be offered, unless otherwise agreed.</p> |
| Annual Leave: | <p>Whilst there is no prescribed holiday entitlement for Academic/Research staff, a notional figure of 43 days per annum is applied (pro rata for part time staff); 8 of these days are reserved for bank/public holidays and 5 are 'customary' days when the University closes at Christmas.</p> |
| Post Graduate Certificate in Higher Education: | <p>Post Graduate Certificate in Higher Education: Depending on qualifications and experience, there may be a requirement to register for, and complete the Kent Post Graduate Certificate in Higher Education. This part time 60 credit, Masters level programme is specifically designed for academic colleagues who embark on a research and/or teaching career in Higher Education, and consists of two core modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An introduction to Learning, Teaching and the Academic Environment ▪ Critical Perspectives on Academic Practice ▪ Plus two modules of choice from a range of seven. <p>The department is expected to take the commitment to this programme into account when allocating the workload and a departmental mentor is assigned until completion.</p> <p>The programme is accredited by the Higher Education Academy which ensures this Kent qualification is portable across the British HE sector. If you already have a teaching qualification or substantial experience of research and/or learning and teaching in their broadest sense, you may be eligible for exemption from parts of the programme.</p> <p>To find out more about the programme, please refer to the website: http://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qualifications/index.html</p> |
| Probation: | <p>For further information, please visit: http://www.kent.ac.uk/hr-staffinformation/documents/policies/probation/academic_probation/1-Academic-staff-probation-policy.pdf</p> |
| Pension: Academic, Research and Grade 7+ USS | <p>You will be contractually enrolled to become a member of USS (Universities Superannuation Scheme).</p> |

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| | <p>Staff enter the USS Retirement Income Builder, which is a type of defined benefit pension scheme where benefits are based on each year's salary throughout your period of membership (on a Career Revalued Benefits basis). You will pay a monthly contribution equal to 9.6% of salary, while the University contributes 21.1%.</p> <p>You will also gain access to the USS Investment Builder, a defined contribution section where benefits at retirement are based on the contributions made by you and the University and the performance of the funds that your contributions are invested in. All members will have the option to join this section in addition to the USS Retirement Income Builder, whilst earners above the salary threshold of £58,596 p.a. will join automatically and pay core contributions above the salary threshold into this section.</p> <p>The University is launching Pensions<i>Plus</i> on 1 February 2020, which is a salary exchange arrangement for payment of pension contributions. You will be automatically opted into Pensions<i>Plus</i> after this date unless you choose to opt out. More details are available at https://www.kent.ac.uk/human-resources/pensions/pensionsplus.html</p> <p>If you elect to opt out of the pension scheme as soon as you join, you may be auto enrolled immediately. You may also be auto enrolled on our re-enrolment date which is every three years. Please see the link below for more information on auto enrolment: https://www.kent.ac.uk/human-resources/pensions/auto-enrolment.html</p> <p>For general scheme information see: http://www.kent.ac.uk/human-resources/pensions/USS-home.html or the USS website: https://www.uss.co.uk/members/members-home/the-uss-scheme</p> |
| <p>Work Life Balance:</p> | <p>The University recognises that staff have responsibilities and interests that have to be balanced with working life. It is the University's aim to create a well-managed, flexible working environment that supports staff and their families, promotes welfare, maintains working practices and provides a productive balance between work and life outside work. Operational needs must be taken into account, but managers are encouraged to be innovative in organising their team and respond positively to requests to alter working patterns to enable staff to fulfil more effectively their professional and personal commitments.</p> |
| <p>Childcare:</p> | <p>Oaks Day Nursery (Canterbury Campus): The Oaks Nursery based at the Canterbury Campus is an excellent benefit for staff and a great asset to the University. Places are offered on a first come first served basis and baby places are particularly limited so staff may wish to make contact as soon as their pregnancy is confirmed. For more information: http://oaksnurserykent.co.uk/</p> <p>Medway Campus: There is no University run day nursery at the Medway Campus, however the closest nursery to the campus is run by Busy Bees. For more information: http://www.busybeeschildcare.co.uk/nursery/chatham</p> |

| | |
|---|---|
| | <p>In October 2018 the Government launched a new Tax-Free Childcare scheme; new members of staff may now be able to get tax-free childcare paying up to £500 every 3 months (£2,000 per year) for each child to help with childcare costs.</p> <p>See https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/tax-free-childcare for further information.</p> |
| <p>Nursery Salary Exchange Scheme:</p> | <p>Nursery Salary Exchange Scheme</p> <p>Workplace Nurseries are childcare facilities provided by an employer and which are offered to employees, through a tax efficient salary sacrifice scheme. The Workplace Nursery Salary Exchange Scheme (for users of the Oaks Nursery on Canterbury Campus) enables eligible staff to opt to receive a lower salary – a salary exchange – in return for the University paying an equivalent amount of his/her nursery fees, via an amendment to contract. This arrangement means staff agree to receive a lower amount of gross pay and in return will be provided with free (or part thereof) workplace nursery places.</p> |
| <p>Travel Expenses and Relocation:</p> | <p>Travel Expenses</p> <p>Travel between an employee's home and their normal place of employment (as specified in the contract of employment) is private travel and will not be reimbursed by the University. Employees who spend time working at home but otherwise have a place of work at a University location must also treat travel to and from that location as a private journey. Employees whose contract of employment specifies that their place of work is their home address, but occasionally visit a University location, may treat the travel as a business journey. This should be taken into consideration before accepting the role and salary on offer.</p> <p>Relocation</p> <p>To support our aim to attract excellent people to Kent, the University offers comprehensive and flexible assistance to those looking to relocate. Relocation expenses can be made available for those who have to move to the vicinity of a University Campus to a post, which is tenable for two or more years, and a Grade 7 or above.</p> |