

Teacher of Food Application Pack



September 2026

Dear Applicant

Re: Teacher of Food

Full time, Permanent Post (Teachers' Main Pay Range/ Upper Pay Range)

I have pleasure in providing an application pack in respect of the above vacancy at The Weald School, which includes an application form, information about the school and the Technology Department and a Person Specification for the post advertised. Further information may be obtained from our website www.theweald.org.uk including a link to our last Ofsted report.

A letter of support should be included with your application form, in which you should:

- outline the experiences you have had to date that have prepared you for this post, using the person specification to guide you
- describe the skills and strengths which you will bring to the school, with particular reference to improving teaching and learning in Technology

The closing date for this post is **10am Monday 12 October 2026**. We advise you to submit your application as soon as possible as we may conduct some interviews before the closing date.

Please note that due to limited resources we will only contact applicants who have been shortlisted for interview, so if you do not hear from us within two weeks of submitting your application, you should assume that your application has been unsuccessful on this occasion.

We very much look forward to receiving your application form, which should be emailed to jobs@theweald.org.uk. Should you have any queries relating to this post please do not hesitate to telephone me on 01403 787200, or email the jobs@theweald.org.uk email address.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Sarah Edwards
Headteacher

FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION

Introduction

The Food & Nutrition department falls under the umbrella of the Technology department at the Weald, and is a successful area within the school. We provide KS3 practical and theory lessons in years 7 & 8, and offer the AQA specifications of Food Preparation & Nutrition at KS4. We are looking for a candidate who can deliver engaging, high-quality theory and practical lessons that develop pupils' confidence, independence, and understanding of food, nutrition, and healthy living.

The department is well resourced and students have access to a wide range of facilities. Food & Nutrition has access to two well equipped, specialised teaching rooms with interactive whiteboards and shares access to networked computer suites. Both of the Food & Nutrition rooms are purpose-built kitchens that support high quality practical teaching.

Staffing

The department has one overall Subject Leader for Technology, overseeing both Design & Technology and Food & Nutrition. Food & Nutrition also has its own Subject Leader and both areas benefit from a KS3 coordinator post.

Food & Nutrition has one full time member of staff and one part time technician. The wider Design & Technology Department has a further three teaching members of teaching staff and one technician.

Curriculum

At Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8) students are taught Technology as part of a carousel over two years. Mixed ability groups are taught in half year blocks. Subjects making up the carousel include Product Design, Systems & Control, Graphics, Food & Nutrition and Textiles Art.

At Key Stage 4, pupils follow the **AQA GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition course**, which develops their knowledge and understanding of:

- Food, nutrition and health
- Food science and the functional properties of ingredients
- Food safety, hygiene, and practical skills
- Food choice, provenance, and sustainability

This is a three-year course that starts in Year 9 and has enrichment opportunities built into them. All groups have mixed abilities.

The successful candidate will contribute to the planning and delivery of the course, including preparing pupils for the **NEA assessments** and the written examination, and supporting students to achieve their full potential.

Extra-Curricular

The Food & Nutrition department gives students the opportunity to widen their cookery and baking skills. Activities have included competitions (e.g. LGBT Bake offs, Rotary competitions, Cultural experiences during activity week).

Examination Results

GCSE:

	Design & Technology	Food & Nutrition
Year	% 9-4	% 9-4
2026	79	82
2025	70	72
2024	67	87

Teacher of Food

The Post

We are seeking to appoint a well-qualified, talented and committed teacher of Food Preparation and Nutrition from January 2027, on a full-time, permanent basis. This post would be suitable for an experienced or early careers teacher as well as someone returning to teaching.

Person specification

- A well-qualified (with Qualified Teacher Status) and enthusiastic teacher of Food and Nutrition who can inspire and engage young people
- A passion for the subject, and the ability to teach Food, Preparation and Nutrition at KS3 and KS4
- The ability to teach in other areas of the Design & Technology curriculum at KS3 would be advantageous
- The ability to motivate students and achieve excellent results
- Excellent organisational and IT skills
- The capacity to work collaboratively as part of a team
- A passion for excellence and to share this with young people
- A willingness to be a form tutor, including the delivery of PSHE

We offer you:

- A positive and innovative learning culture supported by staff, parents and governors
- Enthusiastic students who are willing to learn and behave well in lessons and around the school
- A professional, hardworking and supportive team of staff who are committed to raising student achievement even further

If you relish the opportunity of working with highly motivated students in a supportive and stimulating professional environment, The Weald School would welcome your application.

Safeguarding Statement

This school and West Sussex County Council are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We will ensure that all our recruitment and selection practices reflect this commitment. All successful candidates will be subject to an appropriate Disclosure and Barring Service check along with other relevant employment checks, including satisfactory references.

We are committed to diversity and inclusion, offering a supportive and welcoming environment for all.

The Weald School - Opportunity & Community - Our Ethos and Values Every Day

We want every member of our community to thrive and we believe that signing up to our ethos and values helps us to do this. Here's what it means for staff:

- We believe that you should have opportunities to be stretched, challenged and supported in a welcoming community.
- We know that you have to keep on learning to deliver the best for students.
- We know that students do their best when you believe in them.
- We expect you to be curious about students' barriers to learning and how to help them overcome these.
- We follow evidence-based research in our professional practices.
- We know that students need feedback on their work and that this can take many forms.
- We value your feedback so that together we can continue to make our school better.
- We want you to feel safe enough to take risks and make mistakes.
- We believe that success only comes after hard work.
- We value kindness above all else.

In a recent survey, 90% of staff said that well-being and mental health are priorities for the school.

Reasons to Work at The Weald

How do we look after our staff at The Weald?

1. Friendly and happy staff (many stay for their whole careers)
2. Additional non-contact period on top of PPA time
3. Attending personal appointments (e.g., children's nativities)
4. Well-being activities of choice on every INSET day (e.g., paddleboarding, baking)
5. Devolved INSET day for Christmas shopping
6. Senior leader i/c staff well-being, part of well-being working party
7. Flexible working available for all to apply for (approx. 20% of staff are part-time - including middle and senior leaders)
8. CPD is mainly department- and self-led, appraisal is enquiry/research based and not data driven
9. Support walk system led by senior staff every lesson to support staff with behaviour
10. Daily behaviour panel to deal with key incidents
11. Low stakes learning walks with feedback
12. No emails out of working hours (i.e., Mon-Fri, 8-6) and very limited whole school emails (twice-weekly staff bulletin instead)
13. Two key assessments per year group per year requiring data input
14. Expectations for staff fall below 1265 hours' directed time for all staff
15. Lunch provided for INSET days and unlimited tea and coffee every day to promote team ethos
16. Discounted membership of gym and swimming pool next door
17. Remote parents' evenings with extended time to allow staff to work flexibly
18. Clear evidence-based T&L strategy supported by clear behaviour expectations
19. Supportive and active Staff Voice group, feeding back directly to HT from each department

About The Weald School

The Weald School is an 11-18 mixed comprehensive with around 1,800 students. This includes a thriving Sixth Form of about 300 students. Our students are at the heart of all that we do. The Weald is a warm, friendly and vibrant school at the centre of the community with a wonderful family feel, where each student is known and cared for. Students are well behaved, have a very positive attitude and enjoy coming to school. There are excellent relationships between staff and students. We believe that all our students have the potential for excellence. We work towards this by having high expectations of students and staff, by continually raising aspirations and by promoting our students' self-belief alongside strong moral values.



Academic outcomes at The Weald are consistently high. In the summer of 2026, our Year 13 students achieved results which put us, yet again, in the top 25% of all schools and colleges nationally. 95% of our students applying to university secured their first choices.

Our Year 11 students also attained excellent results: our most recent Progress 8 measure (from 2024*) is +0.43, meaning that our students typically make, on average, almost half of a grade more progress in each GCSE than students in the rest of the UK. Outcomes this year were similarly strong: 80% of students attained a grade 4 in English and 75% did so in mathematics.

These results follow an upward trend of improving results over time and underpins our ethos of striving for academic success alongside character education.

* There are no Progress 8 measures for 2025 or 2026 due to students not sitting Year 6 SATS.

Our curriculum is broad and balanced and offers many exciting opportunities for all students, both in school and out. Students study Key Stage 4 over three years. This presents real opportunities for creativity and varied approaches to learning through both GCSE and BTEC vocational qualifications. There are tremendous extracurricular opportunities at The Weald through sport, performing arts, Radio Weald, Weald TV, links with partner schools in Europe and Africa, the Duke of Edinburgh award, as well as a number of other trips. In short, we believe there is something for everyone at the school.



We believe achievement is not just about qualifications. Personal development is key to what we do. We have a very active School Council and a strong student voice within the school. We also have a close and effective partnership with our parents and carers. We listen to their views and use them to inform the work of the school. Attendance at school events is high, and an effective governing body has a full representation of parents.

I genuinely feel it is an honour and a privilege for me to be able to lead and develop further the education of the children at The Weald. Our students are a joy to work with. Visitors describe them as polite, courteous and respectful, making the school a fantastic place both to study as a student, and to work as a member of staff.

About the school

The Weald School serves the local community from a pleasant 25-acre site on the edge of Billingshurst. Our size offers us many advantages. We have excellent facilities, allowing us to offer a wide and varied range of academic and vocational courses at all levels. The Weald campus has been steadily improved in recent years.



An £11m expansion programme completed in 2017 funded a new teaching block for maths and art and a 400-seat dining facility. Additional improvements include new science laboratories, media room and TV studio, changing rooms, drama suite, music block and a pastoral provision area. There is also a swimming pool and fitness centre (adjoining the school site and run by DC Leisure / Horsham District Council), and two multi-use games areas.

The Weald School offers all students:

- A well-planned, broad and balanced curriculum
- A record of excellent examination results
- Well qualified specialist staff combining innovative and traditional methods in the classroom
- A secure, supportive, encouraging and happy environment
- A wide range of extra-curricular and residential activities.

What our students think about the school:

- *"Lessons are fun, and the school has a good atmosphere" - Year 7 student*
- *"The teachers have a good attitude to learning and we are encouraged and can hold our own opinions" - Year 10 student*
- *"We are able to talk to our teachers about issues and they make a real difference in our lives" - Year 9 student*
- *"I love the opportunities we get to work with younger students - it's great fun and really rewarding to support them with different aspects of their work." - Year 12 student*
- *"There is fantastic support for researching progression options for when we move on from the Sixth Form. The Sixth Form staff are always there to help with the UCAS process." - Year 13 student*

Mrs Sarah Edwards
Headteacher

September 2026