

Friends' School Lisburn



Teacher of Food & Nutrition and Health & Social Care to Advanced Level

Maternity cover/ Required from 9 November 2026

Friends' School Lisburn is a co-educational Voluntary Grammar School, with an enrolment of 1110 pupils at post-primary level and a further 165 in the Preparatory Department and Pre-Prep. The school was founded by the Religious Society of Friends in 1774 and has recently celebrated its 250th. To mark this milestone, the school opened two legacy projects, an activities trail and an outdoor performance space, and run a programme of events for the wider school community. Friends' has also been granted significant capital funding to develop the school buildings, which will enable the school to enhance provision for future generations.

The school ethos, which is rooted in its Quaker heritage, places an emphasis on the value of each individual and encourages a sense of service to others. The acronym ASPIRE is used to promote the values of Adventure, Sustainability, Peace, Integrity, Respect and Equality, which are based on the Quaker testimonies and are central to the school's identity.

There are currently three staff in the Food & Nutrition Department, two full-time and one part time, assisted by a part-time Food & Nutrition Technician, and the Head of Department is Judith McCarthy. Food & Nutrition is taught to all pupils at Key Stage 3, and is an increasingly popular option at GCSE. Pupils take Nutrition & Food Science at Advanced Level, and the Department also delivers Health and Social Care. In all cases, CCEA specifications are followed. Each classroom in the Food & Nutrition Department is equipped with an interactive Clevertouch board and the use of IT is encouraged throughout the department. The department makes a full contribution to whole-school priorities as outlined in our School Development Plan, particularly in areas where the focus is Learning and Teaching.

Enrichment activities are considered important in the department and pupils have the opportunity to participate in extra-curricular activities and engage with external agencies such as the Environmental Health Officer and the Livestock Meat Commission. The Department also contributes to the General Studies programme in the Sixth Form, with pupils learning Survival Cookery. It is expected that the successful candidate will make a full contribution to the teaching of Food & Nutrition throughout the school, and Health & Social Care in the Sixth Form. It is a requirement that the person appointed will play a full role in the department, supporting the promotion of Food & Nutrition generally within school. In addition, the person appointed will play a regular and sustained contribution to the programme of extra-curricular activities offered at Friends'.

All members of staff have a pastoral role and are expected to take a Collect (Form) group and to be able to contribute to different aspects of the teaching of Learning for Life and Work, if required. The professional development of all members of staff is expected, whether through Early Professional Development, PRSD, in-service training or the sharing of good practice.

Completed application forms, which **must not** be altered in length, should be emailed as an attachment to recruitment@friends.lisburn.ni.sch.uk and completed equal opportunities monitoring forms should be emailed to monitoring@friends.lisburn.ni.sch.uk **by 12 noon on Friday 2 October 2026**. Late applications will not be accepted.

Please note that we will communicate with candidates via email regarding shortlisting and interview. It is anticipated that initial interviews will be held on **Thursday 15 October**, and a lesson observation will be scheduled if required.

Posts involving work with children and young people in educational establishments are subject to the provisions of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups (NI) Order 2007. On taking up the post, the applicant must be a registered teacher with the GTCNI. Where an offer of employment is made, the individual offered the post will be expected to meet the cost of the Disclosure Certificate.

Duties

The person appointed will work under the direction of the Head of the Food & Nutrition Department. In addition to the professional duties of a subject teacher, the person appointed will be required to:

1. Teach Food & Nutrition at Key Stage 3 and GCSE in addition to components of Health & Social Care at A-level.
2. Follow the aims and objectives of the Food & Nutrition Department and share in the development and implementation of its policies regarding schemes of work, assessment and reporting, classroom organisation and use of resources.
3. Attend departmental meetings and play an active role in whole-school curriculum and pastoral developments, and take part in development planning within the Food & Nutrition Department, working with colleagues in the department on the priorities identified and in self-evaluation.
4. Be aware of, and implement as necessary, developments in the teaching of Food & Nutrition, taking an interest in the promotion of sustainable development within the school curriculum.
5. Employ appropriate teaching strategies to promote learning, including the effective use of IT.
6. Have due cognisance of Health and Safety requirements for practical lessons in Food & Nutrition.
7. Contribute, as required, to the teaching of the Learning for Life and Work (LLW) programme in school.
8. Share in the supervision duties undertaken by all members of staff.
9. Take responsibility for the pastoral care of a Collect (Form) group and work as a team member with the rest of the staff responsible for this year group, carrying out duties linked to the pastoral calendar, and taking part in meetings in school which relate to the arrangements for pastoral care.
10. Attend parent teacher consultation meetings and communicate with parents in a professional manner in relation to the progress of pupils.
11. Play an active role in the promotion of Food & Nutrition and ensure that, in line with the priorities of the Careers Department, pupils are aware of career pathways linked to Food & Nutrition.
12. Make a regular and sustained contribution to the programme of extra-curricular activities offered at Friends' School.
13. Under the direction of the Principal, carry out any other duties which may reasonably be expected of him/her as a teacher in the school.

The teacher appointed will be responsible to the Board of Governors through the Principal. Salary will be at the appropriate placing on the main pay spine for qualified teachers.

Personnel Specification
Post: Teacher of Food & Nutrition and Health and Social Care

1. Qualifications

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| <i>Essential</i> | 1.1 | An Honours Degree (2:2 or above) in Home Economics or a related subject; |
| | 1.2 | Teaching qualification recognised by the Department of Education (NI) teaching in a post-primary school in which Food & Nutrition or Health & Social Care is the main subject; |
| <i>Desirable</i> | 1.3 | An Honours Degree (2:1 or above) in Home Economics or a related subject, or a relevant post-graduate qualification. |

2. Experience

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| <i>Essential</i> | 2.1 | Experience of teaching Key Stage 3 Home Economics/Food & Nutrition in a post-primary school (including recent teaching practice); |
| <i>Desirable</i> | 2.2 | Experience of teaching GCSE Food & Nutrition in a post primary school (including recent teaching practice); |
| | 2.3 | Experience of teaching A-level Health and Social Care and/ or A-level Nutrition & Food Science in a post-primary school (including recent teaching practice). |

3. Knowledge and Skills

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| <i>Essential</i> | 3.1 | Detailed knowledge of the requirements of the NI Curriculum at KS3 and of the CCEA specifications for GCSE Food & Nutrition and A-level Health & Social Care; |
| | 3.2 | Competence in a range of teaching strategies; |
| | 3.3 | Proficiency in the use of IT, including for teaching and learning; |
| | 3.4 | Good classroom management skills; |
| | 3.5 | Detailed understanding of pastoral and safeguarding issues for post-primary pupils. |

4. Personal Qualities

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| <i>Essential</i> | 4.1 | Strong organisational skills and the ability to see any task set through to completion; |
| | 4.2 | Strong oral and written communication skills; |
| | 4.3 | The ability to work as part of a team; |
| | 4.4 | The ability to form positive relationships with pupils, and a commitment to supporting their welfare. |

5. Special Factors

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| <i>Essential</i> | 5.1 | The enthusiasm and commitment to inspire pupils and to promote Food & Nutrition throughout the School; |
| | 5.2 | A willingness to make a regular and sustained contribution to the programme of extra-curricular activities at Friends' School; |
| | 5.3 | A commitment to the ethos of Friends' School Lisburn. |

The above are the minimum criteria required for the post. They may be enhanced to enable the appointments panel to draw up a short list.