



Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy Food Technician (support staff)

Application Pack



Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the post of Food Technician at Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy. I hope that the information in this pack is valuable to you when deciding whether to apply for the role and in your preparation for applying.

Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy is a successful 11–18 mainstream co-educational academy that continues to improve rapidly. Our work is underpinned by our values of trust, respect, courage and ambition. In our most recent Ofsted inspection in December 2025, inspectors recognised the significant progress we have made, stating that “pupils achieve well, enjoy their learning and blossom at this welcoming school”. Attendance and behaviour were judged to be at a Strong standard, reflecting the calm, orderly and respectful culture that has been established. Inspectors also highlighted the strong relationships across the school and the inclusive pastoral support that ensures pupils feel safe, cared for and able to thrive. The other six areas were all judged to be at Expected standard. Achievement remains in line with national averages and continues to improve across a range of subjects. We are committed to embedding improvements so that future cohorts achieve well.

We are a school that is an excellent place to work and learn. Our ambition is to offer outstanding education – within the classroom and far beyond – that engages and stretches all our students. Our staff are energetic, committed and able; our leaders are strategic and well-motivated; our governors are hugely supportive and suitably ambitious. The school is full, and parents want their children to do well. We have a sixth form that is small but focused and successful. Our facilities are outstanding and well maintained.

We have high expectations of our staff. We also recognise that our staff are our greatest asset, and we treat them with respect and care for their wellbeing. We are currently aiming to implement our Vision for Staff, which we co-developed with staff. Staff are happy here; Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy is a good place to work. 82% of staff respondents to the SSAT annual survey agreed or strongly agreed with the statement ‘I would recommend this as a good place to work’. The national average for secondary schools in the survey was 74%.

We value the development of all our staff, and you will develop further during your time here. We provide an exceptional programme of CPD for staff. 82% of respondents to the SSAT annual survey agreed or strongly agreed that they have opportunities to participate in high quality professional learning and development (national average for secondary schools: 68%). Staff develop rapidly here; and consequently, we have very low levels of staff turnover.

Our next steps are to build on our recent achievements, and to further improve the attainment and progress of our disadvantaged students, including those with SEND. We also want to engage more effectively with our community and continue to expand our already thriving extra-curricular offer for our students. Alongside these aims, we will expand our sixth form further, by attracting applications from other local schools, as well as ensuring more of our students’ complete key stage 4 with the qualifications and aspirations required for further academic study.

I welcome your interest in this position, and I look forward to receiving your application.

Yours sincerely



Dr Andrew Fowler

Principal

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the post of Food Technician (support staff). This letter will give you some more information on the team and department that you would be joining, if successful in the recruitment process.

The Art and Technology faculty is a large, vibrant, collaborative department built on creativity and teamwork across a wide range of disciplines. Within the faculty we have an ambitious food technology department, where the curriculum is designed to not only develop practical skills, but to also deepen students understanding of nutrition and food science.

Students genuinely enjoy food technology engaging enthusiastically with practical and theory work, making this a vibrant and rewarding area to work in. To support the growth and vision of the department we are seeking a new team member who shares this passion and ambition. The successful candidate will benefit from two newly refurbished, modern food technology rooms, fully equipped to deliver an exciting and forward-thinking curriculum. They will also be joining a large team of dedicated, specialist staff who work closely together, supporting each other to achieve the best possible outcomes for our students.

If you are interested in finding out more about our school and this opportunity, I would be delighted to hear from you. Please feel free to contact me at ymurray@lordlawson.academy and I will be happy to arrange a conversation or a visit.

With best wishes,

Yvonne Murray
Subject Leader of Technology

Job Profile

Job Title: Food Technician

Reporting to: Subject Leader, Business Manager

Grade D: SCP 7 (£22,984 - £23,403 FTE) (£9,939 - £10,120 (actual salary) per annum)

Hours: 16 hours per week, Monday to Friday, term time only (flexible throughout the academic year)

Contract: Permanent

Purpose of the role:

To provide specialist support to the Design and Technology subject areas, and to students within that area, by delivering an efficient service, including the ordering, preparation and maintenance of resources in a timely manner; and directly supporting students learning experiences.

Main duties and responsibilities:

- To deliver a safe, organised and correctly equipped environment for the teaching staff and students.
- To monitor and manage stock within an agreed budget to include the ordering of resources, materials, components and equipment including deliveries, invoicing and stock control adopting best value principles.
- To be responsible for ensuring the timely and accurate preparation and use of specialist equipment/resources/materials to achieve curriculum and examination requirements.
- To organise and keep tidy the department to satisfactory health and safety standards and to observe appropriate safety regulations and precautions, including termly deep cleans of rooms and equipment and weekly maintenance, including equipment cupboards and white goods.
- To keep up to date with latest educational trends and to attend as necessary any suitable courses to develop skills and maintain appropriate Health and Safety certificates.
- Within Food Technology, order ingredients and equipment, weigh out ingredients for class practicals, set up demonstrations, washing and drying of laundry.
- To maintain specialist equipment to ensure efficient operation and compliance with Health and Safety regulations. Repairing items within own technical capabilities or outsourcing where required.
- To assist with the display and organisation of Design and Technology work for school events such as open evenings, parents' evenings, conferences etc. To attend departmental meetings when required.
- To contribute to the development and implementation of new projects and other related duties, required to ensure the smooth running of the department.
- To invigilate routine tests and examinations as and when required.
- To accompany staff and students on external educational visits.
- To undertake any training relevant to the post.

Safeguarding

- Promote the safety and wellbeing of students and help to safeguard students' wellbeing by following the requirements of Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) and our school's safeguarding and child protection policy.
- Promote the safeguarding of all students in the school.
- Ensure that appropriate reasonable adjustments are made where necessary for students.

General

- **Equal Opportunities:** the academy has a strong commitment to achieving equality of opportunity and expects all employees to implement and promote this in their own work.
- **Health and Safety:** the academy is committed to a healthy and safe working environment and expects all of its employees to implement and promote its policy in all aspects of their work.
- **Confidentiality:** the academy is committed to maintaining the privacy of all its staff and students. It expects all staff to handle all individuals' personal information in a sensitive and professional manner. All staff are under an obligation not to gain access or attempt to gain access to information they are not authorised to have. To play a full part in the life of the Academy community, to support its distinctive mission and ethos and to encourage and ensure staff and students follow this example.

- All staff are required to follow school policies and the staff code of conduct.

This job description is illustrative of the general nature and level of responsibility of the role. It is not a comprehensive list of tasks, and the postholder may be required to carry out other duties appropriate to the role.

This job description may be amended at any time in discussion between the Principal or line manager and the employee and will be reviewed annually before the commencement of the next appraisal cycle.

Salary amounts quoted are from 1st September to 31st August; if you commence employment part way through the academic year, they will be subject to an equated salary adjustment

Person Specification		
Job Title: Food Technician		

	Essential/ Desirable	Assessment
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Qualifications		
Level 2 Qualifications in English and Mathematics or equivalent	E	A
Willingness and ability to obtain and/or enhance qualifications and training and development in the post	E	A/I
Experience		
Experience of working in a school environment	D	A/I
Experience of monitoring health and safety issues and producing risk assessments	D	A/I
Experience of working with students on a 1:1 or small group setting on literacy and/or numeracy	D	A/I
Skills		
Motivation to work with children and young people	E	A/I/E
Ability to think creatively and to anticipate and solve problems	E	A/I/E
Ability to use ICT effectively to support learning	E	A/I/E
Ability to work using own initiative	E	A/I/E
Ability to form and maintain appropriate relationships and personal boundaries with children and young people	E	A/I/E
Understanding of academy child safeguarding procedures	E	A/I
Interpersonal/Communication Skills: Verbal Skills		
The post holder is required to use courtesy, tact, clear articulation on complex instruction	E	A/I
Flexible approach to work	E	A/I
Ability to relate well to students and adults and to be committed to the objective of raising achievement	E	A/I
Ability to work using own initiative	E	A/I
Other		
First Aid Qualification (or willing to work towards)	D	A/I
Good understanding of relevant working practises and relevant legislation/policies and codes of practice and awareness of relevant legislation	E	A/I

Assessment and Evidence: A = Application; I = Interview; E = Exercise