

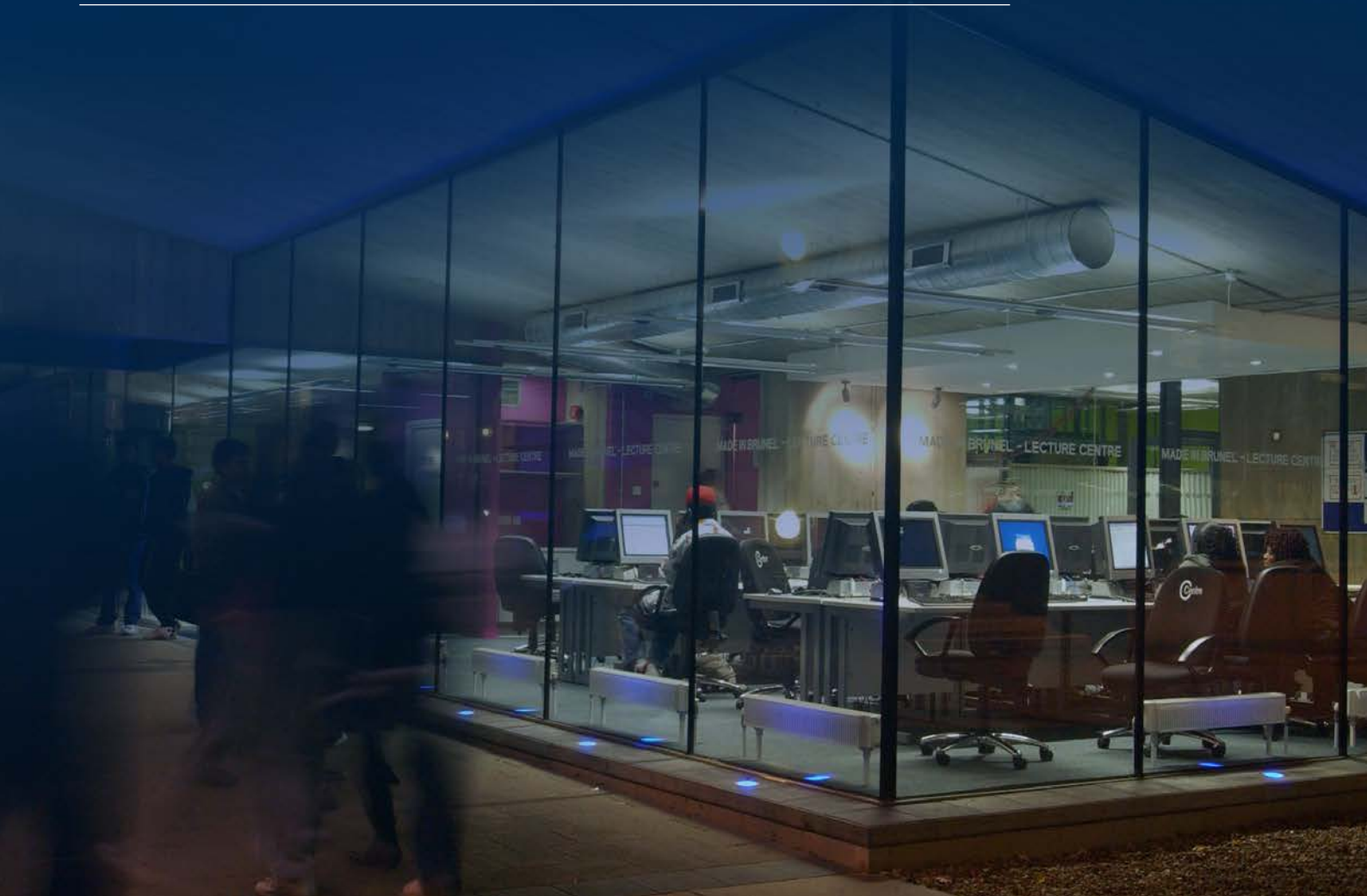
A photograph of a modern, multi-story white building with a curved facade and numerous rectangular windows. A tall white lamppost stands in front of the building. In the foreground, there are large planters with green foliage and yellow and purple flowers. The sky is blue with some light clouds.

Brunel
University
of London

**Head of Department
of Computer Science
Brunel University
of London**

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Introduction



Thank you for expressing an interest in the role of Head of Department of Computer Science at Brunel University of London.

Brunel has a proud history of being different. We trace our origins back to 1798 and the establishment of three technical colleges established to educate people in professional, technical and applied subjects. Through our establishment as a university in 1966 to today, these foundations remain at the heart of our identity – we have a global reputation for the excellence of our teaching and research, and remain committed to serving the needs of business, industry and the professions. We occupy a distinctive place in the sector, and our West London location supports a diverse portfolio of partnerships across the creative, health, business and third sectors.

This is a really exciting time to join Brunel. Since I joined the University in 2022 I have worked in partnership with our amazing community of staff, students and supporters to harness our distinct identity and chart an ambitious course for the future. In July 2023 I was incredibly proud to launch our new Strategy – Wielding Brunel’s World-class Difference – which aims to propel Brunel to new heights and establish us as a world leading technical University. We are already seeing the positive impact of the collective endeavour of our community on our global reputation, climbing to 37th in the UK and 353rd globally in the QS League Table surveys (2027). Since October 2024 we are delighted to be part of the University of London federation.

Part of our work as a leadership team since I joined has been ensuring that the right structures are in place to enable our community of staff and students to succeed and deliver our vision. Following a review of our academic structures, we moved to a four College structure. Computer Sciences is part of our College of Engineering, Design and Physical Sciences.

I hope you will agree that this is a compelling opportunity. I am looking for an exceptional individual to join us and be part of Brunel’s history, and if this is a challenge that excites you, please do consider joining us.

With best wishes,

**Professor Andrew Jones
Vice-Chancellor and President
of Brunel University of London**

Vision

Brunel is different! It is a world-class research university, combining a technical focus with research excellence that is closely aligned with the needs of equitable and inclusive, environmentally sustainable global societies and economies.

With a strong social mission, distinctive staff talent and highly employable graduates, we have exceptional international reach from our London campus.

Facts and Figures

Brunel University of London has continued its significant growth since its founding cohort of 866 students. As of 2025/26, the University boasts a diverse and vibrant student body of nearly 14,000, including over 6,000 international students from more than 150 countries. Our global alumni network has expanded to over 180,000 members across 175 countries.

The University employs over 2,000 colleagues across academic and professional services. In the 2024-25 financial year, Brunel reported a total income of £229.8 million.

To access Brunel's latest financial statements, please [click here](#).

3rd

**We're ranked 3rd in London
for student satisfaction**

Complete University Guide 2027

6th

**We're ranked 6th in the UK
for Business Computing**

NSS 2026

37th

**We're ranked 37th in the UK
and 353rd globally**

QS (2027)

Wielding Brunel's **world class difference**

In February 2023 we launched the development of a new long-term institutional Strategy. This process was inspiring and had our community of staff and students at its heart: with 1,000 members of our community engaging, alongside the leadership team and our governing Council.

The outcome is a distinctive Strategy: *Wielding Brunel's World-class Difference*, which distils and reaffirms the strengths which make us unique, and a framework for us to grow.

The Strategy is articulated around five themes:

A world-leading technical university: closely aligned to the world-class technical universities found across the globe whose research and education seeks to tackle the major scientific and economic challenges facing society and produce graduates who are at the forefront of addressing them.

Powered by diversity: a key longstanding strength, asset and advantage – a source of innovative thinking, adaptability, entrepreneurship and a horizon expanding educational experience.

A London campus with unparalleled global reach: the campus sits on the western side of one of the world's leading global cities, a short distance from one of the world's most directly connected airports. Almost uniquely amongst London universities, it is one large and unified green parkland.

Driven by a social mission: an escalator for social mobility and social justice, and an engine for opportunity for those who want to transform their life chances through education. Equally, our research looks to real-world problems and is based on a strong desire to impact directly on societies' major challenges.

Co-creating with business and industry: few universities in the UK have as strong a relationship with business and industry as Brunel. Long associated with the early adoption of the 'sandwich degree', our engagement with business, industry and the professions runs throughout the University and is one of our defining characteristics.



Recent developments

We are already seeing our new strategy in action across our areas of activity, and the collective work of our community is reflected across a number of measures of esteem across education, research and impact.

The past few years have seen significant improvement in Brunel's performance in a number of key league tables. Brunel has risen significantly in the QS World University Rankings 2027, to 37th in the UK and 353rd globally.

We're ranked 3rd in the UK and 8th worldwide for international focus (Times Higher Education 2026) and we were one of the nation's biggest climbers in the Complete University Guide's annual University League Table (2027) putting us at 7th in London and 48th in the UK.

We continue to develop our research, with the aim of improving our position among the top-40 universities in the country in the next national Research Excellence Framework exercise in 2029.

Our work to enhance our student experience has seen Brunel improve year-on-year in the National Student Survey.

In October 2024 Brunel joined the University of London federation, in a development that will further enhance the reputation of the University, increase opportunities for collaboration across London institutions, and offer a range of benefits for our students.



Our environment

The whole world on one campus

Our London campus is central to our student and staff experience. It is the heart of our University, providing an outstanding environment for staff, students, partners, visitors and the wider community. Unique in London, the campus is a large, green, unified space, housing the entirety of university life – including research and education facilities, student accommodation and a hotel.

In recent years we have worked hard to remedy areas requiring attention, and sought to develop exceptional new facilities, including the refurbishment of Quad North, which is now home to the Brunel

Medical School (BMS), and the opening of Benjamin Zephaniah square. Our new Strategy contains a number of commitments to develop our campus in the coming years, including developing a plan to increase its connectivity locally and globally, maximising our location adjacent to Heathrow.

In line with our institutional identity, we will also prioritise the accessibility and sustainability of the campus. In particular, we will develop our campus to provide a fully accessible world-class student experience for all, adaptive, flexible and responsive to the needs of our community, while striving to meet the challenges of environmental sustainability.



Powered by diversity



Diversity is often seen as an additional characteristic to be considered or fostered.

Brunel is different. Diversity is part of Brunel's core identity and heritage back to the early nineteenth century and has flourished further since 1966. It is a longstanding strength, asset and advantage: a source of innovative thinking, adaptability, entrepreneurship and a horizon-expanding educational experience. Few universities have the breadth and depth of diversity we have, and our Strategy is to use this advantage on the global stage.

In our Strategy, we commit to making full use of the power our diversity offers, through:

- Embedding a rich understanding of our diversity and associated strengths and challenges in everything we do.
- Enabling and championing creativity, innovation and the cultural benefits of our diversity across research, education and knowledge exchange.
- Striving for equity for all whilst addressing challenges to our inclusivity.
- Being bold in advocating the potential of our diversity, providing a unique and empowering academic and community experience for our students, staff and the wider community.
- Using our many modes of educational delivery to provide equitable, accessible and international study, work opportunities and success for all our students and staff.
- Ensuring free thinking and diversity of ideas are actively encouraged and supported everywhere.

Join a thriving and ambitious

Department of Computer Science

The Department of Computer Science at Brunel University of London offers an exciting and supportive environment for ambitious academics who want to make a real impact through teaching, research and innovation.

As part of the College of Engineering, Design and Physical Sciences, the Department plays a significant role in shaping the University's strategic ambitions and developing the next generation of computing professionals and researchers.

Our internationally recognised research spans a broad range of areas, including Artificial Intelligence, intelligent data analysis, simulation and modelling, software engineering, human-centred computing, cyber security, privacy and the digital economy. Our research addresses important industrial and societal challenges, with applications across areas including healthcare, education, manufacturing, sustainability and social good.

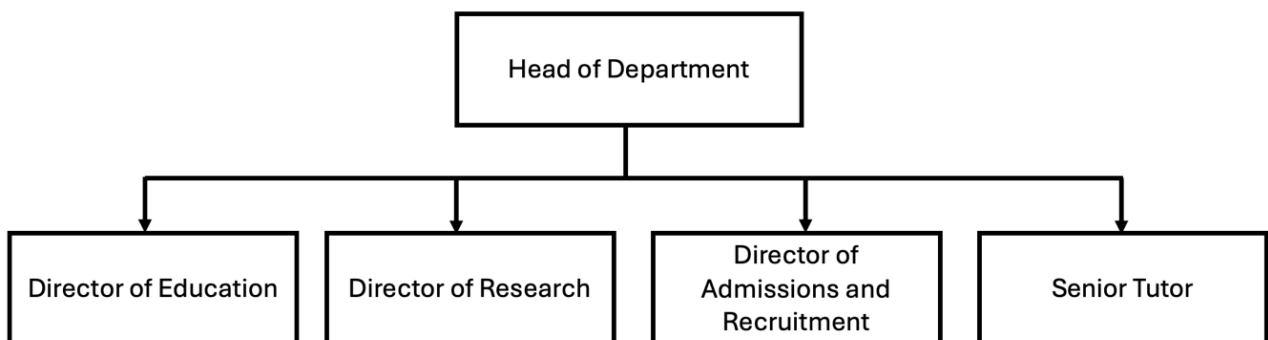
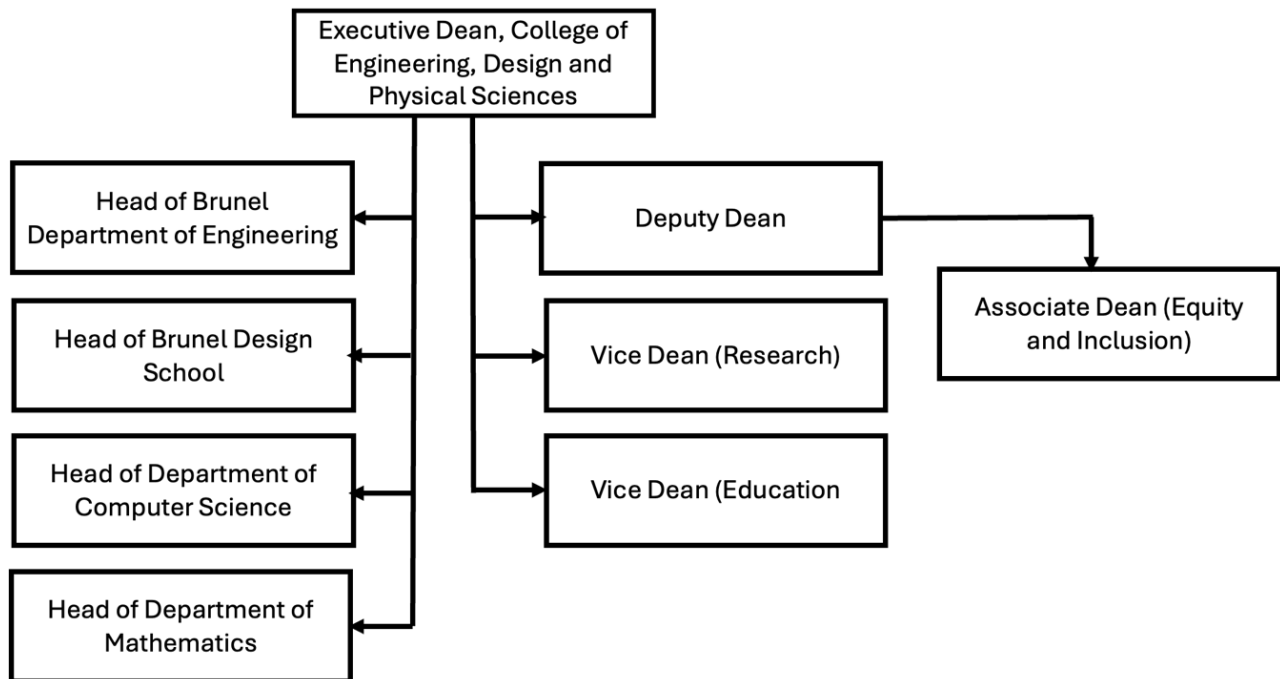
The Department has a strong and growing reputation for research excellence. Brunel's Computer Science and Informatics research has demonstrated significant growth, with 69% of research recognised as world leading or internationally recognised in REF 2021. The Department continues to build on its strengths in areas such as AI, big data and digital technologies, providing an excellent environment for academics to develop impactful research and collaborative partnerships.

We are proud to offer a collaborative and inclusive academic community where colleagues are encouraged to develop their ideas, build interdisciplinary partnerships and contribute to the future direction of the Department. Our academics work on high profile national and international projects, creating opportunities to collaborate with industry, external organisations and researchers across the world.

Joining Brunel's Department of Computer Science means becoming part of an ambitious community with a strong commitment to innovation, research excellence and high quality education. With excellent facilities, a diverse and international community, and opportunities to make a meaningful contribution through teaching and research, Brunel provides an exciting environment in which to develop your academic career and help shape the future of computing.



Organisational charts



The Role Context

This is an exciting opportunity to lead the Department of Computer Science as it continues to build on its strong academic reputation and its position as one of the University's busiest and most popular disciplines.

Top 20

We're ranked Top 20 in the UK for Computer Science

Times Higher Education Computer Science Rankings 2026

4th

We're ranked 4th in the UK for Artificial Intelligence (AI) Research Quality.

ShanghaiRanking GRAS Artificial Intelligence 2025

Top 20%

We're ranked Top 20% in the UK for Computer Science Student Satisfaction

Complete University Guide 2027 Subject League Table

As one of the four departments within the College of Engineering, Design and Physical Sciences (CEDPS), the Department plays an important role in the College's academic community and has significant opportunities to shape its future direction and further strengthen its profile nationally and internationally.

With 1,700 students across undergraduate and postgraduate study, including doctoral researchers, Computer Science is a thriving and diverse academic community, supported by 60 academic staff, including 12 Professors and 10 Readers.

The Department has a strong academic reputation, ranking in the Top 20 in the UK for Computer Science in the Times Higher Education Computer Science Rankings 2026 and in the Top 20% in the UK for Computer Science Student Satisfaction in The Complete University Guide 2027 Subject League Table. The University also ranks 4th in the UK for Artificial Intelligence (AI) research quality in the ShanghaiRanking GRAS Artificial Intelligence 2025 rankings.

Computer Science is a proud holder of a departmental Athena SWAN Silver Award, recognising its commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion. The Department also collaborates beyond the University with schools to challenge stereotypes and broaden perceptions of who belongs in computing, particularly among girls and underrepresented communities.

The Role

The Head of Department will have a unique opportunity to provide strategic academic leadership and to build on these strengths, further enhancing the Department's reputation for excellence in education and research, strengthening external partnerships and supporting an inclusive and high-performing academic culture.

The Head of Department will:

- be accountable for all academic activities within the Department and reports directly to the Executive Dean of CEDPS. In practice, some leadership responsibilities may be delegated by the Head of Department to the Directors of Education, Research, Admissions and Recruitment, the Department's Senior Tutor, or to other Departmental roles as required, with the Head of Department supported by the wider Departmental leadership team.
- line manage the Department's academic and research staff and hold overall responsibility for academic workload allocation, academic staff development, appraisal and recommendations for promotion for academic and research staff, whilst also being supported by the Department's leadership team.
- be accountable for the implementation of the agreed Department's Education and Research Plans (within the College Plans), and for meeting the targets set out in these Plans.
- ensure that KPIs, as agreed with the Executive Dean, are achieved in relation to recruitment, education, research, capacity building, and finances.
- foster the development of the Department as an effective, inclusive and cohesive unit within the University.
- be the budget holder for the budget devolved to the Department and ensure that the Department discharges its responsibilities for its budget in line with the principles for the allocation of budgets agreed by the University.
- work closely with the Executive Dean of College, Deputy Dean, Vice-Deans, Associate Dean and other Heads of Departments in the College to foster a positive and inclusive culture of academic excellence in teaching and research which provides an outstanding student experience within the College.

Key Duties and Responsibilities

The high-level aims and objectives of the Head of Department of Computer Science are:

- develop for approval Department Education and Research Plans, which shall form part of the College Education and Research Plans, creating a thriving environment for high performance within the Department.
- ensure that the KPIs associated with both Plans are met.
- lead the delivery and ongoing enhancement of educational provision (including PGR provision and TNE provision) and research in the Department, promoting a multi-disciplinary perspective and approach driving efficiency, effectiveness and innovation, working with Engineering, Design and Mathematics disciplines within the College.
- promote a vibrant research culture across Brunel's Department of Computer Science that underpins the University research strategy and preparation for REF2029.
- ensure the effective delivery of teaching, quality of educational opportunities, academic standards and welfare support to its students, so that the Department offers an excellent student experience.
- ensure that the Department of Computer Science also discharges its responsibilities for monitoring of, and timely reporting on, these matters to the College and University.
- ensure that the Department develops a strong outward-looking profile with external partners, stakeholders and others in industry and related academic fields, including representing the Department, where appropriate, in meetings with relevant external regulatory bodies.
- ensure that the Department contributes proactively to collaborative activities within the College, with the research centres and groups and across the University; foster a 'partnership and collaborative working' approach.
- contribute to the leadership of the Department, College and University, including through the chairing and membership of key committees.
- support the Executive Dean in building the reputation of the College as an internationally recognised centre of academic excellence.
- foster innovation together with income and impact generating activities in the Department.

The Role

...continued

- Working with central and College professional services teams, ensure that the Department's responsibilities to international and home students in respect of recruitment, admissions, teaching, retention, progression, pastoral care and employability are met.
 - drive the enhancement of the quality and volume of research in the Department and collaboration with research groups across the College and University.
 - ensure that there is effective ongoing monitoring by the Department of the quality and standards of its educational activities, in line with university policies and PSRB requirements.
 - enable the effective integration of input from the Graduate School, the Institutes and other bodies to the training and supervision of students in the Department and an effective integration of PGR provision with the wider research activities of the Department.
 - foster the development and delivery of specialist, research-led taught programmes for UG and PGT students.
 - contribute to the delivery of taught provision within the Department of Computer Science.
 - develop and implement innovative approaches to teaching and learning.
 - enhance the employability of students through the delivery of transferable skills training and enhance the provision and uptake of work placements.
 - lead the development of a strong research programme promoting a research-informed approach to computer science education, and the development of a strong centre for computer science (education) research including software development, artificial intelligence and cyber security.
 - lead the strategic development and implementation of Transnational Education (TNE) programmes, online programmes and collaborative programmes with the University of London which supports the University's internationalisation strategy.
 - demonstrate effective partnership working with local and national bodies and other statutory or regulatory organisations to ensure the effective development and delivery of professional practice components of programmes.
 - line manage the Department's academic and research staff and hold overall responsibility for academic workload allocation, academic staff development, appraisal and recommendations for promotion for academic and research staff.
 - ensure that the College supports the career development of its academic and research staff.
 - contribute to the recruitment and appointment by the University of high calibre staff and in the development of strategies for succession planning.
 - ensure:
 - a. that PGR students and early career researchers are provided with opportunities to develop teaching skills; and
 - b. that the contributions they make are monitored effectively and recognised.
 - ensure that the Department works in partnership with its staff and students on all matters relating to them.
 - chair the Department of Computer Science Programme Board and be a member of the College Management Board and other key College and University committees and networks, so that policy or practice identified and agreed within those committees is communicated locally to colleagues and relevant external partners.
 - ensure that, within the Department, all HR, Finance, Health and Safety and all other policies are adhered to.
 - ensure that the Department promotes the values of inclusiveness and principles of equality and diversity in employment, admissions, and in its teaching, learning and research activities.
- ### Strategic Development and External Engagement
- lead the strategic development and implementation of a programme of post-graduate degrees and CPD which support the needs of industry and society and the imperative to upskill the adult working population as the demands of the workforce change.

The Role

...continued

The Person

Candidates for the role will have demonstrated significant personal academic achievements in both research and education and through a track-record of effective leadership in a complex organisation. They will have an outstanding track record in computer science education and research.

They will have the ability to lead the development of the educational activities of the Department of Computer Science, and to establish a sound research base and environment in the Department. They will be able to anticipate and respond to the external computer science landscape, with a particular focus on working effectively with industry and public bodies, ensuring that Department is able to maximise development opportunities that arise to support the growth and development of the Department to excel and innovate in computer science academic settings.

Education, Qualifications & Training

Candidates will be of the highest intellectual standing and will be passionate about Brunel's innovative and distinctive contribution to Higher Education.

The Head of Department of Computer Science should hold professional membership appropriate to their field of specialisation.

Experience

- This is a Professorial appointment, and the post-holder should be research-active, with a sustained record of high-quality research in a Computer Science discipline. They should be capable of setting out and delivering a vision of research for the Department to lead it into REF 2029 and beyond. In addition, they are expected to contribute to the delivery of taught provision within the College;
- Leadership experience in a relevant organisation;
- Credibility, both through personal standing and knowledge of the Higher Education sector in the UK and internationally;
- A reputation for excellence in research;
- An outstanding track record in computer science education;
- A commitment to excellence and innovation in teaching, quality assurance and enhancement

and to delivering a high quality experience for students in all aspects of the University's policies and operations;

- Experience as an innovative and enterprising manager of people;
- Proven ability to operate effectively to the reputational advantage of the institution;
- A good understanding of the regulatory framework for approval of computer science and related programmes;
- Relevant membership of a professional body.

Personal Attributes and Skills

Candidates will be of the highest intellectual standing and will be passionate about Brunel's innovative and distinctive contribution to Higher Education. They will be characterised by:

- The ability to inspire and motivate all members of the University community and to champion Brunel's vision and values;
- Leadership experience combined with the ability to innovate and deliver change within an academic institution;
- A collegial and open style which respects the views of others and encourages all to give of their best;
- Superb communication skills with the capacity to convince and inspire a wide diversity of audiences;
- Adaptability and pragmatism;
- Pride and interest in all aspects of the life of the University and willingness to make a contribution to its further success;
- Financial astuteness and an entrepreneurial outlook;
- Personal presence to represent the University and to command respect;
- Resilience, energy and enthusiasm for the task.

Term of Office

The Head of Department of Computer Science is a four-year appointment with a substantive permanent professorial appointment in the College.



How to Apply

The University has engaged Minerva (www.minervasearch.com) to assist with the recruitment of this position.

For more information about the role, including how to apply, please visit Minerva at www.minervasearch.com/brunelcomputerscience

For an informal confidential discussion, potential applicants may contact brunelcomputerscience@minervasearch.com

MINERVA



