



Vacancy ref: 5628

Faculty of Health Innovation Technology and Science
School of Biological and Environmental Sciences
JOB DESCRIPTION

Title:	Senior Technician (Biological and Environmental Sciences)
Department:	Faculty of Health Innovation Technology and Science
Grade:	Grade 6
Salary:	£32,722 - £38,448 per annum
Hours:	35 hours per week
Contract Length:	Permanent
Reporting to:	Technical Team Leader
Location:	Byrom Street. Although staff may be asked to work in any location within the University and in the field.
Introduction:	The appointed person will be expected to make broad contributions to the faculty by working as part of the BES Technical Team, reporting to the Technical Team Leader to support academic staff in the delivery of teaching and other learning activities within the Faculty of Health Innovation and Science (HITS). The post holder is responsible for the workload of other technical staff who report directly to them. This role will support a wide range of activities within Biological and Environmental Sciences, specialising in biological techniques such as anatomy, physiology, parasitology and molecular biology. With a willingness to learn skills and support other areas when required, such as Marine Biology, Ecology, Geography and Forensic Anthropology. The role will support both laboratory and some field work activities.

Purpose of the role
A student facing senior technical role within the Faculty of HITS to facilitate the running of laboratory-based teaching activities.
Duties
Responsibilities: - To provide high-quality technical support to the faculty teaching laboratories as directed by the Technical Team Leader. - Supervise and support technical staff within area of expertise to deliver practical classes and fieldwork. - Proactively help staff and students on a day-to-day basis in the effective operation of the teaching and project laboratories.

- Assist with administration including asset management, record maintenance, ordering and stock controls.
- Working in partnership with academic and other technical staff to support the school's objectives relating to learning and teaching.
- Assist academic staff and Technical Team Leader in preparing teaching laboratory timetables, proactively resolving issues, and keeping record of the resources available.
- Attend and contribute to staff meetings, reporting to the Technical Team Leader on activities taking place in area of management and specialism.
- Contribute to a supportive working environment and develop productive working relationships with other team members.
- Establishing and maintaining effective communication and working arrangements between academic staff and technical staff to ensure that requirements and expectations on the technical service are understood and implemented.
- Working alongside academic staff to facilitate the development of new practical classes and occasionally fieldwork.

Technical Activities:

- Provide technical support and knowledge in a broad range of techniques covering many areas of Biological and Environmental Sciences. Specialising in Biological techniques such as anatomy, physiology, parasitology and molecular biology.
- Provide technical support when required in other areas within Biological and Environmental Sciences. Including Ecology, Geography and Forensic Anthropology.
- Provide specialised knowledge in a range of laboratory equipment across these areas and more specialist equipment in Biology.
- Management and upkeep of designated areas including the preparation, care and maintenance of laboratories and equipment, and supporting the effective use of these resources, including routine laboratory cleanliness, equipment testing and calibration, maintenance, audit and safety checks.
- Coordination of project requests and requirements with academic staff and students to ensure the smooth operation of the laboratories.
- Ensuring the availability of technical support and providing support and guidance to students undertaking activities, projects, etc. in designated technical areas.
- Delivering technical demonstrations, workshops and practical sessions to staff and students and providing necessary supporting materials and documentation e.g., risk assessments, standard operating protocols, training materials, etc.
- Demonstrate to students and assist the academic staff in practical classes when required.
- Taking a pro-active role in the development and implementation of innovative methods of learning by keeping up to date with the latest developments in the designated technical area, supporting practical development.
- Assist technical staff in the preparation of materials for laboratory practical classes, calibration and maintenance of equipment and supporting the handover between classes.
- Effectively manage time to ensure preparation of materials for practical classes covering a broad range of Biological and Environmental Science techniques.
- Responsible for the storage and maintenance of laboratory and field equipment on site. Research and update new equipment to meet the requirements of practical classes.
- Provide and attend training on specific equipment and techniques as deemed necessary by the Technical Team Leader.
- Support academic staff in the development of new practical classes using technical knowledge and expertise within area of specialism.

Health And Safety:

- Responsible for the management of health and safety in a designated technical area. Ensuring that all operations within technical areas comply with university health and safety policies, procedures and codes of practice.
- Overseeing that the demonstration and training on equipment and procedures are established and recorded to the required standards.
- Ensuring the production and review of health and safety procedures and documentation, for example Risk Assessments, COSHH and SOP's.
- Monitoring of equipment within a designated technical area to ensure they are maintained as required by any relevant statutory provision, and that staff and students are suitably informed, instructed, trained, and supervised in their use.
- Ensuring that a high standard of housekeeping is maintained in technical areas.
- To be responsible for the setting up, care and maintenance of designated laboratories and equipment.
- Working with Security to ensure that access is controlled and managed within designated area.
- Responsible for handling and managing waste disposal routes from the project and teaching laboratories.

Initiative and Problem Solving

- To solve standard day to day problems that may arise, e.g. broken equipment.
- Solve more complex problems which will aid in better delivery of laboratory practicals to students. Researching new ideas and adapting protocols where necessary.
- To provide technical advice to students to enable them to achieve maximum potential or to point them towards relevant sources of further information.
- To ensure facilities and equipment are maintained to the required standard and inform the Technical Team Leader should equipment fall below this standard.

Values and Regulations

- Any other duties commensurate with the grade as deemed necessary by the Technical Manager.
- A commitment to LJMU's values and regulations and Diversity and Inclusion Policy.
- Commitment to adhere to and promote the ethos of Respect Always as set out in the Respect Always Charter.
- Liverpool John Moores University recognises and is aware of its Social, Economic and Environmental responsibilities. The post holder is required to minimise the environmental impact in the performance of the role, contribute to (and supervise if applicable) the implementation of environmental improvement measures and actively contribute to the delivery of LJMU's Environmental Management, Energy Management and Sustainability Policy Statement, and the Climate and Sustainability Plan.
- The post-holder's mandatory Health and Safety responsibilities, which have been agreed by the University's Executive Leadership Team, are contained in Section 2 of the University's Safety Management Code of Practice (MCP1) Organisation for the Implementation of the Health and Safety Policy. The post-holder's mandatory Environmental Management responsibilities are contained in Section 2 of the University's Environmental Management Code of Practice (ECP1) Organisation for the Implementation of the Environmental Management and Sustainability Policy.
- For some of your activity, from time to time, you may be required to contribute to externally funded projects such as research or EU projects.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

The person specification describes the skills, experience, knowledge and aptitude required to perform the duties of this post effectively. The criteria order listed should not be taken to imply their relative importance. Both paid and unpaid experience may be relevant.

Essential Factors	Evidence
Qualifications	
Degree or equivalent experience in relevant Biological and Environmental Science subject plus proven track record of extensive relevant work experience	A & Certificates
Experience	
Experience working in a technical environment, with good working knowledge of lab practices	I & A
Proven laboratory-based work experience in a wide range of techniques related to the school of biological and environmental sciences.	I & A
Familiar with COSHH, Risk assessments and Standard operating procedures and use in Laboratories	I & A
Background in handling hazardous materials and training in relevant H&S procedures	I & A
Experience of working in Higher Education teaching laboratory environment	I & A
Skills	
Good communication skills at all levels including written and oral	I & A
IT literate with experience of Microsoft Office Suite	A
Excellent organisational skills with the ability to prioritise work	I
Ability to work effectively both independently and as part of a team	I & A
Can demonstrate practical skills and transfer knowledge to others	I
Self-motivated to work independently	I
Holds a full UK driving licence	A
Specialised Knowledge	
Versed in Health and Safety legislation and its implementation in a practical environment	I & A
Knowledge of a broad range of techniques in biological and environmental sciences	I & A
Work experience in biological science and some knowledge in at least one of the following: Marine Biology, Ecology, Physiology, Molecular Biology, Animal Behaviour, Zoology, Forensic Anthropology	I & A
Experienced in coordinating teaching laboratory practicals and preparing equipment working to a timetable	I & A
Has working knowledge of biological equipment	I & A
Personal Attributes	
Helpful, friendly, approachable, enthusiastic, and energetic	I
Good interpersonal skills	I
Willingness to undertake personal development relevant to the role	I & A
Interest in Science and Education	I & A
Willingness to assist with collection trips and attend residential field work activities offsite	I & A
Able to work flexibly to meet the requirements of the role	I & A
Commitment to LJMU's values and regulations, including the Diversity and Inclusion Policy.	A, I

Desirable Factors	Evidence
Qualifications	
Post-Graduate qualification in a relevant Biological and Environmental Science subject	A & Certificates
NEBOSH Health and Safety at Work Award or IOSHH managing Safely	A
Experience	
Data collection and preparing samples ready for processing	I & A
Maintenance of specialised scientific equipment	I & A
Management and planning of activities within a laboratory setting.	I & A
Experience in the ordering of consumable items and stock management	I & A
Training others in scientific techniques	I & A
Experience in management of laboratory space and implementing safe working practices	I & A
Demonstrating to students in laboratories	I & A
Holds a licence to drive	A

A = Application I = Interview P = Presentation T = Test C = Certificate

BENEFITS OF WORKING FOR US

Financial benefits: Competitive salaries based on a low contractual 35 hour working week.

7.1% employer pension contributions for non-academic staff enrolled in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). This is a temporary reduction from the previous rate of 17.5%, effective from April 2026, following the Fund's triennial review. The reduction reflects the Fund's current surplus and improved financial position. This does not affect your pension benefits, which are determined by LGPS scheme rules rather than the level of employer contributions.

28.68% employer contribution to pensions for teaching staff enrolled into the Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS).

Work life balance: Excellent annual leave provision.

30 days for support staff and 35 days for staff and senior managers grade 8 and above.

8 UK bank holidays and up to 5 University closure days between Christmas and New Year.

Family friendly policies and a range of benefits to support including job-shares, flexible working hours and part-time roles where possible.

Health and wellbeing: Regular wellbeing support initiatives throughout the year.

Access to a trained counsellor via Employee Assistance Programme (EAP).

Plus a programme of activities and range of support and resources to help look after your mental and physical wellbeing.

Career Benefits: Continuous development opportunities to enhance your knowledge and meet your career ambitions, including LinkedIn Learning.

Making a difference: LJMU Climate Action - be at the forefront of initiatives to tackle climate change.

Share experiences and challenge unfair practices with our Diversity and Inclusion Staff Networks.

Opportunity to volunteer at graduation ceremonies, clearing and open days.

Discounts and other benefits: A reward and benefits platform, giving savings on day-to-day purchases across a range of retail outlets.

Interest free loans repayable across twelve monthly instalments, including loans for annual travel season tickets and cycle to work scheme.

Massively discounted gym and fitness classes at the [University Sport Building](#).

