

## Information about the Science Subject Leader Position

### Who are we?

A four-times outstanding special school whose vision is

**Achievement for all in a unique world-class school**

that

- intends to be the best in the world at what we do
- moved into a brand-new building in January 2014 and added an innovative Sixth Form
- provides good teachers with the opportunity to become excellent
- is respected locally and nationally in the education and creative sectors
- believes our pupils deserve the very best from us

### What does the job involve?

- Using your skills as an inclusive subject specialist to identify and plan for strengths and gaps in student learning, setting them up for success as they progress through the school
- Helping children who have experienced difficulties rediscover the joy of learning, particularly in science
- Building positive pastoral relationships with students to help guide their personal development
- Putting your passion and skills to work as part of a great staff team; learning new skills and approaches, and perhaps rediscovering old ones

### What will I be directly responsible for?

- Leading the planning, teaching and assessing of science curriculum for Key stages 3 and 4 (2 classes per year group (the pupils/classes you teach will be best matched to your expertise and experience)
- Being a form tutor (approx. 12 pupils) and taking a lead role ensuring each student has positive outcomes in their learning and personal development
- Working closely with other teachers and the SENDCO, to ensure we have a thorough and accurate understanding of students' strengths and weaknesses through grounded assessment processes in order to shape future teaching

### Who are you?

1. Passionate about the difference schools can make to young people's ability to learn, create, express themselves and become active global citizens
2. A first-class teacher with a track record you can speak to
3. You're likely to have recent and relevant teaching experience, including making the national curriculum more accessible and enjoyable
4. Committed to keeping children safe through learning how to avoid/ minimise risks
5. A self-starting team player with much to offer while still ready to learn
6. Ready to make the most of a rare opportunity to shape teaching and learning in our school

7. Clear on your views about the importance of high-quality teaching and learning for learners with SEN, and how to provide this.
8. Clearer still on what you have to offer us that can move us closer to our school vision

## **Who are the students?**

Our students

1. are fantastic, though not an 'easy ride' in any sense
2. usually come from mainstream primary school at age 11 as a large secondary school just wouldn't work for them
3. usually remain here until age 16 or 17 before going onto mainstream local colleges or training
4. have a wide range of Learning; Speech, Language & Communication and Emotional Needs
5. have many strengths and talents to discover, as well as difficulties, achieving up to GCSE/BTEC levels
6. make great strides with their personal, social and academic development during their time here

## **What else do you need to know?**

- We see this role needing to be full-time, or very close to full-time, in order to rapidly form the strong and positive relationships with the students that are necessary for them to succeed.
- Teacher professional development is a central part of our strategy for continual school improvement. In fact, this vacancy is due to internal and then external promotion of the previous postholder
- We have a mixture of primary, secondary, and FE, experienced teachers; there is a great sharing of expertise amongst staff.
- Our school community is richly diverse; understanding, celebrating, and capitalising on that is essential to the success of our school. We encourage applications from all sections of the community and have made a public commitment to Equality and Diversity.
- There are 30 lessons per week, including assembly. The total teaching commitment is around 24 lessons per week, including tutor time. Additional non-contact time may be provided to support school development initiatives.
- There are 2 classes per year group, each with 11-12 students
- Each year group has 2 or 3 science lessons per week
- We are a lead school in the Hackney Teaching School Alliance where we work alongside 11 primaries, 3 secondary, a nursery and alternative provision. Developing our impact on teacher training and CPD beyond our school is a priority for the coming years.
- We are a National Support School and support development of educational leadership, teaching & learning as far away as Suffolk and Wolverhampton.
- We have made the John Hattie Visible Learning Plus Programme a central part of our CPD programme, continually developing evidence-informed approaches to teaching and learning.
- Although they make great strides with their personal, social and academic development here, most students will still have considerable difficulties with their learning when they are in KS4.
- Initial salary is competitive but may be subject to further discussion once impact is established.
- All teachers receive an SEN salary allowance (currently £2384).
- We take safeguarding children seriously: employment is not confirmed until a reference from your current/most recent Headteacher and enhanced clearance from the Disclosure and Barring Scheme (DBS) are received.
- If you think your skills and experience don't fully fit the bill, but the rest excites you, please read on and discuss it with the Headteacher, Kevin McDonnell in an informal online call.

## **What do I do next?**

- Find out more about the life of the school from our website [www.stormonthouse.hackney.sch.uk](http://www.stormonthouse.hackney.sch.uk) and, if you're still interested
- Email [recruitment@stormonthouse.hackney.sch.uk](mailto:recruitment@stormonthouse.hackney.sch.uk) or ring Toni Altinok on (020) 885 4245 to get a link to our virtual tour video and/or to book into an informal online after-school discussion with our Headteacher, Kevin McDonnell
- Apply if all of the above 'fit'