



DUBAI COLLEGE
A tradition of quality in education

Teacher of Economics

Required for September 2018

Vacancy Information



Teacher of Economics

The Post

The College is seeking to appoint a lively, enthusiastic and highly committed Teacher of Economics to this thriving and successful department. As a teacher at Dubai College you will be expected to monitor, assess and evaluate the learning which is taking place and then report the findings to students and parents and adapt your teaching accordingly. You will also take responsibility for your own professional development and actively seek out opportunities in order to contribute to your own professional growth with support from the College. Finally you will also recognise that your role extends far beyond the classroom: you will be expected to be a form tutor to an assigned group of students, contribute to the school's PSHE programme through Enrichment Days, tutor time and class assemblies, as well as lead at least one extra-curricular activity per week and participate in one whole-school event in an evening or on a weekend at least once per term.

All applicants must:

have a good honours degree in Economics, with appropriate qualifications for teaching the subject to A2 Level

have Qualified Teacher Status and a minimum of two-years teaching experience post qualification

have an outstanding knowledge and understanding of current economic and business affairs in the UK, the EU and the general world economy

have experience of teaching A Level and IGCSE Economics in a British curriculum school

be able to work as a member of a team and contribute to the further development of the department

In addition the successful candidate will:

be expected to teach Economics throughout Key Stages 3 to 5 and be able to stretch the most able students and support all students

be able to demonstrate excellent skills in classroom practice using a wide range of teaching and learning strategies

be an enthusiastic, creative and innovative teacher with a genuine love of the subject, who can motivate and inspire students using a wide range of teaching strategies

be fully aware of Assessment for Learning and include AFL as an integral part of classroom practice

be able to work as a member of a team and to contribute to the further development of the department

be committed to his/her own professional development, and in particular to the use of ICT as a tool for teaching and learning

involve himself / herself fully in the College's extra-curricular programme where applicable

The Department

The Economics Department is the most popular and successful non-core subject at Dubai College. We consistently deliver an outstanding set of results at both IGCSE and A Level, with 82% of students achieving A*/A at IGCSE and 82% A*/A at A Level in 2017. This subject has always been popular but in recent years demand has risen for Economics to the point where we now have 45 Year 13, 41 Year 12, 65 Year 11 and 67 Year 10 students. We are a busy department of 4 dedicated teachers who pride ourselves not only on our experience but also our commitment to improving teaching and learning in the classroom. As a team we are known for our passion for the subject, our love of current affairs and most importantly enthusing our students to engage with the subject both in and out of the classroom.

Economics is an important subject at Dubai College and the department has a very high profile. Many of our students are gifted and many go on to read Economics and related subjects at the world's most prestigious universities. We all feel privileged to teach in a department where our students engage with the subject with genuine enthusiasm, pushing the boundaries of their learning in an environment in which they are actively encouraged to question everything. As a result the role of the teacher

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in such an environment is a challenging one: we aim to guide students through the learning process, stretching the most able (of whom there are many) and delivering rigorous, inspirational lessons to ensure our students are prepared and have the confidence to deal with all aspects of the new specifications.

The department has hosted A Level Tutor2u Revision Workshops in recent years and aims to hold the event again this year for both our own students as well as many others from across the MENA region. This is hugely beneficial to all attendees including staff: the 2 day event serves as an excellent CPD opportunity. We also recognise the importance of exposing students to real world economics through an active trips programme both in and out of the UAE (3 USA trips, as well as annual factory visits) and we are always on the lookout for other opportunities. Our Dubai Keynes Society has weekly sessions where external speakers introduce our students to their field of expertise including banking, finance and even politics. It also gives students a platform to extend themselves beyond the syllabus and present to the society or contribute to the termly newsletter. We also run a Microfinance Club where micro loans are made to those in developing countries.

As a consequence we are looking for an applicant who genuinely loves Economics, someone who is willing to go the extra mile to get students engaged in more than just the classroom learning. The successful applicant must show that they are a lifelong learner, keen to collaborate and share their knowledge with others. To thrive within this forward-looking and open minded department a positive outlook is essential.

The College

Dubai College was established forty years ago and has a national and international reputation as a world class learning organisation. We are an independent, coeducational, not-for-profit, selective school following an adapted English National Curriculum and our vision is “to be the best British School Overseas in the world, underpinned by four pillars of sporting, creative, philanthropic and academic endeavour”. This modest

ambition is built on a strategy which keeps learning first. As a consequence, we have a generous CPD budget which is used to create and support continuous learning opportunities for staff. The recent appointment of a newly created Deputy Head: Learning and Teaching keeps our core focus at the heart of the school. Supported by Specialist Leaders in Education who mentor and support staff in digital skills, the Harkness method, innovative pedagogies and Dubai College Online, teaching staff are encouraged to undertake action research projects and apply for part-time Masters degrees in education-related fields. Working collaboratively within departments during INSET days as well as increasingly reaching out across a network of other not-for-profit British schools in Dubai the College is continually striving to create systems for the sharing and creation of knowledge and learning. Whilst we do place an emphasis on academic rigour, in the true spirit of independent schools we champion the importance of the flourishing extra-curricular programme to which all staff contribute. Classes are small and the facilities, resources and teaching environment are very high quality. It is therefore no surprise that the College has developed a very strong regional and international reputation for Drama, Music and Sport. We are a member of HMC, COBIS (Council of British International Schools) and BSME (British Schools of the Middle East).

The British Schools Overseas inspection of the College (conducted in January 2016) classified the school as ‘Outstanding’ stating ‘It represents the very best of British education whilst, at the same time, respecting and celebrating the local culture in Dubai’. The key strengths of the school were identified as the progress and attainment of the students; the teaching, learning and assessment; the curriculum; relationships across the school and sense of community; personal development of the students and leadership across the school. The number of students on roll is currently 920 and comprises students in the 11 to 18 age range with more than 250 in the Sixth Form. The College operates an eight form intake of 160 students in Year 7. Approximately 55% of the students are British, but over forty additional nationalities are represented. The GCSE and A Level courses followed are those of one

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of three examination boards (Edexcel, AQA, and OCR). Examination results are consistently outstanding and in 2017 Dubai College's GCSE performance was comparable to the 12th best UK co-educational independent school according to The Times Parent Power Independent Schools League Table. Our excellent A Level results mean that up to 28% of Dubai College leavers now go on to study at the top 1% of universities worldwide (according to The Times Global Reputation Rankings) and we are yet again the top performing school in the United Arab Emirates achieving 85% A*/A grades at GCSE and 60% A*/A grades at A Level this year.

The College occupies a nineteen-acre site on the coast very close to The Palm at the mid-point between Dubai Marina and the iconic Burj Al Arab. Over the years excellent facilities have been developed and all teaching rooms will soon have generic LCD screens which allow students and staff to project their devices to the class. We have a multi-purpose auditorium which is capable of seating over 1000, the Sixth Form centre underwent significant expansion and redevelopment in 2014 and this year we have opened a new flagship English department which serves as a statement of intent for future renovation, as well as a new reception and administration building which will create the space for our regional teaching and learning hub. A new sports pavilion was completed in 2015 and we are fortunate enough to have our grass playing fields and other sports facilities located on site.

Ethos

As College we are aiming to engineer balance in the lives of students who are academically very gifted. There is no blueprint for a Dubai College student rather we are aiming for students to discover for themselves who they are and who they want to be. By creating a wealth of opportunities for students to participate in as broad a range of experiences as possible whether they are sporting, creative, philanthropic or academic, we are enabling them to discover their own place within the school community and in time within the world outside. We never lose sight of the fact that our academically gifted students aspire to

perform as well as possible in public examinations and we continuously champion the academic. However, the ability to work as a member of a team, to manage setbacks and failure and to recognise personal strengths and weaknesses will be as important in enabling them to live their life with integrity and is consequently a core focus of what we do here. As a result our students leave us as confident individuals with the knowledge, skill set and outlook to succeed at the very best universities and eventually in their chosen, often very challenging, career paths. When asked what standards we expect of one another as professionals DC staff demonstrate a real sense of vocation, that working at Dubai College is not a job but a lifestyle choice. Teachers believe strongly that they should be able to fulfil their academic responsibilities to their students and must be accountable for the outcomes of every one of their students. The next most important expectation of staff at Dubai College is that they should embrace whole school life and contribute fully to the extra-curricular programme both during and after school hours.

Working at Dubai College is intense; it is not a 9-5 job and for it to continue to feel like a real community staff must be willing to give freely of their time in exchange for working with very able students. Staff believe they should also display excellent professional courtesy to one another and their students: every subject is on the timetable for a reason and no-one should speak out of turn about somebody else's academic discipline; we work in an Islamic country and staff should dress professionally in line with cultural sensitivities and staff should treat one another and their students as they would hope to be treated themselves. Staff also feel that they each have a responsibility to go beyond the baseline: the national curriculum is a jumping off point not an end goal, an exam syllabus is a dot to be joined up to a bigger picture, the working day is the start but not the end of a day's work, an ALPS prediction is a minimum for a student to achieve. As practitioners staff feel they should be looking to develop, to enthuse, to inspire, they should be craftsmen with a passion for their subject and whatever their position in the school they feel they all ought to feel

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equally responsible for the outcomes of the College. As members of a school which feels more like an extended family than an institution we hope to educate well-mannered citizens who are empowered to fulfil their aspirations. The “not-for-profit” structure of our organisation perfectly embodies our ethos: everything is invested in the school and the students with nothing left over.

While this all sounds ideal it is important to understand, however, that Dubai College is not perfect. The post itself is an extremely challenging one and the College is tremendously busy. If you dislike hard work – sacrificing many weekends and evenings for the sake of the students – and are concerned by working with highly able, intellectually demanding students, this post is simply not for you. Equally it must be clearly understood that the College is passing through a significant period of change and we are in a new phase of the College’s development cycle. We are updating our learning approaches, facilities, policies, curriculum and IT capability. The successful applicant must both embrace and play their significant part in contributing to this change but without damaging, in any way, the core essential ethos of the school. It should be noted that, although we certainly embrace change, we do not run with every innovation emanating from the UK – we cherry-pick initiatives that suit our selective and highly able student body. However, it should also be noted that we are subject to whatever changes the UAE government chooses to make on an annual basis which can make for a very fast-paced educational landscape.

The College really does have a great feel about it. It already has an exceptionally strong national and international reputation and if you feel you have the potential to build on our reputation as centre of excellence on the global stage we would very much like to hear from you.

Remuneration

Dubai College offers an excellent remuneration package and the opportunity to work with our dynamic, highly qualified team in very pleasant surroundings with excellent facilities. The package will be discussed at interview.

How to apply

Applications should be sent by email to headassist@dubaicollege.org using the application form available on our website. The deadline for applications is Monday 26th February with interviews planned for Thursday 1st to Monday 5th March 2018. For further details about the College please visit our website - www.dubaicollege.org.

Dubai College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and operates child protection screening which includes checks with previous employers and Disclosure & Barring checks







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