OPOSSUM Federation

Enriching lives

Unleashing possibilities

Building futures

Ethos, Virtues and Values

Enriching Lives
Unleashing Possibilities
Building Futures

The Opossum ethos is based on our core belief that all pupils deserve high quality education, which engages, inspires and challenges; to ensure that everyone meets their full potential. We strive to create safe and happy learning environments, which promote independence and high expectations of all. We are committed to providing opportunities, which promote open mindedness, empathy and celebration of the rich and diverse communities, which we serve, aiming to ensure that everyone is able to contribute positively to society. We are dedicated to promoting healthy lifestyle choices so that our pupils develop physically, emotionally and morally. We are determined that our pupils will be successful and will leave us as confident, highly educated members of the community.

We do this by:

- Raising achievement through quality first teaching, which enthuses and motivates; aspiring all to fulfil their potential.
- Ensuring pupil voice is at the heart of all we do to enable children to become confident, resilient and reflective independent learners.
- Offering a broad and varied curriculum, which ensures all children can read, write and are numerate.
- Having an open and welcoming environment where everyone feels welcome and included.

To fulfill these aims, Opossum believes that the development of staff is crucial; we therefore have strong Professional Development provision for the whole staff team. We ensure that every individual has a 'Pathway to Success' programme which enables all staff members to develop professionally, ensuring that everyone reaches their full potential. We believe that our **staff are our greatest resource** and therefore we ensure that we invest in all members of the team across our family of schools.

Accreditation

At Opossum, we recognise the importance of working with outside agencies to quality assure the work we do, ensuring that the offer we provide is the very best it can be. Across our schools, the following accreditations are currently held:

- Pan London Quality mark, Gold award for Professional Development
- AfPE with distinction for the work we do in Physical Education
- UNICEF Rights Respecting Award, Level 1 for embedding a rights respecting ethos across the school, **UNICEF Rights' Respecting Award, Recognition of Commitment**
- Healthy Schools London award, Bronze and Silver
- Outstanding categorisation, Ofsted

Our Federation

Opossum is a family of schools located in East London, in the borough of Waltham Forest. It is committed to transforming and enriching the lives of the community it serves.

The Opossum Federation was formed in 2014 and has both soft and hard-federated partners. The Federation currently comprises four primary schools in East London and works in partnership with other schools through informal networks or Service Level Agreements.

The Federation is built on three core objectives enriching lives, unleashing possibilities and building futures; these aims are at the heart of all we do within our family of schools. We strive to ensure that our schools retain their individual identities whilst ensuring that they are reflective of our Federation's ethos.

We aim for our schools to be inclusive organisations, where we recognise and celebrate all abilities and encourage our pupils to become independent thinkers. Staff from across our federated and partner schools support each other and work successfully in partnership to ensure all the pupils in our community receive the best education possible.

By working in partnership with a view to positively sharing our knowledge, experiences and skills we are confident we can benefit, not only as individuals, but also as a collective.

Our Locations

Dawlish and Newport Schools are located in Leyton, east London – the schools are approximately a 10 and a 15-minute walk from Leyton and Leytonstone underground stations. The schools are in very close proximity, less than 5 minutes' walk apart. Leyton is a diverse, multi-cultural community, which, alongside neighbouring Stratford, is undergoing rapid regeneration, making it an exciting part of London to live and work.

Situated on the Central Line, Leyton is very accessible and a good base from which to explore all that London has to offer. We are one stop from the Olympic Park and the Westfield shopping precinct in Stratford. A mere 12 minute tube ride to Liverpool Street, a very popular area of London for bars and restaurants, 25 minutes from Oxford Circus in central London or approximately 15 minutes from EppingForest.

Thorpe Hall Primary school is located Walthamstow, east London. The school is a 20-minute walk from Wood Street overground station or a short bus ride from Walthamstow Central bus, tube and overground station. Thorpe Hall and Oakhill Primary Schools both have car parks. Oakhill is located a short distance from Thorpe Hall in Highams Park. The nearest overground station is Highams Park, which is a 10-minute walk from the school and a 20 minute train ride from Liverpool Street. The school is on the edge of Epping Forest which makes it a great place to enjoy outdoor activities.

The Federation works closely with partner schools across and outside of London and internationally. Members of the leadership and wider staff teams work alongside colleagues in a range of contexts to support the practice of others and to further develop our own. We are deeply committed to collaboration, in recognition of the gains that can be made from working together.

For further Information, please visit our website on www.opossumed.org

Teaching Opportunities at Opossum Federation

At Opossum, we believe that all pupils deserve high quality education which engages, inspires and challenges; so that everyone meets their full potential. We strive to create safe and happy learning environments which promote independence and high expectations of all. We are committed to providing opportunities which promote open mindedness, empathy and celebration of the rich and diverse communities which we serve; so that everyone is able to contribute positively to society. We are dedicated to promoting healthy lifestyle choices so that our pupils develop physically, emotionally and morally. We are determined that our pupils will be successful and will leave us as confident, highly educated members of the community.

We are looking for enthusiastic and committed teachers to join our team in September 2018 or sooner.

What we offer:

- All our teachers are provided with an **iPad, Mac Air,** and access to other necessary resources.
- **An enhanced PPA offer - In addition to PPA release** time we provide additional non-contact days each half term for planning and assessment moderation.
- Teachers recruited to the Hard Federation are offered a competitive London salary package (a recruitment and retention package) and our NQTs are employed from 1st July prior to the start of the academic year.
- **Specialist Tutors** teach PE, Music, French and Art in our Leyton schools.
- An innovative personalised **Professional Development** for all career stages.

We offer a bespoke package of training to our NQTs, which includes:

- A two day off site conference at the start of the academic year
- Taught sessions and Peer Observations
- Modelled/ Team Teaching
- Action Research Project
- Cross school visits
- Mentoring – Tutor and Peer
- Detailed one year Induction programme

If our offer is what you are looking for and you feel you have the necessary skills to contribute to our continuing successful journey we would love to hear from you.

To download an application pack, please visit either of our website at www.opossumed.org.uk. Please submit all completed Applications to Raihana Patel at rp@opossumed.org

Only applications submitted on the school's application form will be considered.

Closing Date for Applications: **20th July 2018**

All posts are subject to an enhanced DBS clearance and Satisfactory References and candidates are required to submit a self – disclosure form with their application.

The school is registered in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA 2018) as currently set out in the Data Protection Bill.
The school is required to share some of the data with the Local Authority and with the DfE.

JOB DESCRIPTION

As a class teacher, you will be expected to:

Teaching

- Plan, prepare and teach lessons;
- Assess and record learning carried out by pupils;
- Evaluate attainment and progression of pupils;
- Support school behavioural policies encouraging reinforcement of positive behaviour.

General

- Develop supportive relationships with pupils;
- Communicate and consult with parents of pupils;
- Liaise with school staff, parents and other professionals to support pupils learning;
- Participate in meetings as deemed necessary;
- Provide oral and written assessments, reports and references relating to individual pupils as required;
- Plan as part of a year group, contributing ideas and sharing resources with colleagues;
- Lead assemblies occasionally, taking turns on the school rota, and to prepare class/year group contributions to open assemblies and performances for parents;
- Participate in teacher appraisal procedures;
- To keep professional skills up to date and maintain a personal professional development file as a record of ongoing training;
- To evaluate externally provided training attended and to feedback useful information to aid school development;
- Promote the safeguarding and health and of the whole school community when on school premises or when engaged in school activities elsewhere;
- To inform the Head Teacher or Designated Safeguarding Lead of any concerns about any of the children in your care;
- Support and implement the aims of the Dawlish and Newport Schools' Federation.
- The job description and allocation of particular responsibilities may be amended from time to time.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

N.B. All criteria are essential unless marked D (desirable)

Qualifications

Qualified Teacher Status

Experience

Relevant teaching experience – Primary and/or Early Years

Commitments

- A commitment to creating a learning environment which provides equal opportunities for all
- A commitment to providing inclusive education
- A commitment to parental partnership in the learning process
- A commitment to teaching through first-hand experiences and problem solving
- A commitment to working within an multi-cultural environment
- A commitment to individualised learning

Knowledge/Relevant experience

- An understanding of the different ways in which pupils learn
- An understanding of a variety of teaching styles
- An understanding of the responsibility of the class teacher with regard to the health and safety of pupils in their care
- An understanding of a variety of ways in which pupils might be considered to have special educational needs

Skills

- Evidence of the ability to communicate clearly, both orally and in written form
- Evidence of the ability to plan/organise and monitor the curriculum for a class of pupils of mixed abilities, aptitudes and educational needs
- Evidence of an ability and willingness to work co-operatively with colleagues, outside agencies and parents
- Evidence of the ability to lead pupils towards self-discipline, of setting boundaries and ensuring pupils observe these
- Evidence of the ability to effectively assess pupils' educational progress



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