



Catering Manager (Secondary phase)

Reporting to:	Operations Director
Start Date:	ASAP
Location:	Ark Victoria Academy, Talbot Way, Small Heath, Birmingham, B10 0HJ
Contract:	Permanent
Working Pattern:	36 hours per week, term-time only (39 weeks per year)
Salary:	Ark Support Pay Scale Grade 7, points 14 – 24, £27,334 - £33,024 (pro rata £23,511.82 - £28,406 per annum)
Closing Date:	23rd November 2023 at 11:00am
Interviews:	Week beginning 27th November 2023

Ark Victoria Academy is seeking an experienced Catering Manager to oversee the kitchen in our Secondary school. You will prepare, cook and present food which meets our high catering standards and will lead and inspire the secondary kitchen's catering team. You will maintain high levels of food preparation and cleanliness across all food areas, ensuring an excellent catering service is provided.

The successful candidate will:

- have experience of catering in large quantities, ideally within a school
- have experience of cultural diversity with particular reference to food preparation and dietary preferences
- knowledge of healthy eating and nutrition and creating related menus

About Ark Victoria Academy

Aim high, be brave, be kind, keep learning!

Ark Victoria Academy provides pupils with a unique journey in their education through the curriculum, personal development programme, student experience offer and the vast range of opportunities that we are able to provide as an all-through school.

Whilst being a large school, we are able to retain a family feel, to nurture our pupils through their schooling and ensure that they leave us with the skills and qualifications necessary to continue their journey of life-long learning in a university or career of their choice.



It's for this reason that Ark Victoria Academy was judged 'Good' by Ofsted in May 2019, with a strong emphasis on expert subject knowledge from our teachers, strong teaching and leadership and a focus on excellence for our students and staff.

Find out more about us on <https://arkvictoria.org/>

Why work for our school?

Hear what our teachers have to say about working at Ark Victoria Academy:

<https://arkvictoria.org/page-strips/hear-our-team-0>

- We take CPD seriously, which is why we offer twice the number of training days as standard
- Our school's 'Wellbeing Wednesdays' are a great hit – get in touch to find out more
- Our staff can take advantage of our on-site fitness suite
- Access to Ark Rewards scheme offering up to £1,000 a year in savings from over 3,000 major retailers
- Interest-free loans of up to £5,000 available for season tickets or a bicycles
- Gym discounts offering up to 40% off your local gym

For an informal, conversation about the role please contact HR Manager, Kelly Mubarik on 0121 393 4459 or k.mubarik@arkvictoria.org

How to Apply:

Please visit <https://arkvictoria.org/vacancies> and submit your application. Please note we will be reviewing applications on an on-going basis and this advert may close earlier than advertised depending on the level of response.

Job Description

Key responsibilities

The Role

You will have overall responsibility for ensuring the Academy's quality of dining is outstanding in the secondary kitchen, including; dining operations, budgeting and finance, health and safety, and managing and developing a high functioning catering team.

Key Responsibilities (for the Secondary kitchen)

Catering and Kitchen Management

- Deliver an effective catering operation which provides; innovative seasonal menu planning, high quality food, friendly customer service and delivered to an excellent standard, which encourages healthy and nutritional eating habits
- Ensure effective kitchen systems and procedures are in place which monitor, maintain and improve the standards of the product and service including effective communication of allergenic ingredients in all foods served
- Organise and execute internal and external functions, events or theme days, as required
- Responsible for building and maintaining a highly functioning catering team by participating in recruitment and selection, effectively structuring each member's roles and responsibilities, providing regular training and supporting their wellbeing using Ark's People policies

Ambitious

Resilient

Kind



Financial / Budget Management

- Develop an annual catering budget and manage the catering function within the set budgetary and gross profit targets, recommending and implementing cost reductions and service improvements
- Produce reports and financial analysis when required
- Ensure effective storage, use and replenishment of food stock and associated records, and follow the Academies purchasing and accounting policies and procedures

Health and Safety

- Ensure that all kitchen and dining area/equipment area are maintained and operated to the standards required by the statutory, local authority and academy health, safety, fire, food and hygiene regulations and policies
- Ensure that a system of HACCP controls is in place and appropriate records are maintained at all times

Other

- Actively promotes the safety and welfare of our children and young people
- Ensures compliance with Arks data protection rules and procedures
- Work with Ark Central and other academies in the Ark network, to establish good practice throughout the network, offering support where required

This job description is not an exhaustive list and you will be expected to carry out any other reasonable tasks as directed by your line manager.

Person Specification

Qualifications

- Professional hospitality/catering qualification at L2 or above
- Health & Hygiene Certificate L3, (desirable)
- First Aid qualification, (desirable)

Knowledge, Skills and Experience

- Experience catering in large quantities, ideally within a school
- Experience of cultural diversity, with particular reference to food preparation and dietary preferences, desirable
- Knowledge of healthy eating and nutrition and creating related menus
- Experience leading, coaching and motivating staff, ensuring professional development and effectively challenging and managing any underperformance
- Experience setting and managing a catering budget
- Excellent communication skills with children and adults
- High level of proficiency with Microsoft Office

Behaviours

- Genuine passion and interest in food and in helping children learn to eat healthily
- A robust awareness of keeping children safe, noticing safeguarding and welfare concerns, and you understand how and when to take appropriate action.
- Belief that every student should have access to an excellent education regardless of background
- Excellent interpersonal skills, able to motivate and manage others effectively
- Professional outlook, detailed orientated and able to multi task and meet deadlines

Ambitious

Resilient

Kind



- A team player that can work collaboratively as well as using own initiative
- Calm and professional under pressure
- Understanding of the importance of confidentiality and discretion
- Flexible attitude towards work and demonstrates sound judgement

Other

- Right to work in the UK
- Commitment to equality of opportunity and the safeguarding and welfare of all students
- Willingness to undertake training
- This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check

Ark is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in its academies. In order to meet this responsibility, its academies follow a rigorous selection process to discourage and screen out unsuitable applicants.

Ark requires all employees to undertake an enhanced DBS check. You are required, before appointment, to disclose any unspent conviction, cautions, reprimands or warnings under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975. Non-disclosure may lead to termination of employment. However, disclosure of a criminal background will not necessarily debar you from employment - this will depend upon the nature of the offence(s) and when they occurred. To read more about Ark's safer recruitment process, please click [this link](#).

Principal

I am delighted and proud to welcome you to Ark Victoria Academy, a family school in the heart of Small Heath. I joined our academy in 2019 and am working hard with our pupils and staff to make sure our school continues to improve. We want to provide an excellent education for each and every one of our pupils.



As Principal, it is my responsibility to create an environment in which your child can become a confident, articulate, resilient and kind young adult. Our curriculum, enrichment programme and student experience days, help ensure our pupils learn, thrive and make progress. We are committed to preparing and supporting our pupils to go on to pursue careers they are passionate about, contributing positively to society and living happy, healthy and fulfilled lives.

Our school community works hard to ensure our values of being **ambitious, resilient** and **kind** underpin our work and are upheld by us all.

We know that all children can and will achieve success and our dedicated staff work hard to nurture, support and provide challenge, to make this a reality. We welcome and value the input of carers and parents; together, we work hard to help realise the dreams and ambitions of our children and their families.

Please take a look around our website to find out what we can offer your child. The best way to really understand our school is to experience it. I would love to show you around and answer any questions you may have.

Ms Ela McSorley, Principal



Primary Headteacher

Welcome to the primary Phase of Ark Victoria Academy.

The primary phase begins in Nursery and continues into Reception where we take in 90 pupils each year. We are incredibly proud of the start we give our pupils in Early Years, laying the foundations for the educational journey they will continue through to Year 11.

Our values of ambition, resilience and kindness underpin all the work that we do within our academy. We have high expectations and expect our pupils to work hard in order to achieve their full potential. Our academy is a calm environment where pupils behave well at all times.



Our classrooms are purposeful learning environments where children debate, discuss and develop their ideas with confidence and respect. Reading is at the heart of our academy. We know how important it is that pupils move into Year 7 able to read well. Our love of reading is visible throughout the school and in every classroom. We dedicate time to high quality teaching of reading in every phase, listening to pupils read regularly and developing children's passion for reading at every opportunity.

We pride ourselves on knowing every child in our care and our curriculum is planned, sequenced and delivered with our pupils at its heart. We dedicate time to ensuring pupils develop the core knowledge and skills they need in preparation for secondary school and enrich our learning with a wide range of extra-curricular activities.

We understand the importance of working together with parents and have regular opportunities for parents to come into school. We regularly share ways to help children at home, celebrate the work they have been doing and share information about the progress our pupils are making. We are always available (you will see us on duty every day before and after school!) so please do approach us with any questions you may have.

We feel privileged to be part of an all through academy, preparing our pupils for the secondary phase of their education which builds seamlessly on the work we do in primary. Staff in Year 6 work very closely with Year 7 staff to ensure a positive transition experience when children move into the next phase of their education with us. We ensure that children's individual needs are met, families are supported and our high expectations are maintained. We believe in each of our pupils and we are very proud when we hear of their success as they move into secondary school and beyond.

Mrs Victoria Twort, Primary Headteacher

Being part of the Ark network

Ark is an international charity, transforming lives through education. We exist to make sure that every child, regardless of background, has access to a great education and real choices in life. We know that great schools need great teachers, which is why we offer you the very best training and support at every stage of your career - from starting out as a trainee to running your own school.

Our highly-successful network of 39 schools educates over 20,000 students across Birmingham, Hastings, London and Portsmouth. They are achieving some of the best results in the country despite being largely in areas of historic academic underachievement.

Ark schools prioritise six key principles: high expectations; excellent teaching; exemplary behaviour; depth before breadth; more time for learning; knowing every child.

Ambitious

Resilient

Kind



Ark invests significantly in a number of professional development programmes which complement academy level training:

- The Ark training menu: we have developed a bespoke training menu, which is accessible by all staff in the network offering a wide range of training modules to staff in all roles
- Network support: schools share CPD, allowing us to share best practice and role specific training across the network, facilitated by in-school and central staff
- Ark staff receive 10 training days each year rather than five creating time to collaborate with subject specialists within each school and across the network

Ark is at the forefront of changing education society through education. You can read more about how Ark is transforming lives through education [here](#).

Ark Safer Recruitment Procedure

Ark is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in its academies. In order to meet this responsibility, its academies follow a rigorous selection process to discourage and screen out unsuitable applicants.

Disclosure

This post is classified as having substantial access to children, and appointment is subject to an enhanced police check of previous criminal convictions (DBS). Applicants are required, before appointment, to disclose any conviction, caution or binding over including ‘spent convictions’ under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exemptions) Order 1975. Non-disclosure may lead to termination of employment. However, disclosure of a criminal background will not necessarily debar individuals from employment – this will depend upon the nature of the offence(s) and when they occurred.

Reference checking

References from the previous and current employer will be taken up for shortlisted candidates, and where necessary employers may be contacted to gather further information.

Probation

All new staff will be subject to a probation period of six months (which may, in certain circumstances, be extended by up to 10 weeks). The probation period is a trial period, to enable the assessment of an employee’s suitability for the job for which they have been employed. It provides the academy with the opportunity to monitor and review the performance of new staff in relation to various areas, but also in terms of their commitment to safeguarding and relationships with pupils.

