



Director of Language Acquisition

The Director of Language Acquisition (DoLA) reports directly to the Principal and is a member of the Senior Leadership Team of The Arbor School.

Core Purpose of the Post

As a member of the Senior Leadership Team across the school, the Director of Language Acquisition will model the School mission, values and beliefs in action, particularly with respect to international-mindedness and intercultural understanding.

The Director of Language Acquisition is the key member of the team who helps to devise, monitor and intervene upon matters pertaining to the delivery of languages at The Arbor School. They play a key role in quality assurance and advise the Principal upon matters pertaining to the languages.

The Director of Language Acquisition, with the support of the school Principal, takes responsibility for the day-to-day operation of provision made by the school for pupils with needs for language support (whether in Arabic, English or another language) and provides professional guidance in order to secure high quality teaching and the effective use of resources to bring about improved standards of achievement of all pupils.

The key task of the Director of Language Acquisition is to ensure that language delivery is both efficiently and effectively managed. The range of responsibilities delegated to the DoTL with regard to provision and coordination is outlined below.

Key Duties and Responsibilities

- Strategic management of the learning of all languages.
- Working with the SLT of The Arbor School to screen students at admissions and devise plans for students who may need language support, including the appropriate placing of students into the curriculum.
- Overseeing development of Arabic as a native language and progress towards high levels of competency to the MOE Arabic framework.
- Development of Arabic skills for non-native speakers.
- Co-ordination of support programmes for those who require support in English.
- Management of the support structures for other additional languages such as French or Russian.
- Coordinate curriculum development and review.
- Provide specific and targeted professional development to the Language department and wider staff body as necessary.
- Recruit high quality language teaching staff.
- Support the fulfillment of the school development plan as referenced in KHDA academic plan application and take responsibility for those tasks allocated in that plan.
- Support the development of Inclusive values, awareness of ESD issues and development of strong language skills for all learners.
- Demonstrate best practice through the adoption of a reduced teaching timetable

Qualifications and Experience Requirements:

- A university degree and a recognised teaching qualification (e.g. PGCE)
- Degree in linguistics (or related)
- Bilingual Arabic/English necessary
- Experience in school leadership
- Good IT skills
- The ability to work with a range of staff at all levels.

Skills

- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills with pupils and adults.
- Initiative and problem-solving skills.
- The ability to manage confrontation and challenging behavior.
- Team working and organisational skills.
- An observant and responsive approach;
- Flexibility and adaptability to be able to respond to the needs of the pupils and change plan accordingly.
- A positive, energetic and enthusiastic outlook.
- Patience, understanding and empathy with pupils and parents.
- A sense of humour.