

Bedford High School

A Specialist Business and Enterprise College



To Care - To Learn - To Achieve

Administration Assistant

(Part time flexible hours up to 25 per week)

Vacancy Information booklet



Administration Assistant (Part time flexible hours up to 25 per week) at Bedford High School

Bedford High School is looking to appoint an enthusiastic, flexible, friendly, committed and reliable Administration Assistant, who has excellent team working skills, to be part of our hardworking administrative team.

As an integral member of the admin team, you will support the day to day effective running of the school office and provide general administration and clerical support in school.

Ideally, we are looking for someone who:

- Has experience of working in school administration who has excellent IT skills – including the use of excel, word and a working knowledge of information and finance systems.
- Is confident, with a good telephone manner.
- Is able to communicate sensitively with a range of staff, children, families and outside agencies.
- Can maintain confidentiality, is efficient and is able to work on their own initiative under pressure.

The successful candidate will be joining the school at an exciting time. Bedford High School is a mixed comprehensive school, which was judged “good” by Ofsted. The school is now full throughout KS3 and KS4 with a waiting list of families.

Our school is based over 2 sites with excellent facilities which include our 3G pitch, beautiful green outside space, dedicated outside classroom and large Bistro food court area, onsite gym and second food court area. Our inclusive values drive our vision and ethos across all stakeholder groups. Positive student/staff relationships, which are based on mutual respect embedding our SPIRIT ethos of Strive, Perseverance, Independence, Respect, Integrity and Tolerance are a key strength of our school. Student and staff voice are used across our school to help inform decisions and shape our school development plans.

We will consider applications for part time hours or job share up to 25 hours per week. The post is permanent.

Dear Colleague


Thank you for your interest in working at Bedford High School.

At Bedford High School we are dedicated to offering our students a high-quality education in a well ordered and purposeful school environment. Our values are: To Care, To Learn, To Achieve. We seek to develop happy and successful citizens who will make a valuable contribution to their community. We were judged to be a 'Good' school in October 2023. We are proud of what we have achieved but we are far from complacent and we are acutely aware that there is more to do to achieve our ambition to become an 'outstanding school'. To support our aim, we have extremely challenging data targets, underpinned by strong development planning and rigorous accountability. In return we offer you a committed staff and student body enjoying excellent relationships as well as dedicated, professional, hard-working Governors; you will be well supported.

If you feel you have the necessary skills and qualities to undertake this role, we will be delighted to receive your application. Please complete the application form (we do not accept CV's) which is available on our website at www.bedfordhighschool.co.uk. Please return completed application forms to recruitment@bedford.wigan.sch.uk or by post to Mrs Claire Taylor, HR Manager at the school address.

I very much look forward to receiving your application.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. McCaffery', written in a cursive style.

Mr P McCaffery
Headteacher

Our School

Bedford High School was established in 1976 when it was formed by merging Leigh Boys' Grammar School and Manchester Road Secondary Modern School, which were located next to each other. The former grammar school buildings now form the U Block and the secondary modern buildings form the L Block.

Our School Values

To Care, To Learn, To Achieve.

Our School Vision

We relentlessly strive to help our students to discover, develop and demonstrate their potential. This is our core purpose. Our aim is for every 16-year-old student to leave us as a rounded individual, who feels excited about the opportunities the world has to offer and is equipped with the qualities, virtues, skills and knowledge to be happy and excel in life.

At Bedford High School we put staff first by developing, nurturing and retaining a high-quality workforce, where there is a high-quality teacher in every classroom delivering high quality lessons every hour, every day. There are many opportunities for staff across all departments to make an invaluable contribution to the success of the school, getting involved in different aspects of school life.

Staff Wellbeing

Our fabulous surroundings provide an excellent working environment, which in turn can have a positive impact on our employees' well-being. However, this isn't the only benefit to working with us.

- Membership to Greater Manchester Pension Fund or Teachers' Pension fund
- Employee Assistant Programme confidential advice and support service available by telephone, website and App supporting you and immediate family members 24/7 with legal information for issues that can cause anxiety and distress including debt management, consumer, property or neighbour disputes, bereavement support, medical information, online CBT and counselling sessions along with a Wellbeing portal which offers a virtual library of wellbeing information
- Committed Wellbeing Team with fully trained Mental Wellbeing First Aiders
- Cycle to work scheme
- Family friendly policies
- Staff rewards and recognition
- Dedicated off site wellbeing hour for all staff
- Gym facilities
- Continued professional development

All the wellbeing initiatives make for a good work life balance and make you feel appreciated in the work place.

Feedback from our staff wellbeing survey tell us that our staff...

There are many, many things that this school does better than many others that I have worked in.

I'm very happy here and feel respected and looked after.

Bedford is a great place to work.

Since arriving at Bedford I have found the staff to be friendly, welcoming, supportive and are a credit to the school.

Job Description

Role Title:	Administration Assistant
Job purpose:	To provide general administration and clerical support for a busy school office and finance functions in the school.
Reporting to:	Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, Assistant Headteacher, Line Manager
Responsible for staff:	None
Liaising with:	Other school staff, students, parents/guardians
Grade of post/salary:	G3 pro rata
Hours:	Part time, term time plus two weeks. The hours for this role are flexible, working hours can be negotiated up to a maximum of 25 hours per week. As an example, if you were interested in working 25 hours per week hours could be 9.30 am to 3.00 pm. We will consider job share and all hours up to 25 per week.
Contract:	Permanent
Disclosure level:	All offers of employment are conditional subject to an enhanced disclosure with child barred list, appropriate overseas checks, medical clearance, relevant qualification certificates and references satisfactory to the school. In line with recommendations from Keeping Children Safe in Education Guidance we will carry out an online search as part of our due diligence for all shortlisted candidates, you will be required to complete a self-declaration of any criminal records or information that would make you unsuitable to work with children. At Bedford High School safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment and to adhere to the school's safeguarding policies and procedures. This post involves working with children, young people or vulnerable adults and is therefore exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act.
Base:	Bedford High School
Date:	February 2025

Main Duties

- To provide general clerical and/or administration support to the Finance Assistant and Business Manager.
- To take notes/minutes of meetings as required.
- To undertake general financial administration which will include raising and processing orders and invoices, chasing unpaid invoices, petty cash processing, preparing statements for budgets as requested, collecting payments and processing trips, dealing with queries relating to the online payment system used in school.
- Maintain and update manual and computer records to include management information systems.
- To maintain and process information as required by LA or DFES i.e. free school meals.
- To order equipment as requested
- To respond to general enquiries from staff, pupils, parents and visitors and to undertake reception duties on a rota basis.
- The jobholder may be required to undertake pupil first aid/welfare duties including liaising with parents/carers and staff.

Other Responsibilities

- To have due regard and comply with all school policies
- To undertake training as required/continue personal development in the relevant area

- To participate in own personal review and development appraisal process and to implement agreed targets
- To participate in team reviews/meetings as required
- Develop good working relations with other colleagues and students
- To contribute to the overall ethos/work/aims of the school
- To carry out the duties in the most effective, efficient and economic manner available.
- To work flexibly in the interest of the school and to undertake such additional duties as are reasonably commensurate with the post and level of responsibility
- To undertake First Aid Training

Health and Safety Training

Effectively and proactively implement Health and Safety legislation and good practice, including office, individual and DSE risk assessments, taking into consideration disabilities and specialist equipment required to enable staff to undertake their daily duties.

To undertake Health and Safety Training on areas within your remit.

Whilst every effort has been made to explain the duties and responsibilities of the post each individual task undertaken may not be identified.

Employees are expected to comply with any reasonable request from the Headteacher to undertake work of a similar level that is not specified in this job description.

The school will endeavour to make any necessary reasonable adjustments to the job and the working environment to enable access to employment opportunities for disabled job applicants or continued employment for any employee who develops a disabling condition.

This job description is current at the date above but will be reviewed on an annual basis and, following consultation with you, may be changed to reflect or anticipate changes in the job requirements which are commensurate with the job title and grade.

All staff at Bedford High School, teaching and support, have a crucial role to play in setting standards. Through a professional, caring and sensitive approach based on mutual respect, we achieve a great deal.

Person Specification Admin Assistant

A. Experience

	Essential	Desirable	Source A = Application I = Interview R = References T = Task/Observation P = Presentation
Experience of using a range of computer packages i.e. Word, EXCEL	E		A, I, T
Experience of undertaking a range of routine clerical tasks	E		A, I
Experience of undertaking basic financial procedures	E		A, I, T
Experience of using internet, sending/receiving email	E		A, I
Previous experience of working with children of a relevant age		D	A, I

B. Training and Qualifications

	Essential	Desirable	Source
Literacy & numeracy to undertake the tasks of the post	E		A, I
NVQ level 2 in Business Administration or relevant equivalent qualification/experience or willingness to work towards it	E		A, I
Willingness to obtain basic first aid certificate	E		I

C. Knowledge and Understanding

Applicants should be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the following areas relevant to the post.

	Essential	Desirable	Source
Knowledge of general office procedures	E		A, I
Understanding of general financial procedures		D	A, I
Knowledge of school related office procedures		D	A, I
Knowledge of working within a school setting or learning resource facility		D	A, I

D. Personal Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Applicants should be able to provide evidence that they have the necessary skills and abilities required.

	Essential	Desirable	Source
Understanding of the need and ability to maintain confidentiality	E		
Ability to complete tasks to deadlines with excellent attention to detail.	E		A, I
Good communication skills to respond to general enquiries	E		A, I
Ability to work effectively as part of a team and individually	E		A, I, R
Ability to take messages accurately and pass them on to the relevant person	E		A, I
Ability to respond to and resolve routine problems	E		A, I
Ability to work in accordance with the schools health and safety policies	E		A, I

E. Legal Issues

	Essential	Desirable	Source
Legally entitled to work in the UK	E		A, I

What to expect

If you feel you have the necessary skills and qualities to undertake this role, we will be delighted to receive your application form. Please complete the application form, we do not accept CV's and return to Mrs Claire Taylor, HR Manager at the school address or by email to recruitment@bedford.wigan.sch.uk.

It is important that you tell us about your skills and experience relevant to the role. Please ensure you answer all the questions on the application form and explain any gaps in employment or educational history, as the information you provide will be used in our shortlisting process.

Once we have received your application it will be reviewed and evaluated. If we feel that you may be suitable for the vacancy that you have applied for you may be invited to attend an interview, the format of which will be confirmed as part of the invitation.

Due to the high volume of applications we receive, if you do not hear from us within 4 weeks of the closing date then on this particular occasion your application will have been unsuccessful. We are not able to provide feedback on applications that have not been shortlisted for interview.

Should you wish to visit school please email us at recruitment@bedford.wigan.sch.uk and we will arrange a suitable time.

For more information on our school and to take our virtual tour please visit our website www.bedfordhighschool.co.uk

The interview process

Deadline for applications: Wednesday 19th March 2025 at 9am

Interviews: Thursday 27th March 2025, but will be held early for the right candidate.

Early applications are encouraged and we reserve the right to close the vacancy early and interview before the closing date if a suitable candidate is found.

Start date: Tuesday 22nd April 2025, or as soon as possible.

Due to the nature of different roles within Bedford High School, we operate two separate streams for selecting the very best candidates.

For support staff positions the interview process will consist of a formal interview with senior staff members, written and/or verbal tasks and tour of school.

For teaching positions, the interview process will consist of teaching an observed lesson, interacting with students, a formal interview with students, formal interview with senior staff members and tour of school.

All interviews at Bedford High School involve a member of staff appropriately trained in Safer Recruitment.

If you are successful in securing a position at Bedford High School, you will receive your conditional offer letter and relevant documents and information about the new starter process from our Human Resources team. All offers of employment are conditional upon all pre-employment checks satisfactory to the school. A start date will be confirmed in writing on completion of our safer recruitment process.

Our commitment to safeguarding

All offers of employment are conditional subject to all satisfactory pre-employment checks which include an enhanced criminal record with child barred list through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), appropriate overseas checks, medical clearance, references and verification of your qualifications satisfactory to the school. When completing application forms all candidates must provide a full employment history and any gaps to be clearly identified. At Bedford High School safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment and adhere to the school's child protection policies and procedures. All candidates must be legally entitled to work in the UK and comply with the Immigrations, Asylum and Nationality Act regulations. Applications from all sections of the community are welcome.

This post involves working with children, young people or vulnerable adults and is therefore Exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act.

Shortlisted candidates will be notified by email of the interview arrangements. Please ensure your correct email address is provided on your application form.

In line with recommendations from Keeping Children Safe in Education Guidance we will carry out an online search as part of our due diligence for all shortlisted candidates. Shortlisted candidates are also required to complete a self-declaration of any criminal records or information that would make you unsuitable to work with children.

As we receive many applications for posts, we regret that we will only be able to contact those applicants who are shortlisted for interview. Therefore, if you have not heard from us within four weeks of the closing date, please assume you have not been shortlisted for interview on this particular occasion.

We would like to thank you for your time and interest in working in our school.