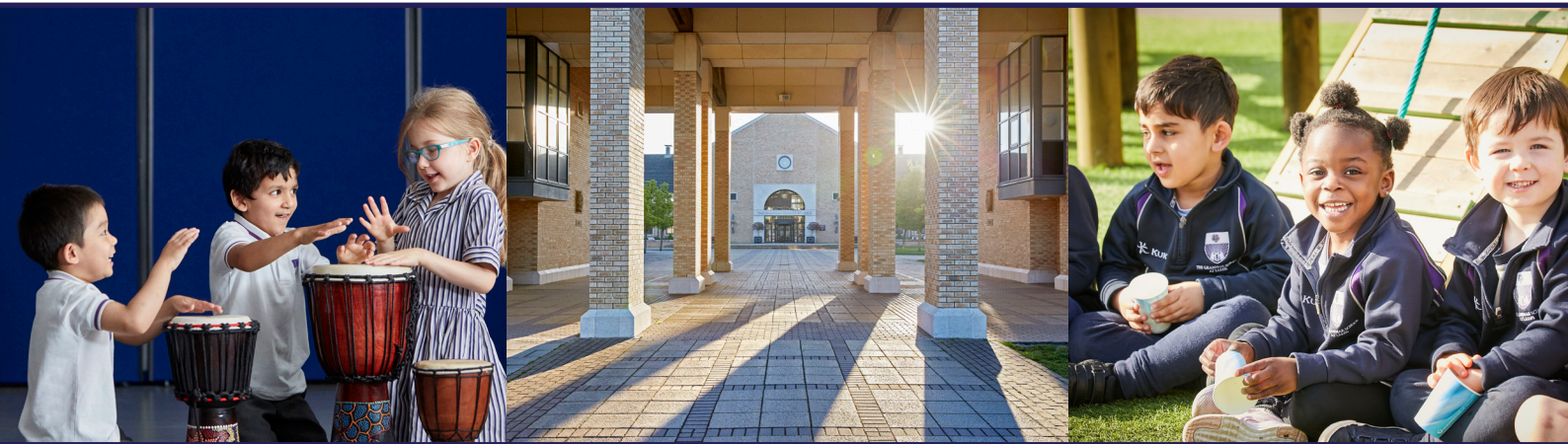


THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL
AT LEEDS

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APPOINTMENT OF

Assistant Head - Primary Phase

September 2023 or January 2024



The Grammar School at Leeds

The Grammar School at Leeds (GSAL) is a unique school. It was created through the merger in 2008 of two prominent schools (Leeds Grammar School and Leeds Girls' High School), on a new site at Alwoodley Gates on the northern edge of the city. The move to this site was completed in September 2020, when the nursery and pre-prep department, Rose Court, was relocated from Headingley. The school is delighted to have been recognised as The Sunday Times North Independent Secondary School of the Decade.

At GSAL, we now have pupils from ages 3–18 on the same site. The school operates a diamond model, with a co-educational primary and Sixth Form. Between the ages of 11 and 16 girls and boys educated in single sex academic classes, but come together for form time, PSHE, and co-curricular activities. It is one of the largest independent schools in the country, with a total roll of over 2,000.

GSAL enjoys all the advantages of a 140-acre, modern, purpose-built campus which is spacious and generously equipped.

Teaching at GSAL

GSAL is a vibrant school, offering its pupils a range of opportunities to develop themselves, as well as being a happy and fulfilling place to teach. We set and expect the highest standards of ourselves in every area.

We combine a proud history and heritage with a modern, evidence-based approach to teaching and learning. We seek to prepare pupils to face the world as confident, caring global citizens, ready and able to make a difference, within an atmosphere of mutual respect and understanding. All of this is based upon setting the very best habits for the future and all aspects of the holistic education we provide are crucial to this.

GSAL has been rated as 'Excellent' in every category and fully compliant by the Independent Schools Inspectorate at each of its last two inspections (April 2017 and November 2019). In addition, the inspectors used the Ofsted framework to rate the Early Years Foundation Stage at Rose Court Nursery and Pre-prep as 'Outstanding' in every category.

Leeds an exciting, modern city and the school's location offers the opportunity of living in a range of attractive areas, both urban and rural. Staff are provided with a supportive environment, and an attractive package of benefits. The salary for this position will be highly competitive and will reflect the importance of this new role in the school.





Primary

We are a happy, joyful community of children aged 3 - 11. At GSAL Primary we encourage our children to care, to be brave and to grow a little every day. These are our values which are at the heart of everything we do. We nurture well-rounded learners who think deeply and are comfortable with new challenges which supports their future success in senior school and beyond. The children benefit from wonderful facilities both inside and out which enable us to enrich their school lives and take part in a wealth of extra-curricular activities.

Curriculum

We have an integrated curriculum that allows children to develop their skills, make links and answer open ended questions to encourage them to think deeply. We value and make time for each subject in the primary curriculum. Children have daily maths and English lessons and we have recently re-written our schemes of works in these subjects to take into account the most up to date approaches. Collaboration is key to our approach with constant opportunities for children to articulate their thinking including use of talk partners and group work. Children benefit from the pastoral continuity of class teachers who teach the majority of the curriculum but we also have specialist teaching in music, French and PE.

The role

Following the promotion of one of our Assistant Heads to a Deputy Head position in another school, we are looking to recruit an Assistant Head to join our senior leadership team (currently Head, Deputy Head Academic, Deputy Head Pastoral and three Assistant Heads), to support the smooth running of GSAL Primary. The successful candidate will have responsibility for leading specific areas of school life (currently PHSE, co-curricular and community) as well as leading a phase of the primary school (YN – Y1, Y2-4 or Y5-6).

As a large primary school (current number on role is 644) we divide the school into smaller units so children feel safe, secure and known both in their class, year group and phase. The Assistant Head will be responsible for about 200 children in their phase, working closely with the Year Group Leaders as well as supporting the teachers and teaching assistants in the phase. This includes supporting staff with individual children, monitoring progress of all learners within the phase and being available to parents. In addition the Assistant Head will be responsible for leading and developing our strategy in PHSE, co-curricular and community (working closely with the Deputy Head Pastoral). This will include developing and implementing an action plan which may include leading INSET, working with individual colleagues, parents and key stakeholders in the community.

The Assistant Head will be an inspiring and motivating leader with a proven track record of success. Vision and initiative as well as strong interpersonal skills are a pre-requisite to inspire colleagues and pupils. The successful candidate will embody the school's values and ethos and encourage every child to succeed becoming life-long learners.



Priorities

The Assistant Head will lead their phase of the school as well as taking responsibility for the identified areas.

Member of the primary senior leadership team

Be an active member of the primary senior leadership team and be fully involved in the planning, organization and development of strategy in all areas of school life.

Phase Leader

This will involve working closely with staff, children and parents in the phase. You will get to know the children in the phase, support teachers with any concerns both pastoral and academic as well as lead assemblies. You will be available to parents, both on a one to one basis but also being a visible presence at phase events. For staff, you will lead from the front in terms of teaching and learning, be the first point of call, promote excellence amongst the team and help develop the staff in the phase.

PSHE

Working with the PHSE lead and Deputy Head Pastoral, you will oversee the on-going development and implementation of the primary PHSE programme. This will include developing the PHSE provision across primary, leading the monitoring cycle, communicating with parents, training staff and providing feedback from parents as well as children. Working closely with the Deputy Pastoral you will also further develop our social emotional education programme which will include training staff, monitoring the practice and making any changes as necessary.

Co-curricular

You will oversee the co-curricular programme for primary. Each term you will draw up a timetable so each year group has a reasonable range and choice of activities as appropriate to their age. You will ensure the clubs are adequately staffed and communicate the choices to parents. Using pupil voice and feedback from parents and staff, you will make changes as appropriate to the club programme. In addition, you will lead on our house provision, working closely with the Heads of Houses.

Community

You will lead on making links with the community including overseeing the strategy for charity giving and making links with relevant external stakeholders.





Next steps

If you would like to apply for this role, please complete an online application form.

Closing date: 09:00 on Friday 21st April 2023.

Longlist interviews will take place online on Wednesday 26th or Thursday 27th April 2023, with shortlisted candidates invited to the final selection stage on Tuesday 2nd May 2023. (Shortlisted candidates will have the opportunity to have an informal conversation with members of the senior leadership team to find out more about the role and the school either in person or online on Friday 28th April). These arrangements may be subject to amendment according to the prevailing circumstances at the time.

If you would like to find out more about the school or the role, or would like to have a conversation with the Vice Principal and Head of Primary School, Mrs Gabrielle Solti, please contact vacancies@gsal.org.uk.

The Grammar School at Leeds is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. As part of the shortlisting process, online searches on shortlisted candidates will be carried out as part of its due diligence. Employment is subject to successful pre-employment checks. All such checks must be satisfactory before we confirm any offer of an appointment.

Under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) order 1975 (as amended in 2013), all posts at this School are classed as regulated activity and therefore an Enhanced DBS check will be undertaken. Checks will also be made against the Barred List, it is an offence to apply for this role if you are barred from engaging in regulated activity relevant to children.

GSAL recognises the positive value of diversity, promotes equality and challenges discrimination. We welcome and encourage job applications from people of all backgrounds.

The School is committed to promoting a diverse and inclusive community - a place where we can all be ourselves and succeed on merit. We offer a range of family friendly, inclusive employment policies, and flexible working arrangements to support staff from different backgrounds. As part of our commitment, we are currently in the process of obtaining accreditation from the National Centre for Diversity



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