Head of Computer Science

At Ark Elvin Academy we are working hard to give all our pupils an excellent education and are looking for committed teachers and support staff to join us at this exciting stage in our school improvement journey. Our team of enthusiastic, high expectations staff are doing what it takes to rapidly improve our school and deliver the outstanding education our community needs and deserves. We are deeply committed to our mission:

"To ensure that every pupil leaves Elvin confident, articulate, and culturally aware; able to pursue careers they are passionate about, contribute to society and live happy, healthy and fulfilled lives."

In our recent OFSTED inspection (October 2019) it was recognised that Ark Elvin Academy:

"Pupils, parents and staff all agree that Ark Elvin Academy has improved out of all recognition. Pupils are proud of the school."

"The headteacher and leaders have very high expectations…… Staff want all pupils to succeed in every area of their lives, not just academically."

"The school is a calm, safe and supportive place for pupils. Pupils behave very well in lessons. They get on well with one another and with adults. At breaktimes the atmosphere in social areas is friendly. Pupils say they feel safe and bullying is not a problem. If there is any, it is dealt with quickly."

We are a large non-selective secondary school in the London borough of Brent, with excellent transport links to central London. We are committed to ensuring teachers can focus on teaching and have the opportunity to refine and develop their practice in the classroom and develop their leadership skills, we have:

- twice as many training days as is standard
- weekly professional development for all staff

In recruiting for our Head of Computer Science we are seeking the following from applicants:

- A commitment to our school improvement process
- A growth mindset
- High standards of professionalism and courteousness
- The potential to be an exceptional leader

You will become part of a close knit professional community of enthusiastic colleagues who benefit from the training, guidance and support from both the Ark network, one of the country's top performing school groups and our North London region of schools where we work closely with four outstanding schools; Ark John Keats Academy, King Solomon Academy, Ark Academy and Isaac Newman Academy.

We passionately believe in our six pillars and they drive all our thinking and our school improvement at Elvin:

Strong Discipline

Calm, purpose and order are established through the consistency of expectations and explicit teaching of discipline.

High Quality Teaching

Teachers are subject experts with an excellent understanding of the intellectual journey they are taking their pupils on and have mastery in effective teaching skills.

Mastery Curriculum

Our curriculum design enables pupils to make rapid progress and develop a framework of knowledge and understanding in each subject area that provides a solid foundation for further study.

Raising aspirations and enrichment

Pupils understand the opportunities that a school and university education will afford them in terms of careers and quality of life. Pupils develop their passions and interests through an Our extensive enrichment programme.

Character development

Pupils develop the characteristics that support their academic achievement, create thoughtful citizens and allow them to make reflective choices over their personal lives.

Developing leaders

All members of staff see themselves as leaders within an aligned community of professionals and are systematically trained in best practice. We create high performing teams to drive our school improvement.

Ark Elvin is on an exciting improvement journey – join us and be part of that change.

We encourage and welcome you to visit our school; to arrange a visit, please contact Anita Amaning on a.amaning-ampong@arkelvinacademy.org or 020 8902 6362.

Closing date:	7 February 2020
Interviews:	11,12,13 February 2020
Start date:	September 2020
Salary:	Ark Main/Upper Pay Range (£31,242 - £51,913) + Highly competitive TLR

Ark is committed to safeguarding children; successful candidates will be subject to an enhanced DBS check

Job Description: Head of Computer Science

Reports to: Vice Principal

The Role

Computer Science and Digital Literacy are growth subjects at Ark Elvin Academy as we seek to harness the power of emerging technology to be at the forefront of digital learning. As Head of Department, you will lead, develop and manage the effective delivery of an outstanding curriculum which enables the highest level of student progress and attainment in Computer Science; and drive our ambition to become a digitally literate school.

Key Responsibilities

Leadership and Management of the Subject Team

- Manage departmental budget, resources and learning environment
- Oversee and maintain all health and safety documentation within the department
- Lead behaviour management in the department, securing strong routines for learning, consistent with the school's policy, and liaising with tutors and parents when necessary
- Develop strong partnerships and ensure regular communication with parents

Improving Teaching and Learning

- Be accountable for student progress in Computer Science and Digital Literacy across the school at all key stages, ensuring that all students achieve results in line with, or better than, value-added predictions
- Lead joint practice development across the department subject teams, ensuring that outstanding practice is shared with all staff in the department and the wider school
- Model outstanding teaching and lead collaborative planning and development, including the sharing of resources and best practice within the department
- Monitor the work of the department through rigorous and regular lesson observations, work scrutinies, and provide detailed, constructive feedback
- Monitor the identification of and provision for students with individual needs, and develop differentiated learning and teaching methods and schemes of learning
- Liaise with other department heads on a regular basis to ensure curriculum and learning goals are met across all subject areas and to exploit cross-year and cross-curricular links
- Keep up to date with any changes in learning and teaching related to Computer Science, DfE guidance, assessment regulations, etc. and ensure staff are kept informed
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Curriculum and Assessment

- Be responsible for maintaining and tracking student progress across the department, analysing all relevant data to make data-driven changes to the curriculum design and intervention strategies and using the data to monitor the performance of subject staff

- Plan, deliver, monitor and evaluate the curriculum provision and enrichment for all year groups within the department
- Predict student outcomes and set ambitious targets

Teaching Responsibilities

- Set high expectations so that all students are inspired, motivated and challenged to reach their full potential, and in doing so meet their progress and attainment targets
- Plan and teach well-structured, differentiated lessons that are aligned to the school and/or network curriculum and cultivate every student's intellectual curiosity
- Use data to inform teaching and learning, identify areas for intervention and provide feedback to students, staff and families in order to promote progress and outcomes
- Manage behaviour effectively to create a safe, respectful and nurturing environment so that students can focus on learning
- Work collaboratively with both school and network colleagues as a committed team member, building successful, high performing teams
- Participate actively throughout the network, by attending relevant meetings, and, as appropriate, delivering network-wide training and initiatives
- Work with colleagues, students and families to develop a strong school community

Other

- Carry out other reasonable tasks as directed by Principal

Person Specification: Head of Computer Science
Qualification Criteria

- Qualified to teach and work in the UK
- Degree in an applicable subject

Knowledge, Skills and Experience

- Experience of raising attainment in a challenging classroom environment
- Experience of leading a team and/or developing others
- Experience of having designed, implemented and evaluated effective, imaginative and stimulating Schemes of Work
- Experience of improving the quality of teaching and learning through the development of schemes of work and high quality resources
- Experience of leading successful enrichment which inspire and motivate learners
- Experience of interpreting complex student data to drive lesson planning and student progress
- Excellent understanding of both subject and general teaching pedagogy
- Effective and systematic behaviour management
- Knowledge of the national secondary education system, examinations and curriculum

Personal Characteristics

- Genuine passion for and a belief in the potential of every student
- Deep commitment to Ark's mission of providing an excellent education to every student, regardless of background
- Excellent interpersonal, planning and organisational skills
- Resilient, motivated and committed to achieving excellence
- Reflective and proactive in seeking feedback to constantly improve practice
- Commitment to regular and on-going professional development and training to establish outstanding classroom practice
- Commitment to and understanding of professionalism in line with the National Teaching Standards

Other

- 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 our academies. In order to meet this responsibility, we follow a rigorous selection process. This process is outlined here, but can be provided in more detail if requested. All successful candidates will be subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.