

school 360

Big Education's new primary school Stratford, Newham



Primary Teacher

Your chance to join a pioneering school

This role is a one off. It is your chance to join a new primary school as part of a ground-breaking project to push the boundaries of how we do education in this country. School 360 will open its doors in September 2021 and we intend it to be something special.

School 360 will offer pupils a holistic education of the head, heart and hand. We will pay attention to each learner as a rounded human being, their happiness and self-awareness, their knowledge and understanding, and their skills and experiences. As well as a focus on crucial literacy and maths skills, we will develop a range of skills across the curriculum, both creative, scientific and academic. At the heart of our curriculum is a focus on social justice, both locally and globally, enabled through strong partnerships with the community around us and supported through contact with experts in their fields.

School 360 offers teachers an opportunity to reshape education, in a spirit of innovation and curiosity, and with a focus on social justice for the most vulnerable families and pupils. As a founding member of staff for the new school, you will have an opportunity to shape policy and practice, interfacing directly with us as Co-headteachers.

The new primary school will not be isolated but part of a cluster of four Big Education schools in the local area, as well as an array of educational, creative and business partners - a Big Education Zone. As a new member of the Big Education trust, teachers at School 360 will be able to engage with the wider team of teachers and experts in School 21, Surrey Square and two brand new secondary schools which will be built in close proximity to the new school.

The successful candidate might be an experienced teacher currently in a leadership role, but might also be someone who is an enthusiastic new teacher. What matters is the mindset. We are looking for someone who can bring something special to the new school. Someone who has the courage to innovate in their practice, who is itching to change the way schools approach the curriculum and teaching and learning. Someone constantly curious, self-reflective, eager to explore collaborations with potential for pupils, and to experiment with teaching and learning.

We will offer you opportunities to shape our new curriculum and to develop our pedagogy. You will have opportunities to grow and develop, as a teacher initially, but also as a leader, as School 360 expands and grows. And as Co-headteachers we are creating a climate in which you can flourish, coaching and supporting you to help you grow and develop your thinking.

School 360 will be a different kind of school and we are looking for people who are committed to exploring new approaches, and reshaping education. We would love you to call us so that we can get to know you and you have the chance to further explore our vision for the school.



Sarah Seleznyov and Andi Silvain, Co-Headteachers

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'S Seleznyov'.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Andi Silvain'.



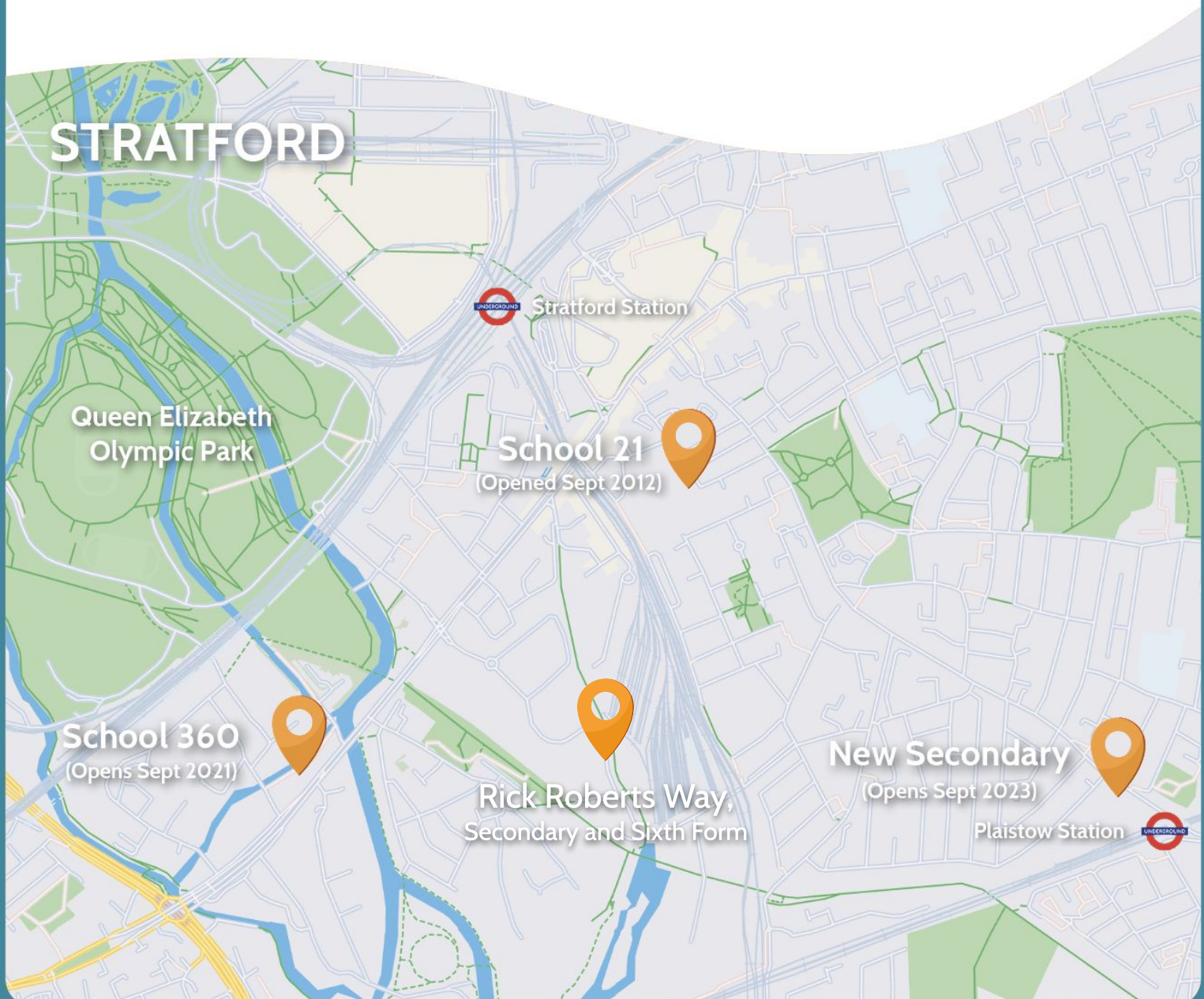
A Big Education Learning Zone

The new primary school is part of a new development created by Vastint, the property arm of IKEA. Apartments, social enterprises and creative organisations will be housed alongside this two form entry primary school to form a thriving community.

The school is close to the Olympic Site - now home to UCL, Sadlers Wells, the V and A and other extraordinary educational and cultural institutions who we have already have strong relationships with.

The school will be part of a group of four Big Education schools in close proximity: School 21, a 4 to 18 school in the heart of Stratford with a strong reputation for innovation, and two new secondary schools and sixth forms including one that will open in 2023 next to Plaistow station.

Teachers joining the school will have the chance to develop the vision for this professional learning community and with support produce a vibrant place to learn and teach.



A great learning environment

The new school is being built as we speak and although on a slightly constrained site it has a lot of opportunities to deliver an expansive and exciting education.

We have deliberately designed spaces with head, heart and hand in mind and a variety of teaching methods that include collaboration, oracy, project work

Some of the key features of the school include:

- A large Makerspace to do project work, art and design , science, cookery, interdisciplinary learning
- All pairs of classrooms have a concertina wall so they can become one large classroom for the year group
- Oracy staircases where students can gather both during lessons to perform and during break times.
- All pairs of classrooms from year 1 to 6 have a small group room attached to them
- A large multi-use hall with AV equipment for high quality performances
- A studio space for school and community collaboration
- All classrooms have impressive storage space
- A covered rooftop outdoor classroom
- A rooftop outdoor ball sport area
- A rooftop growing area
- A large outdoor reception area
- A small forest school
- A covered playground performance area



This is an aerial shot of the ground floor with a sense of the outside space.

1. You will notice concertina walls between each classroom so that it can be one large teaching space or two separate classrooms.
2. There is multi purpose room that can be used both as a community space and a studio for dance, drama and performances.



We have built 'Oracy' staircases on every floor for speaking performances and collaboration.

There are also good breakout spaces outside of the classrooms.



This is an aerial shot of the exciting rooftop space which includes:

1. A ball sports area
2. Growing spaces
3. Quiet reading spaces
4. An outdoor, covered, classroom



Distinctive Teaching and learning at School 360

Oracy and story-telling

Supported by the work of Voice 21, a partnership project with Cambridge University, the school will focus on teaching pupils how to speak with clarity and conviction, how to listen carefully and engage in productive and powerful conversations. Talk will infuse every aspect of the school curriculum, from role play to storytelling, from performances to community listening projects. For us, talk is as important a skill to secure as maths, science, reading and writing skills.

Projects and problem solving

We believe that knowledge is connected and organic, and that the best way to teach this is through exciting projects in which pupils will work in collaborative teams alongside outside experts to explore themes that motivate and are relevant to them. Each of these projects will have a social justice focus, enabling pupils to learn about what matters, and to understand how to effect real change in their school, their community and the world. We will help pupils realise their goals through producing beautiful work as project outcomes.

Play

We believe that play is not just for playtime. Our learners will learn through intelligent structured play in the lower years, and experience playful learning in the upper years. We see play as a vital tool for building relationships, being healthy in body and mind, developing imagination and problem solving skills and encouraging creativity. Much of our playful experiences will support pupils to experience life through the eyes of experts in their field.

Wellbeing

Our curriculum will teach pupils techniques to be well in mind and body, and to build happy relationships with others within the school and the wider community. We will explore mindfulness as an approach to wellbeing, and work to develop emotional intelligence and collaboration skills. We will connect pupils with nature through a Forest Schools approach in our carefully designed outdoor areas, and through the use of natural learning resources.



Developing you and your practice

At School 360, we will take your development extremely seriously. We are an organisation made up of people who want to create a Big Education, that develops the whole child. To do this we believe in innovation with rigour - both are essential: finding new approaches and new ways of thinking and implementing them with excellence and constantly testing, reviewing and reflecting on our practice.

The key ways in which we will support your personal and professional development are as follows:

- We will offer a teacher enquiry model of professional development, that engages teachers as researchers of their own practice, using approaches like lesson study or action research. Teachers will work in collaborative teams to explore lines of enquiry that are relevant to them and to their pupils, with the support of external experts, acting as advisers and critical friends.
- We will take a long-term view of learning, not expecting quick fixes, and recognising that changing practice can be tricky and takes time to show real impact on learning.
- We will make sure teachers have the time and resources to explore and learn in real depth.
- You will shape your own professional learning pathways, with carefully personalised support and feedback from us as Co-headteachers, peers at School 21, “critical friends” and those with expertise in areas you are working to develop. Our intention is to help you develop in the round as a professional: teaching, coaching, chairing meetings, working with parents, taking assemblies, working in teams, etc.
- All staff will have the opportunity to be in a “circle” or team to develop an aspect of the school. This gives everyone the chance to be strategic and have a genuine and deep input into the direction of the school. There will be many opportunities for leadership progression as the school grows and expands, including leadership of subjects, age phases and wider aspects of pedagogy such as Oracy, Community, or Relationships and wellbeing.
- Big Education offers a distinctive leadership programme to develop the skills of staff so they can lead in a range of settings. This leadership training includes inputs from great educationalists, entrepreneurs, leaders in diverse professional fields, and those with deep experience of building high performing teams.

The Big Education Family

The logo for School 21, featuring the text 'school21' in a bold, sans-serif font. The '21' is significantly larger and more prominent than 'school'. Below the main text, in a smaller font, is the tagline 'EMPOWERING ALL YOUNG PEOPLE TO TAKE ON THE WORLD'.

School 21, founded in 2012, is a 4 to 18 school in the heart of Stratford with a reputation for innovation with rigour. The school has developed a range of practices that have supported the development of a head, heart and hand expansive curriculum. These include oracy (speaking skills), storytelling, interdisciplinary learning (where two or more subjects collaborate) well-being (a unique curriculum) and real world learning (reinventing work experience).



Surrey Square, one of our MAT schools, has led the way in its work on values and well-being. It has developed a personal excellence curriculum and toolkit that provide every child with the skills and attributes to develop into successful learners and rounded human beings.



Voice 21 started out with teachers developing oracy practice at School 21. We then worked with Cambridge University to devise the four strands of oracy (cognitive, linguistic, social/emotional and physical). Five years ago we created the charity, Voice 21, which has grown and flourished, working with 1100 schools and 7000 teachers in all parts of the country. We believe that oracy should have the same status as reading and writing. We want every child to find their voice and be able to use it powerfully and skillfully in a range of settings.



The Big Leadership Adventure is our flagship programme to nurture leaders who want to push the boundaries of what is possible in education. Based on our head, heart and hand leadership model participants are taught a range of powerful tools and are involved in immersive experiences and workshops with a cohort of bold leaders.

The logo for Learning from Lockdown, featuring a blue circle with a white, pill-shaped graphic inside. The text 'Learning from Lockdown' is written in a white, sans-serif font across the pill shape.

Learning from Lockdown is a new website we have created to help make sense of the Covid experience in schools. A series of fascinating blogs from leaders, teachers and practitioners are aimed at building a better education system when we return from lockdown. We are turning some of the emerging themes from these blogs into playbooks and toolkits for schools to use.

What we are looking for

We have spent a lot of time thinking about the attributes that will make staff successful at School 360. These four qualities sum up what we are looking for.

Innovator

We are looking for someone who does not believe business as usual is good enough: people who want to develop new approaches, challenge outdated assumptions, and research new practice. We want to explore redesigning every aspect of school, from assemblies, to parents' evenings, from playtimes to report writing, from eating lunch to professional development. We are looking for a teacher who can add fresh thinking and fresh insights.

Relationship builder

As Co-headteachers we have a deep commitment to building strong relationships amongst children, between adults and children, between the school, the families and the local and wider community our task is to grow ourselves, grow others and grow the organisation. We are looking for someone who is warm and positive, a genuine collaborator who seeks to share, learn, and to give to others.

Learner

School 360 will be a thinking organisation, a rich environment for discussion, debate, thinking and evaluation. Staff will read and research, wrestle with deep questions about teaching and learning, and constantly look to refine and reinvent their practice. We will support each other as critical friends and collaborate deeply in order to develop our teaching craft.

Change-maker

School 360 is an organisation at the heart of it's community, with the community at its heart. We look for people who share our values and bring them to everything they do, and who can help shape a curriculum that empowers children to become the change-makers of the future.

Job profile

Title: Primary Teacher (with TLR or without) for Reception class initially

Salary: Inner London (competitive salary and TLR based on experience and skills)

Start date: September 2021 (with earlier planning, training and induction)

Contract: Full time, permanent, subject to an enhanced DBS check (Part-time and job share opportunities)

The successful candidate will be:

- An excellent primary teacher with both early and primary years experience
- Passionate about and skilled at enabling learning through play
- A skilled teacher of maths and English (including speaking, listening, phonics, reading and writing)
- A collaborative team player, able to work effectively with colleagues, parents and other community partners
- Creative in implementing curriculum innovation
- Interested in developing the whole child – head, heart and hand
- Experienced in dealing with complex pastoral challenges and working effectively with families to maximise pupil progress
- Experienced in developing secure positive relationships and classroom culture

School 360 particularly welcomes applications from ethnic minority communities, especially those that reflect the make-up of the local community.

Job description

Innovator

- To design, plan and deliver innovative units of learning and lessons for pupils.
- To contribute to shaping the strategic direction of the school by providing constructive critical feedback to the Co-headteachers.
- To contribute to a culture of innovation by exploring, implementing and evaluating new practices which can enhance learning.
- To support the design of a curriculum which reflects the stories and backgrounds of the community.

Relationship builder

- To collaborate with colleagues within the new school and the wider family of schools on professional development, enquiry projects and inter-disciplinary projects for pupils.
- To make a commitment to growing others and taking part in building the feedback culture of the school.
- To understand your role in ensuring every student is an avid reader, fluent writer and confident public speaker.
- To work with community partners to shape a curriculum that reflects the diversity of learners at the school.

Learner

- To be an agile, reflective and open-minded learner
- To be immersed both in your subject specialism and the literature around how children learn.
- To adopt a process of ongoing reflection and improvement within your teaching practice.
- To be a creative and deep thinker about pedagogy.

Change-maker

- To plan and deliver interdisciplinary projects which bring together knowledge and skills, are focused on real-world issues of social justice and which culminate in a high-quality end product.
- To have the highest expectations and demonstrate high quality care for all pupils and families in our diverse community.
- To be able to design high quality interventions for vulnerable pupils so that all pupils can achieve excellence.

Primary Teacher

- To support pupils to communicate effectively, through the development of both speaking and listening skills.
- To be comfortable using data to plan interventions for individual students.
- To plan for great lessons across a scheme of work, a term, a year and across different ages.
- To design, develop and deliver an exciting and rigorous curriculum that enables all children to succeed.
- To establish a safe, supportive and stimulating learning environment where equipment and resources are used to help children learn effectively.

How to apply



To apply for this role, please complete [the online form for this role](#). In compliance with Safer Recruitment guidelines, CVs cannot be accepted.

If you are interested in the role, do [come along to our information session](#) on Wednesday 24 February at 5.30pm.

If you wish to have an informal discussion about this role, please email:

Sarah Franklin: sarah.franklin@bigeducation.org

Closing date 10am Monday 1 March, 2021.

Interviews week beginning Monday 8 March.

