

CURRICULUM AREA LEADER – MEDIA & CREATIVE ARTS

Thank you for your interest in this post at WQE.

We believe that this is a particularly exciting time to be joining us, offering a real opportunity to make a difference in this thriving and vibrant Sixth Form College. We strive for excellence in all aspects of our work with students; their academic and wider achievements, their learning experiences, the support they receive in their academic progress, their learning environment and their wider experience of College life. The College operates across two closely located campuses, next to the University of Leicester on University Road and a smaller campus at Regent Road.

In this context, we are looking to appoint a Curriculum Area Leader in Media & Creative Arts to join our Curriculum Leadership Team. The role holder will lead and co-ordinate the work of the Curriculum Area supported by a Deputy Curriculum Area Leader and two Assistant Curriculum Leaders.

We are looking for a self-motivated and enthusiastic person with substantial and successful advanced level teaching experience where the ability to teach across a variety of Art and Design courses at this level would be an advantage. The capacity to lead and motivate staff, and students, will be essential as the successful person will help us to provide the best possible learning experiences and outcomes for our students.

For our part we shall make every effort to support our new colleagues in making the best of the professional opportunities offered by this post.

What we can offer -

- A permanent, full time role commencing August 21.
- A competitive salary on the Sixth Form Colleges' Teacher pay scale which ranges from £24,765 to £41,732 pro rata, per annum. Plus a responsibility allowance starting at £8,418 and rising to £10,005.
- Annual incremental pay increases, linked to performance, within the pay scale range
- A defined benefit pension scheme
- Staff well-being programme
- Cycle to Work Scheme
- Annual flu vaccination
- Continual Professional Development
- Free on-site parking
- Eyecare voucher scheme

APPLICATIONS

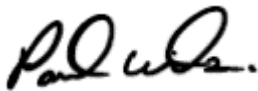
If you wish to apply for this post, please return the completed application form including the personal details and equality and diversity monitoring forms.

Please do not submit a separate CV. Only information on the application form will be used in the selection process.

Completed applications must be returned by **8.00am on Thursday 15th April 2021**. Short-listed applicants may be contacted via telephone and email, and therefore it is essential that appropriate contact numbers and email addresses are included within the application. Interviews will be held in the week commencing **19th April 2021** and due to the current Covid-19 restrictions, these interviews may be virtual. Full details will be emailed out to the candidate.

If you have not received further communication from the College within 2 weeks of the closing date, please assume that your application has not been successful on this occasion.

Please return all completed applications to: HR Department, WQE and Regent College Group, University Road, Leicester LE1 7RJ or via e-mail at vacancies@wqe.ac.uk



Paul Wilson
Principal

CURRICULUM AREA LEADER – FURTHER INFORMATION
MEDIA & CREATIVE ARTS

Media and Creative Arts is a vibrant curriculum area, which includes six A Level and three GCSE visual art specialist subjects and the Level 3 Extended Diploma in Art and Design, A Level and Level 3 Extended Certificate in Media as well as Music and Theatre Studies A Levels. At our last college assessment review, we were judged to be Grade 1, with excellent results and outstanding student study experiences. Fundamental to our ethos is a commitment to respect and nourish students' emerging creative identities whilst giving them teaching, learning and assessment structures that offer the best opportunities to understand their craft and excel in their accomplishments.

The curriculum area is led by a Curriculum Area Leader who is supported by a Deputy Curriculum Area leader and two Assistant Curriculum Leaders who together ensure the provision of high quality outcomes and experiences for students and lead the on-going development of teaching, learning and assessment. The Curriculum Area has 15 specialist teaching staff, 4 art and design workshop and studio technicians and a senior technician, all with a broad range of specialist skills and a passion for providing the best possible art and design learning experience. To support our students' learning we organise regular national and international study visits to galleries and productions.

We are committed to developing an informed awareness that allows students to value and experience the cultural heritage of this and other societies and cultures, past and present. The work of students and visiting artist and designers is regularly displayed in our own 'Gallery 12' exhibition space: This creates a valued forum of inspirational artwork, skills-based practitioner led workshops and critical debate.

The Media and Creative Arts Curriculum Area is located in a contemporary building which has accommodation that includes comprehensively equipped wood and metal workshops with CNC machining provision and extensive storage for work in progress, a ceramics/sculpture studio with an outdoor carving yard, 2 painting studios, a dedicated graphics studio and print area, fashion and textiles studio, a photography area with flash photography studios and darkroom, and a dedicated gallery space. Music and Drama have purpose-built spaces within the area and extensive building work is planned for the summer of 2021 which will increase the Creative Arts spaces and house the Media provision. The Curriculum Area Leader will oversee all aspects of Health and Safety for the area and should demonstrate a good level of experience in this aspect of the work.

More information about the curriculum area and its work can be found on the college website and at our course hub. Please see link below.

OUR CONTEXT

WQE is a large, thriving and vibrant Sixth Form College providing courses for around 3600 students overall. We are ambitious and determined to build on our successes in providing the best possible learning experiences and outcomes for our students, in a welcoming and inclusive learning community.

WQE enjoys a strong reputation and this is reflected in its popularity with students, attracting applications from the City, from Leicestershire, Rutland and beyond. The majority of our students come from the City of Leicester, an ethnically and socially diverse urban area and the student body reflects this. The College operates from two very closely located and spacious sites, each adjoining the main University of Leicester campus and which provide pleasant, well-resourced and inspiring environments for our students and staff.

The University Road Campus is the larger of the two in size, accommodating around 2400 full time students and the Regent Road Campus accommodates around 1200 full time students.

THE CURRICULUM

Across the University Road and Regent Road campuses the College offers a curriculum that is inclusive and accessible to students from a range of ability backgrounds from Entry Level through to Advanced Level, with the overwhelming majority at Advanced Level and equivalent courses at Level 3. The broad offer includes;

- A levels and equivalent classroom vocational/applied courses at Level 3, including Extended Diplomas
- GCSEs and equivalent classroom vocational/applied courses at Level 2, including English and Mathematics
- Level 1 vocational/applied courses and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

STUDENTS AND THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS

Examination results at advanced level are strong. A levels make up the majority of provision, and the pass rate in the summer of 2020 was over 98%; progression rates for students following programmes at other levels are also high. We are particularly proud that our results are achieved by students with a wide range of prior achievement and from diverse social backgrounds. This is a reflection of our commitment to widening participation and a culture of high expectations. Our students are responsive, like to learn and want to succeed. In a typical

year the majority of them progress to higher education, many staying in the Midlands region but others going further afield.

Alongside excellent teaching, high quality support and guidance are crucial to our students' success. We invested in support for our students, with specific teams overseeing students' progress and these teams work closely with teaching staff, with staff responsible for Careers or progression and with the Student Services and Academic Support teams.

STAFF

Across our two campuses, in the region of 370 teaching and support staff are the heart of our work and success. A striking feature of the staff is their loyalty; many have spent by far the greater part of their careers at WQE and remain as enthusiastic as ever. At the same time the College's recent merger and continuing growth and popularity provides opportunities for new staff to join, and the College is fortunate to still being able to attract high quality fields.

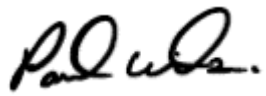
The College is strongly committed to continuous professional development and actively encourages all staff to reach their full potential. The College also continues to benefit from its very close links with five similar Sixth Form Colleges through the CENBASE peer development and review group with the mix of subject specific networks and the annual joint training day, focused on sharing practice in teaching and learning.

RESOURCES

Our financial health is strong and we currently have a turnover of over £18m pa. Teaching areas are well resourced and we continue to invest in order to improve students' experiences. Our buildings and estate create an inspiring environment and are well maintained. As student numbers have increased and to keep the buildings in good order the following are examples of our investments in facilities and learning environment;

A £10m project was completed in 2009, providing new accommodation for Media and Creative Arts (together with a cafe) and the refurbishment of the Science areas. In addition, the science accommodation was further extended in 2011 with the construction of a new building. In 2013 we opened a newly refurbished and extended student dining and social area and in 2014, a new Learning Resource Centre was created and a new large Sports Hall and classroom block were developed.

More recently, developments have focused on improvements to teaching accommodation. In 2015 we undertook two substantial refurbishment projects, to create a suite of refurbished classrooms and a new suite of IT teaching rooms. A refurbishment programme to improve a large number of existing classrooms and to upgrade the decorative condition continues, with the summer of 2019 seeing the most recent £1m investment to create two suites of refurbished classrooms and additional social and café spaces. The College Corporation has recently developed and approved an ambitious estates strategy, with commitment to substantial planned investments in the current estate and accommodation. Those investments will not only further upgrade existing accommodation, but will also create a strengthened sense of place, specialism and identity for all curriculum areas, as well as improving the wider student experience.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Wilson". The script is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "P" and a trailing flourish.

Paul Wilson