**Job Description**

**Lead Teacher of Philosophy**

An outstanding teacher is required to become the founding Lead Teacher of Philosophy at the London Academy of Excellence Tottenham. The key responsibility of the role will be to ensure that teaching and learning in the department are excellent and therefore students make outstanding academic progress. In fulfilling this role, the successful candidate will be model the values of the school in being academically ambitious, committed to endeavour, having a strong sense of community and consistently reflective.

**Key Responsibilities of the Post:**

* To ensure that learners in the department make outstanding academic progress and are prepared for the most competitive post 18 destinations
* To harness the school’s partnerships for the benefits of students and the development of staff
* To contribute fully to the extended curricular offer at LAE Tottenham and to provide effective pastoral support to a tutor group of ambitious and aspirational students

**Specific tasks to achieve the above:**

* To teach excellent lessons in Philosophy at A level and to support excellent teaching across the department modelling the school’s teaching and learning principles of challenge, enjoyment, responsiveness, rigour and scholarship
* To have high quality and in depth subject knowledge
* To develop a love of learning in students studying Philosophy
* To effectively line manage a group of staff and lead the appraisal process within the department.
* To contribute to an effective university preparation programme
* To constantly review and refine schemes of work to suit the needs of learners
* To plan and adapt teaching effectively to meet the needs of all students, especially those who require additional support
* To ensure the provision of resources which allow students to become independent learners
* To provide effective formative and summative assessment for all students in a timely and effective manner
* To build a positive academically-focused rapport with all learners
* To support students academically outside lessons as appropriate
* To ensure that effective extension and interventions sessions take place on a regular basis
* To have an effective understanding of the examination arrangements in the specialist subject area
* To create a challenging but caring and nurturing learning environment
* To produce high quality resources and maintain displays which promote academic achievement
* To actively reflect on teaching practice and welcome feedback from colleagues
* To develop artistic opportunities for students not taking the A Level course
* To be a pastoral tutor for a group of Year 12 or Year 13 tutees, supporting their academic and pastoral development
* To play an active role in the co-curricular offer at LAE Tottenham, including the clubs and societies, sports and careers programmes as well as parts which require evening or weekend commitments

**General Responsibilities of an LAE Tottenham member of staff**

* To promote a culture of aspiration for all of our students
* To be supportive and understanding of the differing needs of young people
* To play a full part in the CPD programme, including prior to the start of the academic year
* To take part in evening and weekend events as appropriate
* To model intellectual rigour and a can-do attitude
* To support an atmosphere of openness and honesty
* To care for all other members of the school community
* To show a genuine passion for social mobility

**Other clauses:**

* This job description allocates duties and responsibilities but does not direct the particular amount of time to be spent on carrying them out and no part of it may be so construed
* The job description is not necessarily a comprehensive definition of the post. It will be reviewed regularly may be subject to modification or amendment at any time after consultation with the holder of the post
* This job description may be varied to meet the changing demands of the school at the reasonable discretion of the Headteacher
* This job description does not form part of the contract of employment. It describes the way the post holder is expected and required to perform and complete particular duties
* The postholder may deal with sensitive material and should maintain confidentiality in all school related matters

**Recruitment and Selection Policy Statement**

The School’s governing body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

**Person Specification**

**Lead Teacher of Philosophy**

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| **Essential professional criteria** | **How these will be confirmed** |
| **Qualifications:**  A good honour's degree or equivalent in **Philosophy or a closely related subject**  Excellent grades at A-Level or equivalent | Sight of original exam certificates / academic qualifications will be requested |
| **Knowledge/Experience:**  Accurate and up to date knowledge of the relevant ‘A’ Level specification and related pedagogy  A strong knowledge of the skills needed by students to succeed in the given subject area  A good understanding of how to accurately assess student progress and vary teaching to ensure that all students achieve  Experience of positive and impactful work with young people  Evidence of continued subject and/or professional development  The ability to lead a departmental team and to work effectively in a wider academic team | Confirmation of former relevant employment will be requested.  To be tested at interview |
| **Skills and Qualities:**  An unwavering belief in the primary importance of safeguarding young people  A passion for helping young people to achieve their potential  An excellent team member  Adaptability and flexibility  A sense of humour and positive outlook  Strong communication skills  An efficient and effective administrator, able to effectively meet deadlines  A passion for extra curricular experiences  A leader who is able to inspire team members to achieve their best | There will be opportunities at interview to discuss experiences and examples that demonstrate these.  Referees will also be asked about these skills and qualities. |

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| **Desirable professional criteria** | **How these will be confirmed** |
| **Qualifications:**  Qualified Teacher Status  Postgraduate degree and or further relevant professional studies | Sight of original exam certificates / academic qualifications will be requested. |
| **Knowledge/Experience:**  Evidence of teaching academically ambitious young people at ‘A’ level  An excellent understanding of Higher Education, including the UCAS process  Experience of effectively leading part or all of an academic department | Confirmation of former relevant employment will be requested. |