



Red Balloon Learner Centre Reading
220-222 Kings Road
Reading
RG1 4JJ
01189 583004

Dear Applicant

December 2016

Re: Teacher at Red Balloon - Reading, 220 King Road, RG1 4JJ

Are you looking for a new challenge in your teaching career? Would you like to work with young people to really change their outlook on education and to support them to progress both academically as well as in their wellbeing? If so, a position at Red Balloon Reading could be for you. The post would suit someone who would welcome the opportunity to work in this specialist field with vulnerable young people.

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a highly motivated teacher or experienced teaching assistant who can teach maths or English at KS3 and KS4. S/he will need the skills to differentiate their teaching so that students who have gaps in their learning are able to make good progress. The ability and willingness to teach other subjects such as ICT or design technology and to support students on trips would be a distinct advantage.

Red Balloon Reading is an independent school that provides a safe environment for students aged 11-17 who have self-excluded from mainstream school due to bullying or other trauma. We support our students to recover their self-esteem and develop their love of learning. We work one-on-one or in small groups to re-engage students in learning and to enable them to develop positive relationships with their peers and staff.

You will also possess the empathic qualities and excellent communication skills necessary to build strong professional relationships with students, thus allowing them to regain their confidence, ready for re-entry to mainstream education and adult life.

You will be able to adapt your teaching to respond to the strengths and needs of our students.

If you feel you possess the skills and passion to be a teacher at Red Balloon-Reading, please complete and return the application form to Emma Goodfellow, Coordinator (Head Teacher) of RB-Reading at emma.goodfellow@reading.rblc.org.uk or post it to: Emma Goodfellow, Red Balloon – Reading, 220 King Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 4JJ. Please note CVs will not be accepted.

For further information about Red Balloon, please visit <http://www.redballoonlearner.org.uk>

The closing date for applications is the 13th January 2017. Interviews will take place during the week beginning the 16th January 2017. The successful applicant will be notified as soon as possible thereafter. We look forward to receiving your application.

Yours sincerely

Geraldine Norris
Director of Operations

About Red Balloon

Red Balloon Learner Centre Group

Red Balloon Learner Centre Group (RBLCG or Group) provides a national structure for all the centres. It has three main aims. These are: to lobby government, MPs and others at a national level regarding the fact that some severely bullied children are not receiving an appropriate education or support; raise the awareness of educational commissioners (local authorities, schools and academies) regarding the provision we offer; help establish and maintain Red Balloon philosophy and best practice across all centres.

Red Balloon Learner Centres (Centres) provide a safe environment for severely bullied children and young people who meet great difficulties in attending mainstream school. Each centre aims to raise students' self-esteem, get them back on an educational track and, when ready, support their return to mainstream education or entry to training or employment.

Each centre is a charity in its own right and a company limited by guarantee. Governance of a centre is the responsibility of the Board of Trustees and a Fundraising Committee. The Board usually meets every month and coordinators are expected to provide a written or verbal report for the trustees. Group provides education and operational support together with strategic guidance.

Red Balloon Learner Centres are designed to support 15 – 20 children aged between 11 and 17 at any one time, with a very high staff student ratio. Students follow an education programme tailored to their academic and personal and social needs. Much of the teaching is one-to-one or small group. All students and teachers take lunch together.

The management and running of a Red Balloon Learner Centre is the responsibility of the coordinator, supported by their senior management team. The staff group comprises an administrator, teachers, a housekeeper, counsellors / therapists, and student support assistants. There will also be volunteers.

Apart from the centre in Reading, there are centres in Cambridge, Norwich and NW London, as well as a virtual Red Balloon called Red Balloon of the Air.

Red Balloon – Reading was opened in November 2011 and moved to its current location (220-222 Kings Road, Reading, RG1 4JJ) in February 2012. It currently has 10 students, a co-ordinator, a deputy co-ordinator, two full-time teachers, one part-time teacher, two student support assistants and two music therapists.

Job Description

Red Balloon Teacher

Red Balloon - Reading - Maths and Science Teacher	
Job Title	Teacher
Salary	40 hours (5 days) per week, 38 weeks per year (including 2 weeks non-contact). Part-time hours will be considered £14,000 to £21,500
Hours	Start 8.30 – finish 4.30. Days and times by negotiation. Staff may be expected to stay later for the weekly meeting.
Responsible to	The Coordinator

Role and Context	
Job purpose	The purpose of the role is to teach and to participate fully in the community of Red Balloon - Reading, in order to support students' confidence and development subject skills as well as their general wellbeing.
Context	The aim of the centre is the recovery of bullied children. The means by which this is done is by enhancing students' self-esteem, encouraging them to make decisions and gradually take control of their own learning to build their self-confidence, helping them to understand themselves and others, and providing a safe environment. Red Balloon is committed to ensuring that all members of the community are safe, particularly that all child protection / safeguarding procedures are followed, and promoting the welfare of young people: it is essential that the jobholder concur with these aims.
Dimensions	Red Balloon – Reading offers support to up to 20 students, with a full-time equivalent of eight staff in addition to the administrator and the housekeeper.
Relationships	Works closely with the Coordinator, is part of the staff team, is a participating member of the community, and develops a good relationship with parents/carers, volunteers and visitors.
Other job information	Red Balloon and the Trustees will be accountable for all working arrangements and welfare provision.

Principle Accountabilities	
<p>As a member of the teaching team, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● coordinate and teach maths or English in a way which reengages learners', taking into account their own interests and needs as well as the demands of external accreditation; ● design and implement an individualised learning programme for each student through negotiation; ● set up and maintain organised, coherent academic plans; ● set up and maintain records of academic and behavioural achievement for each student; 	

- recognise and respond to the need to provide evidence of students' progress;
- liaise with other staff members to plan and organise teaching and well being activities;
- regularly advise and consult the coordinator, discussing any concerns that arise and acting on any agreed decisions;
- maintain a tidy, organised teaching area that is an inviting place in which to learn;
- record significant incidents, accidents, behaviour:
- risk assess own teaching area:
- act as a tutor to a small group of students helping them to set targets and recognise successes.
- Safeguarding young people is the responsibility of everyone who works for Red Balloon - the postholder must agree to implement our practice in this area.

As a member of staff, to:

- abide by and support the philosophy of Red Balloon;
- take responsibility for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students;
- act as a mentor/tutor to allocated students;
- co-operate with the other staff in the running of the centre;
- attend staff meetings and CPD as required;
- give feedback to parents/carers, write achievement records for students as required, and attend parents'/carers' consultations.

Additional responsibilities may include:

- facilitating learning opportunities outside of the core curriculum.

Key Performance Indicators

Student progress at KS3

Student performance in external accreditation

Feedback from students and parents/carers

Feedback from managers and colleagues

Person Specification

Qualifications	Qualified or experienced teacher/youth worker/TA. A willingness to undertake further training if not already qualified.
Skills/Knowledge	Good written and verbal communication skills; understanding of bullying and its effects; understanding of (the needs and legal right of SEND students; ability to build strong, professionally appropriate, relationships with young people.
Key Qualities	Flexible and adaptable; innovative and creative; reliable and organised; caring; autonomous.

Experience	<p>... of:</p> <p>teaching, including one-to-one and small-group; dealing with withdrawn, depressed students or those who have experienced trauma; working with students to develop life/social skills.</p>
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Key Competencies	
Self Management	Manages personal priorities, pressures and workload in an efficient, proactive and effective way.
Communications	Listens to and communicates clearly and supportively with individuals and groups to help mutual understanding.
Equality and Diversity	Is constantly mindful of equality and diversity issues in providing services and opportunities, and seeks to avoid discrimination. At Red Balloon, bearing in mind that we treat children according to their individual needs, we provide a differentiated service.
Teamwork	Develops and maintains constructive team working relationships and works with all colleagues, students, parents/carers, trustees and managers to achieve the objectives of Red Balloon.

<p>General info</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The job specification details the main outcomes required and should only be updated to reflect major changes that impact on the outcomes for the job. Specific tasks, goals and performance criteria will be agreed through the appraisal scheme. • All work performed/duties undertaken must be carried out in accordance with relevant Red Balloon philosophy, policies and procedures, within legislation, and with regard to the needs of students, staff and parents. • Post holders will be expected to be flexible in their duties and carry out any other duties commensurate with the position and falling within the general scope of the job, as requested by Red Balloon. • For further information about Red Balloon - Reading visit http://redballoonlearner.org.uk
<p>Please e-mail your application form to Emma Goodfellow, Coordinator (Head Teacher) of RB-Reading at admin@reading.rblc.org.uk or post it to: Emma Goodfellow, Red Balloon Learner Centre – Reading, 220 King Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 4JJ.</p> <p>CLOSING DATE for applications is Friday 13th January 2017. Interviews will be held during the week beginning the 16th January 2017. Start date is as soon as possible and will be negotiated at interview.</p>

Advertisement

Teacher at Red Balloon - Reading

Are you an outstanding teacher or teaching assistant who wants to work with vulnerable young people in a small supportive setting?

Red Balloon Learner Centre, based in Reading, is looking for enthusiastic and flexible staff to deliver English or maths to students aged 11-17.

Red Balloon offers staff the opportunity to work in a small community to make a real difference to young people who have experienced trauma. We are looking for experienced staff or those looking to work with young people to help them to re-engage with learning as well as take part in the wider aspects of the community. Class sizes are small, typically 1 to 4 students, with a maximum of 15 students attending the centre. We work to the needs of the individual student which gives a fantastic opportunity to develop your skills in differentiation in relation to the students' academic and wellbeing needs.

The position will initially be for one term with the possibility of an extended contract. Remuneration will be between £14,000 for unqualified up to £21,500 for qualified teachers for 40 hours a week. A part-time post may also be considered.

Please see job description for further details or email emma.goodfellow@reading.rblc.org.uk to discuss the opportunities available. We also welcome visits to the Centre from prospective applicants.

Closing date for applications is Friday 13th January 2017.

Interviews will take place during the week beginning the 16th January 2017.

Red Balloon Reading is situated at 220-222 Kings Road Reading RG1 4JJ

Red Balloon is an Equal Opportunities Employer. Safeguarding young people is the responsibility of everyone who works for Red Balloon - the postholder must agree to implement our practice in this area. The person appointed will be subject to an enhanced DBS check.

For an application pack please visit

www.redballoonlearner.org.uk

Red Balloon – Reading is a registered charity

Registered Charity No. 1136446